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# 717th Tank Battalion record

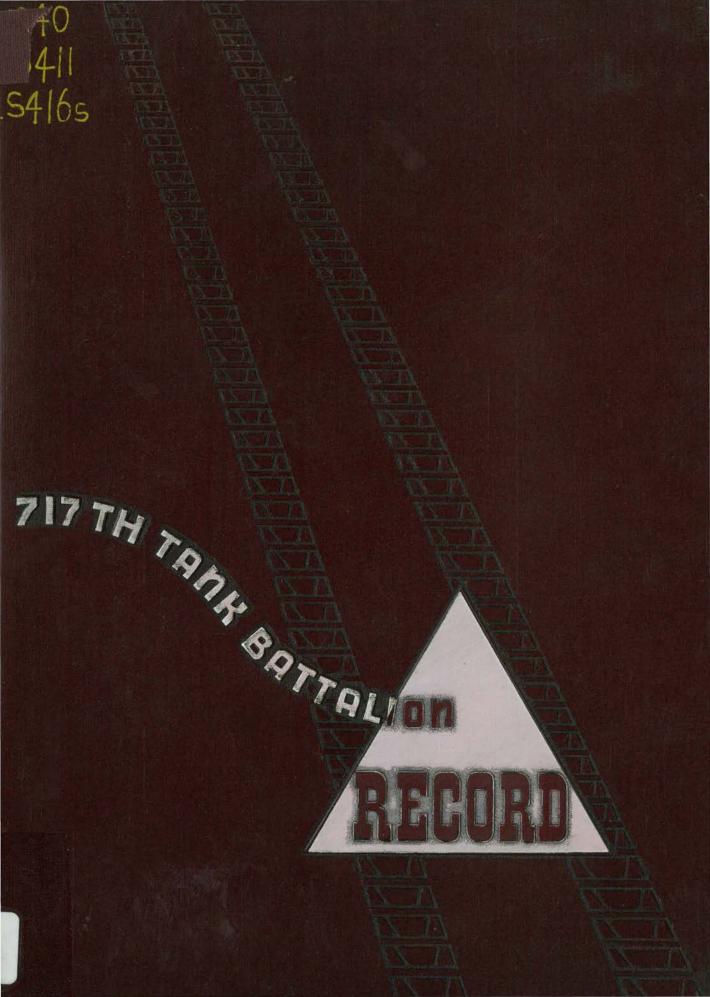
United States Army

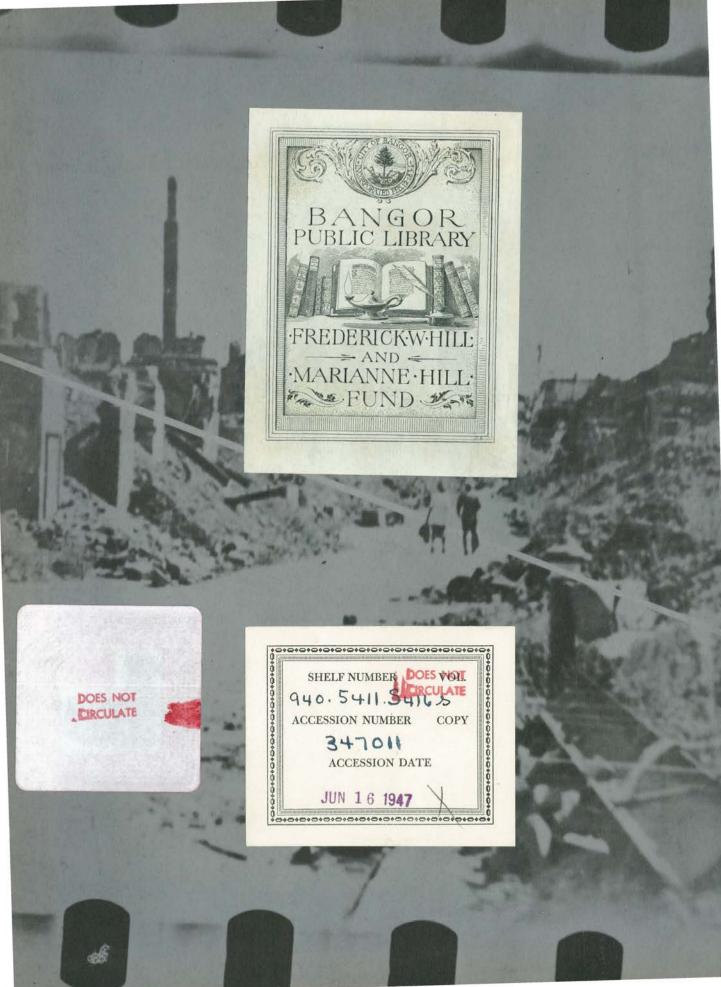
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## AUTHOR'S NOTE

This is your book, and we tried to put it together so that it will bring you equal pleasure today or fifty years from now, when you'll probably have a grandson on one knee, and you'll want to tell him how it all was.

The pictures are yours, and so is the writing. Not much of it relates to armies and corps. Our story-the one we all know—it how about 750 officers and men got along for two years, training and fighting together to help win a big war.

Our record as a battalion had honor to it, and we wanted to show that. We were a friendly battalion, and we wanted to show that. We travelled a good many thousands of miles together, and that's all in the story too.

So here's your book. Keep it the rest of your life. And never forget the words of one 79th Infantry platoon sergeant.

He had been fighting all day that day in the Ruhr pocket. He was tired, and looked it. He had lost some men, and that showed through. But he turned to a new man coming up on the line, and pointed wearily at a line of 717th tanks forming up for action.

"See those tankers," said the sergeant, "They're the best damned tankers I ever saw.

### EDITORIAL BOARD

T/5 Carroll E. Sciance, Serv. Co. Pfc. Ben Hochman, Co. "B" Sgt. Robert D. Scheffey, Co. "C

Col. Arthur Mosteller, Co. "A" Sgt. Joe H. Woolf, Co. "D" Ist Lt. Robert M. Brown, Bn. Hq.

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WOJG Alexander J. Draus, Serv. Co. T/5 Orville W. Sjoberg, Co. "C

T/4 John J. Nurmi, Serv. Co.

#### MAPS

ART

1st Lt. Alfred R. Smith, Bn. Hq. T/4 Remo A. Grazine, Bn. Hq.

#### **BUSINESS & CIRCULATION**

Pfc. James A. Bradford, Hg. Co.

# Pedication

There can be no question as to whom this book belongs. It belongs to our dead whom we lost on the training fields of Fort Knox and the battlefields of the Rhineland and the Ruhr.

To their people that mourn them, we say this:—it was terrible to see them go. It was as if they had started on a long voyage across lonely waters, and we could not say goodbye.

But we do not forget the land to which they journeyed, in which all of us believe. Somewhere on a bright shore in that land they were met. And for our dead comrades, the lonely trip was over, with the long look, the handclasp, the kiss, the words 'Soldier, well done.

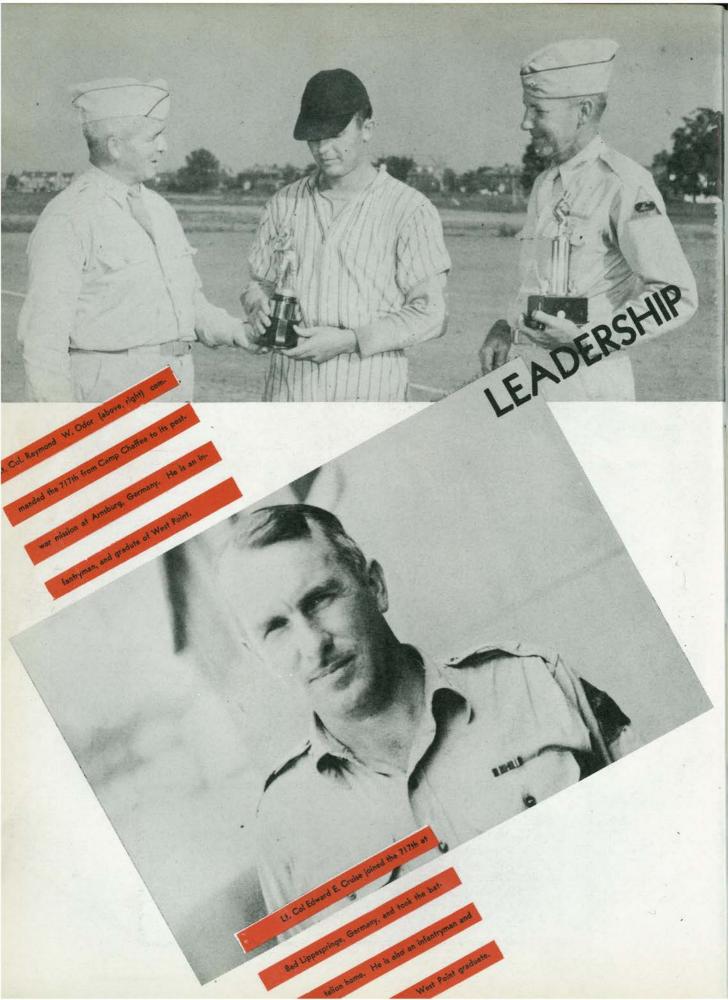
We know that this has happened to our triends, for they stood in God's great hand, and died for a cause that brought peace to the world.

We, the living, highly resolve to keep and cherish the the peace for which they died.

The men of the 717th dedicate this book to these comrades and friends.

> KILLED IN ACTION Pfc. Thomas J. Waller Cpl. Edward J. Ryan Pfc. William P. Kane Ist Lt. Robert W. Shields

DIED IN LINE OF DUTY Pfc. Charles G. Sanborn Pvt. Floyd Scott Pfc. Anito Minetti Pfc. Alvin P. Brewitt



Lt. John F. Adams-Bronze Star

Sgt. Paul B. Wood Bronze Ster

5/59t. Joseph Jeresok-Brome Ster

Died of Wounds Pic. William P. Kone-Silver Star

COURAGE

Lt. William C. Dysinger-Silver Star

.

Lt. Gerald C. Stinson-Silver Stor

Lt. Thomas J. Carr-Silver Star

5/59t Errent C. Walter-Bronze Star

Lt. Los D. Fist Brons Star

Camp Gruber, Oklahoma 9 October 1945

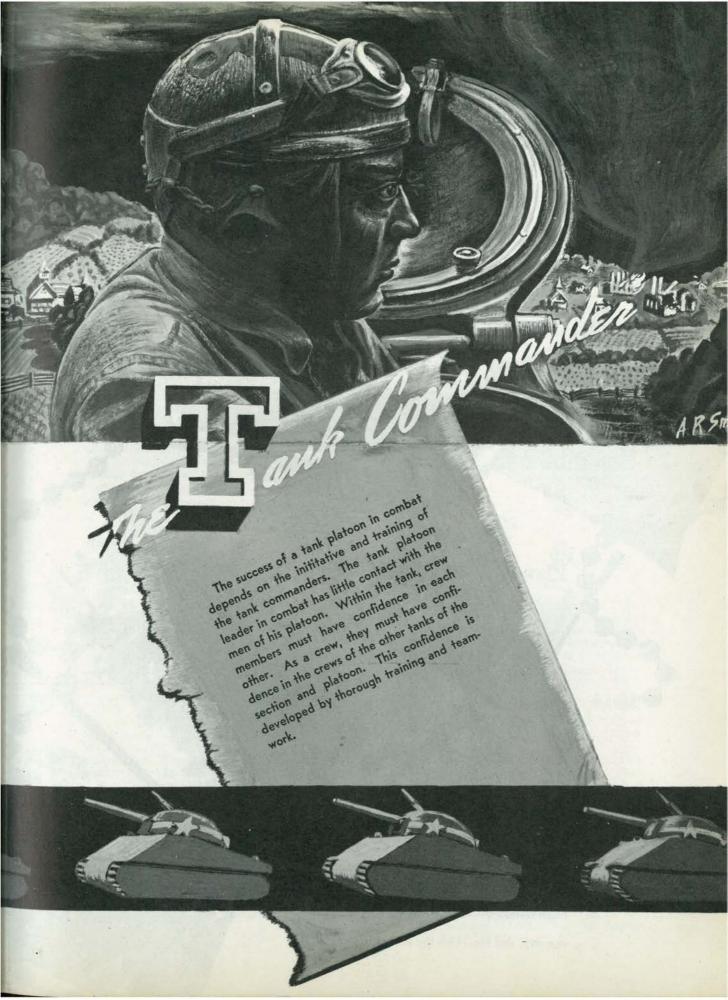
Lieutenant Colonel Edward E. Cruise 717th Tank Battalion Camp Swift, Texas

I am delighted to learn that the 717th Tank Battalion is Publishing a history. I should like to take advantage of this op-pertunity to express my admiration for the battalion and to take publishing a history. I should like to take advantage of this op-portunity to express my admiration for the battalion and to tell you that Lappreciate greatly the accistance given by the bat Dear Colonel Cruise: portunity to express my admiration for the battalion and to tell you that I appreciate greatly the assistance given by the bat-talion to the 79th Division from the time it was attached to the you that I appreciate greatly the assistance given by me bat-talion to the 79th Division from the time it was attached to 79th division until its detachment. The battalion came to the Zero Division without actual combat experience, but in its first action division until its detachment. Ine battalion came to the lyth Division without actual combat experience, but in its first action the conduct of the battalion compared favorably with that of Division without actual combat experience, but in its tirst action the conduct of the battalion compared favorably with that of the 70th Division and I believe was not surpassed by any new the conduct of the battalion compared tavorably with that of the 79th Division, and I believe was not surpassed by any new unit entering battle in the European Theater the 19th Ulvision, and I believe was not surpassed by any new unit entering battle in the European Theater. The attitude of the entire Personnel of the battalion was an intense desire to accomplish every mission given them to the an intense desire to accomplish every mission given them to very best of their ability. After the outstanding encreaseful

an intense desire to accomplish every mission given them to me very best of their ability. After the outstanding successful crossing of the Rhine and the operations in the Ruhr Valley, the battalion continued its superior performance in connection with crossing of the Khine and the operations in the Kunr valley, the battalion continued its superior performance in connection with Military Government duties tary Government duties. I shall always look back with great satisfaction upon the formance of the 717th Tank Rattalion while attached to the I shall always look back with great satisfaction upon the performance of the 717th Tank Battalion while attached to the 79th Division Military Government duties.

Division. With all best wishes for every member of the battalion in whatever the future holds for them. I am, 7. Myche 79th Division.

I.T. WYCHE U.S. Army Major General, U.S. Army Commanding



eep in the Arkansas hills, the new battalion was formed up. Not much formality:—we were part of the 16th Armored one day, and the 717th the next.

HEADQUARTERS

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This was the original order: "The Commanding Officer 717th Tank Battalion will take necessary action to reorganize on 10 September 1943 in accordance with T/O & E 17-25. Two Light Tank Companies (A & B) will be recognized as Medium Tank Companies and designated Companies A & B. The third Light Tank Company (Company "C") will remain as such and designated Company D..."

And so forth. Stripped of red tape, what it meant was that Washington had ordered a chunk broken off the new 16th Armored Division, with that chunk to be named the 717th Tank Battalion. Lt. Col. Raymond W. Odor, West Point graduate and former infantryman, was appointed CO.

With a small cadre, topheavy in brass and short on enlisted men, the new battalion set to work to prepare for its main body of personnel who were then finishing up recruit training in the tough ARTC at Fort Knox, Kentucky. One company— Dog Company— then headed by Capt. Ernest W. Smith, carried eleven officers and 23 men for training in the early days after activation. Charlie Company was formed up with one man, John Chomos, now carried as platoon sergeant of the third platoon, in the same outfit in which he was the original member.

The weather was still fair and warm for an Arkansas November when the first trainload of recruits pulled into Chaffee station for assignment to the 717th. Put through a quick classification screening by the 16th Armored, the new men were hustled over to the new battalion area under the shadow of Spredding Ridge, and in a week, the 717th had grown from a cadre handful to its full T/O strength of over 700 officers and men.

Then training rolled. It was true that some of the officer and NCO complement was still pretty green, and the second looie bars had a lot of OCS gold showing, but there were older hands and heads to help over the rough spots. The Executive Officer, Major Walter L. McCaddon, had seen service with both the 3rd Cavalry and 10th Armored Division; Major John W. Sherer, the S-3, carried an honorable record from World War I and the armored center of Fort Knox; Captain Timothy J. Murphy—then Headquarters Company CO—had soldiered through almost as many units as his father, a former 30-year man.

Down in the companies were non-commissioned officers who had put in some time themselves:—Cohen, Jaroski, Heddon and Dietrich in Co. "A"; Company "B's" Four Horsemen of Brown, King, Helms and Fish; Pyrek, Ryan, Stull and Phelps in Headquarters. Message Center

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chief then, as now, was Sgt. Leonard Nelson. And there were others.

Fort Smith called often enough during the winter training months of 1943-44, and the Pearl Harbor and Hollywood Cafes took their toll in beer prices and MP reports. But there were plenty of nights after the last hose was coiled over the wash racks, the last bogie greased, the last compass turned in when it felt better to hit the bunk early. And there was a good share of weeks when the training hours topped the 50-mark, and the Ward and Goldman had cancelled reservations in favor of bedding down over a weekend bivouac along AC 16.

Shortly after the battalion hit full strength, the county fairs began. Designed for the purpose of testing men in a hurry, the "fairs" looked—to the casual observer—like the man who jumped on his horse and galloped off in all directions. At 0700, on the nose, small groups of men would march off to the four points of the compass to be checked on such subjects as mines and booby traps, tank recognition, the morphine syrette, tank maintenance, military courtesy (-"you don't salute me—you salute the rank") and the rest of it.

But it was a battalion now in more than training and T/O. A short stout man kicking a football all over the field opposite Battalion Headquarters, or a "Superior" on a mess report:—that was S/Sqt. Tolan. The Charlie Company bellow with the earth-shaking cusswords on how to get out of bed at the reveille whistlethat belonged to 1st Sqt. Torbett. The chunky fellow who could do the 50 pushups on one arm at Dog Company's calisthenics period:-that was Woolf. "Soldier, get a helmet liner over that beanie" stood very definitely for someone with a lot of rank. The five dust clouds moving just off the skyline on Devil's Backbone Ridge would be S/Sgt. Ryan's reconnaissance platoon out on another creepin' and peepin' exercise, while a pile of aiming circle containers stacked neatly under some camouflage netting meant that the mortars or assault guns were not very far away.

The 717th was noted for its military courtesy at Chaffee. But the fact that they had to salute him between six and thirty did not prevent the men from tagging the old man with a moniker right off the bat. From the Chaffee days onward, he was called "Colonel Odor" in the drill periods, and the "Great White Father" during off-duty hours.

It was the first Christmas away from home for most of the battalion's personnel, but the mess halls went all out for the occasion, and put on a fine meal. On Christmas Eve the entire battalion assem-

ur parades looked

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good. The band was a little weak sometimes on the marches, but they always ended up together on the ''Stars and Stripes Forever.'' bled to sing carols, headed by a chorus that had been gotten together by Lt. Page, and which sang much better than anyone expected it to on such short notice. On Christmas Day, many of the wives and girl friends came out from Fort Smith for the dinner, and got a courtesy ride in a tank or jeep afterwards to aid in digesting the meal.

The 717th had nine different bosses at Chaffee, and they changed hands about once a month. When the battalion was activated, it was attached to the 16th Armored Division for training, administration and supply. On October 1st, it went under the 12th Tank Group. On the 22nd of the same month it reverted back to control of the 16th Armored. The following month it moved out from under control of the Armored Command to the 10th Corps, 3rd Army. For want of anything better, the battalion was again put under control of the 16th Armored.

On 6 January, the 717th was relieved of attachment to the 10th Corps, and passed into the 16th Corps, Second Army. On February 18th, it got ready for a review to be given to a new parent organization, the 13th Tank Group. This group never did arrive at Chaffee, so the attachment was not carried out. And on February 29th the 717th was attached to the 16th Armored Group. It remained under the group until 31 March.

Although never proven, the 717th was regarded as a battalion with a high general IQ. Instructors had to be good in their subjects to stay ahead of their classes. The old bugaboo was map reading, and especially this business of declination. The problem was not in finding (and remembering) the differences between the three types of North-magnetic, true and grid-but in whether you added or subtracted to find the difference between magnetic and grid. Intersection and resection was easy, though; there were plenty of big hills with steep contours and the beauty of it was, they had the names for them on the map.

In February of 1944 the 717th took its first big gunnery test—the Army Ground Force model—and flunked it. On the day of the test, Arkansas took a five-inch snowfall—its heaviest in 20 years. At 0500 that morning the battalion moved out along reservation roads to a point three miles East of Hiway No. 20 to take the test. On the march out, tank commanders had to move about continuously in their turrets to keep from freezing, while the remainder of the crews huddled up in the tanks with as many pairs of OD's and fatigues as they could pile on. Ice formed on handmikes, making some of them useless. The assembly area, from which crews moved out to their problems, quickly became a muddy mess, with one tank bogging down for every three that managed to move out. For many of the tankers, it was their first day together as crews in simulated combat. That night the roads froze up sufficiently for the wheeled vehicles to make the run back to camp, the tanks rumbling behind.

A second gunnery test followed one month later, when proper preparations had been made for the exams. Under varying field conditions, tank crews went through their problems by day-stationary tank, moving tank at stationary targets, range estimation, 30 cal problemand talked over the day's work at night around big bonfires in the platoon and company bivouacs. S/Sgt. Martino's transportation platoon got its first taste of delivering the goods through mud that made the roads worse than the fields beside them, and solved their problems with field expedients both in and out of the books. The medics did big business in taking care of foot blisters. But it was the tankers' week, and they made the most of it. Gunners were feeling out the new sight, for drivers the kick-in from third to second on the gearshift was becoming more natural day by day, and for tank commanders, the old command of "Gunner, tank . . . " was almost as natural as the start of "My darling" on their evening letters.

Many men in the 717th still count this week on the second gunnery test as their best week in the Army.

Not a bombshell, but still a surprise, was the special order of 31 March ordering the battalion to a new permanent change of station at Fort Knox. The usual problems incident to any transfer arose. The Fords had to be cleaned from stem to stern before Ordnance would accept them:—that was one work week plus a long Sunday with cleaning solvent, hose, crowbar and spark plug gauges. The mess sergeants hunted for missing spoons, while one dishonest but well-meaning individual in Charlie Company turned up with 15 saltshakers from Terry's Cafe, hurting both the feelings of Captain Rydeen and Terry. Excess stock was turned in, families sent home, goodbye's said.

A few days before Easter the battalion, with band escort, marched up the street through the old 14th Armored area to board the Knox train. That night the train pulled past Christmas Knob, Devil's Backbone, Potato Hill and Butler's Ridge—the old map names on the Ozarks where the battalion had come together to form and train for the second World. War.

irst camp of the 717th Tank Battalion, Camp Chaffee stands for the days when a bunch of rookies and a green cadre welded themselves into a battalion.

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was the Isoara From 13 April-2 September, an alarm clock ran the activities of the 717th. It went off at midnight, eight and four, and each time it rang, about 200 men piled out of bed, up into trucks, along 7th Avenue, and filed off to the 20-odd jobs on The Board ... Nights were pretty long.

RAMORED BUARD TEST OPERATION

TEST OPERATION

The 717th made it up to Fort Knox in two days, stepping off the train late at night on the 7th into a rainstorm. But the advance party had done its job—everyone had a bed, and as soon as he had changed to a dry pair of fatigues; the cooks were waiting with hot coffee and doughnuts.

The battalion got four days in which to settle itself in the new area, even though about half of the total strength went out to drive tanks for a night school problem. But at the end of two weeks' time, 600 of the officers and men were on the three shifts of the Armored Board, or going out on details for School Troops, which had enough of them.

Chief function of the Armored Board was to act as an armored laboratory for everything that Aberdeen Ordnance and the Detroit shops sent down to be tested. Pick-up details were never quite sure what would be coming off the boxcars; on one occasion, a driver got into a new tank, started it, and drove right off the flatcar and through the train shed before getting his vehicle under control.

A shift was eight hours long, and there were three shifts daily. The Board used two areas. One was Number 30, which had the long tank trails over which the "T's" ground up dust until they were declared OK or until they broke down. Part of the battalion drove the new test jobs, or fired the new guns, or kept the records on them until they did break down. Then the other part of the battalion—the shop gangs—would go to work and fix them.

The other area—which lay almost flush to the Ohio River—was Number 25. The confidential and secret stuff was tested there. Many a man who had slept through the class on safeguarding military information found himself behind a new gearshift that was just out of the blueprint stage, and which three enemy governments would have given much to see and understand.

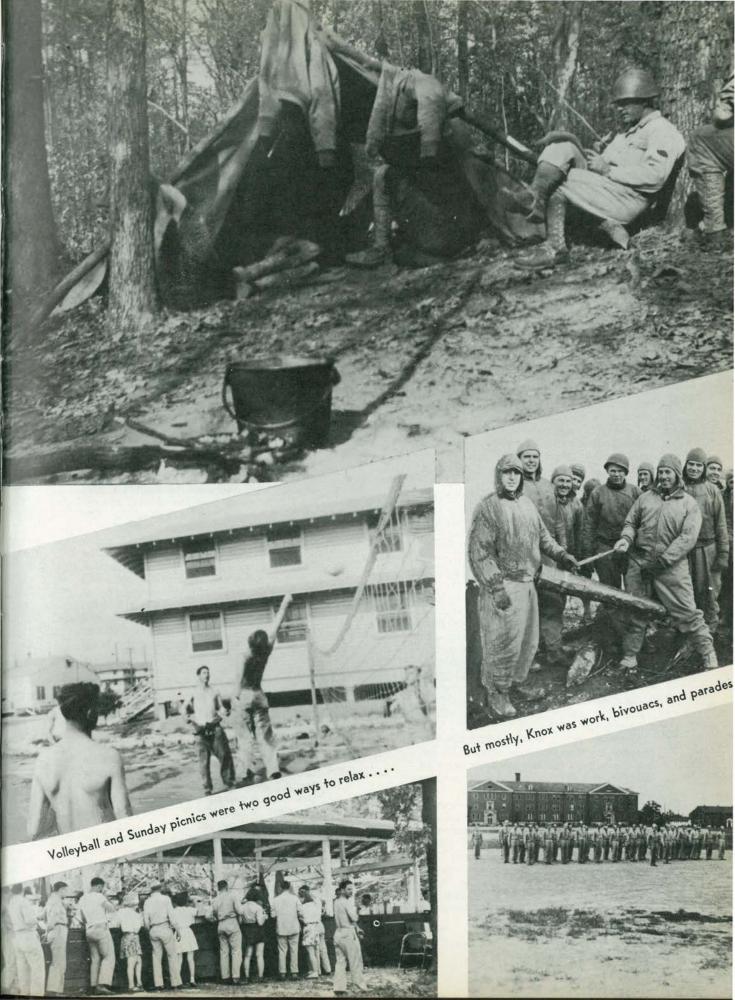
The "rat race"—the tank obstacle course—was also located in Area 25. It made drivers of the men who were good, and broke down those who couldn't stand the tough twenty miles.

One secret doings in Area 25 never came out of the books. One dark night the big wrecker went down the hill into the area on a supposed maintenance job and returned with a wreckerload of watermelons—which is a lot of watermelons.

The 717th is credited with helping to take the final kinks out of the M26 (The "General Pershing"), which was then getting its last tests. Other projects included the mine detonaters, the gas-elecric tanks, the 4.2 chemical mortar, the medical research lab, the "cats," the 25ton wrecker, rocket launchers, flamethrowing tanks, and others.

None of it was glamorous work. But it helped win the war.





On September 2, 1944, the 717th finally lost all doubts as to how "hot" it really was. On that day, it was taken away from its primary duty of furnishing men and machines for the Armored Board, and told to ready itself in a hurry for shipment to an overseas theater of operations.

Twenty-two days later the battalion was removed from attachment to Headquarters, School Troops, and attached body and soul to the 14th Armored Group Headquarters, set up for the sole purpose of getting tankers ready to sail.

There was not much time left, and the battalion knew it. "POM" became a familiar word in those days. Almost everything a man had to do or did—except for the welcome Saturday night and Sunday breaks—was based on what POM said about it; from the size of his long-johns in the seat to the way he would eventually put his return address on the mail. The real problem those days was to find the time in which to write the letters, not worry about how to put a return address on the envelope.

Tests and inspections filled the time between 24 September to 2 November. The tank gunnery tests—which had the elements of a sport back in the months at Chaffee—became serious business now as crews hustled to pass a stiff test while handicapped by the fact that they had grown rusty while on duty on the Board. The Reconnaissance platoon, which had grown used to wading around Vache Grasse to pass the old Army Ground Force tests, found that the water in Otter Creek was just as cold when they took their third session in the same test they had passed twice before. Mortar and Assault Gun platoon received special tests.

Captain Gonzalez, the battalion surgeon, became a familiar sight to everyone as he stood on the classroom platforms teaching malaria discipline, trenchfoot discipline, water discipline, yellow fever prevention (and discipline), VD prevention, and the other POM medical subjects.

Everyone in the battalion had his own favorite training film—the biggest hit being the one on military security because of a German in the film who always gave his name as "Hans Muel-1-1-ler."

But as the days went by, with everyone too rushed to be able to do much about the beautiful Indian summer Knox was enjoying that year, the staff was lining out items on the POM check sheet. Censorship officers were appointed, warned that they would begin reading other peoples' mail as soon as the movement orders were received. The paint was on hand for the baggage markings. The gunnery test had been passed. The safe percentage of men knew the difference between magnetic, grid, and true North, and had shown the inspectors they knew how to use it. The doc had poked a finger into 726 stomachs, looked down 726 throats, ordered 726 men to jump up and down for one minute each, and had informed the colonel who could go and who couldn't. Everyone, for a change, had enough socks, plus the new issue 1943 field jacket, which few cared for as much as the older issue jacket.

Even the old man had to take the map reading test. An over-anxious instructor attempted to give the colonel some help on logical contouring from elevation points.

"Sonny," said Lt. Col. Odor, "I was drawing these things in the Army when you were still spinning tops in the backyard."

November found the battalion almost ready for the war. There was only one major POM subject that had no red pencil through it—maneuvers. Moving any distance for a large-scale exercise was out of the question, so on the 2nd of November all watches were synchronized with the headquarters clock, all tanks stowed. That afternoon the column moved up 7th Avenue, past the Gold Vault, on to the road leading into Area 33. The march lasted 10.8 miles.

During the next three weeks, which were alternately fair, rainy, and cold, the 717th worked over the ground on which the first Armored Division had put itself in shape for the North African campaigns of '41-42. Snow Mountain, the old Greyhampton flour mill on Otter Creek, and the stone ford became the landmarks. Except for a few necessary interruptions, the 717th stayed out in the field all during the three weeks. One company had to send some men back to camp to re-clean the barracks because some inspectorshad noticed dust on the windowsills. A few more left on furlough. But the battalion took its field exercises seriously:this was the last chance a tank commander would practice moving his vehicle around a flank, the last time a driver would nose a peep around a corner, the last time a company commander would practice hitting the IP. The next time would be the payoff.

There were short furloughs during the November-December period. Every man went on furlough knowing what he could and couldn't say. But at the stations from the Grand Central down to a little country spur stop—every man climbed aboard the train, stopped in the coach



At Knox, the 717th traded the mud of AC 16 for the dust of the training areas. But the work was just about the same, except that combat was closer.

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vestibule for one long, last look. For he knew this was the last time home, and he wanted to remember it.

His people, looking up at him from the platform, knew it too.

Out in the training areas, the companies were developing certain characteristics that might show how they would react later on in battle. Baker was the most aggressive; it took the cnances. Charlie was the best for hitting an assembly position, quietly, and on time. Able used the soundest tactics, while "D" was developing good hit and run tactics on its job of flank and advance quard.

To end up the problem, the 717th made a 23-mile march to Hays School valley, meeting other support troops (TD's, infantry, artillery) there. The day for the final problem was cold, wet and miserable. There was not much room at the assembly area. "A" and "C", who were to lead off, were bivouaced on the line of departure, and Baker was stuck on a muddy hill more suited for billy-goats than medium tanks, But at day's end, with Company "C" lobbing out the last rounds of 75 towards the final ridge, the 717th had passed its biggest test, and headed back for camp in the dark. After three weeks, wooden barracks and steam heat felt good.

From 12 December to 16 December, the 717th tied up the loose ends. There were still inspections: mess sergeants never knew when a full colonel would be in the mess hall checking for loose salt-shaker tops. The conservation measures were just as strict: there were long instructions on the correct procedure of applying dubbin on to combat boots. The doubting Thomases, who had consistently said that the 717th was a ZI outfit and would never go across, finally guieted down when the shop gangs began painting 5288-F on the TAT equipment, and Lt. Sherrill left ahead of schedule to load the tanks on the boats. And when the advance detail left for the east coast, all the cards were down.

Where the battalion would eat its Christmas dinner, and under what circumstances, was anybody's guess.



Since that rainy day in June, 1945, when I joined you on the plains of Paderborn, I have been impressed by your appearance, your esprit, and your ability to get the job done. During the difficult and trying days of demobilization—in many ways as difficult as those of combat—you have maintained a high standard of discipline and have kept the faith.

It will always be a regret to me that I was not privileged to lead you in combat. Even before I joined you, I learned at Neuheim from the 79th Infantry Division of the high esteem with which you were held by those whom you so well supported. There is no doubt whatsoever that if you had landed on the beaches of Japan, they would have brought you greater glory. However, I am profoundly thankful that instead we are privileged to send you safely home.

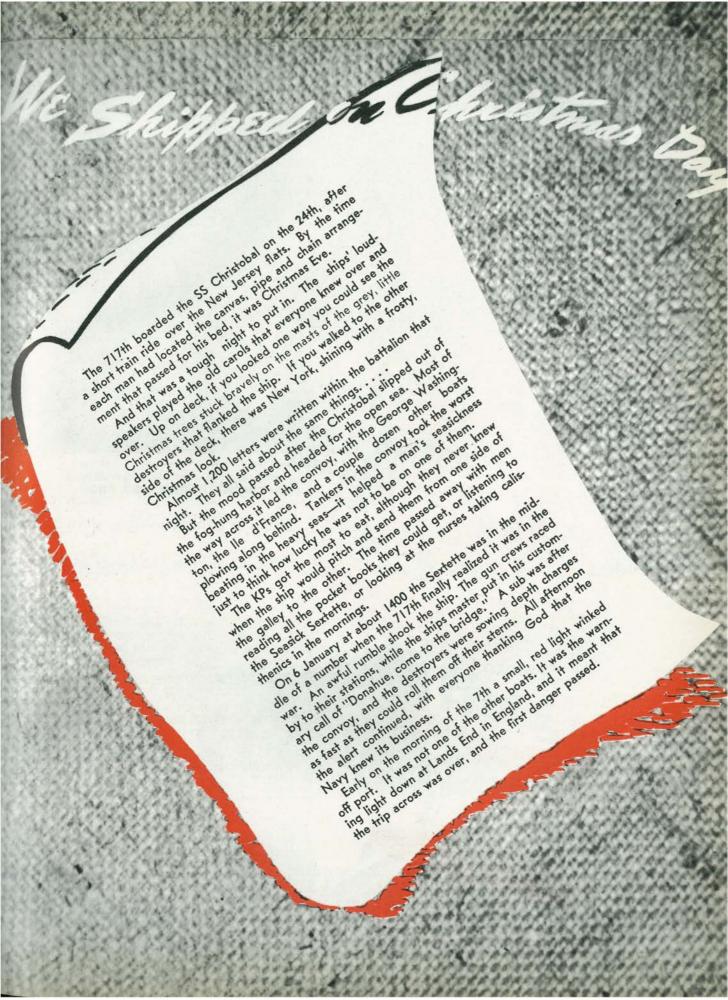
To your dear ones who waited so long and patiently for your return may I express our love and devotion. In the crash of the opening barrage, the lonely hours of the night, in the midst of danger and in the thrill of victory our thoughts and prayers were with them, as we know their's were with us. In the unceasing flow of supplies, tanks, guns, ammunition, and all the material things that made victory possible, we were proud to have them represented.

To those at home who have lost dear ones, we send our sympathy and our pledge that "these dead shall not have died in vain." In their sacrifice greater evils than man has ever known have been overcome and man has a new opportunity to continue his slow and painful progress towards the light.

As you scatter to the four corners of our great country you take with you the thanks of the Republic, and the satisfaction of a job well done. In this book I hope you will recapture some of the spirit of comradeship and high endeavor you had together as fellow members of the 717th Tank Battalion in the great War of Liberation.

Edward E. Cruise Lt. Col., 717th Tank Battalion Commanding Officer

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The English homes had one thing in common—they were cold.

The donut gals posed for

took the

coffee

Especially the House of Mercy.

It was something in England just getting used to the names of the towns near which the battalion was billeted: Chudleigh, Chudleigh-Knighton, and the real spellbinder—Bovey-Tracey. Some of the mornings were no bargains either, with a cold that went through to the marrow. One namless individual in Charlie Company covered himself with glory when he answered lst Sgt. Haiser's reveille whistle with the comeback, "Sergeant, nobody's in these beds but us old blankets!"

The ETO in those January days was still recovering from the Bulge scare, and no one in the battalion really knew when it would change from Comm "Z" to frontline status. Big equipment, except for some TAT, had not arrived, so training was concentrated on the old basic subjects and plenty of blackboard sessions on tactics. But all companies also took some good hikes out into the quiet Devonshire countryside, or climbed the hill to Hennock, where Exeter Cathedral's blunt towers could be seen on a clear afternoon,

Able, Baker and Charlie companies lived in the House of Mercy, a former home for wayward girls. Dog and Service companies stayed at Pit House, a multigabled structure whose messhall did double duty for an evening class or dance. Headquarters Company was billeted in a former inn where its residents spent many a long evening trying to make coal burn in the stoves, and eating apricot tarts at two shillings a half dozen.

First track vehicle to be shipped to the battalion was a 105 for the Assault Gun Platoon. The tank went to Sqt. Guile's crew. Two months later, its gun sent the first shell from the 717th across the Rhine into Dinslaken. But on the night it arrived, it was just another job of processing for its crew, who did not know of its future part in the war.

The tanks came in fast after that, and the motor park filled up rapidly.

In the meantime, details were going out from Service and Headquarters companies to big and little towns in Southern England, picking up their vehicles a few at a time. The trip back from Liverpool was a nightmare for the 34 drivers who made the run. Roads were slick and narrow; the turns sharp. But there were no accidents. Some other 717th men solved one problem at Bristol by hitching eight one-ton cargo trailers to one truck before taking off for the battalion area. The convoy looked unusual enough, but the trip went without accident.

Bad news hit on the first of February. To move tanks on England's roads they had to be equipped with rubber blocks, and our tanks had come with steel treads. So one cold morning the order came down from Battalion Headquarters: "Change 'em." In three days and nights, working almost around the clock, the job was done, with the steel tracks piled high on the tanks' rear decks. The motor park was all mud, and the heaviest snowfall Devonshire had experienced in years did not help. If a mechanic dropped a wrench in the mud it was as good as lost.

What did help was an acquisition of Seabee and Navy equipment—mackinaws, overshoes, pull-overs, parkas that helped keep the cold out and the heat in. S/Sgt. Boguski and his BSO crew helped locate some of it; S/Sgt. Cohen of Able had his usual good sources, and the rest of the companies also went on the hunt for clothes. While the appearance of the columns that marched off to the parks in the morning would have caused astonishment back at Knox, it was OK in the ETO, and no one said a word.

But the real gripe in the battalion in the England days was not food, not clothing, not equipment. It was mail. APO 69 at Exeter was getting the mail out, but not in. Finally, a week before the 717th rolled out, the letters began to arrive from home. Even the advertisements made good

reading...

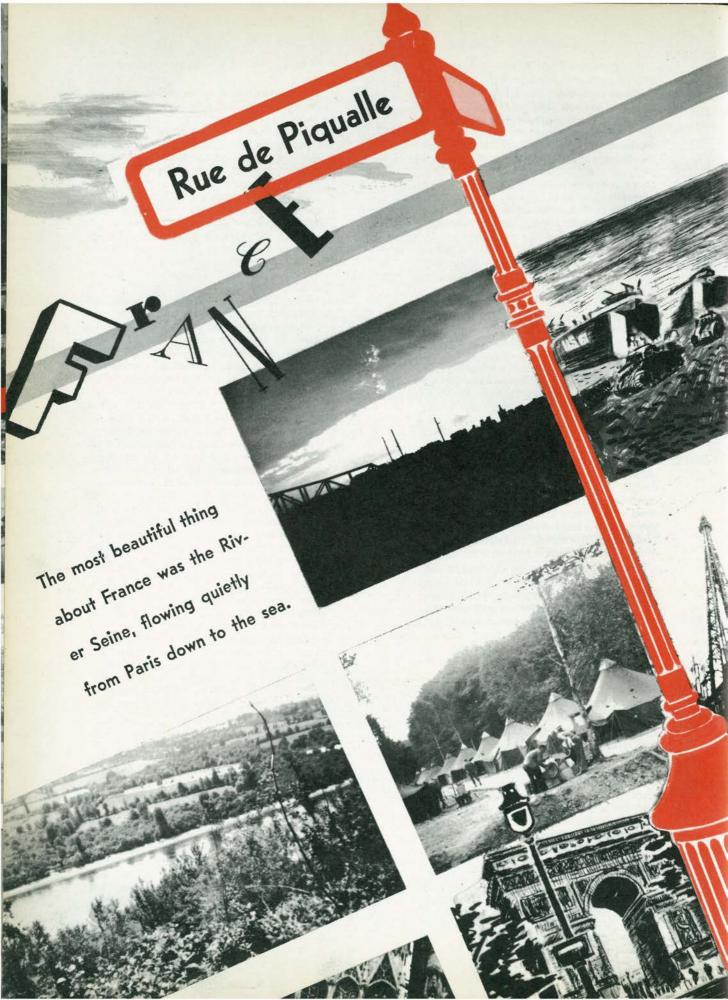
The passes helped. Most men in the outfit made it up to London and back on a three-day pass, and came back with exciting details about the buzzbombs, and other confidential ones concerning night traffic on the pavements of Picadilly Circus. For those who couldn't make London, there was Torquay and the Imperial Hotel, or Newton Abbot and the girls, or Exeter and the Red Cross dances.

And on Sunday morning, the Church of England was open to the battalion. The churches were colder than the ones back home, and the chants were hard to follow. But it still meant church and hymns with people that worshipped and sung in them who were glad to see us there.

Movement orders came quickly enough. At 0500 on 5 February the order went out to, "turn 'em over," and in a hard rain the battalion moved out. Major McCaddon led out on the wheeled vehicle serial; Captain Jay's tank headed the medium column.

At 1300 that afternoon the head of the battalion reached Weymouth. The vehicles were lined up in loading order for the LST's. Dinner that night was C Rations:—beans, five cookies, four pieces of hard candy. But plenty of scalding hot coffee. No letters were written—verboten.

The next morning the battalion sailed for France.



No question about it, march discipline was PP on the 40-mile hike from the gravel beaches at Le Havre to Camp Twenty Grand. As each LST dumped its load the senior commander of the group piled into the lead vehicle, turned his toggle switch to radio, barked "Follow me," and took off. No route was given and no maps were available, but by evening of 8 February the battalion was in Twenty Grand, with the kitchens up and cooking, the latrines dug, and the men under canvas for the first time since the old Area 42 bivouac at Knox.

And on the march to Twenty Grand, a lot of men learned what "Calvados" tasted like, and what it could do to you at reveille the next morning.

The 717th remained at Twenty Grand for almost an even month. Generally, it was dull. Except for loading the payoff load of ammo into the tanks and picking up a few trailers here and there, there was not much to do. T/4 Cooper, however, was hard-pressed to do the welding for the sandbag racks on the tanks and the oddment racks on the peeps and halftracks, but got the work out in time.

The best detail at the camp was the "brick detail," which gave a man a chance to see Rouen, buy some Renoir perfume for his wife or girl at the shops, take in the great Rouen Cathedral, and at least speculate on visiting the Metropole Hotel, where the girls made money in ways not approved by our MPs.

The Camp Commander also made it clear that trip tickets would be filled out properly when he impounded "boocoo peeps" one day that they weren't. Dog Company's T/Sgt. Hackney and S/Sgt. Fischas had a tank taken away from them on a routine road test, and it took some arguing over the field phones to get it back.

About the biggest event at Twenty Grand was the day in which General "Ike" Eisenhower paid a surprise visit to the battalion tents on an inspection tour. He was there, he said, just to "look around," and pass the time of day with any other persons who might be from Kansas.

When the 777th, which had been up the street from the 717th at Knox, pulled out for Liege and the First Army, the rumors started again. Maybe it would be Patton and the 717th. Or the Seventh and the 717th. No one knew much about the Ninth, but that was a possibility too.

March 3rd was a nice night, and the preparations had been made for a variety show. Sgt. Evans, T/4 Vukin, Cerbone, Cpl. Clark and the rest of the Seasick Sextett were ready, Hembry had promised to do "Once there was an Irish-man by the name of Fla-her-ty," and others in the companies were to participate.

But Lt. Col. Odor moved himself up on the program just as the men were assembling in front of the stage. He had, he told the battalion, received immediate movement orders. In 12 hours time the outfit would leave Twenty Grand for Holland. It was easy to figure out what would happen after that. Then, he asked, was everyone ready to "go get 'em!"

There was a moment before the answer came back.

And then everyone said, "Let's go!"



The march through the war memorial country of Northern France, Belgium, the Aachen tip of Germany, and on up into Holland was sightseeing on a big scale. The 717th rolled 344 miles on this march, bivouacing the first night out of Twenty Grand at Morieul, France. The second night out was a wet one, with the entire battalion getting under the roof of the former home of the Belgian Cavalry Guard in Charleroi. On the third night out-another wet one-it parked beside the muddy Meuse River at Flamelle, a few miles out of Liege. And on the fourth day, after riding through a sullen Aachen in the rain, it reached Brunssum, in Holland.

It was there that the Dutch showed how they felt about American soldiers. Before the last tank had been gassed up in the motor park that was once the town square, every man knew where he would sleep that night—in the softest bed, or in the warmest room a brave people had to offer.

It was there that we learned of the job ahead, and who we would be with us in it. Our division was the 79th Infantry the "Cross of Lorraine" Division—which had stirred the States with its entry into Cherbourg after the terrible penisula fighting, and which had later ridden Patton's tanks on the breakthrough into Northern France.

Our Army was the Ninth. It was the newest, the most secretive, soon to be the biggest in the ETO.

And the job ahead made everyone write more thoughtful letters than he had ever written before in his life. The job was an assault landing on to the eastern bank of the Rhine, smack into the Ruhr, with our tanks helping spearhead the 16th Corps attack.

No more orientation lectures on what the war was being fought for were necessary. About four times daily in Brunssum there would come a low, angry mutter from the East, and traffic would stop in the streets, shops would grow quiet, people would quit talking and look up into the sky.

Then everything in the town would shake—as a V-1 hurried through the air on its way to Antwerp or London.

At Brunssum came changes. Able Company was attached to the 313th Infantry Regiment. Baker went to the 314th. Charlie, the 315th. From then on, it would be sink or swim with their infantry for the three mediums. That was the first change.

Then Battalion and Headquarters Company, Service and "D" Companies moved over to Simpleveld, a little, nearby town dominated by the tall facade and towers of the Monastery of the Sacred Heart. The three companies moved into the monastery. And that was the second change.

Then some of our men started to leave on secret missions. Shea from "A", Rockhill from "C", Stoeffer from Service moved out for good on an unassigned mission, but everyone suddenly remembered that they were all pretty good men when it came to running motorboats, so the answer was easy on that one. Three reconnaissance men—Wolfe, Mackrowski and Gentry—left just as quietly to join up with other special troops up on the Rhine.

Day after day big stuff—assault craft, trucks, dozers, mobile ordnance shops passed through the towns in which the battalion was billeted. And all of it was moving east.

All of the tankers put one morning practicing putting their armor on boats up on the Maas.

The rubber tracks, which had gotten the battalion from Chudleigh to Brunssum, came off in record time in favor of steel and duckbills.

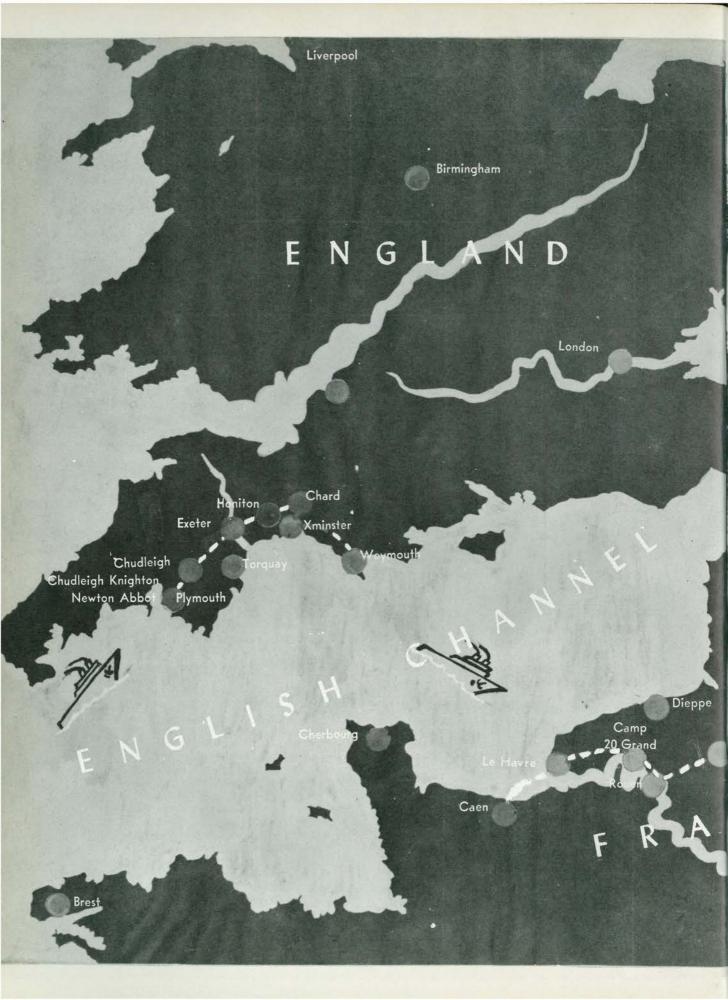
Finally, all the maps were issued, the rations drawn, the rehearsals for the crossing ended, the staff work mapped out. It was getting to be just about that time.

On the night of the 19th, Able left, under strick blackout. On the 20th, Baker did the same. On the 21st, Charlie, which left a few tanks sitting on the Herleen-Vluyn highway because the column was rolling fast to beat the dawn into its new assembly area.

On the night of the 22nd, all the brothers came out of the monastery to watch the three remaining companies pull out for the night march up to the Rhine.

The 717th soldiers and the brothers had gotten along fine. The brothers had helped develop some of the film rolls the men had taken, and had held special masses on off-duty hours. On the other hand, Mr. Draus had astonished everyone—including himself—by taking the chapel organ apart, fixing the bad parts, and putting it together again so it played.

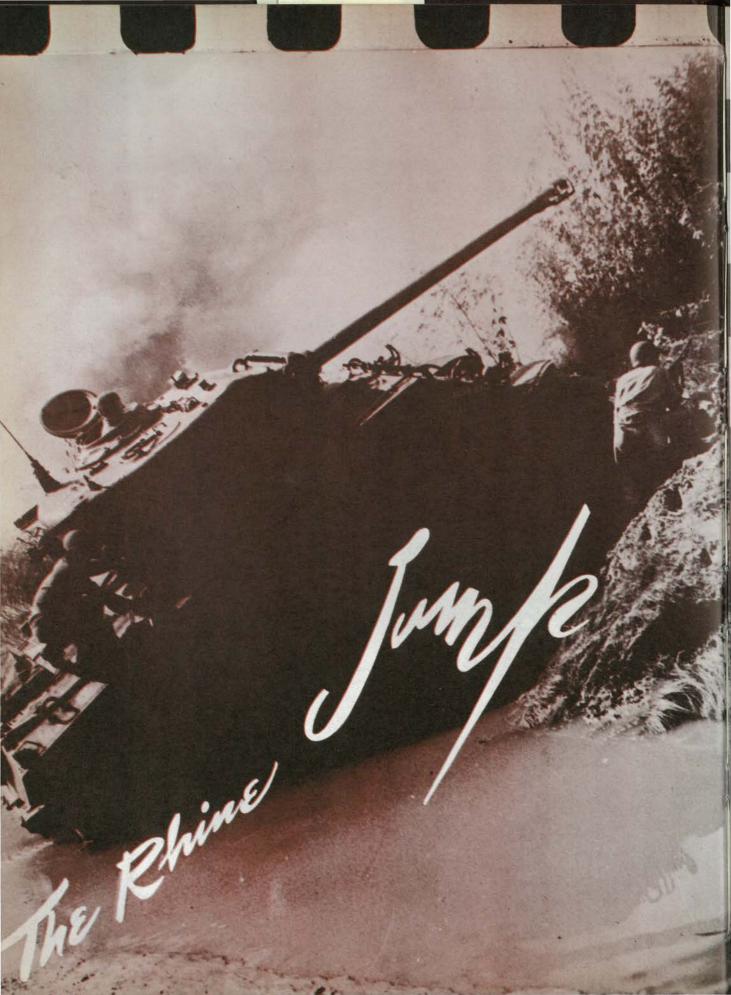
On that night, little was said. The brothers walked around in the motor park, shaking hands, blessing those who requested it. Then they moved back up on the bank, outside the monastery, as the engines coughed and turned over. And as the first halftrack left the park, bound for the front, one of the brothers—who took great delight in the nickname some men had given him of "The Beard" moved back by himself and softly repeated the loveliest, most tender of all the Catholic prayers, "Hail, Mary, full of grace...."



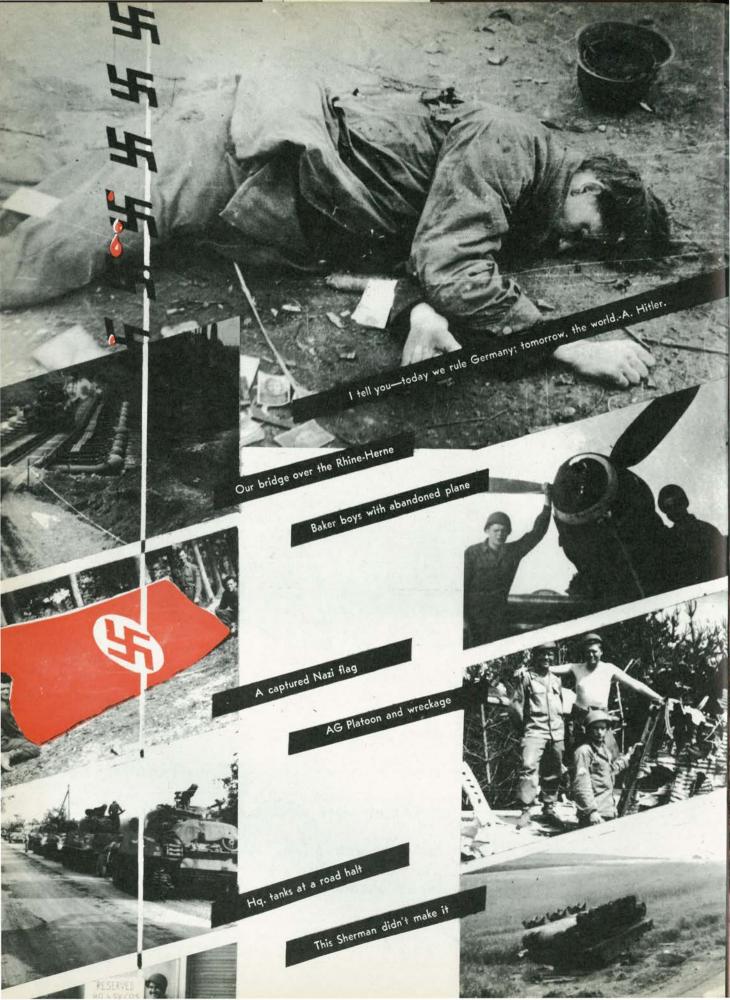








Into the Mit The Ruhr was four towns. Three towns back the old man was setting up his CP. Two towns back the Krauts were digging out of the plaster. The last town was on fire. And the town to take lay up ahead—quiet, dark, and dangerous.



It was just getting dark in the Rhineland on the evening of the 25th, and inside the half track, parked in a Vluyn backyard, Radio Operators Waugh and Gallegher could feel the river mist turning cold. Outside, silent, waiting for something to break on the 508's, stood the battalion staff.

Suddenly, a rushing sound came out of the speaker.

"The hell with the wagon," the voice said, "Shoot the horses. Shoot the horses!"

"That's Foley," someone around the halttrack said, "That's Captain Foley."

The Old Man said nothing for a moment.

"Well," he said, finally, "We're into this business now."

Two companies—"C" and "A"—got most of their tanks across the Rhine in mid-afternoon of March 24th, the day the Ninth jumped the Rhine River into the Ruhr. But their gunners had not fired the battalion's first shot. That came from the Assault Gun platoon, which had been in position on the Rhine's west bank for three days, and it came at 0200, "H" minus one for the 79th Infantry Division.

Able Company was to take Walsum. Charlie was on the big objective—the industrial town of Dinslaken. And Baker, which was to have been in reserve, had its first two platoons in a firefight a few hours after making the crossing.

The platoon with the wildest first night in combat was probably Charlie Co's second—the "Underpass Boys." About a quarter of the town was still on fire, and the glare lit up the round, onion dome of the church, which the tourist books said was one of "the most beautiful in the Ruhr." Sqt. Smith's crew was jumpythe tank had run over a dead German's head, and no one could forget that sound. Scheffey's crew was parked by a burning building, and every so often a few burning timbers would fall on the back deck. Lt. Mugel had to report back to the battalion CP, and had to leave the sidewalks—or what was left of them—to avoid stepping on dead civilians and soldiers.

Over the whole town was the stink of a blitzed-out Ruhr—the smell of wet, fallen plaster.

And ahead of the five tanks, up there in the dark beyond the underpass were the Germans, waiting for the morning attack.

The three mediums had hard fighting on the 25th and 26th. Able was working towards Wehofen and the slag heap on the edge of the town. Baker was north of Dinslaken, with all three line platoons using lots of ammunition. Charlie had two platoons in it at Dinslaken; the second and third, with the first still in reserve.

On the 25th, two men were killed. The second platoon, Co. "C", lost Pfc. Thomas J. Waller when his tank was hit by a large-calibre AA gun. The third platoon lost Cpl. Edward J. Ryan when an 88 shell hit the tank, and although Lt. Tom Carr and Pfc. William Kane went back to get him—and won the Silver Star for doing so— Ryan's wound was a mortal one. Pfc. Kane's gallant action also cost him his life:—he died of wounds received, three months later.

The following were wounded: Sgt. Ernest Walker, 1st Lt. Richard Pagano, Sgt. Vincent Wolfe, T/4 Welch, 2nd Lt. Edward Downey, 1st Lt. Carr, Pfc. Kane, and Cpl. David Missell.

The following were captured: 1st Lt. Downey, T/4 Welch, T/5 Paul Hershberger, and Pvt. Alex Soltas.

Sqt. Frank J. Berchicci's tank wouldn't go. He tried everything. He even had it towed. It still wouldn't go. And his platoon was moving up to fight.

"OK," said Lt. Stinson, "Join us later, Berchicci."

Sqt. Berchicci could hardly talk with rage.

"Here I wait two years for something like this," he gasped, "Two years, and then the goddamed thing won't move!"

Able Co. was able to slow down after Wehofen, and on the 28th of March, went into Hamborn on what Captain Edgar Jay later described as "just another road march." Co. "B's" second platoon was working near Schmacten, where Lt. Stinson's tank was hit. Co. "C" was holding a line along the Rhine Herne Canal, where the first platoon of 1st Lt. William Dysinger and S/Sqt. Kermit Kizer was catching all the artillery the enemy could throw its way. And Dog Company, which had entered the fighting later than any of the medium companies, had just made a name for itself with the 315th Infantry, which swore by the first platoon.

Bn. Hq. and Service Co. CP was at Mollen, in what had once been a fine castle, and which was now a bombed out building with a good, stout cellar.

"Zimmerman," Sqt. Stolzenberg said, "You know what they all say. You won't get hit until one comes in with your name on it."

Zimmerman though that one over.

"That's not the one that bothers me," he admitted, "The one I'm worried about is the one that comes in marked 'To Whom it May Concern.'"



By the 31st, the big picture had shaped up. The 79th had swung south from Dinslaken almost to Duisburg, and was sitting there. The 717th battalion CP was at Hamborn. Baker CP was at Sterkrade. Charlie's three platoons were still outposting the Rhine-Herne, with the first still catching artillery, and making the problem of supplying it a risky one.

When the supply truck reached Sqt. MacDonough's tank, it was firing into the houses across the Rhine-Herne. The tank stood smack in the middle of the street, and once a half minute, regular as clockwork, the gun would fire and then the brass case would come clattering down out of the turret and onto the street. That was the only sound in the town and on the street. MacDonough was standing on the rear deck giving fire orders and smoking a cigar.

"Mac," said the driver, "Mac, they're going to shoot you if you stay out there in the open on this street."

"Shoot at us?" MacDonough said, "They won't shoot at us. They know, know, sure as hell, that I'll shoot right back..."

From the 1st to the 5th of April, the battalion was not busy fighting. The CP remained at Hamborn, right beside what was left of one of Germany's most modern high schools. On Easter Sunday (April 1st) the 79th held church; on the same afternoon, Able lined up three tanks and put shells into a Duisburg church steeple that the Germans were using for an OP. 1st Lt. Austin and T/5 Kelly (the Hq. Co. Kelly) were wounded when a sniper opened fire on them near Oberhausen.

On the 5th, the 79th moved over to the east, preparatory to forcing a crossing of the Rhine-Herne canal. Bn. Hq. and Service Co. went to Buer, which was still in relatively good shape for a Ruhr town, and the line companies moved down the hill to Horst, which wasn't in good shape at all. On April 8th, Able and Charlie crossed the ponton bridge on the canal and began fighting again.

Around one of Dog Company's crossroads, it was really hot. The Krauts had their registration right on the button, and in moving three quarters of a mile, the infantry fighting with the tanks had dug three different foxholes per man. So did the Headquarters Company mortar platoon, which was along for support.

Cpl. Moody had run the gas up to the tanks with Captain Murphy, and both of them had been shaken up by the Kraut artillery. Moody drove away as fast as he could. Captain Murphy said nothing to him for at least a mile. Then he turned to Moody.

"You're the only man in the United States Army I've ever seen drive a truck sitting on the floorboards," Captain Murphy said.

It was clear, on April 9th, that someone from the 717th would be in Essen before long. Able had fought in Gelsenkirchen, with the first tank crew of the second platoon feeling three SP shots bounce off its armor without anyone in the tank getting hurt. Charlie Co. platoons joined the 315th, which had been sweating out their crossing of the Rhine-Herne; with the first running into AT guns, and the second fighting to the northern outskirts of Essen. At 1900 on the 8th the 2nd platoon was attached to the 17th Airborne Division for a night attack into the factory district at Essen.

Dog Co. was not busy at first, but its second and third platoons crossed the canal on April 8th in readiness for possible action. They were in the fight the same day.

One of the good things—the really, good things—that happened when you were in a tank up on the line at night were the trucks. You would be on watch, hanging onto the 50 cal. thinking about a million things, and feeling lonely. And scared.

Then you would hear them behind you. They would swing into the courtyard, or into the field, or behind the corner, and you could hear the good, old sound of a GI truck muffler, or the faint rattle of gas cans, or the scrape of a marmite can with some hot food inside it.

Next, you would see O'Hara, or Johnson, or Gardner, or Ruane, or Wainwright, or Ragosto. Or, hear someone say, "H-how're ya doin?" And that would be Cpl. Kwasny.

It wasn't just that they brought food, or that letter you were waiting for, or the HE you needed for the work tomorrow. The important thing was—they were guys you knew and liked. They took plenty of chances to get the stuff to you. And brother, with everything so quiet in front of you, those old trucks sounded good. It wasn't quite so lonely on the line.

On 10 April, Bn. Hq. and Service Co. moved their CPs to Katernberg, over the Rhine-Herne.

Co. "A" CP was at Bochum, which Lt. Genuit's platoon had helped to take the previous day, without benefit of maps. Baker's first platoon jumped off at Steele,



south of Bochum, and slowed down when enemy fire came from their flanks. The second platoon of this company had it slightly easier in the vicinity of Leithe, and captured 40 PW's.

Charlie's first and second platoons entered Essen, meeting no opposition in the most terrible-looking town seen so far. Co. D's first platoon also claimed first entry into Essen when it accompanied airborne troops at 2000 on the 11th.

On the 11th, came the battalion's third fatal casualty. 1st Lt. Robert W. Shields, whose platoon was in position near the Ruhr River, southwest of Essen, had his tank partway down a hill overlooking the river when an 88 shell hit the tank, killing him instantly.

From the old Chaffee days, Bob Shields was one of the best liked men in the battalian, and his death hit as hard as the others. He was one of the battalion's best instructors in gunnery. But what put him across—bar or no bar—was the belief that he constantly practiced: the way to treat a man was to treat him like a man,

We lost only four men killed in action in the fighting in Germany. But when we lost those four, we lost four of the very best the battalion could give its country.

About the only platoon that had it hot on the 12th was the first platoon of Company "A", which had been headed by Sgt. James Pitzer since 2nd Lt. John Russell had been injured two days before. In a last-ditch effort the Krauts across the Ruhr were putting back everything they had left. Sgt. Ronald Shea and Pvt. Earl Waters were wounded by either artillery or AT fire when their quarter-ton was hit while enroute on a supply mission to Pitzer's platoon. The other platoons in all other companies had a quiet day.

One peaceful night, up on the line, Company "B's" S/Sgt. Melbourne King was seated on the rim of his tank turret, quietly smoking a pipe. Out of the darkness came a line of friendly infantry. The other second section tank mistook the line for enemy, let go with a burst of 30's that clipped off S/Sgt. King's pipe at the stem, scattering tobacco coals and S/Sgt. King's peace of mind.

"Shoot," screamed King to his gunner, "Open fire! Shoot!"

"But what will I shoot at?" his gunner asked, "What's the target?"

"Do you think I give a good PNK!OQA" damn what you shoot at," King hollered, "Just shoot!"

On the 13th, Bn. Hq., Headquarters Co.

and Service Co. moved from Katernberg to Gelsenkirchen, where the facilities for paperwork were so good that Lt. Howard and T/4 Ellis Kriebel got out a few formal orders, just to keep in the swing of things. Dog Co. also arrived at Gelsenkirchen, and went into military police duties there. Able went to Langendreer, near Bochum, where its 3rd platoon, now commanded by 1st Lt. Smith, went into a defensive position along the Ruhr River. There was no change in the positions of Baker and Charlie Companies.

And Dog Co. served formal notice on the battalion that Sqt. Robert Metzger's and 1st Lt. Allen's tanks were the first tanks in Essen.

One of the things each tanker will carry with him for the rest of his life is the memory of the time and circumstances under which he heard the news of Franklin D. Roosevelt's death. No one in the 717th read the flood of tributes, or heard the constant dirge of the radio chains that went on for days in America. But the shock was just as real, and just as great.

"He's the only one I can remember being in there," a 79th Infantry sergeant said, "Lots of things wrong with the way he did things, I guess. But what a hole it leaves ..."

On 14 April, it was beginning to look more like a battalion. The division MP's were even out looking for uniform violations and those who were paying no attention to the non-fraternization rule in too obvious a way. But except for one platoon in Charlie and another in Able, all platoons were under company control, and the companies were answerable to battalion instead of the 79th, as they had been during combat.

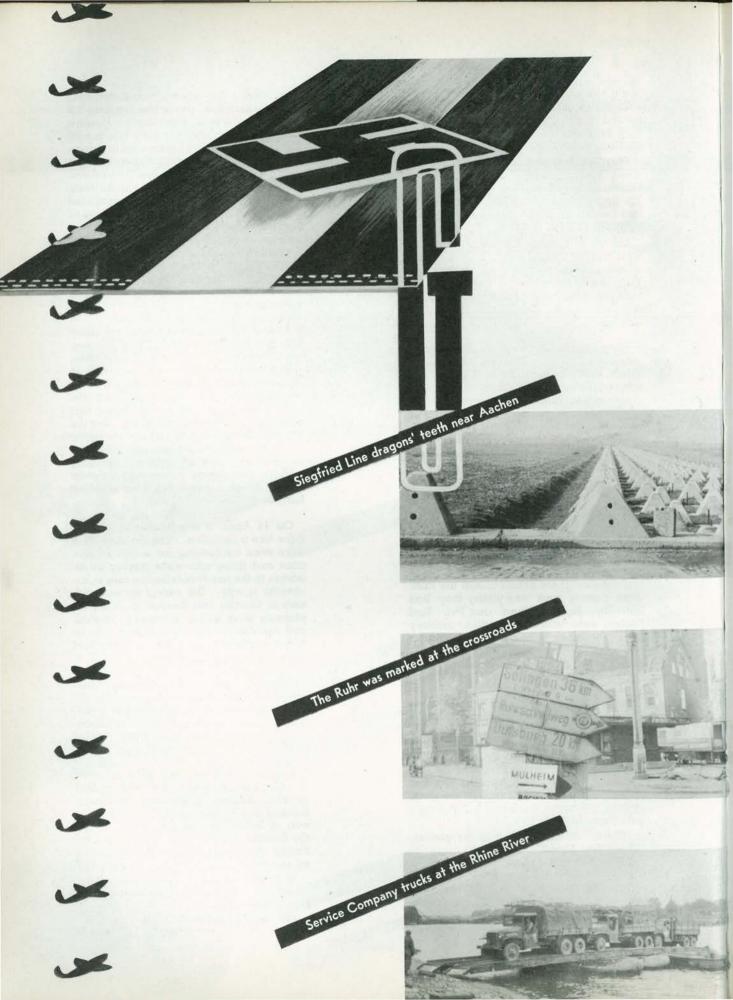
Dog Company's cooks had really goofed off this time. Issue salt looked a lot like issue sugar in the ETO, and this particular morning, the pancakes had been made with salt. There were 99 men available for duty that morning, but no one would touch a flapjack.

Then T/4 Schloh turned up with a PW —a Kraut officer, and a lean looking bird at that. Seidner questioned him, and learned that he had come from 100 miles east of Berlin, that he had gone through the Russian, the German, the British, and finally the American lines before giving up the struggle. The reason he gave up? —he pointed to his stomach. Hungry.

"Do you know what pancakes are," Seidner asked him.

The German nodded.

So, with most of Company "D" watch-



ing, the officer put away five salty pancakes, one after the other. He wiped the syrup off his chin, looked up.

"Sehr gude," he said, "Sehr gude!"

April 15th was another moving day, that brought the battalion closer together. Headquarters and Service went to Buer. Company "A" moved to the nearby suburb of Buer-Resse, where there were fair quarters and an excellent shower bath in the mine buildings there. Baker went to Nordhausen; Charlie to Sweckel, and Dog to Polsum. The first platoon of "C" and the third of "A" were still out in a tactical position. But the old man was pretty sure by then that the 717th was through fighting for good.

In the middle of the fighting around Mulheim, Pfc. Kehoe of Company "D" got out of his tank and walked into a beer hall, and ordered a tall one. There was one German civilian in the store, and he finished his beer just as Kehoe ordered his. The German gave the storekeeper one mark, got his change, and walked out, dodging down the street to miss any bullets that might come his way.

Kehoe finished his beer, and gave the storekeeper a 5,000 mark note.

"But I don't have change," the storekeeper protested.

Kehoe waved one hand in a grand manner.

"That's OK," he said, "Just keep the change."

Then he went out, got in the tank, and started fighting again.

On the 17th, it looked as if Lt. Col. Odor's prediction was going to be wrong. Everybody in the battalion moved to Brambauer—about 20 miles east of Buer in a hurry. There the battalion was attached to the 75th Infantry Division, and alerted for possible movement. But on the 18th, the 717th was ordered back to Buer, for re-attachment to the 79th Infantry Division, which had been earmarked for military government duties.

And after the rough days that had gone before, that was all right with most of the men in the battalion.

Germany in these days was a nation on the move. There was no place to go, but everyone mounted up in bikes or loaded the big-wheeled dog carts that the Nazi Tourist Bureau had taken pains to keep out of their advertisements, and took off.

Those that didn't go grew vegetables.

Every house had a garden, and every German worked it religiously from morning to night. Watering the gardens was no problem—if there was no rain, there was generally a bomb hole nearby with plenty of stagnant water in it.

Then, with spring, it was impossible not to notice the frauleins. On nice afternoons they put on their most flimsy dresses and their best pair of Paris stockings—and not much more. In two's and three's, they would walk past the guards. And they knew the best way of walking past the guards...

From 19 April to 22 April, the battalion stayed at Buer. The two big jobs at that time were military government and maintenance, with maintenance being the easier of the two. Thousands of DP's were on the move, impatient to get back to their countries, ready to start walking if they had to.

Able Company had it best during that time, with just a few roadblocks to take care of. But Charlie had to clean up a castle to house their DP's, and Baker inherited 3,000 more DP's with an acute food problem. Assault Gun platoon set up the first of the camps in North Buer, and had it on a business basis in a couple of days, with a personnel section composed of a Russian, a Pole, and Italian, and one girl who was of no definite nationality but who knew all the languages.

S-4 had the food coming in in a few days, and it really began to look like military government with some system to it by the time the battalion was ordered to move to the Bottrop-Gladbeck area.

V-E Day was not what anyone had thought it would be. No one celebrated; the work went right on.

In the old SS barracks at Bottrop, chow was being served for the noon meal when Lt. Howard walked into the officers' mess. Very quickly, he read the TWX announcing the end of the European war. Then he went outside to the main mess hall and read the same wire to Headquarters Company.

There were a few cheers, and a few "Thank God's."

The end was really too big to believe. The terrible thing that had begun six years back with a motorcycle platoon racing over a Polish bridge had ended, for the 717th, on a fine spring day in the town of Bottrop. .It was hard enough to believe that you were living in a town with a name like Bottrop let alone trying to understand the great news that had just arrived.

War's end found the 717th at Bottrop and Gladbeck in the Ruhr. During the next two months its companies rolled over most of the cities in the Ruhr it had missed in the fighting. It was a relief to get up to Westphalia, where the hills reminded a lot of men of home....

THE AFTERNART

The colums slowed down twice on the eighth of May—once because of the condition of Essen's streets, and again to avoid running over civilian wheelbarrow, bike and cart traffic on the Bochum-Dortmund highway. By late afternoon of the eighth, most of the 717th was in Arnsberg, Westphalia, ready to resume its job of military government and administration of DP camps.

The battalion was charged with the administration of 18 DP and PW camps, holding in all about 6,000 persons. But the kinks were out of the system now:— S-3 and S-4 had solved the major administration and supply difficulties, and the company guards had learned not to be surprised anymore by happenings in the camp. For example, in one of Charlie Company's camps, the guards were given a fresh bouquet of posies daily by a little Russian girl with bangs. And at Dorsten, seven DP's died in a few hours after mixing up a potent liquid composed of one part antifreeze, two parts engine oil.

The setup on camps at Arnsberg was this way: Headquarters and Dog had four camps, with Company "C's" first platoon guarding the big (2,300 beds) PW hospital on the edge of town. The Russians were in three former schoolhouses, which now had pictures of Uncle Joe and the hammer and sickle all over the walls. The Yugoslav camp-commended for its neatness and efficency by Maj. Gen. Wyche, the 79th's commanding generalcontained two characters soon well known to the battalion personnel. One was named "Handlebars"-his moustache was the equal or superior of that grown by Lt. Vanderclute in Englandthe other, the "Weasel", was termed a matrimonial catch by most of the camps' female personnel.

Able Co. had three camps downriver at Husten, and three more at Balve. Baker was really out in the woods this time, with its CP at Stockton, and three camps south of Arnesberg; at Allendorf, at Amecke, and Grevenstein.

At Wildhausen, a picture-book town on the Ruhr River, Company "C" maintained a CP in a magnificent home once owned by the owner of the big factory building up the hill, where both albumen and cellulose had been manufactured synthetically. For two years, said the Germans who lived at Wildhausen, they had lived almost entirely on the plant's output of albumen. The Russian camp was opposite the factory, and daily, the medics would patch up joy-riders from the lager who had ridden their brakeless bikes down the hill, flying over the handlebars somewhere along the way. The next daywith bandages, liniment and black eyesthe same riders would be trying it all over again, and flying off the bikes just as regularly when they missed the turns.

Charlie Co's third platoon ran Sundern

and the DP camp located there.

There were breaks from the steady guard and police duties of the aftermath period. Some men got to Paris, some luckier ones spent time at the Riviera.

In addition, S/Sgt. Gehrt's reconnaissance platoon renovated a summer camp located at Langsheid Lake for battalion use. The camp was just beginning to function when the battalion received new movement orders.

On 21 May, after one year and eight months as battalion commander, It. Col. Odor transferred from the battalion. The colonel—who did not enjoy speeches did not make one before the battalion. But he made the rounds of the camps the day before he left, and because of the mysterious way news travels in the Army before hitting paper, all officers and men knew they were throwing him his last salutes as CO of the 717th.

On the same day the colonel piled his duffel bag in T/5 Sherer's peep for the last time, the battalion was on its way to Bad Lippspringe, where was located a Ninth Army training camp. Completion of the move of 57 miles put the battalion in tents again for the first time since Twenty Grand. There was a slight difference, however, in that Kraut radios, feather bolsters, etc., helped make things more livable under canvas.

At Bad Lippspringe, the battalion had two possibilities for its future. One was occupation duty in Germany. The other was the trip to Japan, possibly by way of the States.

The future was taken care of abruptly. In a hurry-up-and-roll-order, the battalion was told to move south to the 3rd Armored's area near Frankfurt, and there await orders for redeployment through the United States. On June 4, the 717th moved out, and completed the 244-mile march a day later.

The march was headed by Lt. Col. Edward E. Cruise, who had joined the 717th on June 2nd as battalion commander. M/Sgt. Samuel Puterbaugh took M/Sgt. Purvis' place in the column as the new sergeant major—the latter having left the battalion "on points."

The battalion stayed at Ober-Roden (with the companies billeted in nearby towns) until June 12th. The tanks and most equipment were cleaned up, turned in. Everybody was ready—really ready for the next march.

On June 12th—in a hard rain, as usual the 717th took the road back—through Frankfurt, Cologne, Liege, Charleroi, Rouen, and into Twenty Grand. After that it would be 3,000 more miles to the good old Jersey shore.

As the long column crossed the Belgian frontier, there was hardly a man who did not look back. The spring wheat was in, and young Holsteins were getting in some good capers on the broad fields. Beyond that were the high, grey hills hiding Aachen—a dead and beaten city.

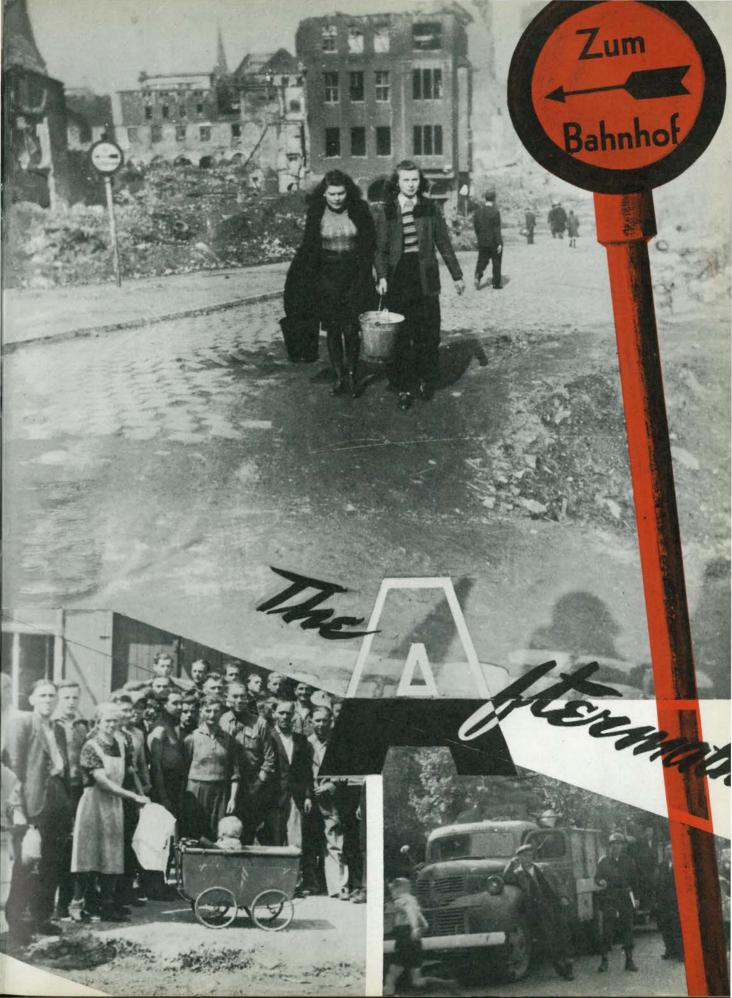
Just by looking, no man could tell there had ever been fighting there.

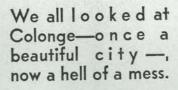
Up at Arnsburg, the battalion was able to settle down, eat hot chow, catch up on movies, and—when there was a pond around—get clean for a change.

The

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Late hours in the 717th. belonged to Message center and Personter and Personnel. For papernel. For paperwork was always work was always heavy, even in the beat-up Ruhr CP's.



Formally, this is the Medical Detachment, but most of us just call them "Doc's Boys," and let it go at that. They took good care of us in the ETO, and for good measure, made record time in caring for and delousing over 12,000 DP's.

Edica

The

The staff made people miserable: . cooks and CO's, privates and first sergeants. But that was its job. It

helped make the battalion a better outfit than the one up the

street; a greater team than the German ones the 717th met on the other side of the Rhine. Administration operations, intelligence

and supply were its missions.



Generally, the boys in Service Company were pretty quiet boys. Not much noise out of them. But when the chips went down in Germany, they showed the tanks that they knew their job. The stuff got up on the line, in time, to the right places.

Truckers

Front Row: Capt. Richard B. Foley (B), Capt. Timothy J. Murphy (D), Capt. Thomas J. Sartor (Sv). Back Row: Ist Lt. Duane W. Allen (A), Ist Lt. William C. Dysinger (C), Capt. Loren A. Waite (Hq), and Capt. Willian M. Hodgins, the Battalion S-4.

The six COs had the hardest jobs in the 717th. The job was tough enough in training. But looking after three platoons in combat was the big job. And they did it well.

PRESERVER CELETINE

10111

The CC



Above: T/5 Hobbs. Below: Chow-man Tolan.

Above: Sgt. Smith and T/5 Norman in the searchlight near Mearburg.

-

Above: Mortar platoons. Below: Ist Platoon of ''D'.











### HQ and HQ COMPANY

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Monterey San Francisco

Pueblo

Bridgeport New Britain

Washington Washington

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Columbus

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Gary Indianapolis Indianapolis Indianapolis Muncie

(Photo Above) ALABAMA Cpl. Joseph M. Wright Pfc. Hershel H. Rickard S/Sgt. Jess W. Lemmond ARIZONA Píc. Louis R. Angulo Pic. Louis A. Angulo Cpl. Alphonse Jankowski CALIFORNIA Capt. Loren A. Waite 1st Lt. Kerm Ingram

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Lt. Hobert M. Brown Pfc. Franklin G. Bayless Lt. Donald W. Roe Frank W. Andrysiak S/Sgt. Georgene K. Harrington 829 S. Shipley Street

4240 Jackson Street Route 5 Route 2

1115 South 2nd Avenue 1301 W. Adams Street

16 Fremont Street

516 W. Pitkin

105 Henry Street 19 Landers Avenue

2417 39th Street 6910 Delwood Street, N. E.

2590 Post Street Route 1

3216 7th Avenue

5640 S. Campbell 910 S. Hermitage 5059 S. Halstead 3141 N. Central Park 402 W. Madison Street 2016 N. 49th Street 320 N. Clay Avenue 627 Wichita Avenue 2126 S. 20th Avenue Route 3

668 Buchanan Street 2212 English Avenue

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Albert Lea Chaska

KANSAS KANSAS Pfc. Frederick B. Claypole KENTUCKY Lt. Carroll J. Howard Pfc. Kenneth A. Matherly Pfc. Seymour Schuminsky 2nd Lt. David R. Wells T/Sgt. Calvin C. Aaron Lorgetawa

IOWA

T/5 Floyd E. Zarwell Sgt. Melvin E. Anderson

Louisiana S/Sgt, Emery B. Fisher Pfc, Bennie Gennaro

Pfc. Bennie Gennaro Manne Pfc. Donald D. Hall Pfc. Homer C. Jellison MassAcHusETTS T/5 Matthew L. Kelly T/4 Warren F. Waugh Sqt. Vincent D. Wolfe T/4 Francis J. Murphy T/Sqt. Cass J. Patrone MartLAND T/4 Fred B. Smith

T/4 Fred R. Smith Michigan T/5 Kenneth F. Poradine

Pfc. Carl Barnett Pfc. Eugene R. Boerner Pfc. Charles Balogh Pfc. Roman C. Raniszewski Pfc. Jerome R. Sieszpułowski Pfc. Jerome R. Sieszpulows: Pfc. William J. Slomkowski T/5 LaVerne E. Tillman T/4 Dirk P. Woestenburg Sgt. Leroy L. Rathhun Pfc. Ralph M. Ozmun Pfc. Gordon L. Rahl T/5 Lestie J. Gallagher <u>MINESOTA</u> T/5 Lestie O. Bickering

T/5 Leslie O. Pickering 1st Lt. Martin L. Stahlke

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RFD 3418 Washington Avenue

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18 Irving Street 129 Oxford Street 41 Alpha Road 115 Peabody Street 55 Neponsett Avenue

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45 E. Park Avenue 11797 Washburn 3199 S. Liddesdale

3339 Roosevelt Street 3427 Hammond 4845 Bangor 4503 Scotten Ävenue

1219 Front Avenue 1802 Union Street 531 Shepard Street Box 431

812 Freeborn Avenue

(continued on page 67)



#### SERVICE COMPANY (Photo Below)

ALABAMA Pic. Clarence V. Gray Pic. Archie M. White T/5 Martin L. Owens T/5 Urban A. Walden CWO Samuel B. Reinbolt CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA Pic. Matthew Thurmon S/Sqt. John E. Matthews T/4 Maurice W. Witzell T/4 John J. Nurmi T/4 Phillip C. Cook T/5 Robert C. Phillips COLORADO T/4 Fred Cooper COMPRCTIGHT CONNECTICUT Pic. William C. Squailia Pic. William C. Squand Cpl. Hale J. Baldwin Pfc. Martin T. Galla GEORGIX Pfc. Ralph L. Wainwright Pfc. Sidney H. Perkins **ILLINOIS** ILLINOIS WO/JG Alexander J. Draus T/S John E. Kwasr\*\* Pvt. Stanley J. Shaner T/Sgt. Delbert A. Rhoades INDIANA

INDIANA T/5 Charles F. Smith Pfc. Robert L. Eaglen S/Sgt. Ralph J. Mills J/Sgt. Rocco D. Martino T/5 Irl R. Ababier T/Sgt. Lowell M. Pendry S/Sgt. Warren D. Shera Lows IOWA

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Route 3, Box 183-C

206 W. Mills Street Burk Walden, Route 5 215 Abingdon Avenue 19 Gillam Street

Route 2 Route 1, Box 10 4818 U Street 334 Athens Street

912 29th Street 49 Winnett Street

Box 444 240 Bruce Avenue

Route 1 130 Beverly Place

3528 W. 38th Place 4591 Archer Avenue 1957 N. Bissell Street

606 Union Street West 8th Street Route 5 1117 Culbertson Street Route 1

316 Union Court 704 W. Lincolnway 18 S. Washington

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New Jersey T/5 Edward P. Ruane Pfc. George A. Griffoul T/5 Michael Statkus

(continued on page 67)

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15 Newton Street 49 Atherton Street 174 Franklin Avenue 85 South Street

151 Oxford Street 7 Therme Avenue Franklin Street

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4233 Riopelle 15636 Eastburn 2124 E. Palmer Street 748 Fountain Street, N. E.

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Route 1

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5618 West Park

140 Canal Street

314 Linden Street 129 Pierre Avenue 1128 St. Louis Avenue



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Piggott Rudy

Brentwood

Pacific Grove San Francisco

San Francisco

San Francisco South Gate

Sugar City Grand Junction

Hartford

Lourel

Sebring

Sandpoint

Kendrick

Chicago Chicago Chicago

Chicago

Eldorado Jacksonville Chicago

Washington

Jacksonville

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Boute 1 c/o General Delivery Route 1, Box 191A

261 Lavrel Avenue 1094 Golden Gate Avenue 2875 Folson Street 115 Bartlett Street 8993 Hildreth Avenue

Box 183 Route 5

351 Franklin Avenue 338 17th Place, N. E.

Brooklyn Avenue

906 Flagler Street

521 Alder Street

5027 W. Qunicy Street 4739 W. Patterson 2128 N. Oakley 2334 W. Augusta Blvd. 803 Bryan Avenue Route 2 502 Doolin Avenue 4717 N. Kiong Avenue

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Cpl. Charles R. Budrow MASSACHUSETTS

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MICHIGAN Cpl. Lawrence P. Resky T/5 Joseph Prysby, Jr. Pfc. Gordon L. Johnson Pvt. Chester B. Drobeck Cpl. William L. LaForge Pfc. Louis E. Duvall Pfc. Donald Peterson MINNESCTA MINNESOTA Ist I.t. Rudolf Johnson S/Sgt. Joseph J. Stolzenberg S/Sgt. Orville H. Bebensee

MISSISSIPPI 1st Lt. James R. Austin

(continued on page 67)

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3825 Georgia Street 616 S. Market Route 2

411 S. 40th Street 912 6th Avenue 125 Irving Street c/o Harry Green

1111 5th Street

Route 3

25 Gladhill Avenue 105 School Street 9 Castle Street 30 Eustis Avenue 2 Puffer Street

414 Goethe Street 724 Singer Avenue

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#### COMPANY "B" (Photo Below) ALABAMA

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Sgt. Frank J. Berchicci Pfc. George J. Thoele T/5 Thomas E. Pavelonis

2223 7th Lane N. 155 Charles Street Route 2

Route 1 Route 4 701 N. West Street Box 161

Route 4 638 Vine Street

74 Silver Street

1612 C Street, N. E.

General Delivery 1400 Freemont Avenue 1605 S. 2nd Street 620 El Prado Drive 130 Cora Street 1686 Grand Avenue 129 Darina Avenue 345 15th Avenue 1434-A Van Ness Avenue

1149 W. Union Avenue

10 Sims Street Route 3 1221 E. 54th Street

711 W. Arthington Street 4046 W. Adams Street 5136 S. Paulina Street 4854 W. Melrose Street 5330 W. 14th Street 421 N. 1st Street 107 W. College Street

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ric. Lagar L. Mosier INDIANA Pfc. Charles F. Smith Sqt. William E. Peterson T/4 Howard E. Arnold Pvt. Frank M. Graham KENTUCKY T/4 William H. Schaefer

Pfc. Wilmer H. Reeves Sqt. Richard M. Hosman T/4 William D. Ragsdale T/5 Edward C. F. Thompson S/Sgt. John R. Tong LOUISIANA Sgt. Benjamin W. Blakeley

Massachusetts T/5 Kenneth Å. Rhodes Capt. Richard F. Foley Pvt. Edmund Martins Pvt. Armand E. Pettorvto Pvt. Frank S. Rose MARYLAND Cpl. Dino Di Pgolo Michigan Pvt. Edward F. Kochevar Pfc. Donald E. McBrien Pfc. Richard C. McBrien

Pfc, Alex Olechnowich Cpl. Stanley J. Slowik Sgt. Lawrence L. Lambert T/4 Robert C. Tachick Cpl. Thomas E. Wood Pfc, William Hargrove Bet Nearen C. Mokkr Pvt. Norman C. Mokka

(continued on page 68)

4949 Adams Street 129 Arizona Avenue 915 S. Bell Avenue 221 Brons Avenue Route 2

645 16th Avenue 510 S. 2nd Avenue

606 Union Street

217 W. 1st Street 906 Pine Street

919 Western Avenue

5 N. Green Street 1121 Tennessee Avenue 339 N. 28th Street Star Route

1633 Tulone Avenue

Box 286, Amherst Road 137 Summer Street 335 Ames Street 46 Juniper Street 112 Water Street

1811 N. Register Street

2150 S. Degcon 317 Eastlawn 317 Eastlawn 4090 31st Street 3515 Scrvis Route 1 1445 Browning 614 W. Witherbee Street 411 8th Street, N.W. 416 Calumet Street



### COMPANY "C"

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520 Santa Barbara Road

1426 5th Street 698 Dixwell Avenue

Beardall Avenue

2159 N. Laramia 7808 Luma, Route 1

500 7th Avenue

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Freeman Kansas City Independence Macon Sarcoxie St. Louis St. Louis St. Louis

KENTUCKY Pfc. Robert E. Poe Pfc. Lue Thomas Louisana

S/Sgt. James H. Perry T/5 Frank R. Clifton Pfc. August J. Odenwald Maine Pfc. Richard G. Perry, Jr.

Cpl. Joseph A. Gallant Massachusetts Lt. Robert Pulliam Li, Robert Pullar Cpl. David Missell Pfc. Roland R. Myers T/5 George W. York S/Sgt. Cyril F. Noel Pfc. Thomas F. Waller Pfc. Edward O. Blais Cpl. Walter J. Jurczyk Pfc. Felix J. Bruneau MARYLAND

Lt. James E. Pitzer Sgt. Elmer W. Hines Sgt. Edgar E. Matthews Michigan

MICHIGAN Pfc. Virgil D. Julien Pfc. John C. Palmer Pfc. Raymond W. Okonkowski MINNESOTA

T/4 Harry F. Thiers Cpl. Edward Ryan T/5 Alquin E. Hinnenkamp Capt. Kenneth W. Rydeen

Capt. Kenneth W. Rydeen Missourt Pfc, Howard L. Johnson Pfc, Frederick E. Campbell Cpl. Henry C. Woody T/4 William J. Mathis Lt. Raymond Stailey Sqt. Lawrence E. Walker Sqt. Don L. Marting Sqt. Earl Kessinger

(continued on page 68)

424 Elmarch Avenue

524 Todd Street Box 154 2545 Iberville Street

4 Osborne Court 222 Pine Street

11 Foster Street 1616 Commerce Avenue 8 McParlin Court 11 Bennington Street 2 W. Kenneth Street 31 Dunreath Street 11 Sanderson Street 38 E. Court 53 N. Main Street

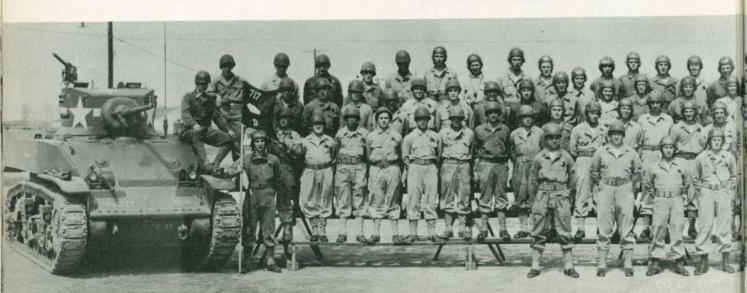
414 Goethe Street Route 1

Bangor Road, Route 5 111536 Woodrow Wilson Ave. 4263 7th Street

Box 113 5th Avenue N

801½ Park Avenue 1819 Hawthorne Street Route 3

5947 Highland Ävenue 7395 Norwood Ävenue 4458 Anderson Ävenue



Andalusia Montgomery Rogersville

Benton Charleston Sedon Tuckerman

Berkley

Greeley New Haven

Sanford

Denton Macon

Chicago Danville Dixon Freeport Grafton Harrisburg Hinsdale Maywood Mt. Vernon Oak Lawn Sullivan

Ewing South Bend Terre Haute Terre Houte

Mt. Vernon

(Photo Above)

Route 1 143 Commer Terrace

735 Chandler Street 418 3rd Avenue 201/2 W. Exchange Street Box 99 Box 263 67 and Cass Avenue 1828 S. 164th Avenue 308 Walnut Street

Route 1 26 W. Holland Street 2327 S. 8th 2317 Arleth Street



#### Montevallo Murray Cross Piedmont Skipperville LaVerne

#### Alexander

Los Àngeles Monrovia San Francisco Los Àngeles

Derby Greeley

Enigma

Kismee Chicago

Chicago Chicago Chicago Hoopston Marengo Marshall Rock Falls

Gary Indianapolis

Bloomfield Sioux City

Natoma

Ashland Mavking Lewisburg

### COMPANY "D"

(Photo Below) ALABAMA 7/5 John E. Holder 7/4 Frank O. Southern 7/5 John E. Holder 7/5 Andre R. Dempsev 1/Sqt. James W. Mizell 7/5 Alpheus C. Kennedy ARKANSAS Pvt. William D. Green CALIFORNIA Cpl. Bert A. Guerrero 7/5 Wallace M. Porter S/Sqt. Albert W. Thomas Lt. James W. Bell COLORADO 1/Sqt. Herman G. Fishcharls Sqt. Joe H. Woolf GEORGIA T/4 Earl J. Pickard FLORIDA 7/4 Earl J. Pickard FLORIDA 7/4 Earl J. Pickard FLORIDA 7/5 Howard F. Hilbert S/Sqt. Althur C. Piato Pic. Gus Rocco Sqt. James V. Good 7/5 Howard W. Nates Sqt. Kay E. Simpson 7/5 William F. Klocke INDIANA Sqt. Calvin A. Guess Pfc. Thomas Paul Lowa 7/5 Robert L. Petefish Cpl. Emery D. Sisson KANNAS 7/5 Warren F. Schloh KENTUCKY Sqt. Ernest Webb Sqt. Ernest Webb Sqt. Ener Webb Sqt. Ener B. Porter

Box 166 Route 1 Box 127 Route 2 Route 1 Boute 2

1610½ Cerro Gordo Street 348 Linwood Avenue

Buckingham Place

Box 56 1203 9th Avenue

6531 Chicora Avenue 6234 N. Clarmont Avenue

541 W. Borber Street 723 N. 5th Street 511 S. State Street 507 Chestnut Street 410 7th Avenue

4334 Georgia Street Route<sup>7</sup> 818 Dubuque Street

2908 Greenup Street

Route 3

Valley Station Livermore Falls

Cambridge Lawrence New Bedford

Roxburg Watertown Whitinsville

East Detroit Hamtranck Vicksburg

Detroit

Hibbing Minnecipolis Mir.necipolis

Charleston Festus . House Springs LaGrange Long Lane Monroe City Rock Hill St. Louis St. Louis

Lincoln Pleasant Dale Scottsbluff

Hoboken Linden Melville Newark Patterson Pleasantville S/Sgt. Howard T. Hayes MAINE T/4 Herman R. Norris T/4 James Sterling MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS T/S Anthony F. Nowosielski Pfc. John Stamina Cpl. George Ponte Cpl. Emilo F. Marino Lt. John P. Meehan Pfc. John Kapolka Micentasw T/S Joseph J. Tarczynski Col Choruse B. Ardell

MicHIGAN T/5 Joseph J. Tarczynski Cpl. Charles B. Ardell Cpl. Chester Bruno Drobeck Cpl. Robert K. Springer MINNESOTA Sqt. Joseph P. Panichi Pvt. Robert Howard T/4 Kenneth E. Hockman

T/4 Kenneth E. Hockman Missount
Sqt. William D. Shrum
T/4 Raymond W. Scott
Capt. Timothy J. Murphy
S/Sqt. Forest F. Griesbaum
Pfc. Oren L. Harryman
T/5 Killiam R. Thomas
Pfc. Charles Fink
T/5 William R. Thomas
Pit. Charles Fink
T/5 William R. Thomas
Pit. Hohert D. Schmersel
Sqt. Robert E. Salstrom
NEW HAMPSHIE
Pic. Samt E. Trione

Pfc. Sam E. Trione T/5 Frank Dibolce T/4 Robert J. Vanaman T/5 Jack Snitkin Pfc. Arthur J. Benevento T/Sat. Jesse Hackney, Jr. (continued on page 69) 14 Water Street

278 Washington Street 55 Bruce Street 164 Blackmer Street 21 Lambert Avenue 162 Spruce Street 886 Providence Road

19965 Charest 15571 Crescentwood Avenue 3239 Lehman

1833 8th Avenue

4433 Aldrich Avenue N.

501 Commercial Street 211 N. 9th Street Box 33

Route 1 321 Cleveland Street 9717 Manchester Road

4325 Wilcox Avenue

Route 2 Route 2

112 Willow Avenue 15 W. 12th Street 802 N. High Street 104 Goldsmith Avenue 115 Park Avenue 800 N. New Road



### MEDICAL DETACHMENT

Boaz Decatur

Pasadena San Bernadina

Milan Chicago

Rumsey Paducah

Detroit Detroit

St. Louis

Peterbourough

ALLIARAMA Cal. James Milner Pfc. Everett Wells CALIFORNIA Ist Lt. Cal. I. Ringhoff Pfc. John Ragsdale LLINOIS S/Sgt. George Taylor Sgt. John E. McSween KENTUCKY Pfc. Herman Doitson Pfc. Lyman Minton Michican Sgt. Orville Fry Pfc. Alfred Nissen Missouri Cpl. Bernard Wilkens New HAMPSHIRE Pfc. William Jarest

Route 2

939 N. Michigan Avenue 1965 Wall Street

1021 Montana Street

1134 N. 10th Street

3826 Magnolia 14243 Roselawn

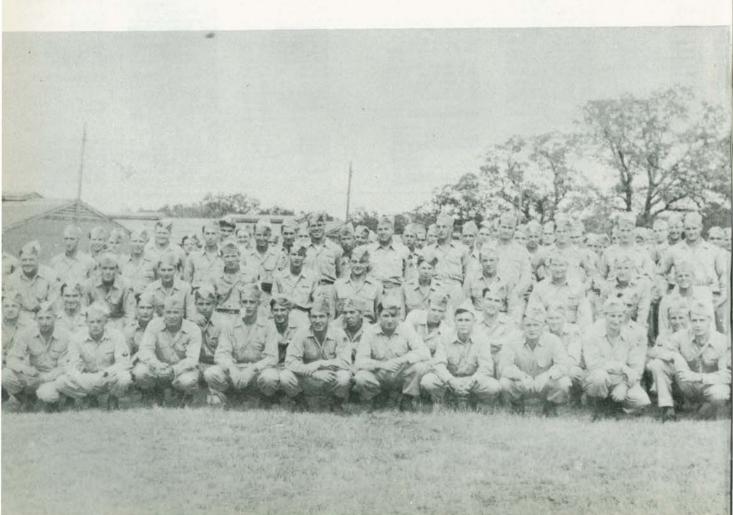
2627 Årkansas Ävenue Bridge Street

New York City Pawtaucket Helper Roanoke Marysville Seattle Gassaway Milwaukee

New York S/Sgt. Omiel Schilling RHODE ISLAND Cpl. Leo Forant UTAH Captain Pablo M. Gonzales VIRGINIA Pfc. Roy Hogan WASHINGTON Pfc. John Hylback Pfc. Owen Morrison WEST VINGINIA Pfc. Robert McTheny WISCONSIN Cpl. Clarence Victory

436 E. 83rd Street 46 Makin Street 14 S. Main Street 924 Patterson Avenue, S. W. 4th Ash Street, Box 157 511 W. McGraw Street

2323 W. Highland Avenue



Detroit Lakes Minneapolis St. Paul

#### Greenville

Bethany Columbia Kansas City St. Louis St. Louis

#### Libby

Elmwood Hubbell Omaha

Ely

Atlantic City Atlantic City Bayonne Clifton Dunnellen Hoboken Lakewood Paterson South Orange Ocean City

#### Albuquerque

Buffalo Brooklyn Duanesburg Horseheads Keeseville Huntington, L. I. New York City New York City New York City Richmond Hill

Burlington Charlotte Elizabethtown Graham Greensboro High Point Kannopolis

#### New Leipzig

Campbell Cincinnati Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Dayton Dayton Mariastein Youngstown

Fort Gibson Frederick Oklahoma City

Aliquippa Beaver Falls Forest Hills Hiller Kulpsville Lancaster Lancaster Philadelphia Pittsburgh Pittsburgh Pittsburgh Pottstown Reading Stroudsburg Wilkes Barre Wilkes Barre

Cranston Providence

#### Greenville

Buena Vista Clinton

Begumont Dallas Fluvana Houston Goose Creek Hillsboro Waco Lubbock Lubbock Moore Nacogdoches Waco Kanab

Ogden

St. Albans Sheldon

Bedford Bedford Bland

Pfc. Robert L. McDougall Sgt. Leonard K. Nelson Cpl. Leo E. Malack Mississirpri S/Sgt. Jack R. Stull Montematical Magazine S/Sgt. Jack R. Stull Missourt T/Sgt. Wilfred D. Selby Lt. Col. Raymond W. Odor T/4 Lyman G. Newby T/Sgt. Carl J. DiSalvo Pfc. Relph H. Holder MONTANA Pfc. John W. Stephen NEBRASKA T/4 LaVern F. Weyers T/4 LaVern F. Weyers T/5 Hubert Bowman S/Sgt. Walter J. Gehrt Nevada T/5 Ernest Vasso New Jasser Pfc. Kenneth R. Moore T/5 Emil T. Weinmaster Pfc. Vincent F. Cerbone Sqt. Gottfried Ziegler T/5 Remo A, Grazine Cpl. Frank E. Molta T/5 Oliver H. Gentry Pfc. Arthur Denbaum T/5 Robert E. Hampton Lt. Alfred R. Smith General Delivery T/5 Robert E. Hamptor Lt. Alfred R. Smith New Mexico Pfc. Louis E. Sandoval New York Lt. Albert R. Mugel Lt. Albert R. Mugel Lt. Edward G. Brigante Pfc. John E. James Pfc. John E. James Pfc. Louis O. Kambeitz Lt. Col. Edward E. Cruise Cpl. Daniel F. Mullen Pfc. Radph V. Fusco Pfc. Frank H. May Pfc. John J. Grady Norrt CanoLINA Pfc. David E. Mansfield Cpl. Clifford R. Sloop Pfc. Robert D. Marshall Pfc. Everett S. Perry Pic. Everett S. Perry T/5 James P. Hutchison Pfc. James Bocholis T/5 James S. Gryder North Dakota North DAROTA S/Sgt. Raymond E. Achtenberg Onto Pvt. William J. Elosh Pfc. Robert E. Burger T/5 Alex Fishman 175 Alex Fishman 3655 E. 151st Tro. Paul H. Sheridan 950 E. 144th Cpl. Thomas G. Stubbs M/Sqt. Samuel W. Puterbaugh 21 Arlington Pfc. Paul E. Routt 37 Horton T/4 Richard H. Brackman 1/4 McAdd H. Brackmin T/5 John E. Joyce OKLAHOMA Pfc. Lionel E. Benton 1st Lt. Jim J. Loftis Pvt. Francis W. Smith PENESYLVANIA PENNSULVANIA Pfc. Richard E. Creese Cpl. Randell G. McCormick T/4 William C. Blue Pfc. Richard B. Ponzurie T/4 Ellie W. Kriebel T/5 George D. Sherr Cpl. William P. Stathopulos T/4 Oscar Wagner, Jr. Pfc. Robert E. Thompson Pvt. Patrick Munroe Lt. Jasenb L. Ingram Lt. Joseph J. Ingram Pfc. Harry K. Shellenberger Pic. Floyd C. Bittenbender Sgt. Eugene A. Mrackoski Sgt. Howard G. Weida HRODE ISBAND Sqt. Ralph Zito Pfc. James A. Bradford Sourh CAROLINA T/5 Camice Treadaway TENNESSEE D. Nolan Pfc. Elden B. Nolen Pic. Elden B. Nolen Pic. Elden B. Nolen TEXAS Sqt. James L. McDaniel 2nd Lt. Richard W. Chinako Sqt. Claude R. Sneed M/Sqt. Simon M. Purvis Pic. Charles B. Welch Pic. Clent V. Miller Pic. Lubre F. Pairett Pic. Johnnie T. McLoland Col. Box I. Wartson Cpl. Roy L. Watson 7/5 Lucian O. Andrews Pvt. Thomas C. Stephens Sgt. John M. Barkley UTAH Sgt. Samuel H. Major Sgt. Francis F. Presnell VERMONT Pfc. Harlan W. Andress Pfc. Maxwell C. Arel Virginia T/5 Jimmy G. Hopkins Pfc. Julian K. Jeter Cpl. John G. Mustard

(Hq. and Hq. Co., cont'd.)

3200 47th Avenue 243 E 19th Street

803 Starling Street 15 South Street

709 Cypress 5649 Enright Avenue

Stor Route

Route 1

2040 N. 48th Avenue

43 N. Rhode Island Avenue 211 Stroudsburg Avenue 18 W. 53rd Street 535 Lexington 629 Round Brooke Road 211 Willow PO Box 42 407 Valley Street

531 Sunset Road

116 Carmel Road

416 Thorne Street Box 428 19 Monfort Drive 235 E. 53rd Street

121 Hillside Avenue Route 2 1636 Dilworth Street

Route 1 1608 Walker Avenue

101 Culler Street 406 E. 11th Street

8320 Plainfield Pike 3665 E. 151st Street 950 E. 144th Street

3410 South Avenue General Delivery Route 2

PO Box 163 1316 4th Avenue 31 Kenmore Avenue

344 E. Liberty Street 810 N. Duke Street

402 W. North Clay Avenue Hazlewood North Side Route 4

Route 1 818 Summit Street 12 Madison Street

119 Wales Street 20 Diman Place

16 Springside

213 Church Street

2280 Broadway 601 N. Irving Street Rural Street

212 West Main 112 Smith Street

Route 5 Box 152

Box 41

Route 3 Box 21 Burks Hill Route 5

Roanoke Lexington

Seattle Spokane Galloway

Parkersburg Iola Racine

Medicine Bow

Hoboken Jersey City Union City Wood-Ridge

Brooklyn Brooklyn Brooklyn New York City Rochester Rochester Rome Sidney New York City

Raleigh

Campbell Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Lorraine Hartesville Parma

Locust Grove Okemah

Cornelius

Douglassville Erie Heidelburg Home Lancaster Pottstown Sharon Uniontown Uniontown West Newton

Cramston

Anderson Pelzer

Dell Rapids

Huntington Knoxville Sneedville

Abernathy Houston

Provo

St. Johnsbury Richmond

Roanoke Bellingham

LaCenter Huntington

Milwaukee

Milwaukee Cowley

Bloomsdale Campbell Farmington Kansas City Maywood

Cut Bank Libby Butte

Omaha Lebanon

Irvington Avenel Merchantville Union City Hoboken

Brooklyn Brooklyn Jackson Heights Brooklyn

67

T/5 Glover W. Hobbs Cpl. Kenneth D. Moore Washington WASHINGTON Pfc, William D. Butler Pfc, Charles H. Trunquill T/5 George Iski WEST VINGINIA T/5 Gordon A. Inghram Wisconsin T/5 Donald R. Wesley C. + William W. Scient Capt. William Hodgins WYOMING T/5 Don H. Cooper

Service Co., cont'd.)

Pfc. John M. Lomolino Pfc. John J. Morrin Pfc. William Miller T/5 Robert E. Stoeffler

NEW York NEW York T/5 Max Shapiro Pfc. Ralph A. Ruopoli T/5 Frank J. San Filippo T/5 Frank McMeekin T/5 Nicholas N. Bobby Cpl. Isadore Donsky T/5 Leonard G. Reed 1/5 Leonard G. Reed T/4 Francis S. Lubecki T/4 John P. Greeley Capt. Howard P. Doherty NORTH CAROLINA Pfc. Harold P. Moras Оню Pfc. Andrew F. Hudak Pfc. Andrew F. Hudak T/5 Thomas Kenny T/5 Leonard Middleton Pfc. Hugo R. Paradise T/4 Theodore R. Vukin T/5gt. Harry Fulmer S/Sgt. Stephen C. Boguski OKLAHOMA T/5 Robert H. Winingham T/5 Carrol E. Sciance OREGOM Pfc. George W. Kent PENNSYLVANIA T/4 Franklin Brile Pfc. John Deimling Pfc. John Deimling T/4 George P. Condruck T/4 Wilfred Kerr T/4 Roy W. Shaeffer Pfc. James V. Ottaviano Capt. Thomas B. Sartor T/4 James O'Hara T/5 Robert F. Ventura Ist Lt. Paul J. Tamasy RHODE IsLAND T/5 Michele P. Mariano South Cabolina Freeman S. LaCount Cpl. William D. Moody South Dakota S/Sgt. Lyle V. Buskerud Tennessee TENNESSEE T/5 Hulan D. Smith Pfc. Lester M. Norman Pfc. Homer J. Young Texas M/Sgt. Henry B. Vineyard 2nd Lt. John C. Russell UTAH Cpl. Glenn W. Godfrey Verwore Cpi. Glenn W. Godirey VERMONT Sgt. Merton V. Alies Vinginia Pfc. Thomas O. Morris T/5 Samuel N. Mason Washingron Pfc LeBey A. Swan Pfc. LeRoy A. Swan T/5 Everett J. Murray WEST VIRGINIA Pfc. William P. Beckett WISCONSIN T/5 Donald R. Johnson Pfc. Richard C. Makowski WYOMING T/4 Frank D. Meeks

### (Company "A", cont'd.)

Missourt S/Sqt. Ernest C. Walker Pfc. Joseph L. Vanderbol Cpl. Norvel W. Pirtle Cpl. Tony Alaniz T/4 Paul E. Garkei Montana T/4 Paul E. Bisson T/4 Jerry E. Hixson T/4 Earl E. Polda T/5 Paul W. Hershberger NEBRASKA 2nd Lt. Lea D. Fish New Hampshire Pfc. Arthur L. Shook Pfc. Arthur L. Shook New Jensey 1st Lt. Charles S. Genuit T/4 Joseph M. Burylo Cpl. John A. Trignami Prt. Joseph A. Ottino Prt. Maurice Alto Mare New Yoak Sqt. Henry E. Camuso Pvt. Edward J. Beckman Pfc. Hons W. Grolis Pfc. Edward Connolly

430 Elm Avenue Route 1

318 Halliday Street

Route 1 Boute 2

86 Grand Street 137 Wilkinson Avenue 173 20th Street B21 Anderson Avenue

343 Bradford Street 56 1st Place 249 Himrod Street

40 Buchan Park 51 Edward Street 236 S. Plymouth Avenue 510 S. James Street

229 Kingsbridge Road 118 N. East Street

66 Morley Avenue 8322 Jeffrica Avenue 2805 Seymour Avenue 1828 Torbenson Road

4811 Pershing Avenue

General Delivery 201 S. Division

Route I

Route 2

506 Grant Street 
 506 Grant Street

 Route 1

 304 W. James Street

 441 Cherry Street

 155 N. Water Street

 106 W. Peter Street

 106 W. Peter Street
 47 Whiteman Avenue

159 Oxford Street

26 Horris Street 16 Sopz Street

Boute I 2500 E. Glenwood Avenue

Route 2 2214 Austin Street 674 N. 1st Street, W.

33 Spring Street

1517 Grand

Route 2

Route 1 PO Box 63

Route 1

2125 Madison

651 S. Main Street

2845 S. 35th Street

31 Nesbit Terrace

200 4th Avenue 546 E. 138th 34-57 72nd Street

31 Neshit Terrace 379 Elizabeth 702 W. Maple Avenue 430 8th Street 531 Willow Avenue

4582 Spuytten Duyvil Pkwy.

3214 Decatur Street

901 5th Street, S. E.

2149 4th Avenue

1310 W. Wells Street

3201 S. Howell Avenue

Bronx Brooklyn New York Brooklyn Southold Schenectady

Greensboro Granite Falls

Campbell Barberton Akron Cincinnati Cincinnati Cleveland Cleveland Columbus Farmdale Norwood

Altus Wilburton Cincinnati

Allentown Brownsville Carbondale Chambersburg Cochraneville E. Stroudsburg Farrell Hazelton Honesdale Lancaster Mahanoy City Philadelphia Philadelphia Philadelphia Pittsburgh Pittsburgh Pottstown Seven Valleys South Enola Uniontown Bloomsburg

Lexington Lowndesville Pierpoint (Chlston) Asheville

Lead

Fulton Floydada Decatur

El Paso San Marcos Spur Levelland

Manassas Richmond Lynchburg Exeter Roanoke

Seattle

Medfore Milwaukee

Casper Laramie

Litchfield Orr Osakis

Cassville Harrisonville Kansas City Platte City Rives Turney St. Louis

DeWitt Grand Island Nebraska City Nebraska City Nebraska City

Bayonne Newark Jersey City Red Bank

Albany Bronx Brooklyn Bronx Brooklyn Brooklyn Brooklyn Buffalo Jamestown Highland Mills T/5 Milton M. Gurman Cpl. Melvyn M. Ettinger Cpl. Hugo F. Spidalleri Pic. Theodore J. Hagendorf Sgt. George B. Akscin Sgt. John F. Pathode Norrit CAROLINA T/5 Ellis E. Mitchell Part Heavy G. Beck Pvt. Henry G. Beck Ohio S/Sqt. Joseph Jevesok, Jr. Cpl. Nicholas A. Pisanelli Pfc. Alex Soltas Pet. Rowe Cpl. Edward J. Hassenger T/4 Charles J. LaMarca T/5 Steve Piscalko Pfc. Arthur R. Heck T/5 Reuben L. Miller Cpl. Robert V. Ross Sqt. Robert H. Maisch OKLAHOMA Pfc. Clifford L. Harris T/4 James E. Burger Pfc. Glenn Abner PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA Pfc. Charles B. Ziegler Cpl. George M. Troth Sgt. Robert T. Lynady Cpl. William D. Weaver Cpl. Elbert L. Miller, Jr. Cpl. Arthur Mosteller Sgt. Daniel A. Vivolo Sqt. Daniel A. Vivolo S/Sqt. Harry R. Dietrich Pvt. Paul H. Wasman Cpl. John E. West Sqt. Stanley R. Kulakowski S/Sqt. Harry Cohen Cpl. Joseph H. Markley Pfc. William J. Thompson J/Srt Jeaph Jaracki Pic. William J. Inompson 1/Sgt. Joseph Jaroski Pfc. William F. Kirmeyer Sgt. Walter G. Paskowski Pfc. LaVerne R. Gladfelter Pfc. Gerald B. Liddick Sgt. Owen F. O'Conner Pvt. Calvin W. Derrick SOUTH CAROLINA Pfc. George A. Steele T/3 Singleton S. Boles T/5 Nick H. Spitzer, Jr. 1/Sqt. Sidney J. Hedden SOUTH DAKOTA Cpl. LaVerne H. Clark TENNESSEE Pic. W. D. Tegethoff Texas Sgt. Merideth R. Switzer T/4 Weinman L. Hachtel Pfc. Francisco Rodriguez T/5 Leslie Schaefer Sgt. Robert D. Morgan T/4 George Drewry Virginia T/4 Emory L. Cornwell Pfc. Bernard Merkil Sgt. John Wright T/5 George Eden Sqt. Herman Neathawk, Jr. WASHINGTON Sqt. Donald P. Jensen Wisconsin T/4 Charles Glenzer T/4 Russell Kunz WYOMING T/4 Lorenzo Palmer

(Company "B", cont'd.)

Sgt. Harold Olsen

MINNESOTA T/Sgt Gerald W. Nelson T/4 Walter Eugene King Cpl. James M. Kinney Missouri Píc. Cleve L. Tash Pfc. John L. George Pfc. Joseph F. Abbott T/5 Joseph L. Shaw T/4 Alvis L. Haigwood Pvt. Robert L. Mabe S/Sqt. Eugene J. Huelskamp 2203 Salisbury Avenue NERRASKA Robert Z. Cullen Sgt. Donald N. Schweiger Pfc. Arvel F. Bebout Cpl. James Boardman Sgt. Stephen R. Felthauser Mur. Imees NEW JERSEY Pfc. Peter Wengryn Pvt. Anthoy G. Sceppeguercio Pvt. Bernard W. Stanwicki Pfc. Clyde M. Stott New York Pic. Edward H. Kelley Pfc. Benjamin Hochman T/5 Pasquale A. Falzarano Pvt. Max Eisen Pvt. Max Eisen Pvt. Andrew Himmel S/Sgt. John S. Komor Pvt. Robert L. Spitz Pfc. Leon Zwolinkwiecz, Jr. Sgt. Oscar W. Erickson T/S Charles W. Smith Pfc. Ray W. Cross

845 Walton Avenue 1512 Townsend Avenue 215 East 112 Street 2844 W. 29th Street Bayview Avenue 2038 Plaza

1027 S. Aycock Route 2, Box 131

312 Jackson Street 180 E. Baird Avenue 339 Theodore Street

1106 Paxton Road 3621 E. 144th Street 10312 Hulda Avenue 58 Governor Place Route 1 2631 Garland Avenue

803 E. Walnut Route 2 6021 Bramble Avenue

609 S. 6th Street 201 Locust Street 70 River Street 272 E. Queen Street Route 1 375 Hancock Street 1031 Hamilton Avenue 1031 Hamilton Avenue 133 E. Spruce Street Route 2 318 W. Walnut Street 338 W. Market Street 1462 Benner Street 3046 W. Oxford Street 3343 N. Lee Street 2024 Wirding Street 3034 Wiggins Street 1135 Buente Street 74 S. Evans Street

250 E Main Street Fair Street

General Delivery Route 4, Box 260

39 2nd Street

Route 1

Route 1 Box 161 502 S. Kansas Route 1, Box 50 General Delivery

Box 257, Route 2 2308 Rent Street, Lakesid 1409 11th Street

808 Morril Avenue

119 18 Interurban Aven

150 Perkin Street 1095 N. 47th Street

Salt Creek Route 455 N. 5th Street

313 Holcomb Avenue, S. Box 126

Route 2 Route 3 509 Harrison Avenue

Box 76

624 N. Broadwell General Delivery 1001 S. 9th 525 5th Rue

894 Broadway 92 Stone Street 222 8th Street 92 Wallace Street

5 Clinton Street 2141 Starling Avenue 184 Rockaway Avenue 156 Ridge Street 2622 E. 7th Street 1667 Linden Street 1581 E. 24th Street 780 Smith Street 172 Colfax Street

Route 1

Long Island City New York Oakfield Watertown Valley Stream

Burlington Burlington Kinston Monroe Roxboro

Bismark

Bellevue Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Hamden Lakewood Moscow Power Point Urbana Youngstown

Brooken Cement Pawnee Stillwater

Aline

Stryker

North Plains

Bethlehem Columbia Philadelphia Lancaster Marianna Monessen Philadelphia Newcastle Pittsburgh Pottstown Schuylkill Haven Reading Sellersville Uniontown

Lancaster Laurena Spartanburg Williamston

Kimball Pormiee

Memphis McKenzie Nashville

San Angelo Amarillo Lubbock Andrews Jonesboro Denison Freeport Hale Center Honey Grove Houston Richmond Tyler Houston Linden

Bassett Christiansburg Danville

Beckley Bluefield Vicars

Milwaukee Park Falls Histon Hartfort

Butte Hamilton

Humphrey

Hoboken Newark Princeton Trenton

Santa Fe Bronx Bronx Brooklyn Brooklyn Brooklyn

Brooklyn Canandaigua Corona New York City

68

Pvt. John T. Drennon Cpl. Jack Hellman Pfc. William F. Hensel Pfc. Edward M. Clark Lt. Burt A. Vander Clute Lt. Burt A. Vander Clutte North CAROLINA Cpl. Johnnie W. Sparks Cpl. David M. Cozart Pic. Raymond P. Grady 1/Sgt. Loney L. Helms Pic. Thomac D. Davis North Daxora S/Sgt. Rudolph J. Zander Ohno Sgt. Samuel L. Baptista Cril Vito I. Melonis Sqt. Samuel L. Baptista Cpl. Vito J. Malonis Pfc. Edward E. Pacek Pvt. Ernest V. Tripodo T/4 Clarence C. Parkison T/5 Patrick F. C. Papin Pfc. Marshall H. Taylor T/4 William J. Vietmeyer T/4 Robert F. Achatz Cpl. Valent E. Smolko T/4 Louis A. Seigneur ORLAHOMA Pfc. J. D. Davis Sqt. Marion K. Hawkins Sqt. Marion K. Hawkins Sqt. Marion K. Hawkins T/5 Dallacs R. Cox T/5 Eldon L. Randolph Sqt. Claude O. Ryel OBEGON OREGON Cpl. Clifford E. Studebaker PENNSYLVANIA S/Sqt. Harold H. Horning Pfc. Robert B. Zercher Pvt. Olof A. Persson Cpl. Henry L. Zeigler Pfc. Daniel Boldorff Pic. Doniel Boldorff Pic. William J. Gorman Pvt. Pasqule L. Matteo Pic. Joseph A. Johnson Pic. Joseph P. Ratay Pvt. John A. Olesh Cpl. Solon J. Bautsch Pic. Harold E. Weidemoyer S/Sqt. Paul B. Wood South Canolina Pic. Everett L. Stroupé Pic. James S. Pulnam Cpl. Lonnie V. Littlejohn Sqt. James H. Roqeis Sqt. James H. Rogers SOUTH DAKOTA Pfc. John B. Powers Pvt. Raymond Hunts Horses TENNESSEE TENNESSEE Sqt. Robert D. Paxton Pfc. George L. Wilson S/Sqt. John C. Gregory TEXAS Sqt. Horace M. Foster T/5 John L. Waggoner Sqt. Floyd E. Read T/5 Bill G. Luck Pfc. Calvin D. McFadden J. (J. Robert L. Hagking T/4 Robert L. Haskins Lt. Charles M. Hardesty Lt. Charles M. Hardesty 1/Sgt. Melbourne C. King Pvt. James A. W. Carl Sgt. William F. Book Pfc. Santiago R. Capochin Cpl. Rex S. Allen, Jr. Pvt. William E. Hardin Pvt. Cecil Hines Virginita VIRCINIA Pfc, Billy W. Hartis Pvt. Hosea J. Poff Cpl. John H. Owen WEST VIRGINIA T/5 Frank E. Patrick

Pfc. Ralph Ramey Pfc. Junior B. Parsons Wisconsin WISCONSIN T/5 Leonard J. Syzmanski Pvt. James B. Schaffer Pfc. Robert L. Kleba T/5 Frederick W. Schaer

(Company "C", cont'd.)

MONTANA T/5 John F. Sullivan Pic. Kenneth Wickham NEERASKA Pic. Victor A. Schaecher NEw JERSEY T/4 Thomas Robinson Cpl. Sam Golembuski Cpl. Joseph H. Petty Pic. Harry E. Stillwell NEW MEXICO Cpl. Narcisco Trujillo Nisw Yonk Cpl. James D. Grady Pfc. Kenneth G. Guy S/Sqt. William T. Scott Pfc. Jack Katz Sqt. Michael P. McDonough T/4 Clinton F. Moore Pvt. James J. Yezzi Pfc. William P. Kane Onto Otto New Mexico OHIC Sqt. Carl R. Daniels

4538 42 Street 1254 College Avenue 23 Drake Street 425 E. Main Street 15 W. Fairview Avenue

315 Hawkins Street 602 Avon Avenue 600 Harding Avenue Route 5 General Delivery

Box 811

402 E. Center Street 7615 Stor Avenue 1256 E. 81st Street 2012 E. 125th Street Route 1 1658 Roosevelt Avenue Route 1, Box 141 Box 37 310 Boyce Street 1671 Homewood Avenue

General Delivery Route 1 Route 5 Route 2 General Delivery

Route 1

Route 2 532 N. 3rd Street 6544 Woodstock Street 118 Crystal Street Box 294 463 McKee Avenue 825 Morris Street 609 Oak Street 600 S. Main Street, W. L Route 3 76 N. Berne Street 1257 Eckert Avenue 111 Hughes Avenue 26 Lawn Avenue

125 Brooklyn Avenue 730 Irby Avenue 322 Oakland Avenue Box 45

1656 Vance Avenue Route 1 1121 Fifth Avenue

Texas Hotel General Delivery 1921 Avenue D Box 61 Route 1 226 E. Texas Street 813 8th Street Route 2 Route 2 212 Norwood Box 99 1412 N. Ross 1903 Pierce Ävenue Route 2

Route 1

426 Harrison Street

326 Pike Street 605 5th Street

2444 S. 5th Place 7th Avenue South 223 Grand Avenue

821 E. Front Street 512 N. 4th Street

Route 1

95 Willow Avenue 428 Avon Avenue 28 Bank Street 104 Houghton Ävenue

Route 1, Box 128

1118 Fteley Avenue 2323 Loring Place 982 76th Street 146 Manhatten Avenue 1055 Blake Avenue 274 74th Street 225 West Avenue 10244 47th Avenue 501 W. 134th Street

537 Stanton Avenue

Campbell Cleveland Cleveland Fort Recovery Higginsport Masury Prospect Salem Woodsfields Youngstown

### Stillwater

Hillsboro Hillsboro

Allentown Cecil Elwood City Hatfield Lancaster Philadelphia Pittsburgh Pottstown Pottstown Searight York

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Wainwright

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 John P. Chomos
 John B. Chomos
 John M. Kemats
 Pfc. Lester J. Miller PIC. Lester J., Miller 1/Sgl. George A. Haiser OKLAHOMA Lt. William Dysinger OREGON T/5 Paul E. Stapleton T/4 Charles M. Wellner 7/5 Paul E. Stapleton T/4 Charles M. Welher PENNSYLVANIA Cpl. Charles E. Prechtel Pfc. Howard Miller Pfc. Gustave Tetmire S/Sqt. William Wiley Cpl. Leonard D. Pugliese Sqt. Clement B. Herbert T/5 Milton G. Weiss Sqt. Robert D. Scheffey Pfc. Sydney H. Weiss Sqt. Andrew Pavlik, Ir. Cpl. Richard C. Henry SOUTH CAROLINA T/4 Ellord O'Shields, Ir. S/Sqt. James L. Smith Cpl. Walter L. Harbin Sqt. Seymour F. Strange South DAKOTA T/S Robert L. Warner T/5 Iames R. Rokusek T/5 LaVerne A. Stenstrom TENNESSEE T/5 LaVerne A. Stenstr TENNESSEE Pfc. Talmer T. Newsom Lt. Tom Carr TEXAS T/4 Robert C. Duncan T/4 Robert C. Duncan T/4 William Moser Pfc. Raul Garza 7/5 Manuel Aquilar I/S Manuel Aguida S/Sgt. Coy McIver Cpl. Tom W. Vandervanter UTAH Cpl. Harry E. Harris VERMONT

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(Company "D", cont'd.)

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29 3rd Street Route 2 313 S. Ellsworth Street Route 3 2649 Taft Avenue

General Delivery 573 E. Walnut

Route 2 310 Franklin Avenue

Route 1 422 N. Mulberry Street 2049 S. 58th Street 1309 Item Street 48 E. 3rd Street 259 Chestnut Street Route 4 1017 W. Princess Street

Route 1 141 Cleveland Park Driv 120 S. Tradd Street 72 Woodruff Street

625 Main Avenue

Route 1 Route 6, Box 473

808 W. Division Street Box 586 General Delivery 804 Tays 26 Argo Street General Delivery 275 2nd Street

106 Grant Street

1246 Maple Avenue, S. W.

Route 1 108 S. Noquebay Avenue

Route 2, Box 955

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610 Avon Avenue

629 S. Broad Street 219 Hill Crest Drive

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919 Summer Street 301 S. Broadway

Route 3 158 E. Main Street

254 Wayne Avenue

889 Whitlock Street

Box 51 3007 State Line Avenue

139 S. Mt. Vernon Avenue 125 Walnut Street

Box 51

Route 2 2610 Folsom Street 235 S. 39th Street

Box 253

Route 1

956 Lemoyne Avenue

Daniels Quinwood

Black River Falls Black River Falls Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Spooner

Sheridan

WEST VIRGINIA Pfc. Raymond C. Rakes S/Sgt. Frank R. Miller S/Sgt. Frank R. Miller Wisconstw Cpl. Raymond W. Lowe Cpl. Albert R. Taylor S/Sgt. Edward A. Seidner Sat. Steve L. Warner Cpl. Leo J. Zanotti Pvt. Anton S. Martin T/5 Melvin B. Payson WYOMING Sgt. George P. Demchok

P.O. Box 121

Route 5 Route 5 Route 7 4714 N. 35th 1314 N. 17th Street 2573 S. Greeley Bush Street Bush Street

925 N. Sheridan Avenue

Autographs

# Journey's End

The Marine Dragon took it slow up the Hudson, possibly because it was using up all of its steam to answer the four-whistle greeting blasts from all of the New York harbor craft, ranging from the big, proud liners to the big, not-so-proud garbage scows. But whatever the whistle came from, it was as good as a handshake to every man in the 717th who lined the rails to watch the skyscrapers and the Palisades slide past.

And you really knew you were home when you got the Dixie Cup full of milk from the Red Cross ladies on the landing tug. That only could happen in the United States.

The personnel at Camp Shanks kept their word, and had the battalion on its way home in 48 hours time—just long enough for everyone to put through a phone call home, eat the big steak dinner cooked up by the PW's, and get used to the familiar sight of the drinking fountains at the end of the barracks and the signs in the latrines: "Old Razor Blades Go Here."

The homecoming was every bit as good as it should have been.

On August 7th the men of the battalion began the long ride down to Texas and Camp Swift, the battalion's new home. At Swift, the 717th found its quarters at "Wake Island"—an isolated group of tar-paper barracks that couldn't do much good in keeping out the 100-degree temperatures that Texans—but few else said was the best temperature in the world.

Japan was slated as the next job for the battalion. But just about the time every man was packing his duffel bag at home and every officer was wondering why he ever thought a valapak was a good luggage investment in the first place, the first atomic bomb was dropped on Japan.

The world waited for a few hours to hear about the damage the bomb had caused. But when the first headlines came out, no man of the 717th boarded the train for Swift without cause for hope that this would be his last camp, the end of the road.

And on August 14th the big camp laundry whistle let loose with a blast, proving that it was. Training didn't stop with war's end. Map reading, marksmanship, orientation, and close order drill were stressed as much as ever. But to lighten a life that had suddenly grown pretty dull, Lt. Col. Cruise inaugurated afternoon athletics that helped to put everyone in shape after the 30 days at home. ciance Carroll E

Also, just to let Austin know that it had arrived, the 717th had a party at an outdoors establishment named Jack & Helen's. It was a good party, but the beer bottle breakage was terrific. The following morning, Brigadier General Bledsoe, commanding 5th Headquarters, made a speech on general subjects, at which the battalion personnel kept themselves awake, even though they and the general (who knew about the party) considered it quite an effort.

In October, the battalion began to break up. The high point men left first—men who had been with the outfit ever since Chaffee. Also, men were leaving on special details:—recruiting, coastal defense camps, reception centers, etc. None of them would be back.

It was then, that the battalion decided to write and publish a book that would help hold the battalion's history and its memories alive.

In our book, we tried not to give ourselves too many pats on the back. We didn't sweat out North Africa and the terrible days of the Kasserine Pass. We didn't freeze in Italy. We didn't know what it was like feeling the sands of Northern France grind out underneath the tank treads and know that in off the beach, up there on the cliffs, they were waiting for us to come. We were only 76 tanks and 700-odd men who helped fight through the end of the war against

Germany in Europe, and won it.

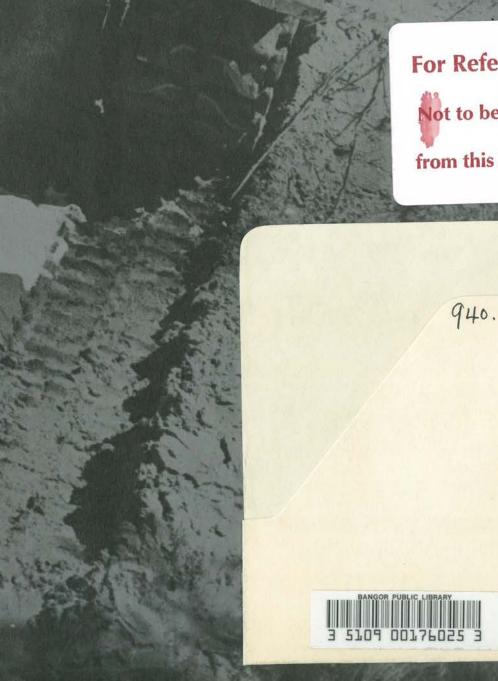
You can't tell the whole story in words in a book. You can't tell the whole story with pictures that we always took in a hurry, because we were busy training, sailing, fighting.

But some of it is in here, in this book.

And this, and the rest of it, will be in your hearts forever.



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