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**FLORIDA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF**  
**MILITARY AFFAIRS**



**Special Archives Publication  
Number  
136**

**SUMMARY HISTORIES:  
WORLD WAR II  
AIRBORNE AND ARMoured  
DIVISIONS**

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St. Francis Barracks  
St. Augustine, Florida*

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Robert Hawk  
Director

## INTRODUCTION

The information in all the Summary Unit Histories was compiled by Jack L. Picken of Waterloo, Iowa. He is an amateur historian who has made the research and study of American combat units in the wars of the twentieth century his life's work. These summaries were sent to us as part of his contribution to the establishment of the Camp Blanding Museum and Memorial Park of the Second World War.

Some of the material was extracted from the standard works on US units listed below. But there is considerable information contained in these pages that is the result of dogged research in original records, especially the detailed information concerning unit casualties and decorations awarded. The statistics on day to day casualties Mr. Picken has researched for most combat units is absolutely unique and available in this form in no other source. (His statistics on casualties are more accurate than those available from normal official sources!)

There are some gaps in the information available and some "fine tuning" yet to be accomplished but eventually we hope to put this material on a computer and publish it in a more complete and professional manner. Until then these photocopied compilations will meet the immediate needs of all those interested in the incredible history of America's soldiers, airmen and marines during the Second World War.

Robert Hawk  
Department of Military  
Affairs  
St. Augustine, Florida  
1991

## RESOURCES

Army Almanac (1950)  
Committee on Veterans Affairs; Medal of Honor Recipients 1863-1978  
Fighting Divisions; Kahn, Ely J. and McLemore, Henry  
Library, US Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania  
University of Iowa; Army Divisional Combat Narratives, World War II (Archives)  
Other public and private standard informational sources and institutions were consulted as necessary.

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11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION "The Angels"

Army of the United States

Activated—25 February 1943

Battle Credits, World War II: — Leyte Luzon

Days In Combat—204

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Joseph M. Swing

February 1943—February 1946

Combat Chronicle: The 11th Airborne Division was activated at Camp Mackall, North Carolina, in February 1943. It moved to Camp Polk, Louisiana, in January 1944, and participated in the Louisiana maneuvers, before shipping out into the Pacific. The 11th arrived in New Guinea on 25 May 1944, and continued its training.

Then, on 18 November 1944, the 11th Airborne landed amphibiously on Leyte, 40 miles south of Taclobán. The battle on Leyte is regarded by its officers and men as the toughest of all the division's actions. The 11th fought about everything on Leyte—inexperience, rain, mud, howling winds, dense jungles, rugged mountains, and a fanatical enemy.

Pushing inland, the 11th Airborne cleared the Ormoc-Burauen supply trail, an important Japanese supply line. The 11th's mission on Leyte was to press the enemy against the 7th, 77th, and 96th Infantry Divisions on the western coast.

Then, on the night of 5 December 1944, some 350 Japanese paratroopers landed in the San Pablo and Buri airstrip areas, attempting to recapture these airfields, and elements of the division helped wipe out these troops in a fierce 5-6 day battle.

Moving further inland, heavy resistance was met on Rock Hill, which fell on 18 December. Much of the paratroopers' movements were at night and, in one case, the Japanese, evidently secure in their belief that Americans wouldn't attack at night, were caught fast asleep at a place called Hacksaw Hill, 23 December, and wiped out almost to a man.

The Angels killed 5,700 Japanese on Leyte by count, but no one will ever know how many more of them were blown to bits by artillery. The 11th Airborne lost close to 200 men.

After resting during most of January 1945, the 11th Airborne made a landing at Nasugbu, on the southwest coast of Luzon on 31 January. It was 60 miles north to Manila, and the paratroopers raced down Highway 17, moving so swiftly that the Japs, who had mined bridges along the way, didn't have time to blow them up. It wasn't until the troopers reached the foothills of Tagaytay Ridge that the Japs made a stand. This was overcome when the 511th Parachute Regiment jumped onto the ridge on 3 February 1945. The Angels then headed for Manila, now 30 miles away, and ran into fierce opposition at Imus, 10 miles from the Manila suburbs. The 511th then crossed the Paranaque River and reached Manila, meeting bitter Japanese resistance. The paratroopers broke through the Genko Line, and then met the most bitter type of opposition at Nichols Field, with the Japs firing huge 5-inch naval guns almost point-blank at the men of the 11th. The Japanese also had dual-purpose ack-ack guns and thick pillboxes. The Field was taken on 12 February, and Ft. McKinley was outflanked and finally captured on 17 February. It was during this action that the 11th Airborne had

a Medal of Honor winner, Pfc Manuel Perez, Jr., Company A, 511th Parachute Regiment, on 13 February 1945.

Pfc Perez was a lead scout for Company A, which had destroyed 11 of 12 pillboxes in a strongly fortified sector defending the approach to enemy-held Ft. McKinley. In the reduction of these pillboxes, Pfc Perez killed 5 Japanese out in the open and blasted others inside the pillboxes with grenades.

Realizing the urgent need for taking the last emplacement, which contained two twin-mount .50 caliber dual-purpose machine-guns, he took a circuitous route to within 20 yards of the position, killing four of the enemy in his advance. He threw a grenade into the pillbox, and, as the crew started withdrawing through a tunnel just to the rear of the emplacement, shot and killed 4 before exhausting his clip of ammunition. He had reloaded and killed four more, when an escaping Japanese threw his rifle with bayonet fixed at him. In fending off this thrust, his own rifle was knocked to the ground. Seizing the heavier Jap rifle, he continued firing, dispatching two more of the enemy. He rushed the remaining Japanese, killed 3 of them with the butt of his rifle and entered the pillbox, where he bayoneted the one remaining enemy soldier.

Singlehandedly, Pfc Perez killed 18 of the enemy in neutralizing a position that had held up his entire company. Through his courageous determination and heroic disregard of grave danger, he made possible the successful advance of his unit toward a valuable objective, and provided a lasting inspiration for his fellow soldiers. Pfc Perez was killed in a subsequent action.

While the 1st Cavalry and 37th Infantry Divisions entered Manila from the north and east, the 11th Airborne secured the southern sectors of the city which fell on 3 March 1945, after the most bitter type of struggle. It was the only major city battle in the Pacific.

Of all the 11th's operations on Luzon, the most daring was the hit-and-run raid on the Japanese internment camp at Los Baños, south of Manila, where more than 2,000 American and European nationals were held. In a combined paratroop and amphibious landing, the troopers struck 25 miles behind Japanese lines to overwhelm the enemy garrison. The Americans had only one casualty—a slight shoulder wound sustained by a parachutist.

Then the 11th Airborne reduced a strong ring of Japanese outposts between Lake Taal and Laguna de Bay in southern Luzon, occupied towns along Highway 1, and cut-off the Bicol Peninsula.

In April 1945, the 11th took part in clearing out remaining enemy resistance in Batangas Province. The paratroopers were aided in this operation by the 158th Infantry Regiment. In particular, during the last half of April, there was some hard fighting to take the Jap strongholds of Mt. Matasana Bundoc and Mt. Macolod. By 1 May 1945, all organized Japanese resistance in southern Luzon had ended.

In the last operation of the war for the 11th Airborne, a task force of the 511th Parachute Regiment jumped on Camalaniugan Airfield, south of Aparri, in extreme northern Luzon, 23 June 1945. Against scattered resistance the paratroops made contact with elements of the 37th Infantry Division on 26 June, between Alcala and the Paret River. The latter unit had been advancing northward up the Cagayan River Valley.

In August 1945, the 11th Airborne was transported by air, via Okinawa, to Honshu, Japan, for occupational duty. Members of the 11th were among the first U.S. soldiers to set foot on Japanese soil. Also, some members of the 11th Airborne proudly formed the guard of honor as General MacArthur arrived to inspect his first occupation headquarters in Yokohama.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—2	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—631
Distinguished Unit Citations—13 *	Killed In Action—516
Distinguished Service Crosses—9	Wounded—1,926
Silver Stars—432	Missing—11
	Captured—0
	Total Casualties—2,453

\* One to the entire 511th Parachute Regiment—Manila, Luzon

Other 11th Airborne Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action \*  
Pvt Elmer E. Fryar, \* 511th Para Rgt, 8 December 1944, on Leyte

## 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION "The Angels"

## NOVEMBER 1944

27 Nov 111111111 10  
 28 Nov 1  
 29 Nov 1  
 12

## DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 1  
 6 Dec 111111  
 7 Dec 111111111111111 17\*  
 8 Dec 11111111 9 approx.  
 9 Dec 1111 30\*men  
 11 Dec 1  
 13 Dec 111111111111 13  
 14 Dec 11  
 15 Dec 1111111111 11  
 16 Dec 11  
 17 Dec 11111  
 18 Dec 111  
 19 Dec 11  
 20 Dec 11  
 21 Dec 1111  
 22 Dec 11  
 25 Dec 111  
 26 Dec 1  
 89

## JANUARY 1945

4 Jan 1  
 21 Jan 1  
 31 Jan 1111  
 6

## FEBRUARY 1945

1 Feb 1111111111 11  
 2 Feb 1  
 3 Feb 111  
 4 Feb 11111111 8  
 5 Feb 11111111 9  
 6 Feb 111111111 10  
 7 Feb 111111111111 14  
 8 Feb 11111111111 13  
 9 Feb 11  
 10 Feb 111111  
 11 Feb 1  
 12 Feb 1111111 8  
 13 Feb 11111111111 13  
 14 Feb 111  
 15 Feb 111111111111 15  
 16 Feb 11111  
 17 Feb 1111111111111 16  
 21 Feb 11  
 22 Feb 11  
 23 Feb 11  
 24 Feb 11



## 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION "The Angels"

## MARCH 1945

4 Mar 11  
 7 Mar 11  
 10 Mar 1  
 11 Mar 111111  
 12 Mar 11111  
 13 Mar 111111111111 12  
 15 Mar 111  
 16 Mar 1  
 19 Mar 1  
 20 Mar 1  
 23 Mar 1  
 24 Mar 1  
 25 Mar 1  
 26 Mar 1  
 27 Mar 111  
 31 Mar 1

42

## APRIL 1945

4 Apr 1  
 5 Apr 1  
 6 Apr 1  
 7 Apr 1  
 8 Apr 111  
 15 Apr 1  
 16 Apr 11  
 18 Apr 111111  
 20 Apr 111111111 9  
 21 Apr 11  
 22 Apr 1111111111111 14  
 26 Apr 1  
 27 Apr 111111  
 28 Apr 111  
 51

## MAY 1945

1 May 11111  
 2 May 11  
 5 May 11  
 7 May 1  
 25 May 1  
 11

## JUNE 1945

4 June 1  
 23 June 1  
 2

## JULY 1945

28 July 1  
 1

## 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day—————7 December 1944  
 bloodiest month—————February 1945  
 2nd bloodiest day—————17 February 1945  
 3rd bloodiest day—————15 February 1945  
 Total battle deaths—————631  
 360 are listed=57.0%      KIA—516



13TH AIRBORNE DIVISION

Activated—13 August 1943

Returned To United States—23 August 1945

Inactivated—25 February 1946

Battle Credits, World War II: (517th Parachute Regiment) Central Italy Southern France  
Ardennes Rhineland

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Elbridge G. Chapman, Jr.

November 1943—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 13th Airborne Division, although assigned to the 1st Allied Airborne Army in Europe, did not see action as an entire unit. It was stationed in Iceland as a security measure.

However, the 517th Parachute Regiment, which wasn't assigned to the division until 1 March 1945, had previously seen combat in central Italy, southern France, the Ardennes, and in the Roer River area in the Rhineland. The 517th was awarded the French Croix de Guerre for its action near Draguignan, southern France, and one battalion of the regiment was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for fighting near Soy and Hotton, Belgium, in the Battle of the Bulge. Other elements of the 517th were also attached to the 3rd Armored and 30th Infantry Divisions in the Bulge (Ardennes), fighting with extreme gallantry.

After V-E Day, 8 May 1945, the 13th Airborne was stationed at Vitry-le-François, France. Later, the 13th returned to the United States, and was about to embark for service in the Pacific, when the war with Japan ended on 14 August 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0

No other awards are available.

Casualties: Killed In Action—9  
Wounded—3  
Missing—1  
Captured—0  
Total Casualties—13

Note: See, also, the combat chronicle of the 517th Parachute Regiment.



17TH AIRBORNE DIVISION "Thunder From Heaven"

Activated—15 April 1943

Returned To United States—15 September 1945

Inactivated—16 September 1945

Reactivated—3 July 1948 (later inactivated)

Battle Credits, World War II: Ardennes Rhineland Ruhr Pocket

Days In Combat—53

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen William M. Miley

Commander throughout World War II

Combat Chronicle: The 17th Airborne Division sprang out of the famed 101st Airborne Division, and was activated 15 April 1943, at Hoffman, North Carolina. Early training took place among the desolate sand dunes and pine woods of Camp Mackall where all but the hardest men were weeded out.

From 25 August-23 December 1944, the 17th Airborne was stationed in Britain. With German troops pushing forward in the Battle of the Bulge, all available combat troops were needed to help stop them. From 23-25 December 1944, large elements of the division were flown to an area near Reims, France, in spectacular night flights. These troops closed-up at Mourmelon-le-Grand.

After taking over the defense of the Meuse River sector from Givet to Verdun, the 17th Airborne moved to Neufchâteau, Belgium. Its men then marched through the snow to Morhet, relieving the badly shattered 28th Infantry Division at the beginning of January 1945.

The 11th Armored and 87th Infantry Divisions had launched an attack on 30 December, in the left flank of the 3rd Army's assault northward. A heavy and furious battle developed and, in the midst of it, the 17th Airborne joined in at 8:15 A.M., on 4 January 1945, after only a 10-minute artillery barrage. Few American troops have ever had a rougher initiation to combat. The weather was miserable—blinding snow and bitterly cold, as well as roadblocks, hundreds of mines—and a fanatical enemy.

In some of the most vicious, bitter fighting of the entire Bulge battle, the 17th Airborne slashed forward. Scorning the Germans, it took Cetteru, and then slugged forward toward Flamièrge. Almost blinded by the heavy snow, the paratroopers pushed on. As they neared Flamièrge, the snow suddenly stopped and in the gray haze 25 huge German tanks loomed ahead of them. The paratroopers pulled back slightly and dug-in on the rear slope of what soon became known as "Dead Man's Ridge." That night 20 German tanks, supported by artillery, attacked. The 17th Airborne held.

Casualties rose rapidly as the fluctuating battle increased in intensity. By the night of 6 January, the 17th had lost close to 3,000 men killed and wounded, but the Germans were still hanging desperately on to Flamièrge. German resistance was so fierce, including counterattacks, that the 17th was temporarily forced to pull back. But not for long. The American paratroopers soon attacked again, and this time forced their way into Flamièrge to stay. Numerous towns were then captured including Limerle, Bertogne, Steinbach, and Wattermaal,

with the Germans eventually being forced back to the Ourthe River in continued intensive fighting.

On 18 January 1945, the 17th Airborne relieved the 11th Armored Division at Houffalize and, after bitter combat, broke into Germany, north of Wiltz, Luxembourg. Aggressive patrols crossed the Our River in the Siegfried Line and established a limited bridgehead near Dasburg, before being relieved by the 6th Armored Division on 10 February 1945.

Casualties had been so heavy during the 17th's battle in the Ardennes that some rifle companies had less than 40 men. In all, the 17th was some 4,000 officers and men under-strength, and a crash program was quickly started to fill in the ranks of the depleted division. Reinforcements and troopers returning from hospitals filled-in the ranks. The 17th Airborne then prepared for its first airdrop of the war.

Taking off from marshalling areas in France, the 17th and British 6th Airborne Divisions dropped into the province of Westphalia in western Germany, just east of the Rhine, near Wesel, on 24 March 1945. The bulk of General Miley's troopers landed almost on target or on it.

Meanwhile, the gliders, released from their tow planes, swooped down and began landing. Dozens crumpled like match boxes, killing or maiming the occupants, and a few were shot down. But most of the glider troops landed safely. As they tumbled out of their ships they saw a wild scene of confusion. On all sides gliders were burning, and some were impaled on nearby trees. German flak guns fired flat trajectory at point-blank range, and mortar rounds crumpled in on the drop area. There was the constant crackle of enemy rifle and machine-pistol fire. The Germans resisted fiercely. Private George J. Peters, Company G, 507th Parachute Regiment, was one of 4 men in the 17th Airborne to win the Medal of Honor—all of them posthumously.

Near Fluren, Germany, 24 March 1945, Pvt Peters, a platoon radio operator, landed in a field with 10 other men, about 75 yards from a German machinegun supported by riflemen. They were immediately pinned down by withering fire. As the men tried to disentangle themselves from their chutes and reach their bundles of equipment in a hail of bullets, their situation seemed hopeless.

Suddenly, Pvt Peters stood up and began a one-man charge, armed only with a rifle and grenades. His assault managed to draw the enemy fire away from his buddies. He had made it halfway to the enemy emplacement, firing his rifle as he rushed forward, when he was knocked to the ground by a burst of machinegun fire. Heroically, he regained his feet and struggled onward. Once more he was hit, and this time unable to rise. With valiant devotion to his self-imposed mission, he crawled directly into the fire that had mortally wounded him until close enough to hurl his grenades, which knocked out the machinegun, and drove its protective riflemen into a nearby woods.

By his supreme courage and self-sacrifice, Pvt Peters saved the lives of many of his fellow soldiers, and made it possible for them to reach their equipment, organize, and seize their first objective. His action was in keeping with the very highest traditions of the U.S. armed forces.

By late-afternoon on the 24th, the 17th had established contact with adjacent units on its flanks, and had eliminated the German 84th Infantry Division as an effective organization. The paratroopers' morale was high in spite of taking 1,307 casualties in two days.

On 25 March, the 17th had secured bridges over the Issel Canal. Advancing eastward, the division battled into Dorsten, just north of the Ruhr, by 28 March. After taking Haltern on the 29th, the men of the 17th Airborne rode into the blasted, bombed-out city of Münster on the tanks of the British Guards Armoured Division on 2 April 1945. Vicious house-to-house fighting occurred in the early-morning darkness for several hours. By that afternoon, Münster had fallen, and the 17th Airborne pivoted back southward into the Ruhr Pocket and relieved the 79th Infantry Division.

On 6 April, the 17th crossed the Rhine-Herne Canal and attacked the big steel city of Essen—or what was left of it after the Allied bombings. Essen fell on 10 April, and the 17th then helped clear the industrial cities of Mülheim and Duisburg. The Germans didn't contest these two places too heavily.

The 17th was then assigned military government duties on 12 April, and active contact with the enemy ceased on 18 April 1945. The 17th Airborne had compressed all of its fighting into 53 days of actual combat. But what a 53 days!

The 17th Airborne was put under the U.S. 22nd Corps on 24 April 1945, and continued its occupational duties until 15 June 1945, when it returned to France. The 17th Airborne left for home in September 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor	4	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths	1,394
Distinguished Unit Citations	4 *	Killed In Action	1,191
Distinguished Service Crosses	4	Wounded	4,904
Silver Stars	179	Missing	224
		Captured	426
		Total Casualties	6,745

\* One to the entire 513th Parachute Regiment—Airdrop Across The Rhine, Germany

Other 17th Airborne Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action \*

T/5 Grade Clinton M. Hedrick, \* 194th Glider Inf Rgt, 27-28 March 1945, near Lembeck, Germany

S/Sgt Isadore S. Jachman, \* 513th Para Rgt, 4 January 1945, Flamièrge, Belgium

Pfc Stuart S. Stryker, \* 513th Para Rgt, 24 March 1945, near Wesel, Germany









On 29 October 1943, before the rest of the 82nd Airborne left Italy, the 504th Parachute Regiment launched its epic attack through the mountains of southern Italy that was to carry it 22 miles ahead of the 5th Army on their left, and the British 8th Army on their right. Driving north toward Gallo, in a battle that proved greatly to be one of physical stamina interspersed with sharp patrol engagements, the 504th crossed the Volturno, entered the road and rail center of Isernia, and cleared Colli, Macchia, Fornelli, Cerro, and Rochetta. The terrain was such that no distinct front line could be designated. In this type of combat the 504th proved to be the master of the enemy. There were few encounters, even when the Germans had numerical advantage, that they didn't come out second best.

On the cold and rainy evening of 10 December 1943, the regimental command post was established at Venafro. Two companies moved forward to relieve the 3rd Ranger Battalion on Hill 950. In the next 12 hours the Germans counterattacked 7 times, all of which were driven back with heavy losses to the Germans.

That following morning, the 2nd Battalion climbed up Monte Sammucro to relieve the 143rd Infantry Regiment, 36th Infantry Division. German artillery fire increased in intensity, some of the heaviest of the Italian campaign. The fighting in this operation was up one hill after another, characterized by rock and tree-bare 45 degree slopes, and very stubborn resistance by the Germans. Supply and evacuation of the wounded was a matter of back-breaking work. The medic's task, at best, was a hard one, greatly increased on the high, craggy, windswept, and shelterless hilltops.

Then, in late-January 1944, the 504th landed by sea at the Anzio beachhead. Fierce hand-to-hand fighting ensued in which the paratroopers, by sheer determination and courage, and aided by their deployment along the Mussolini Canal, were able to repel repeated German assaults. On one occasion, to the 504th's amazement, 900 Germans, in a highly unusual attack, advanced in almost parade-like order, barely bothering to take cover—and were slaughtered. The paratroopers lost 13 men. Italy cost the 82nd Airborne 327 men—killed.

After two months on the Anzio beachhead, the 504th was pulled out, and rejoined the rest of the 82nd Airborne which was already in England, and getting ready for the invasion of Normandy.

Under a starlite sky, moving by parachute and glider, the 82nd and 101st Airborne and British 6th Airborne Divisions all dropped behind the German lines in Normandy in the pre-dawn hours of 6 June 1944, before the ground assault hit the beaches. Some of the 82nd's paratroopers dropped right onto the town of Ste. Mère Eglise, where some of them were shot or clubbed to death by the enemy before they could disentangle themselves from their chutes. But the town was eventually taken in bitter fighting. Two other towns were taken, and the men of the 82nd crossed the Merderet River. It was during this action that the 82nd had one of its 3 Medal of Honor winners of the war, a very courageous action by Pfc. Charles N. DeGlopper, Company C, 325th Glider Regiment, at the Merderet River, 9 June 1944.

He advanced with the forward platoon to secure a bridgehead across the Merderet at La Fiere. At dawn, the platoon had penetrated an outer line of machine-gun nests and riflemen, but in the process, had been cut-off from the rest of the company. Vastly superior in number enemy forces began decimating the stricken unit and started a flanking maneuver that would have completely exposed the platoon in a shallow roadside ditch where it had taken cover.

Detecting this danger, Pfc. DeGlopper volunteered to support his comrades with fire from his automatic rifle while they attempted a withdrawal through a break in a hedgerow 40 yards to the rear. Scorning a concentration of enemy automatic weapons and rifle fire, he walked onto the road in full view of the Germans, and sprayed them with bullets. He was wounded, but he kept on firing. Struck again, he started to fall, and yet his grim determination and fighting spirit could not be broken. Kneeling in the roadway, weakened by his grievous wounds, he leveled his heavy weapon against the Germans and fired burst after burst until he was killed.

Pfc. DeGlopper was successful in drawing the enemy fire away from his fellow soldiers, who continued to fight from a more advantageous position, and established the first bridgehead over the Merderet. In the area where he had made his valiant stand, his comrades later found the ground strewn with dead Germans. Pfc. DeGlopper's action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. military.

Cutting off German reinforcements, the 82nd fought its way from Carentan to St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte, in action 33 days without relief. Every mission was accomplished, and no real estate gained was ever relinquished. On 8 July, the division was relieved, and returned to England for refitting. And, on 15 August 1944, General James "Slim Jim" Gavin assumed command of the 82nd Airborne. He was the youngest divisional commander in the U.S. Army—only 37 years old.

Then, on 17 September 1944, the Allies launched a huge airdrop in southern Holland, with the British 1st and U.S. 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions jumping behind the German lines. The airdrop was strung-out for 60 miles, making it highly vulnerable to enemy attacks on either side of the corridor. The 82nd was in the center of the assault, dropping in the vicinity of the large town of Nijmegen. Although the assault failed to reach the lower Rhine, (the British airborne unit was the furthest north) the 82nd succeeded in capturing and holding Nijmegen and a large bridge over the Waal River in very heavy fighting. Elements also crossed the Waal River in assault boats under heavy enemy fire in a very courageous feat of arms. Those Americans who reached the far shore engaged the enemy in bitter bayonet fighting, and casualties were heavy on both sides. But more Germans were slain than Americans. However, of the 26 assault boats, only 13 returned to the friendly side of the river, and some of the paratroopers had to swim back.

After 73 days of continuous combat, in which many prisoners were taken, the 82nd was relieved by a British division, and sent to northern France for a rest. The 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions were lavishly praised by the British.

Then, on 16 December 1944, came the all-out German offensive in the Ardennes. 23 hours later, the 82nd was in position 150 miles away after being moved up by truck.

A main German objective was the city of Liège, and the 82nd was ordered to defend an area southwest of the city. They held it a week against incredible odds. During this desperate week, just prior to, and including Christmas Day, the 82nd Airborne heroically held off a good share of the most élite of the attacking German forces—the 2nd and 9th SS Panzer Divisions, part of the 1st SS Panzer, and the 62nd Volksgrenadier Division. This was one of the most important and heroic stands of the entire Bulge battle, a monumental feat of arms, and every bit as important as the 101st Airborne's widely publicized stand at Bastogne. This action included the 82nd defending the towns of Trois Ponts, Cheneux, Grandmenil, Werbomont, and Manhay. This fighting was characterized by attacks by the German SS carried out with great dash and élan, and also by bitter hand-to-hand encounters in which the "supermen" were very roughly handled by the American paratroopers. And, all of this in bitter cold weather.

Another mission was to provide a withdrawal route for the shattered 28th and 106th Infantry Divisions which had been cut-off. The 82nd provided this escape route, although 2 regiments of the 106th were surrounded and captured.

On 8 January 1945, the 82nd was relieved along the Salm River by the 75th Infantry Division. By this time, the Germans had been forced back onto the defensive, and the 82nd received a well-deserved rest.

Then, toward the end of the huge battle, the 82nd returned to the front. Toward the end of January, the paratroops slowly fought toward the Siegfried Line in still bitter weather. The 82nd attacked through the 7th Armored Division. The great-fighting 1st Infantry Division was on the 82nd's left flank. It was during this last stage of the action in the Bulge that the 82nd had another Medal of Honor winner in a very daring and courageous action, First Sergeant Leonard A. Funk, Jr., Company C, 508th Parachute Regiment, 29 January 1945, at Holzheim, Belgium. Sgt. Funk, fairly small in size, and quiet and unassuming, was really quite a soldier, in fact, one of the most decorated soldiers in WW II. He had previously won the Silver Star in Normandy, and then the Distinguished Service Cross in Holland. On the above day, he won the big one.

After advancing 15 miles in a driving snowstorm and through waist-deep drifts, the company executive officer became a casualty, and 1st Sgt. Funk immediately assumed his duties. Under his skillful and valiant leadership, his force attacked 15 houses, cleared them, and took 30 prisoners without suffering a casualty.

The fierce drive of Company C quickly overran Holzheim, netting some 80 prisoners, who were placed under a 4-man guard, all that could be spared. An enemy patrol, by means of a

ruse, succeeded in capturing the guards and freeing the prisoners, and had begun preparations to attack Company C from behind when Sgt. Funk walked around a building and into their midst. He was ordered to surrender by a German officer who pushed a machine-pistol into his stomach.

Although overwhelmingly outnumbered and facing almost certain death, Sgt. Funk pretended to comply with the order. He began to slowly unsling his submachinegun from his shoulder and then, with a lightning motion, brought the muzzle into line and riddled the German officer. He then turned upon the other Germans, firing and shouting to the other Americans to seize the enemy's weapons. In the ensuing fight 21 Germans were killed, many wounded, and the remainder captured.

Sgt. Funk's bold action and his heroic disregard for his personal safety resulted in the elimination of a superior enemy force, which, if allowed to roam free, could have taken the spread-out Company C by surprise and endangered the entire attack plan. Sgt. Funk survived the war to receive his award.

Progress was hindered by waist-deep snow, intense cold, and well-organized and concealed German positions. This attack was one of the most arduous in the division's history, and one of its most bitterly fought. But the 82nd reached the Siegfried Line, 31 January.

On 3 February, the division repulsed strong enemy counterattacks, and that night the 99th Infantry Division began relieving the bone-weary paratroopers.

After a brief rest, the 82nd, plus the 517th Parachute Regiment, moved somewhat north into the Hürtgen Forest area, captured Vossenack, and helped finally clear the remaining Germans from the forest. The paratroopers sometimes uncovered bodies in the snow of men who had been killed in this miserable forest the previous autumn.

As the Americans fought to the Rhine, the 82nd, for awhile was placed inside the bombed-out, gutted city of Cologne, and helped secure the western side of the Ruhr Pocket. It wasn't too bad for the 82nd inside Cologne. The paratroopers did patrol duties, kept an eye on the civilians, and, in general, tried to catch up on some rest and relaxation. The Germans were at least a comfortable 400 yards distant across the Rhine, and the weather was much warmer with considerable sunshine.

Then, it was decided to make a diversionary attack across the Rhine. On 6 April 1945, an assault wave of the 504th Parachute Regiment crossed the river above Cologne. At dawn they were in the river town of Hitdorf.

In one of the bloodiest actions ever fought by the 82nd, two battalions of big, 6-foot Germans from the crack 3rd Parachute Division attacked toward dusk with huge Tiger tanks and fixed bayonets. Two platoons were overrun before the Germans were beaten back with heavy losses. But, out of 140 paratroopers who had crossed the river, only 70 of the Americans made their way back. Organized German resistance in the Ruhr ended in mid-April.

Then, in the last days of the war, the 82nd was sent by rail some 350 miles into northern Germany. The 82nd was one of the few U.S. units to actually cross the wide Elbe River. The 82nd was met with considerable artillery fire, but this quickly subsided when the Americans got across the wide river. And then, thousands of Germans surrendered en masse from the 21st Army. General Gavin set-up his headquarters in a palace at Ludwigslust, and contact was made with the Russians on 3 May 1945. Following the 2nd Armored Division, the 82nd Airborne was the next American unit to enter Berlin after V-E Day. Perhaps fittingly, too, the 82nd Airborne Division was the outfit chosen to later march in the victory parade in New York City—a tribute to one of the greatest fighting organizations the world has ever known.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—3  
Distinguished Unit Citations—15 \*  
Distinguished Service Crosses—37  
Silver Stars—898

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—2,116  
Killed In Action—1,737  
Wounded—6,950  
Missing—279  
Captured—615  
Total Casualties—9,581

Notes: The 3rd Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division served in the Vietnam War. As of this writing, the 82nd is stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. (25 April 1983)

\* Distinguished Unit Citations include one each to the entire following units:  
325th Glider Regiment and 505th Parachute Regiment—Ste. Mère Eglise, Normandy

Other 82nd Airborne Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action \*

Pvt John R. Towle, \* 504th Para Rgt, 21 September 1944, near Oosterhout, Holland

Note: The 504th Parachute Regiment did not participate in the invasion of Normandy. However, the separate 507th and 508th Parachute Regiments were attached to the 82nd during this campaign, and the 508th also was attached to the 82nd during the Battle Of The Bulge.



## 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION "All-American"

## JANUARY 1944

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## FEBRUARY 1944

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## MARCH 1944

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## 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION "All-American"

## SEPTEMBER 1944

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## OCTOBER 1944

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## NOVEMBER 1944

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82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION "All-American"

DECEMBER 1944

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JANUARY 1945

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## 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION "Screaming Eagle"

Army of the United States

Activated—15 August 1942

Inactivated—30 November ~~1945~~ in Europe

Reactivated—6 July 1948

Battle Credits, World War II:    Normandy    Holland    Ardennes    Alsace    Rhineland  
Days In Combat—214                      Central Europe

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Maxwell D. Taylor

March—December 1944

Brig-Gen Anthony C. McAuliffe

5-26 December 1944

Maj-Gen Maxwell D. Taylor

27 December 1944—September 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 101st Airborne Division was originally constituted as the 101st Division on 23 July 1918, but the war in Europe ended before it got a chance to be shipped overseas. It was demobilized, 11 December 1918, but later reactivated as a reserve unit. In August 1942, the 101st was activated as an airborne division at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana. The division was then sent to Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, for rigorous training, and later took part in the Tennessee maneuvers of mid-1943.

In September 1943, the 101st Airborne sailed for England, arriving there on the 15th. Here, it received further extensive training including night-fighting, close combat, street-fighting, and chemical warfare.

Finally, the time for the long-awaited invasion of Europe came, and the 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions jumped into the southern part of the Cotentin Peninsula, in the pre-dawn hours of 6 June 1944, as part of the invasion of Normandy. Considerable flak was encountered, and the paratroopers were widely scattered. By nightfall of the first day of the invasion, only 2,500 men had been assembled in their units.

After gradually assembling into a co-ordinated unit and taking several smaller towns, the 101st battled for the key town of Carentan. For 5 days the 101st waged one of the most bitter fights of the Normandy campaign. On 12 June 1944, the Americans forced the tough German 6th Parachute Regiment, a 6,000-man-strong organization, out of the town, and held it until part of the 2nd Armored Division arrived from the beachhead. During the attack on Carentan, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert G. Cole led the 3rd Battalion, 502nd Parachute Regiment, in a successful mass bayonet charge that wiped out an important pocket of German resistance. Lt-Colonel Cole was the 101st's first Medal of Honor winner, but he was later killed while leading his battalion in Holland.

The troopers of the 101st went to work improving the defenses of newly won Carentan, and not a moment too soon. The Germans swiftly mounted a strong counterattack, and both armor and infantry stormed at the 101st. The very nature of this attack posed a monumental threat to the line between the Utah and Omaha beachheads, and it was extremely fortunate that the tankers of the 2nd Armored Division were on the scene. The tankers' appearance surprised the Germans, and their attack was checked with heavy losses. Carentan was

saved and the two beachheads were linked-up for good.

The 101st had more hard fighting in the Merderet River area. The paratroopers repulsed counterattacks and maintained their positions until relieved by the 83rd Infantry Division on 27 June 1944. The 101st then moved to Cherbourg, and relieved the 4th Infantry Division there on 30 June. After 33 days of continuous combat in Normandy, the 101st returned to England, 13 July 1944, for rest and rehabilitation, and then for preparation for its next mission.

It came on 17 September 1944. In the largest airborne operation so far in history, the 101st, along with the 82nd and British 1st Airborne Divisions, were dropped into the southern part of Holland along a 60-mile corridor from north of the British lines along the Belgian-Dutch border, to as far north as the vicinity of Arnhem. The 101st was in the southern part of the assault, dropping in the vicinity of the city of Eindhoven. The very next day the 101st had its second Medal of Honor winner of the war, Pfc Joe E. Mann, Company H, 502nd Parachute Regiment, near Best, Holland.

His platoon tried to seize the bridge across the Wilhelmina Canal, and was surrounded and isolated by an enemy force greatly superior in personnel and firepower. Acting as a lead scout, Pfc Mann boldly crept to within rocket-launcher range of a German artillery position and, in the face of heavy fire, destroyed its 88mm gun and, also, an ammunition dump. He remained at his exposed position and, with his M1 rifle, picked-off the enemy one-by-one until he was seriously wounded. Taken to a covered position, he insisted on returning up forward to stand guard during the night.

The next morning, the Germans launched a concerted attack and advanced to within a few yards of his position, throwing hand grenades as they approached. One of these landed a few feet from Pfc Mann. Unable to raise his arms, which were bandaged to his body, he yelled "grenade" and threw himself over it as it exploded. His outstanding courage was a lasting inspiration to his fellow soldiers for whom he gave his life.

St. Oedenrode and Eindhoven fell after heavy fighting in two days. The 101st then contacted the British Guards Armoured Division, but failed to take the bridge, intact, over the Wilhelmina Canal, southeast of Best.

The 101st then contained German counterattacks toward Zon on 19 September 1944, and maintained its positions in the city of Eindhoven, as well as in Zon, St. Oedenrode, and Veghel. After heavy combat the division advanced to take Schijndel, on 21 September. The 506th Parachute Regiment reopened the Veghel-Uden Highway, 23 September, which had been cut the previous day. The paratroops then forced the Germans to abandon the roadblock near Koevering, on 25 September, in an enveloping attack. Opheusden changed hands in a shifting struggle, but the Germans were finally forced to withdraw on 9 October 1944.

Cold was added to the dampness as November 1944, rolled around. But the Germans were never able to close the corridor, and many prisoners were taken. After a 72-day period of combat, the 101st was relieved well into November 1944, and sent to a rest area at Mourmelon-le-Grand, France, a former French artillery base 20 miles from Reims. Bone-weary paratroopers somehow found the strength to go on passes to Paris. The American airborne divisions were lavishly praised by the British, one commander saying that the 101st was the fightingest outfit he had ever seen.

Then, in mid-December 1944, came the Battle of the Bulge. The Screaming Eagle was rushed from its base in northern France, in the back of 2½ ton trucks, in a wild night ride into southeastern Belgium, to defend the vital road center of Bastogne. The 101st just barely managed to beat the onrushing Panzerlehr Division which, highly frustrated, bypassed the town and continued on toward the Meuse River, a major German objective. The 26th Volksgrenadier Division remained behind to deal with Bastogne. The Germans surrounded the town, subjected it to a heavy artillery barrage, and then came on with almost continuous attacks—all of which were beaten back with very heavy losses to the Germans.

However, by nightfall on 22 December 1944, the situation had become very critical. The Germans had begun moving other units into the area, and the Americans were running low on supplies and ammunition. The day was marked by just one unusual incident. The Germans were becoming increasingly frustrated by their initial failure to take Bastogne by storm, so they gave the acting commander of the 101st, Brigadier-General Anthony C. McAuliffe,

an ultimatum to surrender. His one-word reply has long since become classic—"Nuts." The Germans, bewildered by this sample of terse American slang, asked if this reply was affirmative or negative. When informed that it was very negative, one of them replied, "We will kill many Americans."

The German officers were then told in no uncertain terms to go back where they had come from.

And many Americans did die, but a great many more Germans. The Germans smashed at the 327th Glider Regiment on Christmas Eve, 1944, and their armor broke through to slash at the 502nd Parachute Regiment. There was bitter close-in fighting, but the paratroopers completely destroyed this enemy force. Not a tank or German infantryman escaped.

On 26 December 1944, the 4th Armored Division of General Patton's 3rd Army managed to break through to Bastogne from the south on a narrow, precarious corridor, with the Germans firing into it from either side. Still, the 101st and the tankers of Combat Command B of the 10th Armored Division were no longer surrounded.

However, this didn't lessen the tempo of the fighting. On the contrary. A major glider resupply action was launched by the Americans, and over 100,000 pounds of cargo were delivered to the defenders of Bastogne.

Then, in the first days of January 1945, the fighting around Bastogne raged heavier than ever as the Germans, with almost reckless abandon, hurled themselves at the Americans in a series of ferocious assaults. The 101st suffered heavy losses on 3-4 January, but the German losses were staggering. The vaunted 1st and 12th SS Panzer Divisions and the Führer Begleit (Escort) Brigade were all thrown into the struggle, but these tough, élite troops could get nowhere and suffered extremely heavy losses. At one time, there were as many as 9 different enemy formations somewhere around Bastogne, but all to no avail. Bastogne did not fall.

On 8 January 1945, Hitler reluctantly admitted defeat, and ordered all German troops in the Ardennes to go over to the defensive. But some hard fighting still lay ahead for the 101st in the Bulge.

On 9 January 1945, the 101st finally was able to go over to the attack. The 506th Parachute Regiment attacked from out of the Bastogne perimeter to take Recogne. The Bois Jacques (a woods) was cleared after that, and by 13 January, the 506th had captured Foy, while the 327th Glider Infantry Regiment advanced toward Bourcy. Noville was captured on the 15th, and Bourcy and Hardigny were both taken on 17 January. The 101st was then relieved on 18 January 1945.

For its epic stand at Bastogne, the entire 101st Airborne Division and Combat Command B of the 10th Armored Division were awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation, as was also the entire 4th Armored Division for its courageous breakthrough to the besieged defenders.

The 101st Airborne was next shifted to the southeast into Alsace to help bolster the 7th Army defenses and to help make sure that the Germans did no more damage in this region. The 101st conducted vigorous patrolling and harrassing activities.

On 31 March 1945, the division was moved up north along the west bank of the Rhine, opposite the Ruhr Pocket, to help guard that side of the area while the big battle across the Rhine was occurring. No major enemy attacks took place from out of the western side of the pocket.

The 101st was then moved deep into Bavaria, in the region of Memmingen, on 27 April 1945. On the 30th, the division was given the task of policing the Kaufbeuren-Saulgrub-Wertach-Kempton zone. The 101st then moved to the Miesbach area, 1 May 1945, and relieved the 4th Infantry Division on 4 May.

The 101st then reached Berchtesgaden, in extreme southeastern Bavaria, in conjunction with the 3rd Infantry Division, in the final days of the war. German resistance, by this time, had crumbled almost completely, except for isolated bands of die-hards.

The 101st received the surrender of the German 13th SS and 82nd Corps, and also captured a number of high-ranking Germans (or Nazis), depending on how one looks at it. Among them were Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, Commander-in-Chief of the German armies; Colonel-General Heinz Guderian, the armored expert; Franz Schwarz, treasurer of the Nazi Party; Karl Oberg, Chief of the German SS in formerly occupied France; Robert Ley, a

leader of the Nazi movement; and Jew hater Julius Streicher, who was ironically captured by Major Henry Plitt, S-2 of the 502nd Parachute Regiment, and one of the 101st's most decorated Jewish officers. The last four Germans were certainly Nazis in the true sense of the word.

By V-E Day, 8 May 1945, the 101st had sustained more casualties than any other U.S. airborne division in the war.

On 1 August 1945, the 101st Airborne left Germany, for Auxerre, France, for training for the invasion of Japan, a move that proved unnecessary when Japan surrendered 2 weeks later on 14 August 1945.

The 101st Airborne Division—one of the élite outfits of the U.S. Army.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—2	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—2,350
Distinguished Unit Citations—13 *	Killed In Action—1,855
Distinguished Service Crosses—56	Wounded—6,875
Silver Stars—456	Missing—207
	Captured—967
	Total Casualties—9,904

\* Two to the entire 101st Airborne Division—Normandy—Bastogne

The 101st Airborne Division later saw extensive service in the Vietnam War. As of this writing, the 101st's home base is at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, with large elements now in Saudi Arabia. (15 September 1990)







101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION "Screaming Eagle"

NOVEMBER 1944

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DECEMBER 1944

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JANUARY 1945

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## 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION "Screaming Eagle"

## FEBRUARY 1945

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 10 Feb 1  
 12 Feb 1  
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## MARCH 1945

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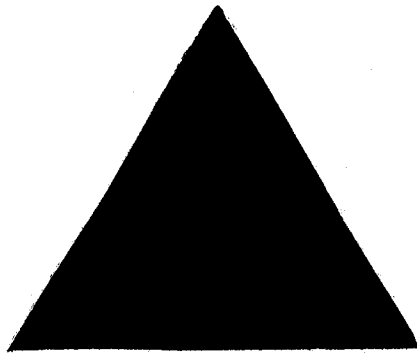
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## 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day—————6 June 1944  
 bloodiest month—————June 1944  
 2nd bloodiest day—————11 June 1944  
 3rd bloodiest day—————19 September 1944  
 Total battle deaths—————2,500 (approximately)  
 1,349 are listed=53.9% KIA—2,188



## 1ST ARMORED DIVISION "Old Ironsides"

Regular Army

Activated—15 July 1940

Returned To United States—24 April 1946

Inactivated—26 April 1946 (later reactivated)

Battle Credits, World War II:   Algeria           Tunisia           Southern Italy       Anzio  
Days In Combat—511           Rome-Arno       Northern Apennines   Po Valley

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Orlando Ward	March 1942—April 1943
Maj-Gen Ernest N. Harmon	April 1943—July 1944
Maj-Gen Vernon E. Prichard	July 1944—September 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 1st Armored Division can rightfully claim to be called the "Guinea Pig" Division during World War II. Thanks to the 1st Armored's early, bloody battles in North Africa, other armored divisions were taught lessons about combat that the 1st Armored had to learn the hard way. Except for jungle area, the 1st Armored has fought in just about every other type of terrain possible—the deserts of North Africa, the mountains of Italy, the Pontine Marshes south of Rome, and the flat plains of the Po Valley.

The 1st Armored sailed for Northern Ireland, in April 1942. There, it trained for many months under the British, who had faced the German blitzkriegs in Holland, Belgium, France, Greece, and Crete.

Combat Command B of the 1st Armored landed near Oran, Algeria, on 8 November 1942, as it helped support the 1st Infantry Division in the invasion of North Africa. It was not without loss. French shore batteries opened up on the destroyers in the harbor, smashing landing craft with shells and machinegun fire, and killing 189 men, including a colonel. Over 150 more men were wounded.

There was fierce resistance not only against the 1st Infantry Division in Oran, but also at St. Lucien, south of the city. A French tank brigade was engaged by CCB, and 14 of the obsolete French tanks were quickly knocked out by 37mm guns. Only one U.S. tank was lost.

After a few days of fighting, the French agreed to a cease-fire. Their main problem was that they had been under the overall command of the notorious Nazi collaborator, Admiral Darlan. He was subsequently assassinated by a university student. And so, a most troublesome thorn was removed from the side of the Allies. However, the real battle lay just ahead in Tunisia.

On 24 November 1942, CCB moved from Tafaroui, Algeria, to Beja, Tunisia, and raided an airfield at Djedeida, the following day.

As the Allies made an early bid to capture the city of Tunis, the élite German 10th Panzer Division struck hard on 1 December 1942, throwing CCB of the 1st Armored back, and capturing Tebourba, on 4 December. The inferior Grant tanks that the Americans had, at this time, didn't help in the least. CCB withdrew to Beja with heavy equipment losses, 10-11 December 1942, and was placed in reserve.

CCB next attacked in the Ousseltia Valley, in late-January 1943, and cleared this area.

CCB was then sent to Bou Chebka, and arrived at Maktar, on 3 February 1943.

CCA fought at Faïd Pass, commencing on 30 January 1943, and advanced to Sidi Bou Zid.

Beginning on 14 February 1943, Rommel attacked through Kasserine Pass, and the 1st Armored was forced back with heavy losses in both tanks and men, 14-15 February 1943.

CCC, which had been constituted on 23 January 1943, advanced toward Sbeitla, and counter-attacked to support CCA, but was repulsed with heavy losses. The division withdrew from Sbeitla, but by 21 February, CCB had contained the enemy attack toward Tebessa. The German withdrawal allowed the 1st Armored to recover Kasserine Pass on 26 February 1943. The 1st Armored lost over 1,000 men killed, wounded, missing, and captured in this battle. The division then assembled in reserve.

The 1st Armored moved northeast of Gafsa, 13 March 1943, and attacked in heavy rains on 17 March. CCA took Zannouch, but became immobilized by rain the next day.

The 1st Armored drove on Maknassy, on 20 March 1943, and fought for Djebel Naemia, from 22-25 March. The division then fought to break through positions barring the road to Gabes, from 29 March-1 April 1943.

The 1st began to follow-up the retreating German-Italian forces in Tunisia, on 6 April 1943. Nothing much further happened in the 1st Armored's zone of attack until 23 April. At this time, the 1st began advancing toward the general direction of Mateur. On 28 April 1943, the 1st Armored had one of its two Medal of Honor winners of the war, Private Nicholas Minue, near Medjez-el-Bab, Tunisia. Private Minue had been born in Poland.

When his company was held up by flanking fire from an enemy machinegun nest, he voluntarily, alone, and without hesitating, charged the enemy position with fixed bayonet. Under withering machinegun and rifle fire he killed ten enemy soldiers. After completely destroying this position, Pvt Minue continued forward, routing enemy riflemen from dugout positions until he was fatally wounded. His inspiring courage and aggressiveness were key factors in routing the enemy from his company's entire sector.

The 1st Armored then helped support the 34th Infantry Division's assault on Hill 609, and then, after hard fighting, took Hills 315 and 299 by 3 May 1943. This was followed by more heavy fighting to take Djebel Achtel, 6-9 May. Ferryville was entered on the 7th, and the Axis forces in Tunisia surrendered on 13 May 1943, with the 1st Armored taking over 23,000 prisoners. The Tunisian campaign had cost the 1st Armored 550 men dead, and numerous men captured and missing.

The 1st Armored rested during the Sicilian campaign, and elements then took part in the desperate fighting at the Salerno beachhead in Italy, in September 1943.

On 1 November 1943, the remainder of the division left North Africa for Italy. After landing, it was placed in reserve near Capua.

In December 1943, elements of the 1st fought near the Rapido River.

Then, from 4-8 January 1944, there occurred the battle for Monte Porchia. At 7:30 P.M., 4 January 1944, the two assault battalions of the 6th Armored Infantry Regiment, supported by tanks, moved out. They had to cross two miles of flat terrain before even reaching the line of departure for the attack!

A murderous artillery and mortar barrage fell upon the advancing Americans. During this slaughter, Father Arthur L. Lenaghan, chaplain of the regiment, crawled out repeatedly to drag back wounded and dying men until he was killed, himself. The attack collapsed.

It was resumed on 6 January, when the crest of Monte Porchia was taken, then lost, re-taken, and then held despite furious counterattacks by part of the ubiquitous Hermann Göring Panzer Division. The Americans held on under very heavy pressure. When the regiment was relieved on 12 January 1944, it had lost some 500 men killed or wounded, but had inflicted heavy casualties on the Germans. For this action the entire 6th Armored Infantry Regiment was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation.

In late-January-early-February 1944, elements of the 1st Armored helped support the 34th Infantry Division's assault on Cassino, and sustained heavy casualties.

Soon after, Old Ironsides began arriving at the Anzio beachhead. The 1st Armored had a vital role in this bitter, drawn-out affair.

After preliminary attacks, the Germans launched an all-out offensive, beginning 16 February 1944, to eliminate the Allied beachhead. The U.S. 45th and British 56th Infantry

Divisions in the center of the line were forced back in furious fighting. Casualties on both sides mounted by the hour.

After frantically regrouping during the night, the Germans came on again the following day, and the most desperate kind of combat occurred all along the line. The Germans outnumbered their opponents at the beachhead, and there was every possibility that they would drive the Allies into the sea, the situation was that critical. The Germans had driven an ever widening wedge into the center of the Allied line, and this had to be eliminated before it was too late.

It was 6:30 A.M., 19 February 1944, a day never to be forgotten. A tremendous artillery barrage struck the German wedge. Then the 1st Armored attacked. As the tanks and infantry advanced out of the Padiglione Woods, and up the blood-drenched "Bowling Alley", the fate of over 100,000 men was with them. They kept driving and nothing could stop them. Men fell into the mud or were blown to bits. Tanks exploded and burned, but others kept blasting the Germans, who wavered, and then finally fell back. The crisis was over. The 1st Armored Division had saved the Anzio beachhead.

After extensive patrol actions and trench warfare which recalled scenes from World War I, the Allies finally began an all-out offensive to bust out of the beachhead, commencing on 23 May 1944. For the next 13 days the 1st Armored was involved in very heavy combat, but Rome was finally entered on 4 June 1944. Old Ironsides moved slowly through the streets packed with deliriously happy people. It was one of the division's proudest moments.

But the 1st Armored didn't long-linger in the "eternal city." By 8 June 1944, it had cleared an area 25 miles north of the city, including Viterbo. On this day the division was placed in Army reserve, and went into bivouac near Lake Bracciano. After a short rest, the 1st led a corps-sized attack north toward the Arno River, on 22 June 1944. After some protracted and bloody fighting the 1st Armored reached the Cecina River, and Highway 68, by 7 July 1944, an advance of about 40 miles. The Rome-Arno campaign cost the 1st Armored some 300 men killed in action or died of wounds.

The 1st Armored, soon after, moved to Bolgheri, where it was reorganized into a more modern type of armored formation.

By early-September 1944, the 1st Armored had run up against the German Gothic Line, and it was rough, bitter, slugging, difficult combat in the northern Apennines throughout most of the remainder of September, and most of October 1944. This period was marked by unusually inclement weather—cold and with heavy rains. Another winter wasn't far off. On 27 October 1944, the exhausted U.S. 5th Army halted its offensive. The truth was clear and bitter. The war in Italy would last through another winter.

Action, for the most part, consisted of dangerous patrolling actions, and shivering in the mountains. However, there were some significant actions in Italy during that long, hard winter.

The elite U.S. 10th Mountain Division and the Brazilian 1st Infantry Division had begun a brilliant, local, limited attack on 19 February 1945. On the next day, the 1st Armored relieved the South African 6th Armored Division, and supported the American mountaineers' advance by capturing Carviaro and Salvaro.

Then, except for some limited actions, the front remained static again as spring approached, and the Allies got ready for an all-out offensive.

The assault commenced, for the 5th Army, on 14 April 1945. The Germans in Italy were almost "kaput", but they didn't seem to know it. The fighting was just as hot and heavy as many of the earlier battles in Italy. But, one by one the mountain peaks, roadblocks, and villages were cleared in intensive fighting. The Allies, pent-up after long months in the mountains, couldn't be stopped. The Germans used everything from self-propelled guns to rifles against the men of the 1st Armored. German tanks appeared and on 19 April 1945, CCA lost 8 tanks. On this same day CCB reached the Samoggia Valley. On 20 April, it cleared Monte Ombraro, while CCA slashed north. During the next three days the 1st Armored took 3,800 POWs.

On 23 April 1945, the 1st crossed the Po River, as the fighting once again increased in tempo. Fanning out to the west, CCA took Brescia, against fierce opposition, and then Bergamo and Como. 25 April 1945, was the 1st Armored's bloodiest day of this entire offensive.

However, by the 27th, the division had reached the Swiss frontier. Thousands of prisoners now streamed into overcrowded 1st Armored POW compounds, and on 28 April 1945, the entire German 232nd Infantry Division surrendered en masse to the 1st.

The cities of Cremona and Milan fell, and elements of the division were driving for the French border, near Cigliano, when the Germans in Italy gave up on 2 May 1945.

Except for the 34th Infantry Division, the 1st Armored had more combat time in the Mediterranean Theater than any other U.S. unit in the war.

The 1st Armored then became part of the Army of Occupation, but thousands of its combat veterans soon returned to the United States.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—2  
Distinguished Unit Citations—3 \*  
Distinguished Service Crosses—1  
Silver Stars—794

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,907  
Killed In Action—1,623  
Wounded—6,302  
Missing—216  
Captured—518  
Total Casualties—8,659

\* One to the entire 6th Armored Infantry Regiment—Monte Porchia, Italy

Other 1st Armored Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action \*

2nd Lt Thomas W. Fowler, \* 23 May 1944, near Carano, Italy

The 1st Armored Division replaced the 4th Armored Division in Germany, in 1971, and is still stationed there, as of this writing. (3 November 1990)



1ST ARMORED DIVISION "Old Ironsides"

JANUARY 1943

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FEBRUARY 1943

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MARCH 1943

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APRIL 1943

1 Apr 11111111 8  
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1ST ARMORED DIVISION "Old Ironsides"

MAY 1943

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JANUARY 1944

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FEBRUARY 1944

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MARCH 1944

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APRIL 1944

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## 1ST ARMORED DIVISION "Old Ironsides"

## MAY 1944

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## JUNE 1944

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## JULY 1944

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## AUGUST 1944

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## 1ST ARMORED DIVISION "Old Ironsides"

## SEPTEMBER 1944

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## OCTOBER 1944

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 17 Oct 1111111 7  
 18 Oct 1111  
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 24 Oct 111  
 29 Oct 1  
 30 Oct 11  
 31 Oct 1111  
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## NOVEMBER 1944

1 Nov 11  
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## DECEMBER 1944

5 Dec 1  
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## MARCH 1945

8 Mar 1  
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## APRIL 1945

4 Apr 1  
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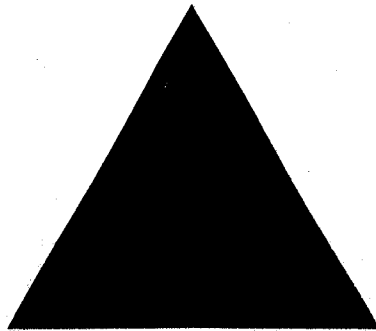
## MAY 1945

1 May 1  
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## 1ST ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day—8 November 1942  
 bloodiest month—May 1944  
 2nd bloodiest day—14 February 1943  
 3rd " " " —15 February 1943  
 4th " " " —5 and 6 January 1944  
 5th " " " —23 May 1944 and 25 April 1945

Total battle deaths—1,907  
 1,053 are listed=55.2% KIA—1,623



## 2ND ARMORED DIVISION "Hell On Wheels"

Regular Army

Activated—15 July 1940

Returned To United States—~~29~~ January 1946

Battle Credits, World War II: Morocco Tunisia Sicily Normandy  
Northern France-Belgium Siegfried Line Ardennes  
Rhineland Ruhr Pocket North-Central Germany

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Ernest N. Harmon	July 1942—April 1943
Maj-Gen Hugh J. Gaffey	May 1943—April 1944
Maj-Gen Edward H. Brooks	April—September 1944
Maj-Gen Ernest N. Harmon	September 1944—January 1945
Maj-Gen Isaac D. White	January—August 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 2nd Armored Division, after its activation, soon made Ft. Benning, Georgia, its home grounds under that master of armored tactics, General George S. Patton. Patton would later command the entire 7th Army in Sicily, with the 2nd Armored a part of that army. After extensive maneuvers in the United States, including those in Tennessee and the Carolinas, the 2nd Armored eventually shipped out directly to North Africa.

The 2nd Armored first saw action in the North African invasion of 8 November 1942. Its three combat commands were split-up, supporting various elements of the 3rd and 9th Infantry Divisions in the landings on the west coast of French Morocco. Two landings were made at Fedala and Port Lyautey, above Casablanca, while the third was made at Safi, 140 miles below (south) of that city.

The worst resistance was at Port Lyautey, where part of the division supported the 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division. The 41st Armored Infantry, in conjunction with the 60th Infantry, engaged a French regiment which put up a stiff fight throughout the first two days. With the disastrous defeat of their tank forces, however, the French infantry gave way and retreated to safer positions in the hills. The French agreed to a ceasefire on 11 November 1942. The problem with the French, had been faulty leadership at the very top.

The 2nd Armored then helped guard the Spanish Moroccan frontier against a possible intervention by Spain, but, fortunately, this never occurred.

Part of the 2nd Armored later saw action in the spring of 1943, at Beja, Tunisia.

As a whole, the 2nd Armored first saw combat on Sicily, July-August 1943. Elements were landed on the very first day, 10 July 1943, in time to help the infantry beat back attacks on the beachhead by the Hermann Göring Panzer Division.

Although the rugged terrain on Sicily wasn't ideally suited for armored warfare, the division, nevertheless, contributed importantly in defeating the Germans and Italians in the western part of the large island.

On 15 July 1943, the 2nd assembled at Campobello, and then followed the general advance

to exploit breakthroughs. The 2nd Armored was committed into action, 22 July 1943, and drove rapidly to the outskirts of Palermo.

Altogether, losses of the 2nd Armored were not nearly as heavy as could have been. In both North Africa and Sicily, the division sustained losses of 110 men killed in action or died of wounds, and 244 wounded. Very few men were captured.

After Sicily, the 2nd Armored was shipped to England for a lengthy stay before the invasion of Normandy, 6 June 1944.

The 2nd went into action near Carentan, Normandy, France, a few days after the first D-Day landings. Combat Command A and elements of the 101st Airborne Division soon launched a highly skilled and co-ordinated attack at dawn on 13 June 1944, taking the unsuspecting Germans, who had no knowledge of American tanks in the area completely by surprise.

It was in Normandy that the 2nd Armored first encountered the deadly hedgerows. Usually 10-12 feet high with seemingly impenetrable growths of vegetation, the problem was eventually solved by employing a maximum of artillery on a given area, and, later, by the use of tank-dozers—tanks fitted with a huge bulldozer-like blade in the front.

Despite the difficult terrain, the force of the attack overwhelmed the Germans who attempted to resist by tying snipers into trees to delay the advance of the infantry who were following the tanks. The snipers were quickly disposed of by men with Browning Automatic Rifles (BARs) who sprayed the trees with bullets. By nightfall, the Germans had been hurled back with a loss of more than 500 dead. Only two Germans were captured. The 2nd Armored lost only 8 men killed and 45 wounded.

On 15 June 1944, in another terrific battle, the 2nd killed or wounded hundreds more of the enemy, with only moderate losses to themselves. The Germans were really feeling the power of Hell On Wheels.

During the next fortnight, the division moved into the vicinity of Balleroy, where plans and training were kept at peak efficiency. There were numerous brushes with the enemy, until 17 July 1944. At this time the 2nd Armored was relieved by the British 50th Brigade, and returned to an assembly area north of Cerisy Forest.

In the vital breakthrough west of St. Lô, commencing on 25 July 1944, the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions spearheaded the way, beating off German flanking attacks. It was during this intense fighting that the 2nd Armored had one of its three Medal of Honor winners of the war, Sergeant Hulon B. Whittington, 41st Armored Infantry, near Grimesnil, France, 29 July 1944.

On the night of 29 July 1944, during an enemy armored attack, Sgt Whittington, a squad leader, assumed command of his platoon when both the platoon leader and sergeant became missing in action.

He reorganized the defense and, under fire, courageously crawled between gun positions to check the actions of his men. When the Germans attempted to penetrate a roadblock, he mounted a tank and, by shouting through the turret, directed it into position to fire point-blank at the leading Mark V German tank. The destruction of this leading tank blocked all movement of the remaining enemy column consisting of over 100 vehicles of a panzer unit. The blocked vehicles were then destroyed by grenades, bazooka, tank, and artillery fire, and large numbers of enemy personnel were wiped out in a bold and resolute bayonet charge inspired by Sgt Whittington. When the medical aid man became a casualty, the sergeant personally administered first aid to his wounded men.

The dynamic leadership and inspiring courage of Sgt Whittington were in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. armed forces.

The Germans continued to counterattack with the 2nd and 116th Panzer and 363rd Infantry Divisions. One enemy counterthrust, employing 40 tanks with supporting infantry, was beaten back in a 13-hour battle at the Villebaudon crossroads, west of Tessy-sur-Vire. 30 July 1944, was the 2nd Armored's bloodiest day in combat of the war, but heavy fighting continued through 31 July, as the 2nd Armored prevented the Germans from disrupting the entire breakthrough. Tessy was captured on 1 August.

The 2nd Armored, in severe fighting from 7-13 August 1944, helped stop a dangerous German counterblow near Mortain. The division then began streaming across northern France.

On 19 August 1944, the 2nd Armored attacked west of Dreux, France, to cut German forces off from the Seine, between Paris and Elbeuf. The 2nd reached Le Neubourg, 23 August, and resumed the advance on 30 August, reaching positions northwest of Cambrai, 1 September.

On 13 September 1944, Combat Command A crossed the Albert Canal, in Belgium. Combat Command B crossed the canal at Meerseen, 15 September, but its bridgehead was subjected to heavy German fire the following day. The Germans were then forced back to Sittard, in extreme southeast Holland, and Sittard was taken on 18 September 1944. The 2nd Armored then effected a breakthrough, and drove to Gangelt, but a strong German counterattack restored their lines on the 19th. The 2nd Armored then took up defensive positions near Geilenkirchen. This was in the Siegfried Line area in extreme western Germany.

The 2nd then attacked on 3 October 1944, as it crossed the Würm River, at Marienberg, to expand the 30th Infantry Division's bridgehead. CCB attacked from Uebach the next day, and suffered heavy tank losses, being reinforced by CCA. CCB was then stopped short of Geilenkirchen, in heavy fighting, on 6 October 1944.

The 2nd Armored then fought through heavy combat at Baesweiler and Oidtweiler, to attack in the battle of the Aachen Gap, at Wurselen, starting on 13 October 1944.

After rest and maintenance, the 2nd Armored next attacked on 16 November 1944, as part of the assault to the Roer River. This was some of the most bitter fighting of the war for the 2nd Armored. The Germans threw heavy artillery and mortar barrages at the advancing Americans, and the 2nd lost numerous tanks and personnel amid the increasingly cold and rainy weather. On 17 November 1944, the Germans mounted another vicious counterattack, and the fighting was bloody and hard.

Against continued very strong enemy resistance, the 2nd kept on attacking and took the town of Apweiler. The division then held this town against yet another German counterattack, 18-19 November 1944.

The 2nd Armored renewed its attacks in heavy rain, 20 November 1944, and CCA fought a bitter battle for Merzenhausen from 22-27 November. 27 November 1944, was a very costly day for both sides. CCA then took Barmen, and reached the Roer on 28 November. The 2nd then took up defensive positions along the Roer, until released as a result of the German counteroffensive in the Ardennes, beginning on 16 December 1944.

Sent racing back into Belgium, the 2nd Armored held Celles, on Christmas Day, 1944, against heavy attacks by its numerical counterpart, the crack 2nd Panzer Division. In fact, Hell On Wheels stopped the western-most German thrust in the Bulge battle. It turned back the 2nd Panzer only 4 miles from the Meuse River, a major German objective. At this time, the weather was very foggy and misty in this area, and most ironically, the German armored outfit had run out of fuel for its tanks, failing to detect a fuel dump only a few hundred yards off in the distance. This was a big turning point in the Battle of the Bulge. The 2nd Panzer Division suffered very heavy losses in tanks and personnel, and finally limped back toward the Siegfried Line, only a shadow of its former self.

When the U.S. 1st Army rallied from the massive German assault and began to force the enemy back, the counteroffensive was spearheaded by the 2nd Armored. Slipping and slugging forward in the deep snow, the men of the division were the first to link-up with units from the 3rd Army, near Houffalize, Belgium, in mid-January 1945.

After rest and rehabilitation the last half of January-throughout February 1945, the 2nd Armored attacked again on 28 February 1945. It crossed the Cologne Plain in heavy fighting and assaulted across the Nord Canal. The 2nd Armored's part in this offensive was concluded when the division took Verdingen, on the Rhine.

The 2nd crossed the Rhine, 27 March 1945, and relieved the 17th Airborne Division on 29 March. In a great enveloping maneuver, the 2nd then raced across the northern edge of the Ruhr to link-up with the 3rd Armored Division near Lippstadt. This feat closed a huge trap on 330,000 German troops.

Leaving the huge pocket to other divisions, the 2nd Armored dashed to the east, and was the first American outfit to reach the Elbe River, at Schönebeck, on 11 April 1945.

Then, near the city of Magdeburg, the Germans, throwing in fresh troops, suddenly stiffened, and fiercely counterattacked the bridgehead the 2nd was attempting to throw over the wide river. The Germans also blew up a bridge in this area, some of the Americans were

trapped on the far side of the river, and, altogether, suffered around 300 casualties at the Elbe, in this local setback. Most of the men were captured with some 20 being killed in action.

The 2nd Armored then helped the 30th Infantry Division clear Magdeburg in 24 hours of combat.

Elements of the division were then sent back westward to help destroy the Von Klausewitz Panzer Division, while the rest of the outfit maintained its positions on the west bank of the Elbe. The Russians were then soon contacted.

In July 1945, the 2nd Armored Division entered Berlin—the first American unit to enter the German capital—a fitting tribute to one of the finest formations in the ETO.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—3  
Distinguished Unit Citations—13  
Distinguished Service Crosses—23  
Silver Stars—2,302

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,456  
Killed In Action—1,200  
Wounded—5,757  
Missing—60  
Captured—266  
Total Casualties—7,283

Other 2nd Armored Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II:

Captain James M. Burt, 66th Amd Inf, 13 October 1944, near Wurselen, Germany

Sergeant Gerry H. Kisters, 31 July 1943, near Gagliano, Sicily

The 2nd Armored Division's home base is at Fort Hood, Texas, with elements in Germany, as of this writing. (27 September 1990)

2ND ARMORED DIVISION "Hell On Wheels"

NOVEMBER 1942

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DECEMBER 1942

7 Dec 1  
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JULY 1943

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JUNE 1944

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JULY 1944

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## 2ND ARMORED DIVISION "Hell On Wheels"

## AUGUST 1944

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## SEPTEMBER 1944

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## OCTOBER 1944

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74

## 2ND ARMORED DIVISION "Hell On Wheels"

## NOVEMBER 1944

5 Nov 1  
 15 Nov 1  
 16 Nov 1111  
 17 Nov 11111111111111111111 22  
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 19 Nov 1111  
 20 Nov 111111  
 22 Nov 11  
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 28 Nov 11  
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84

## DECEMBER 1944

2 Dec 111  
 3 Dec 1  
 18 Dec 1  
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 26 Dec 11111111 8  
 27 Dec 11111111 8  
 28 Dec 111  
 29 Dec 1111  
 31 Dec 1

34

## JANUARY 1945

3 Jan 111111111111111111 17  
 4 Jan 111111  
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 10 Jan 1111  
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 12 Jan 11111111 8  
 13 Jan 1  
 14 Jan 111  
 15 Jan 1

73

## FEBRUARY 1945

5 Feb 1  
 13 Feb 1  
 28 Feb 11111111111111 14

16

## 2ND ARMORED DIVISION "Hell On Wheels"

## MARCH 1945

1 Mar 111111111111 12  
 2 Mar 1111111111111111 18  
 3 Mar 11111  
 4 Mar 1  
 6 Mar 11  
 8 Mar 1  
 28 Mar 1  
 29 Mar 1  
 30 Mar 1  
 31 Mar 11111

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## APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111  
 2 Apr 11111  
 3 Apr 111111  
 4 Apr 1  
 5 Apr 111  
 6 Apr 11111  
 8 Apr 1  
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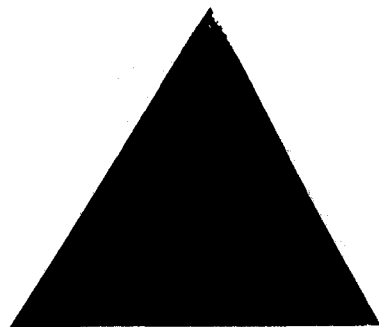
48

## MAY 1945

14 May 1  
 1

## 2ND ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day—————30 July 1944  
 bloodiest month—————August 1944  
 2nd bloodiest day—————6 October 1944  
 3rd bloodiest day—————27 November 1944  
 Total battle deaths—————1,456  
 758 are listed=52.0%      KIA—1,200



3RD ARMORED DIVISION "Spearhead"

Regular Army

Activated—15 April 1941

Inactivated—10 November 1945 in Europe

Reactivated—15 July 1947

Battle Credits, World War II:    Normandy            Northern France-Belgium            Siegfried Line  
Days In Combat—231            Ardennes            Rhineland            Ruhr Pocket            Central Germany

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Leroy H. Watson	August 1942—August 1944
Maj-Gen Maurice Rose *	August 1944—31 March 1945
Brig-Gen Doyle O. Hickey	April—June 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 3rd Armored Division was activated at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, in April 1941. After intensive training in the United States, including maneuvers in the Mojave Desert, in southern California, the division eventually left Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, for embarkation from New York harbor, on 5 September 1943.

The 3rd Armored underwent more intensive training in England.

In Normandy, France, the 3rd Armored entered combat on 29 June 1944, against the Villers-Fossard salient northeast of St. Lô.

Among the 3rd Armored's first opponents was the crack German 6th Parachute Regiment. The inexperienced division suffered heavy casualties at the hands of these tough paratroopers, until it became a battle-hardened outfit.

There was a slight break in the action for the 3rd Armored until 8 July 1944. At that time, the 3rd seized the Haut-Vents crossroads after heavy combat, by the 11th. The 3rd Armored then fought defensive actions and maintained its positions until 26 July 1944. On this day, Combat Command B passed through the 1st Infantry Division to take Marigny. This was part of the major U.S. breakthrough west of St. Lô.

CCA continued the offensive by forcing a crossing of the Sienne River, at Gavray, on 30 July 1944. In this breakout phase a number of first-rate German divisions were badly mauled as they desperately attempted to fight-off the American onslaught.

Then, in the early morning hours of 7 August 1944, the Germans launched a very strong counterblow in the vicinity of Mortain, the hardest thrust falling upon the 30th Infantry Division. In this attack the Germans were employing four of their very best divisions—the 1st and 2nd SS Panzer and 2nd and 116th Panzer. Several U.S. units were quickly maneuvered into the area to help out the hard-pressed 30th Division, and one of these was CCB of the 3rd Armored. Extremely heavy fighting developed, and for five days the battle swayed back and forth. Finally, on 13 August 1944, the Germans withdrew.

In mid-August 1944, the 3rd Armored, battling 50 miles in 10 days against determined German resistance, helped trap 10,000 Germans in the Falaise-Argentan Gap. The Germans, including many SS troops, fought furiously to break out of this trap, and many succeeded.

However, many more didn't, and the battlefield was littered with knocked out enemy tanks and other vehicles, dead horses—and men. The stench was overpowering.

On 15 August, near Fromental, an SS patrol captured an officer and 4 other men from the 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, and killed all but one man who escaped. This action turned the Spearhead men into dedicated killers.

The 3rd Armored was the spearhead of the 1st Army's drive across northern France, with the stalwarts of this army, the 1st and 9th Infantry Divisions, following in its wake. By Normandy standards action was not too heavy in most places, but there were plenty of vicious smaller fights. The 3rd Armored bowled across the Marne River, near Mieux, and pursued the enemy relentlessly, crossing the Aisne River, east of Soissons, on 29 August 1944. The speed of the American armor surprised the Germans. It was a blitzkrieg in reverse.

To the Americans, however, who thought that the Germans were just about licked, the drive through northern France and into Belgium was something of a nightmare. The days and nights merged into one long stream of fatigue and weariness in the seemingly endless pursuit. They followed the white roads all day long with their eyes streaming from the hot sun, wind, and dust. At night they drove in total blackout, and with the dubious knowledge that the enemy could be at any given point. All of this was overcome only by the sureness that the Germans were on the run.

Near Mons, Belgium, the 3rd Armored surprised a troop train full of Germans, and really shot it up, and captured 10,000 prisoners, including three German generals.

Slashing deeper into Belgium, the 3rd Armored advanced through Charleroi and Namur, and captured the city of Liège, on 8 September 1944. Eupen fell on the 11th, and the 3rd Armored staked a claim to being the first American troops to cross into Germany. The division breached the Siegfried Line at Rötgen, 12 September 1944. Then it swung to the north into the mining area around Stolberg, near Aachen, against heavy opposition. The Germans were far from being beaten.

On 14 September 1944, CCA reached Eilendorf, a suburb of Aachen. The next day the 3rd Armored encountered the second belt of the Siegfried Line defenses. The 3rd suffered severe tank losses on Geisberg Hill, and CCB took, but was then forced back out of, Mausbach. On the following day CCA was stopped in its advance on Stolberg, while CCB finally took Geisberg Hill, 17 September, but was then forced back off. 17 September 1944, was a very costly day for both sides.

After fighting for Weissenberg and Münsterbusch Hills, 18-20 September, Stolberg finally fell on the 22nd. However, because of very heavy losses, the 3rd Armored then postponed its Siegfried Line offensive any further, and used smoke screens to withdraw CCB from Donnerberg.

October 1944, wasn't too bad for the 3rd Armored. It took part in one action of any significance during this month. Between 18-28 October 1944, the 3rd was committed to clearing the Lousberg Heights, and cutting the Aachen-Laurensberg Highway. Losses were not excessive in this operation.

The 3rd Armored was next committed into the assault to the Roer River, commencing on 16 November 1944. The division didn't have a lengthy participation in this operation, but, still, saw heavy fighting the first three days of the assault.

Next, in a local attack, in conjunction with the 9th Infantry Division, the 3rd cleared to the west bank of the Roer, 10 December 1944, and took Geich on the next day.

Then, the Germans opened their all-out counteroffensive in the Ardennes on 16 December 1944. The 3rd Armored was rushed into the northern side of the Bulge, teaming up with elements of the 30th Infantry Division. The 3rd bored in to meet a large part of the elite 1st SS "Leibstandarte" Panzer Division. A furious, fluctuating battle developed between these two expert and well-commanded fighting machines, and the casualties quickly mounted on both sides. CCB attacked Stoumont and La Gleize, 20 December 1944, while the rest of the 3rd Armored tried to secure the Manhay-Houffalize Road. The 3rd contained a German thrust at Hotton, but lost a key road junction southeast of Manhay on 23 December, and the following day its roadblock at Belle Haie was reduced by the Germans.

The German attacks continued on through Christmas Day. Part of the 2nd SS "Das Reich" Panzer Division and the 12th SS "Hitlerjugend" Panzer Division were also hurled at the Fighting 3rd Armored, and some of the most desperate fighting of the war occurred amid the

wintery conditions of the Ardennes. But the lines held as casualties mounted into the hundreds. General Rose, the gallant division commander, remained cool and unshaken, even when a German V-1 "buzz bomb" landed only 100 yards from his jeep. But more American units arrived on the northern side of the salient, and the Germans were slowly, but surely, forced back. The 3rd Armored had stood up against the best troops that Germany had left, and had fought them to a standstill.

Going over to the attack the 3rd Armored assaulted Grandmenil on 26 December 1944, and CCA of the division recovered Sadzot on 28 December. In bitter fighting the 3rd Armored then reduced a German salient west of Houffalize, by 20 January 1945.

The 3rd Armored rested and recuperated during most of February 1945.

As soon as the 8th and 104th Infantry Divisions had established a bridgehead across the Roer, the 3rd Armored commenced its assault, 26 February 1945, by spearheading the attack on the big city of Cologne.

With characteristic dash and vigor, the 3rd broke through the initial resistance and raced to the east. In two days it forced the difficult crossing of the Erft River, 27-28 February 1945, and then defeated German counterattacks. The 3rd then swung across the northern end of the formidable Vorgebirge. This hill mass, pitted with a succession of open lignite mines and studded with slag heaps, made maneuvering very difficult. Pressing the attack northeast, the 3rd Armored reached the Rhine, near Wörringen, 4 March 1945, and was the first outfit to enter gutted, bombed-out Cologne the next day. The Germans fought furiously amid the ruins with 88mm guns, machineguns, panzerfausts, and snipers. Nevertheless, working with the 8th and 104th Infantry Divisions, the city was cleared in two days.

The 3rd Armored next advanced across the Rhine on 23 March 1945, and into the expanding Remagen bridgehead. On 25 March, the division attacked east through the 1st and 104th Infantry Divisions, brushing aside resistance, and pressed through the hilly and wooded area between the Sieg and Wied Rivers. Although enemy opposition was sharp and unrelenting, the 3rd seized Altenkirchen, and quickly forced a crossing of the Dill River, near Herborn. Marburg was then captured, 28 March 1945, and this action cut German communications in the Lahn River Valley.

Beginning on 29 March 1945, the Spearhead Division, in an unprecedented drive, advanced 90 road miles to the northeast in one 24-hour period. As it neared its objective, Paderborn, the 3rd Armored became heavily engaged, and fought its way through fanatical resistance by enemy troops from the SS Panzer Replacement Training Center.

During this action, General Rose was up front, as usual, when, near dusk on 31 March 1945, he and his party were surprised by a big German tank which suddenly loomed in front of them. No one knows exactly what happened next—possibly General Rose reached for his .45—but suddenly the German tank commander fired his burp gun and the general fell forward dead. In the confusion and increasing darkness, several of the GIs escaped into the fields, while a number of others were captured. And so, the 3rd Armored lost an outstanding commander. His place was taken by the very capable Brigadier-General Doyle O. Hickey.

Continuing onward, while repelling counterattacks from all sides, the 3rd captured Paderborn on 1 April. On this same day, a task force advanced to the west and made contact with the 2nd Armored Division at Lippstadt. Thus, a gigantic pincers movement was completed, trapping some 330,000 German soldiers in the Ruhr. This sealed the doom of Nazi Germany, but some hard fighting still lay ahead.

Crossing the Weser River, on 5 April 1945, the 3rd Armored resumed its relentless pursuit of the disintegrating German forces with another enveloping maneuver, this time around the Harz Mountains. The key towns of Duderstadt, Nordhausen, and Sangerhausen fell in rapid succession. At Nordhausen, the 3rd Armored got a good look at what Nazism really stood for, when the men went to the concentration camp near the town. Battle-hardened veterans became visibly sick at the sight of the living skeletons and the dead lying all around the place.

After this unforgettable experience, the 3rd drove further east toward Dessau, near where the Mulde River flows into the Elbe. The Germans threw in fresh troops and, from 13-19 April 1945, very fierce fighting occurred between the 3rd Armored and these German troops, and the 3rd suffered heavy casualties. Despite this, the sizeable town of Köthen

3RD ARMORED DIVISION "Spearhead"

JUNE 1944

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JULY 1944

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AUGUST 1944

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was taken, and then the city of Dessau was cleared after two more days of fierce fighting, 21-23 April 1945. Soon after, the 3rd Armored was relieved along the Mulde River, by the 9th Infantry Division.

During its time in combat the 3rd Armored captured over 76,000 prisoners, and it had, by far, the most casualties of any American armored division in the war. The 3rd Armored had really lived up to its motto "Spearhead In The West."

After extensive occupational duty in Europe, the 3rd Armored was inactivated there in November 1945, but then was later reactivated in July 1947, as a Regular Army division.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0  
Distinguished Unit Citations—7  
Distinguished Service Crosses—25  
Silver Stars—839

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—2,302  
Killed In Action—2,043  
Wounded—7,160  
Missing—104  
Captured—366  
Total Casualties—9,673

Denotes Killed In Action \*

The 3rd Armored Division has been stationed in Germany for many years, and still is as of this writing. (27 September 1990)



3RD ARMORED DIVISION "Spearhead"

SEPTEMBER 1944

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 28 Sept 111  
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OCTOBER 1944

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NOVEMBER 1944

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 3 Nov 11  
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DECEMBER 1944

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 23 Dec 1111111111111 14  
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 25 Dec 1111111111111 15  
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 30 Dec 1

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## 3RD ARMORED DIVISION "Spearhead"

## JANUARY 1945

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 25 Jan 1  
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## FEBRUARY 1945

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## MARCH 1945

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 24 Mar 11  
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 30 Mar 111111111111111111 23  
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## APRIL 1945

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 11 Apr 1  
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 24 Apr 1  
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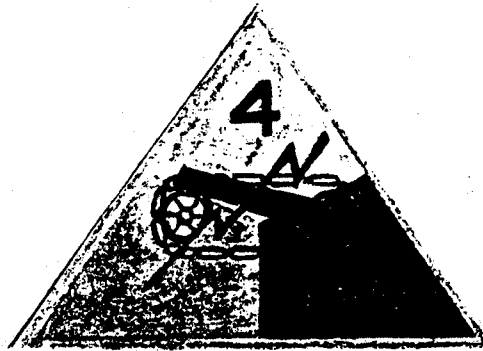
## MAY 1945

1 May 1  
 8 May 1

2

## 3RD ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day—17 August 1944  
 bloodiest month—August or September 1944  
 2nd bloodiest day—17 September 1944  
 3rd bloodiest day—10 August and 21 September 1944  
 Total battle deaths—2,302  
 1,216 are listed=52.7% KIA—2,043



4TH ARMORED DIVISION "Breakthrough"

Activated—15 April 1941

Battle Credits, World War II: Normandy Brittany North-Central France  
Lorraine-Saar Ardennes Rhineland Central Europe

Days In Combat—230

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen J. S. Wood  
Maj-Gen Hugh J. Gaffey  
Maj-Gen William M. Hoge

May 1942—December 1944  
December 1944—March 1945  
March—June 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 4th Armored Division, after maneuvers in the United States, received further training in England from January-early-July 1944.

The 4th Armored landed on Utah Beach, Normandy, on 11 July 1944, and entered combat in Normandy on 17 July 1944

Attacking southward, the 4th Armored secured the area around Coutances in moderate to heavy combat. Breaking through at Avranches, it continued south to cut off the Brittany Peninsula, and reached Vannes on 5 August. After investing Lorient on 7 August 1944, the division entered evacuated Nantes on the 11th, and then took Orléans with Combat Command A on 16 August.

Advancing eastward, the 4th Armored succeeded in forcing a bridgehead over the Seine River at Troyes, and soon entered the province of Lorraine. By 31 August 1944, CCA reached the Meuse River, at Commercy and Pont-sur-Meuse, and established a bridgehead. Relieved there by the 80th Infantry Division, 2 September 1944, the 4th Armored crossed the Moselle River, near Lorey against heavy opposition, and stopped strong German counterattacks, all from 11-13 September. CCB forced the Marne-Rhine Canal, at Crevic and Maixe against heavy resistance on 15 September, and CCR advanced into Lunéville the next day.

The Germans then began a series of heavy, violent attacks in the vicinity of Château-Salins, 15-30 September 1944. There was a series of tank duels, and heavy fighting at Lunéville, which changed hands several times. One German assault overran CCA lines, 25 September, and the 4th lost Vic-sur-Seille and Moncourt, and then withdrew from Juvelize and Coincourt the following day. The battle for Hill 318 was fought, 27-28 September, with severe losses, but on 29 September 1944, the 4th defeated the German effort to retake Arracourt.

There then followed a lull in the fighting during October 1944, for the 4th Armored. After holding a defensive line from Chambrey to Xanrey to Henamenil until 11 October, the 4th then rested until early-November 1944. So far, the fighting in Lorraine had cost the lives of some 250 men in the 4th Armored.

Despite the very wet, rainy weather, General Patton opened an offensive aimed toward the Saar, beginning on 8 November 1944. He wanted to catch the Germans off-guard, and, to a good extent, he succeeded. But they quickly recovered, and it was bloody fighting all the way. In fact, 10 November 1944, was the 4th Armored's most costly day in combat of the war.

As the American assault continued, the 4th Armored cleared Bois de Serres, 12 November, and slashed through the left flank of the German 48th Infantry Division, reaching Hannocourt and Viviers. However, one German formation, in particular, caused the Americans a good deal of trouble. The crack 11th Panzer Division, veteran of the Russian Front and the fighting in

southern France, counterattacked in the freezing rain turning to snow, and recaptured the town of Rodalbe, as well as destroying about 30 U.S. tanks before the day was over. The 4th Armored slugged ahead, but the 11th Panzer again counterattacked and captured numerous Americans. It was rough, difficult combat.

Despite these setbacks, the 4th Armored kept on advancing against strong resistance to capture Dieuze, and retake Rodalbe by 19 November 1944. The 4th crossed the Sarre, at Romelting, 24 November, cleared Baerendorf in house-to-house fighting, and helped the 44th Infantry Division check a major German attack on the 25th. This attack, consisting of the Panzerlehr and about half of the 25th Panzer Grenadier Divisions, was designed to cut-off a large part of the U.S. 7th Army, of which the 44th Infantry Division was its far left flank.

Continuing toward the Saar, the 4th Armored took Wolfskirchen, despite flooded streams, on 27 November 1944.

The 4th Armored then cleared its zone of responsibility, and next opened the attack on Sarre-Union on 1 December 1944, which fell to the 26th Infantry Division the next day. The 4th then battled for Bining, 5-6 December, and was advancing on Singling, when it was relieved by the 12th Armored Division on 7 December 1944. In exactly one month of fighting to the Saar, the 4th Armored's losses included at least 350 more men killed in action or died of wounds. It had been a difficult campaign.

Two days after the Germans launched their major counteroffensive in the Ardennes, the 4th Armored entered the epic struggle on 18 December 1944. Racing west, and then northward into eastern Belgium, under very trying winter conditions, the division covered 150 miles in less than 20 hours, a magnificent feat of arms.

The 4th Armored attacked into the southern flank of the German penetration, heading for the besieged defenders of Bastogne. The 4th took Martelange, battled for Chaumont, 23-25 December 1944, and seized Bigonville in heavy fighting on the 24th. CCR pushed through Assenois, not far from Bastogne, 26 December 1944, and it was on this night that the 4th Armored had one of its three Medal of Honor winners of the war, Private James R. Hendrix, Company C, 53rd Armored Infantry Battalion, near Assenois, Belgium.

On this night, Pvt Hendrix was with the leading elements engaged in the final thrust to break through to Bastogne, when halted by a combination of artillery and small-arms fire. He dismounted from his halftrack and advanced against two 88mm guns and, by the ferocity of his rifle fire, compelled the crews to take cover and then surrender.

Later in the attack, Pvt Hendrix again left his vehicle voluntarily to aid two wounded soldiers, helpless and exposed to intense machinegun fire. Effectively silencing two enemy machineguns, he held off the Germans by his own fire until the wounded men were evacuated.

He then distinguished himself when he hastened to the aid of still another soldier who was trapped in a burning halftrack. Braving enemy sniper fire and exploding mines, he extricated the wounded man and extinguished his flaming clothing, saving this man's life.

Private Hendrix, by his courageous actions, upheld the very highest traditions of the U.S. armed forces. And he survived the war.

The paratroopers and tankers of the 101st Airborne and parts of the 9th and 10th Armored Divisions at Bastogne were relieved on this same evening, 26 December 1944. Contact with the heroic defenders of Bastogne was first made by the 37th Tank Battalion and the 53rd Armored Infantry Battalion of CCR. But it was a narrow corridor, and the Germans attacked furiously into either side of it. But the Americans stood their ground, beating back furious assaults by the Germans. Among those making the hazardous journey into Bastogne was famed war correspondent Walter Cronkite, and three other war correspondents.

The 4th Armored opened the Arlon-Bastogne Highway on 29 December 1944, and gave fire support to the 35th Infantry Division. CCB attacked toward Noville, 9 January 1945, and the entire division attacked through the 6th Armored Division, toward Bourcy, 10 January.

For the remainder of January 1945, the 4th Armored maintained defensive positions. It cleared Hosdorf, on the Our River, in a local attack on 2 February 1945.

After rest and maintenance, now in the Eifel region of extreme western Germany, CCB attacked through the 80th Infantry Division at Geichlingen, on 22 February 1945. This force seized the bridge over the Prüm River, at Sinspelt, intact the next day, but sustained severe losses. As CCA crossed the Prüm, at Oberweiss, 25 February, CCB established a bridgehead across the Nims, at Rittersdorf. The next day the 4th Armored secured the high ground

over the Kyll River, and shelled and then helped capture Bitburg, but was unable to take Erdorf. On 27 February 1945, however, CCA captured Matzen and CCB took Fliessen.

The 4th Armored then assembled near Bitburg, and attacked through the 5th Infantry Division on 5 March 1945. In high-gear all the way, the 4th Armored roared 65 miles in 48 hours, coming to a halt just outside of Koblenz. Then it regrouped and mopped-up.

On 15 March 1945, the 4th attacked from out of the Moselle bridgehead at Treis. The 4th Armored headed southward, beating back a vicious counterattack by what remained of the 2nd Panzer Division. The Nahe River was reached at Bad Kreuznach, on the 16th.

In conjunction with units of the U.S. 7th Army, the Breakthrough Division crossed the Rhine, near Worms, 24-25 March 1945. Successful trackdowns of V-1 rocket launching sites were soon commenced.

Then, in an all-night march, the 4th Armored succeeded in crossing the Main River, at Grossauheim, on 28 March. South of Hanau, the 4th fought off attacks by very heavy German armor. Continuing northeast, Lauterbach fell on 29 March, and then, pivoting due east, Kreuzburg, across the Werra River, by 1 April 1945. The Germans resisted more heavily on the Werra than was expected.

The advance continued deep into central Germany, with the large town of Gotha falling on 4 April. The 4th then helped liberate the infamous Buchenwald concentration camp near Weimar. General Patton was visibly shaken when he saw the place—and so were many others—including many German civilians from a nearby town who were forced by the GIs to see the camp for themselves. Further east, the 4th captured the large town of Jena, crossed the Saale River, 12 April 1945, and established bridgeheads over the Zwick Mulde River, at Wolkenburg on the 13th against considerable resistance. The division then advanced to the outskirts of the city of Chemnitz. It then was placed in reserve on 19 April 1945.

Then, shifting way to the south, and still under the 3rd Army, the 4th Armored attacked into western Czechoslovakia, on 5 May 1945, through the Regen and Freyung Passes. It took Susice, established a bridgehead over the Otava River, at Strakonice, and sent forward elements to Pisek, on the road toward Prague, before V-E Day, 8 May 1945. Resistance in the 4th Armored's zone of attack was almost non-existent, and the Czechs gave the division a tumultuous and heart-warming reception.

During the final advance across the Rhine, through central Germany, and then into Czechoslovakia, the 4th Armored's losses were not excessive. From 1 April-8 May 1945, the 4th had close to 125 men killed in action or died of wounds.

The 4th Armored was Patton's most ace armored division, and it seldom let him down. It often strained its own supply lines to the breaking point, but the division never slowed up unless it ran short of fuel for its tanks. In one day, it took 8,000 prisoners.

After a tour of occupational duty, the 4th Armored returned to the United States for in-activation, but was later reactivated as a Regular Army division.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—3  
Distinguished Unit Citations—1 \*  
Distinguished Service Crosses—45  
Silver Stars—757

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,483  
Killed In Action—1,266  
Wounded—4,850  
Missing—65  
Captured—453  
Total Casualties—6,634

\* One to the entire 4th Armored Division—Relief Of Bastogne

Other 4th Armored Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action \*

1st Lt James H. Fields, 10th Amd Inf Bn, 27 September 1944, Rechicourt, France

Sgt Joseph J. Sadowski, \* 37th Tank Bn, 14 September 1944, Valhey, France

The 4th Armored Division had been stationed in Germany for many years, until 1971, when it was replaced by the 1st Armored Division, and, later again, inactivated.

4TH ARMORED DIVISION "Breakthrough"

JULY 1944

18 July 111  
 19 July 1111111  
 20 July 1111111111111 13  
 21 July 111111  
 24 July 11  
 28 July 1  
 29 July 11111111 9  
 30 July 1111111  
 31 July 11111111111111 15

63

AUGUST 1944

1 Aug 1111111111111 13  
 2 Aug 1  
 3 Aug 1111  
 4 Aug 11  
 5 Aug 1  
 6 Aug 111  
 7 Aug 111111111 10  
 8 Aug 1111111  
 9 Aug 11  
 10 Aug 111  
 11 Aug 1  
 12 Aug 11111  
 13 Aug 1  
 16 Aug 1  
 22 Aug 1  
 25 Aug 11111  
 26 Aug 11111  
 28 Aug 1  
 29 Aug 1  
 30 Aug 11111

72

SEPTEMBER 1944

1 Sept 111111  
 2 Sept 1  
 7 Sept 1  
 11 Sept 1  
 12 Sept 1  
 13 Sept 11111  
 14 Sept 1111111  
 15 Sept 11111  
 16 Sept 11  
 17 Sept 1  
 18 Sept 11  
 19 Sept 111111111111 13  
 20 Sept 1111111  
 21 Sept 11111  
 22 Sept 11111111 9  
 23 Sept 11111  
 24 Sept 111111111111 13  
 25 Sept 111111111 10  
 26 Sept 1111  
 27 Sept 1111111  
 28 Sept 1111111 8  
 29 Sept 1111  
 30 Sept 1111

120

OCTOBER 1944

1 Oct 1  
 2 Oct 111  
 3 Oct 11  
 4 Oct 1  
 5 Oct 1  
 6 Oct 1  
 7 Oct 11  
 8 Oct 11  
 10 Oct 1  
 13 Oct 1  
 17 Oct 1  
 24 Oct 11111  
 25 Oct 1  
 28 Oct 1

22

## 4TH ARMORED DIVISION "Breakthrough"

## NOVEMBER 1944

1 Nov 1  
 2 Nov 1  
 9 Nov 1111111111111111 16  
 10 Nov 11111111111111111111 24\*approx.  
 11 Nov 111111111111111111 20 40\*men  
 12 Nov 111  
 13 Nov 111  
 14 Nov 111111111 10  
 15 Nov 1111111  
 16 Nov 1111  
 17 Nov 1  
 19 Nov 11111  
 20 Nov 1111  
 21 Nov 11  
 22 Nov 1  
 23 Nov 1  
 24 Nov 111  
 25 Nov 11111111 9  
 26 Nov 111  
 27 Nov 1  
 28 Nov 1111111  
 29 Nov 1  
 30 Nov 11111

132

## DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 111111111 9  
 2 Dec 111111111 9  
 3 Dec 11  
 4 Dec 1111111  
 5 Dec 111111111 10  
 6 Dec 111111  
 8 Dec 11  
 9 Dec 1  
 15 Dec 11  
 21 Dec 1  
 23 Dec 11111111111 12  
 24 Dec 111111111111111 17  
 25 Dec 111  
 26 Dec 11111111111 13  
 27 Dec 11111111 9  
 28 Dec 1111111111 12  
 29 Dec 11111  
 30 Dec 11111111111111 16  
 31 Dec 111111

142

## JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 1  
 2 Jan 11111  
 5 Jan 1  
 10 Jan 111111111 10  
 14 Jan 1  
 15 Jan 1

19

## 4TH ARMORED DIVISION "Breakthrough"

## FEBRUARY 1945

7 Feb 1  
 8 Feb 1  
 10 Feb 1  
 13 Feb 1  
 21 Feb 111  
 22 Feb 1  
 23 Feb 1111111111111111 18  
 24 Feb 1111  
 26 Feb 11111111 9  
 27 Feb 11111  
 28 Feb 111

47

## MARCH 1945

1 Mar 111111111 9  
 2 Mar 1  
 3 Mar 11  
 4 Mar 1  
 5 Mar 111111  
 6 Mar 111111111111 12  
 7 Mar 11  
 8 Mar 1111  
 9 Mar 111  
 10 Mar 1111  
 16 Mar 11111111111 11  
 18 Mar 11111111111 11  
 19 Mar 111111  
 20 Mar 11  
 24 Mar 11111111 8  
 25 Mar 111111  
 26 Mar 111111  
 27 Mar 11111111111111 15  
 28 Mar 1111111  
 29 Mar 111111  
 30 Mar 11  
 31 Mar 111111111111 13

137

## APRIL 1945

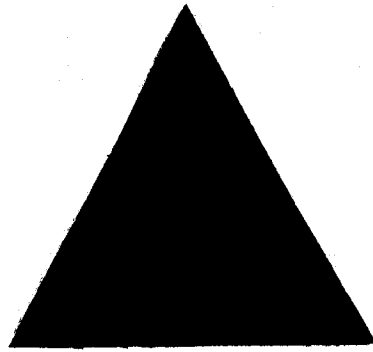
1 Apr 1111111111111 13  
 2 Apr 111111  
 3 Apr 111111111 9  
 4 Apr 11  
 5 Apr 1  
 6 Apr 1  
 8 Apr 1  
 11 Apr 11  
 12 Apr 11  
 13 Apr 111111  
 14 Apr 1111111111 11  
 15 Apr 11  
 18 Apr 1  
 20 Apr 1  
 25 Apr 11  
 28 Apr 1

61

## 4TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----10 November 1944  
 bloodiest month-----December 1944  
 2nd bloodiest day-----11 November 1944  
 3rd bloodiest day-----23 February 1945  
 Total battle deaths-----1,483  
 815 are listed=54.9%      KIA—1,266





### 5TH ARMORED DIVISION "Victory"

Activated—1 October 1941

Returned To United States—8 October 1945

Inactivated—11 October 1945

Reactivated—6 July 1948 (later inactivated)

Battle Credits, World War II: Normandy Northern France-Luxembourg Siegfried Line  
Days In Combat—161 Ardennes Rhineland North-Central Germany

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Lunsford E. Oliver

March 1943—June 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 5th Armored Division adopted the nickname "Victory Division" upon its formation in October 1941, at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. At this time, the symbol "V" was the main hope among the conquered peoples of Europe. Since this significant V was also the Roman numeral for 5, the 5th Armored became known as the Victory Division.

After extensive training in the United States, including tank maneuvers in the Mojave Desert, southern California, the 5th Armored went to Tennessee for maneuvers there. Eventually, the division disembarked in Liverpool, England, on 24 February 1944, and then underwent more training in Wiltshire.

The 5th Armored entered combat in Normandy, on 2 August 1944, driving south through Coutances, Avranches, and Vitre, and across the Mayenne River, to take Le Mans, on 8 August. Resistance stiffened on 10 August 1944, as one German armored force was met north of the Orne, and another at St. Remy du Plain.

Bypassing the Perseigne Forest, elements crossed the Sarthe River, and liberated Seés, on 12 August. By midnight, Combat Command A was on the outskirts of Argentan, and artillery shells were thundering into the town as the 5th began forging a ring of steel around the Germans. The 5th Armored then blasted away at the enemy trapped in the Falaise-Argentan Gap, before leaving Argentan to the 90th Infantry Division.

The 5th Armored then advanced 25 miles to disrupt the Eure-Seine corridor, the second big trap in Normandy. The 5th encountered strong opposition on 22 August 1944, but still reached Houdebouville, by the 24th.

On 30 August 1944, the 5th Armored passed through Paris to spearhead the U.S. 5th Corps drive through the historic Compiègne Forest. The division succeeded in crossing the Oise River, at Pont Ste. Maxence, with Combat Command B on 31 August. After heavy fighting, on 1 September 1944, the 5th reached the Belgian border at Condé, the next day. Crossings were secured over the Meuse River, near Sedan, 5 September, with CCA at Bazeilles, and CCR at Mohon. Sedan was taken on the following day against moderate resistance. On 10 September, the city of Luxembourg fell without opposition, and the entire Grand Duchy was liberated in just two days.

The 85th Reconnaissance Squadron of the 5th Armored entered Germany, near Stalzenburg, on 11 September 1944, and became the first Allied unit to enter the Reich from the west.

CCR crossed the Sauer River, from Luxembourg into Germany, on 14 September 1944, and cleared Wallendorf, and then drove to the edge of Bettingen, the next day.

On 15 September 1944, an attack was started against this sector of the Siegfried Line with the 5th Armored and several other divisions of the U.S. 1st Army. The Germans reacted violently to this action, and put in a number of fierce counterattacks. There was heavy and costly fighting for the 5th Armored from 15-21 September 1944, with 19 September 1944, turning out to be the 5th's bloodiest day in combat of the war. The American attacks made little headway against continued determined German resistance, and were soon suspended. But the 5th Armored accomplished its mission—by drawing to its sector and containing powerful German forces which outnumbered it, and might otherwise have been used to oppose the U.S. 1st Army's main assault in the Aachen area, further north.

During October 1944, the 5th Armored was sent slightly northward to hold defensive positions in the Monschau-Hofen area. Very little action was seen by the division during this period.

But then CCR reinforced the 4th Infantry Division in the terrible Hürtgen Forest, on 16 November 1944, and advanced in heavy combat on 25 November. Shortly, the entire division was committed in the forest, and it was the 5th Armored's worst experience of the war. Fighting in impossible terrain, inclement weather, and hampered by thousands of mines and booby-traps of all kinds, the men of the 5th Armored fought a hacking, foot-by-foot battle. Mud, rain, and ice were constant companions, as the casualties mounted.

On 25 November 1944, CCR was stopped outside of Grosshau by a large crater and mines, but by 29 November, had taken Kleinbau.

The 5th Armored took Brandenberg, with air support, on 3 December 1944, and cleared a German strongpoint at Vossenack, on the next day. The 5th pushed into Bergstein, 5 December, and the fighting continued in earnest with 11 and 14 December being especially bloody days in the grim Hürtgenwald. The attack bogged down.

The 5th Armored resumed the attack toward the Roer, 20 December 1944, and CCA fought for Schneidhausen, 20-22 December. After this the 5th Armored was relieved in line by the 8th and 83rd Infantry Divisions.

December 1944, had been a month of cruel and heartbreaking combat for the 5th Armored, but, except for the soon to come German offensives in the Ardennes and in Alsace, never again did the Germans fight with the tenacity they displayed in the Hürtgen Forest, and on the banks of the Roer. The 5th Armored lost 255 men in the Hürtgen Forest.

The 5th Armored closed into Eupen, Belgium, on 24 December 1944, and was placed in 12th Army Group Reserve. All of the 5th was placed on 2-hour alert. But SHAEF never did, as it turned out, commit the 5th Armored, as a whole, into the Battle of the Bulge. However, some elements of the division saw action in the first week of January 1945, notably on the 7th day of the month.

On 28 January 1945, CCA was attached to the 78th Infantry Division, and given the mission of seizing the town of Eicherscheid, in the Kesternich-Konzen area of the Siegfried Line. This effort was completed on 30 January, and then the small town of Colmar was taken on 2 February. CCA sustained moderate casualties in this local action.

After very limited action throughout most of February 1945, the 5th Armored crossed the Roer, on 25 February 1945. This was part of a general offensive by the 1st Army to reach the Rhine. Attacking through mud which bogged down CCB outside of Guenhoven, 27 February, CCA then crossed the Niers Canal on 1 March, and took both Anrath and Fischeln, the following day. CCR mopped-up the area around Orsoy, which included a battle for Repelen, 3 March. The 5th Armored reached the Rhine, on 5 March 1945.

The 5th remained in the Kempen-Repelen area until 11 March 1945, at which time it was relieved by the 75th Infantry Division.

The 5th Armored crossed the Rhine, at Wesel, 30-31 March 1945.

Bypassing the northern side of the Ruhr, the 5th Armored attacked across north-central Germany, crossing the Weser River, and driving north of Braunschweig. No one slept, no one ate—nothing but attack and pursuit, push on and attack again. The tanks kept running off their maps as the 5th spearheaded 260 miles into enemy territory in 13 days. The 5th ran wild in the German rear areas, isolating cities, paralyzing enemy communications, and over-

running defensive positions before the Germans could man them. A main danger was in potential ambushes from German troops hidden in wooded areas along or near roads. In one heavily forested, hilly region 200 fanatical SS troops had to be blasted out of a strategic pass they were holding. Otherwise, enemy resistance in the 5th Armored's zone of attack was ineffectual during this drive across north-central Germany. Borgholzhausen was taken, and the 5th Armored kept on pushing to the east via Rinteln, Hamelin, Peine, Gifhorn, Klotze, Gardelegen, and Seehausen, thence to the wide Elbe River, at Tangermünde and vicinity, by 12 April 1945. Tangermünde (population 15,000) is only 45 miles west of Berlin, the closest that any American outfit got to the German capital, while the war was still on.

As elements of the 5th Armored entered Tangermünde, 12 April, all hell suddenly broke loose as the Germans opened up with panzerfausts and small-arms fire. Some of the American tanks were hit, while other shells missed and exploded into buildings on the other side of the street. There were a number of acts of individual bravery, and Pfc Luther A. Parham, firing the machinegun on his tank, killed or wounded some 75 Germans, and greatly helped to break-up this ambush. But fighting continued in Tangermünde and the nearby area on into the next day.

On 16 April 1945, CCB was ordered to race back 60 miles to the rear to around Klotze, to help wipe out the Von Klausewitz Panzer Division. By 21 April, all enemy tanks and other vehicles attempting to slice through CCB were knocked out, and all but a few of the German soldiers were killed or captured.

Meanwhile, CCA, was alerted on 20 April 1945, to clear out German pockets further north (east of Hamburg, and just south of the Elbe), and some fierce fighting resulted. Heavy nebelwerfer (rocket) fire was encountered north of Lüchow, and then Zadrau was fanatically defended by Hitler Youth troops. Their sniper fire was unusually accurate, and they kept right on firing even when the buildings they had barricaded themselves in were burned around them. However, artillery and fighter-bombers soon took over, and Zadrau was reduced to a smoking mass of rubble, before the Americans moved on.

Finally, CCA drove into Dannenberg, again near the Elbe, and, after a brief fight, the Germans surrendered.

The 5th Armored continued mopping-up activities in the 9th Army area until V-E Day, 8 May 1945. The 5th Armored returned to the United States that following October.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0  
Distinguished Unit Citations—4  
Distinguished Service Crosses—20  
Silver Stars—437

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—840  
Killed In Action—665  
Wounded—2,842  
Missing—41  
Captured—22  
Total Casualties—3,570

## 5TH ARMORED DIVISION "Victory"

## AUGUST 1944

4 Aug 11  
 6 Aug 1  
 8 Aug 111111  
 9 Aug 11  
 10 Aug 111111111111 13  
 11 Aug 1111  
 12 Aug 11  
 13 Aug 111111  
 14 Aug 1  
 16 Aug 11111111 9  
 17 Aug 11111  
 20 Aug 1111  
 21 Aug 11111  
 22 Aug 111111111111 14  
 23 Aug 11  
 24 Aug 1  
 26 Aug 1  
 30 Aug 1  
 31 Aug 1111

83

## SEPTEMBER 1944

1 Sept 1111111111111111 18  
 2 Sept 111  
 3 Sept 1  
 5 Sept 1  
 6 Sept 111  
 9 Sept 1  
 10 Sept 11  
 11 Sept 1  
 15 Sept 11111  
 16 Sept 1111111  
 17 Sept 11111111 9  
 18 Sept 1111  
 19 Sept 11111111111111111111 25\*approx. 45\*men  
 20 Sept 1111111111111111 17  
 21 Sept 111111  
 22 Sept 1  
 25 Sept 1

105

## NOVEMBER 1944

2 Nov 11  
 3 Nov 1  
 4 Nov 1  
 25 Nov 111111  
 26 Nov 1  
 29 Nov 1111111111 11  
 30 Nov 1111111111 12

34

## DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 11  
 2 Dec 1111111  
 3 Dec 111  
 4 Dec 11  
 5 Dec 11111111 9  
 6 Dec 1111111  
 7 Dec 11111  
 8 Dec 11  
 11 Dec 111111111111 14  
 12 Dec 11111111 9  
 13 Dec 1  
 14 Dec 1111111111111111 19  
 15 Dec 11111111 8  
 16 Dec 1111  
 17 Dec 11  
 18 Dec 1  
 19 Dec 1111  
 20 Dec 11111111 9  
 21 Dec 111111  
 22 Dec 11  
 23 Dec 1  
 27 Dec 111

120

## 5TH ARMORED DIVISION "Victory"

## JANUARY 1945

4 Jan 1  
 7 Jan 1111111111 11  
 30 Jan 11111  
 17

## FEBRUARY 1945

5 Feb 1  
 7 Feb 1  
 8 Feb 1  
 12 Feb 1  
 15 Feb 1  
 18 Feb 1  
 25 Feb 1  
 26 Feb 11  
 27 Feb 11  
 11

## MARCH 1945

1 Mar 1  
 2 Mar 1  
 3 Mar 1111  
 4 Mar 1  
 9 Mar 1  
 15 Mar 11  
 19 Mar 1  
 21 Mar 1  
 23 Mar 1  
 26 Mar 1  
 31 Mar 11  
 16

## APRIL 1945

2 Apr 11111  
 3 Apr 1  
 4 Apr 1  
 8 Apr 1  
 9 Apr 1  
 10 Apr 1  
 11 Apr 1  
 12 Apr 1111111111 10  
 13 Apr 111111  
 14 Apr 11  
 15 Apr 11  
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 17 Apr 1  
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 20 Apr 1  
 21 Apr 1  
 22 Apr 1111  
 24 Apr 1  
 26 Apr 1  
 28 Apr 1

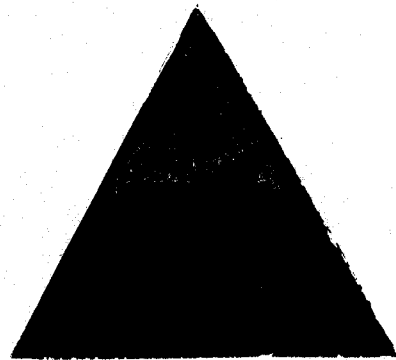
## MAY 1945

3 May 1  
 30 May 1  
 2

49

## 5TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----19 September 1944  
 bloodiest month-----December 1944  
 2nd bloodiest day-----14 December 1944  
 3rd bloodiest day-----1 September 1944  
 Total battle deaths-----840  
 437 are listed=52.0% KIA--665



6TH ARMORED DIVISION "Super Sixth"

Activated—15 February 1942

Returned To United States and Inactivated—18 September 1945

Battle Credits, World War II:    Normandy    Brittany    Northern France  
Days In Combat—272            Lorraine-Saar    Ardennes    Siegfried Line  
                                 Rhineland    Central Europe

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Robert W. Grow                    May 1943—29 April 1945  
Brig-Gen George W. Read, Jr.            30 April—31 May 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 6th Armored Division, after training in England, landed on Utah Beach, Normandy, on 18 July 1944, and went into action on the Cotentin Peninsula. After breaking through the German defenses at Avranches, the 6th Armored advanced west into Brittany, bypassing several towns, and leaving them to the infantry or FFI, as it raced to Brest. After seeing action there in the opening stages of the battle, the 6th was ordered to proceed to the southeast, and the division cut a path through southern Brittany to the port of Lorient.

The Super 6th then headed east and, cutting across France, swept through Orléans and Autun, linking-up with 7th Army elements at Dijón.

The 6th Armored eventually swung north up into the province of Lorraine, and, toward the end of September 1944, helped the 35th Infantry Division beat back fierce attacks by the 15th Panzer Grenadier and 559th Volksgrenadier Divisions in the Forêt de Gremecey.

After some heavy fighting in Lorraine during the first week of October 1944, there was a lull in the action for the 6th Armored the rest of the month.

The 6th Armored then took part in the 3rd Army offensive which opened on 8 November 1944, despite the very wet, rainy weather which made extensive use of armor very difficult. Although the Germans were temporarily caught by surprise, they fought very skilfully and determinedly, and it was very rough going. The 6th battled deep mud, mines, and congestion, besides the Germans. Nevertheless, the 6th succeeded in reaching the Nied River, at Sanry, and crossed it on 11-12 November 1944, in a brilliant coups de main. The division reached Maderbach Creek, at Remering, with Combat Command B by 25 November, after fierce, sustained fighting through mud, mines, and craters. CCA pushed through the Forêt de Puttlinge, but fell back on the 26th, and CCB was unable to get tanks through the mud along the Maderbach.

The 6th Armored was relieved on 2 December 1944, and patrolled to the Saare River, 5 December. It took Sarreguemines with the 35th Infantry Division the next day. The 6th then maintained defensive positions near Saarbrücken, while relieving the 80th Infantry Division on 7 December 1944. Since the opening of this November offensive to the Saar, the 6th Armored had suffered losses in-

cluding some 250 men killed in action or died of wounds.

And then came the all-out German counteroffensive in the Ardennes, 16 December 1944. The 6th Armored, along with other divisions of the 3rd Army, attacked into the southern flank of the German penetration in severe winter conditions—in fact, Europe's worst winter in 50 years. Soon, the 6th was fighting in the vicinity of Bastogne, and for 5 days the division was slowly forced back under the tremendous weight of the German assault. Then it held, and the pendulum began to swing back the other way. Tank turrets froze, tank doors wouldn't open, and rifle bolts got jammed up from the cold and would operate only after being beaten with hand grenades or if the men urinated on them. But the 6th hung in there. The Germans threw everything they had at the division. Heavy artillery and rocket barrages crashed incessantly, with tank and infantry forces charging behind them, and even bombers blasted at the 6th from above. Several times the Germans infiltrated behind the lines, but each time they were mopped-up or driven back. One of the Germans' main objectives, Hill 513, was well controlled by a unit of the 6th. Light tanks counterattacked and killed or captured what was estimated to be an enemy infantry company from the 340th Volksgrenadier Division.

4 January 1945, was the 6th Armored's bloodiest day in combat of the entire war, as the Battle of the Bulge continued in unabated fury.

On 6 January, the 6th again repulsed enemy tank-infantry attacks, killed many enemy personnel, and destroyed much of his equipment. The weather continued to be bitter cold, making any sort of operation very trying.

On the 7th, another German attack, consisting of 700 infantry and 22 tanks, was thrown back with heavy losses.

By 9 January 1945, the turning point in the Bulge battle had arrived. The Germans had exhausted themselves with violent and repeated assaults on Bastogne, and now it was the 6th Armored's turn to punch back. While the Germans kept on resisting stubbornly, they were no longer able to stop the Super 6th, and on 11 January 1945, near Bastogne, Belgium, the 6th Armored had a Medal of Honor winner, Staff Sergeant Archer T. Gammon.

S/Sgt Gammon charged 30 yards through hip-deep snow to knock out a machinegun and its 3-man crew with grenades. He saved his platoon from being decimated, allowing it to continue its advance from a field into a nearby woods.

Then a German machinegun, supported by riflemen, opened fire, and a Royal Tiger Tank sent 88mm shells screaming at the unit. Sgt Gammon, disregarding his personal safety, rushed forward in an attempt to get within grenade range of the tank and its protecting infantry. He was subjected to intense enemy fire but, nevertheless, charged a machinegun and wiped out its 4-man crew with grenades. Then, with great daring, he advanced to within 25 yards of the tank and shot two enemy riflemen as he went forward.

The big tank began to slowly withdraw, firing as it did, and one of its shellbursts instantly killed the gallant sergeant. But his one-man attack hadn't been in vain, for the tank kept on withdrawing, leaving open the way for the advance of his platoon. S/Sgt Gammon's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. military.

More bitter fighting occurred in the intense cold. After a brief period of rest and maintenance, the 6th Armored resumed the offensive. Since the start of the 3rd Corps attack on 21 January 1945, the 6th had driven steadily east from Bastogne despite moderate to heavy resistance, deep snow, and rugged terrain. Even though the Germans had begun a planned withdrawal, they continued to offer exceedingly stubborn opposition at all advantageous defensive positions. Heavy small-arms, automatic weapons, tank, mortar, and artillery fire were received, and elaborately placed mines were encountered at all critical points along the roads, at bridges, and at ford sites. Strong fire fights nearly always preceded further German pullbacks, but by 25 January 1945, the

6th Armored had obtained its objective on the high ridge between the Clerf and Our Rivers.

In a regrouping of certain divisions, the 6th Armored was shifted further south, and by 27 January 1945, it had relieved the 90th Infantry and part of the 26th Infantry Divisions on a 12-mile front from Lieler to Über-Eisenbach. The 17th Airborne Division was on the right (south) flank, and the 11th Armored Division to the north.

On 28 January 1945, the Battle of the Bulge was officially declared ended, and by the end of the month the 6th had driven the Germans back across the Our River into Germany. The Battle of the Bulge had cost the 6th Armored at least 400 men killed in action or died of wounds, many more wounded, and quite a number of men captured.

The 6th Armored attacked across the Our River at Kalborn and Dahnen on 7 February 1945. It relieved the 17th Airborne Division, 10-11 February, as the Our bridgehead was maintained. The renewed offensive against the Siegfried Line (West Wall) was commenced on 20 February 1945. Ober Eisenach fell on 22 February, and the final objective town of Muxerath was cleared on the 24th.

The 6th then moved to a new zone west of the Prüm River, and relieved the 90th Infantry Division on 25 February. CCA established a small bridgehead at Manderscheid which was enlarged as CCB, after being initially forced back across, took Lünebach on 28 February. The division reached the Nims and crossed near Schönecken, 3 March, and the next day assembled in reserve in the Arzfeld area.

Then, the 6th Armored was sent south to be loaned out to the 7th Army to assist in breaking through the Siegfried Line in its area. Held back for exploitation, the 6th followed up in the wake of the 63rd Infantry Division. The 6th Armored was the first 7th Army unit to link-up with the 3rd Army in the Palatinate, making contact with the 26th Infantry Division. The 6th reached the Rhine at Worms, 21 March, was soon back under the 3rd Army, and set-up a counter-reconnaissance screen along the west bank of the river.

On 25 March 1945, the 6th Armored crossed the Rhine at Oppenheim, and drove on Frankfurt in conjunction with the 5th Infantry Division, running into fierce resistance.

After crossing the Main, the 6th advanced north-northeast, captured Bad Nauheim, and then, pivoting to the east, began advancing into central Germany. The division crossed the Werra River against heavy opposition, including fighter-bomber attacks, and then took Mühlhausen, 4-5 April. After repulsing a fairly light counterattack, the 6th advanced to help free some 3,000 inmates at the notorious concentration camp at Buchenwald.

After this experience, continuing the advance to the east, and working with the 76th Infantry Division, the 6th Armored met heavy panzerfaust, artillery, and small-arms fire in the vicinity of Schkauditz. Despite this, a bridge was captured intact, and tanks and infantry immediately pushed across.

Upon crossing the Saale River, the 6th raced on to the east and forced the Mulde River during the night at Rochlitz, 15 April 1945, against stubborn opposition. The 6th then halted and waited for the Russians advancing from the east. The division held defensive positions along the Mulde River until V-E Day, 8 May 1945.

The 6th Armored was one of General Patton's ace armored divisions, returning home in September 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,270
Distinguished Unit Citations—4	Killed In Action—1,074
Distinguished Service Crosses—24	Wounded—4,250
Silver Stars—807	Missing—88
	Captured—83
	Total Casualties—5,495



6TH ARMORED DIVISION "Super Sixth"

JULY 1944

30 July 11  
 31 July 11  
 4

AUGUST 1944

1 Aug 1111111  
 2 Aug 11111111 8  
 3 Aug 111111  
 4 Aug 1  
 5 Aug 11111111111111 15  
 6 Aug 11111111 9  
 8 Aug 11111111111111111111111111 30  
 9 Aug 1111111111111111 18  
 10 Aug 11111  
 11 Aug 11  
 12 Aug 11111111111 12  
 13 Aug 11  
 15 Aug 1  
 16 Aug 1  
 20 Aug 1  
 22 Aug 11  
 23 Aug 1  
 24 Aug 111111  
 25 Aug 11111  
 27 Aug 11  
 30 Aug 1

135

SEPTEMBER 1944

7 Sept 1  
 8 Sept 11  
 19 Sept 11  
 22 Sept 111111111111 13  
 24 Sept 11  
 25 Sept 11111111 9  
 29

OCTOBER 1944

1 Oct 11111111111111111111 20  
 7 Oct 11  
 8 Oct 111111111111 13  
 9 Oct 111111111111111111 21  
 10 Oct 11111  
 11 Oct 1  
 14 Oct 1  
 15 Oct 1  
 64

6TH ARMORED DIVISION "Super Sixth"

NOVEMBER 1944

3 Nov 1  
 8 Nov 1  
 10 Nov 111111  
 11 Nov 1111111111 11  
 12 Nov 11111111111111111111 22  
 13 Nov 111111  
 14 Nov 1111  
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 21 Nov 111  
 22 Nov 1111111  
 23 Nov 11  
 24 Nov 1111  
 25 Nov 11111111 9  
 26 Nov 11111111111111 14  
 27 Nov 111  
 30 Nov 1

120

DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 11111  
 2 Dec 1  
 4 Dec 111111  
 5 Dec 11  
 6 Dec 1  
 7 Dec 1  
 11 Dec 1  
 12 Dec 1  
 13 Dec 1  
 15 Dec 1  
 17 Dec 1  
 21 Dec 1  
 22 Dec 1  
 31 Dec 111

26

JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 1111111  
 2 Jan 11111111111111111111111111 27  
 3 Jan 11111111 9  
 4 Jan 11111111111111111111111111111111 34\*  
 5 Jan 111111 approx.  
 6 Jan 111111 60\*men  
 7 Jan 111111  
 8 Jan 11111111111111111111 21  
 9 Jan 11  
 11 Jan 1111  
 12 Jan 11  
 13 Jan 1111  
 14 Jan 11111111 9  
 15 Jan 11  
 16 Jan 111111111111 13  
 17 Jan 11  
 18 Jan 1  
 19 Jan 1  
 25 Jan 1111111111 10  
 26 Jan 1  
 27 Jan 11111

172

## 6TH ARMORED DIVISION "Super Sixth"

## FEBRUARY 1945

7 Feb llll  
 8 Feb ll  
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 21 Feb llll  
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 27 Feb lllllllllllllll 14  
 28 Feb ll

57

## MARCH 1945

1 Mar ll  
 2 Mar llll  
 3 Mar ll  
 13 Mar l  
 20 Mar l  
 21 Mar ll  
 25 Mar ll  
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 27 Mar lllllll  
 28 Mar l  
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 31 Mar ll

38

## APRIL 1945

1 Apr lllllll  
 2 Apr lllllll  
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 8 Apr lllll  
 9 Apr l  
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 14 Apr ll  
 15 Apr l  
 16 Apr l  
 22 Apr l  
 24 Apr l

54

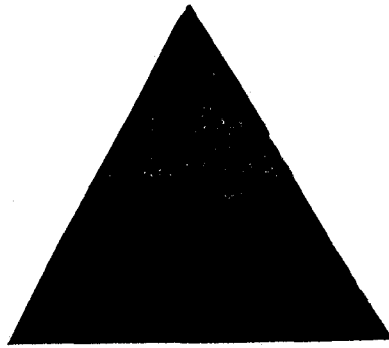
## MAY 1945

2 May l  
 1

## 6TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day—4 January 1945  
 bloodiest month—January 1945  
 2nd bloodiest day—8 August 1944  
 3rd bloodiest day—2 January 1945

Total battle deaths—1,270  
 700 are listed=55.1% KIA—1,074



7TH ARMORED DIVISION "Lucky 7th"

Activated—1 March 1942

Returned To United States—8 October 1945

Inactivated—9 October 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Northern France Southern Holland  
Ardennes Rhineland Ruhr Pocket  
Days In Combat—172 Northern Germany

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Lindsay M. Silvester March 1942—November 1944  
Maj-Gen Robert W. Hasbrouck November 1944—August 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 7th Armored Division, after extensive training in the United States, sailed from New York harbor on D-Day, 6 June 1944, on the Queen Mary, and arrived in Greenock, Scotland, on the 15th. After final preparations for combat in Tidworth, England, the 7th landed in Normandy, 10-14 August 1944.

The Lucky 7th went into action at the end of the battle in Normandy, mid-August, with an attack on Chartres, which fell on 18 August 1944. From there, the 7th blitzed across northern France, through Dreux and Melun, crossed the Seine, pushed through Château-Thierry, and took Verdun on 31 August. In this action, so far, the 7th Armored had met moderate, to heavy, resistance.

The 7th Armored halted for refueling, and then drove on toward the Moselle, near Dornot. Along with the 5th Infantry Division, it battered away at the outer defenses of the fortress of Metz in bloody fighting.

The 7th crossed elements over the Moselle under heavy fire, 8 September 1944, but these troops had to be withdrawn three days later. Combat Command A battled the German lines west of Metz in fierce fighting, while CCB crossed into the Arnaville bridgehead, 12 September, despite deep mud. It attacked the next day toward Mardigny, but was quickly halted by heavy fire from Arry. CCR next attempted a breakout of the combined 5th Infantry Division-90th Infantry Division-7th Armored Division bridgehead, but failed. The 7th Armored then advanced slowly toward the Seille River, and elements managed to get into Sillegny on 19 September, but were forced back out with very heavy losses. CCA joined with CCB to reach the Seille and bypass Sillegny, but CCB was forced back from the river on 20 September. An attack across the Seille the following day was repulsed by intense enemy fire.

The 7th Armored then withdrew from Corny and Pournoy-la-Chétive on the 24th, and was relieved the next day by the 5th Infantry Division. The 7th Armored's bloody affair at Metz cost it some 250 men killed in action and many more wounded. Following this battle, the 7th Armored was transferred up into south-

ern Holland.

On 30 September 1944, the 7th Armored endeavored to clear the Peel Swamp, west of the Maas (Meuse) River. In some of the toughest fighting the division saw, it attacked toward Overloon where the largest tank battle in Holland took place.

On 8 October 1944, the 7th was attached to the British 2nd Army. Its mission was to join the British-Canadian drive to clear the northern and western approaches to Antwerp. Spread out over a 22-mile front centered on the town of Meijel, the 7th Armored was attacked on 27 October 1944, by the crack 9th Panzer and 15th Panzer Grenadier Divisions in an attempt to disrupt the drive on Antwerp. Outnumbered, the 7th, in furious fighting, held on for 3 days until the British were able to bring up reinforcements. Throughout October 1944, the fighting in southern Holland cost the lives of over 300 men in the 7th Armored.

On 1 November 1944, Brigadier (later Major) General Robert W. Hasbrouck took over command of the 7th Armored from Major-General Silvester.

On 7 November 1944, the 7th Armored was attached to the recently formed U.S. 9th Army. While the division, as an entity, rested during the remainder of November, the 7th's artillery and the 17th and 40th Tank Battalions were active. Fighting with the 84th and 102nd Infantry Divisions in the assault to the Roer River, north of Aachen, they aided in the capture of the Siegfried Line towns of Lindern and Linnich in difficult combat.

On 16 December 1944, the 7th Armored was assigned to the 8th Corps, U.S. 1st Army, and ordered to proceed to the Vielsalm-St. Vith area of the Ardennes in eastern Belgium.

Within 12 hours after the first divisional troops had started the 50 miles to St. Vith, the 7th Armored was engaged against a fanatical enemy in what was suppose to be friendly territory. This was the beginning of the epic stand of the 7th Armored Division at, and around, St. Vith, Belgium, in the Battle of the Bulge.

Positioning the arriving troops piecemeal, General Hasbrouck and General Bruce Clarke placed an "Iron Horseshoe" around the area of St. Vith. This town, with its converging road net and railroads, was necessary to the Germans for the success of their offensive. The 7th Armored, along with Combat Command B of the 9th Armored Division, the 424th Infantry Regiment, 106th Infantry Division, the 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, remnants of the 14th Cavalry Group, the 275th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, and other small odds-and-ends units, in furious fighting, denied St. Vith to the Germans for five crucial days. Against this force the Germans committed five SS or Wehrmacht (Regular Army) panzer divisions, three volksgrenadier divisions, and the Fuhrer Begleit (Escort) Brigade. It was one of the most heroic American stands of the entire war, as the 7th Armored and these other units bought precious time with their blood—time for other U.S. units to get into position to help stop the German onslaught. The Americans finally withdrew after 5 days after their position had become untenable by 23 December 1944. They suffered very heavy losses in men and equipment, but inflicted tremendous losses on the Germans, and seriously upset their timetable. The 7th Armored then shifted to the town of Manhay, and by the end of December, had helped to drive the enemy out of this town.

After a short rest in January 1945, the 7th returned to positions near St. Vith, and recaptured the town in heavy fighting by the end of the month. The entire fighting in the Battle of the Bulge for the 7th Armored cost the division 270 men killed in action or died of wounds.

February 1945, was spent in rest and rehabilitation.

On 5 March 1945, the 7th attacked across the Cologne Plain to Bad Godesberg and, after maintaining defensive positions along the west bank of the

Rhine, south of Bonn, crossed the Rhine at Remagen, 23-25 March 1945.

The Lucky 7th then attacked out of the Remagen bridgehead as part of the U.S. 3rd Corps. In a very skilled attack—one of the most rapid and vicious advances by American armor ever executed, the 7th swung up toward the southern side of the huge Ruhr Pocket. The Germans had rushed their 166th Infantry Division down from Denmark in a futile attempt to stop the rampaging Americans, and this division formed a strong defense line with the center of it running through Kirchhain. It was during this action that the 7th Armored had one of its two Medal of Honor winners of the war, Staff Sergeant Robert H. Dietz, Company A, 38th Armored Infantry Battalion, Kirchhain, Germany, 29 March 1945.

S/Sgt Dietz was a squad leader in a task force which encountered heavy resistance in advancing on Kirchhain. Between the town's outlying buildings, 300 yards distant, and the stalled armored column were a minefield and two bridges defended by German rocket-launcher teams and riflemen. From the town, itself, came heavy small-arms fire.

Moving forward to protect the engineers who attempted to neutralize the mines and the demolition charges attached to the bridges, Sgt Dietz came under intense enemy fire.

On his own initiative he advanced alone, until he was able to dispatch the panzerfaust team defending the first bridge. He continued ahead and killed another panzerfaust team, bayoneted another enemy soldier with a panzerfaust, and shot two other Germans, when he was knocked to the ground by a blast from still another panzerfaust. The sergeant quickly recovered, killed the man who had fired at him, and then jumped into waist-deep water under the second bridge to disconnect the demolition charges. He completed this task, but as he stood to signal that the route was clear, he was killed by a burst of enemy fire from his left flank.

Sgt Dietz had almost singlehandedly opened the road to Kirchhain, and left his comrades in arms with an inspirational example of heroism against formidable odds.

The German 166th Division was decimated by the hard-hitting units of the 7th Armored, and the 7th then saw hard fighting as it fought up into the Ruhr Pocket. CCB was heavily counterattacked at Gleidorf, as the Germans turned flak guns against the advancing 7th. But the 7th Armored was not to be stopped, and Frederburg was taken after heavy combat on 8 April. The division slashed through to Hemer, cutting the pocket in two in co-operation with the 8th Armored Division which bore down from the north. On 16 April 1945, the entire German 53rd Panzer Corps surrendered to the 7th. Into this bag, to the satisfaction of the 7th Armored, were included the remnants of the 9th Panzer Division which had fought the 7th in Holland, and the 116th Panzer Division which had been one of the 7th's opponents in the Battle of the Bulge. Soon after this, all resistance in the Ruhr Pocket collapsed.

Following a rest in the vicinity of Göttingen, the 7th Armored was then assigned to the U.S. 18th Airborne Corps. This was to cover the British 2nd Army's right flank. The 7th Armored, 8th Infantry, and 82nd Airborne Divisions were all ordered up into northern Germany in late-April 1945. The 7th Armored actually crossed the wide Elbe River over into the province of Mecklenburg. Resistance was very limited or non-existent. CCB helped the 82nd Airborne capture Ludwigslust. From there, the 87th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron advanced east to meet the Russians. The Troop spent 24 hours within the German lines, before the Russians were contacted at 0925 hours (9:25 A.M.) on 3 May 1945.

On this same day, CCA and CCR drove north from the Elbe to reach the Baltic Sea, the only American troops to reach this body of water. The two combat commands took Dassow and Grevesmühlen, while tanks washed their treads in the

shores of the Baltic at Rehna. German troops surrendered en masse, and by V-E Day, 8 May 1945, the 7th Armored Division's number of prisoners taken had come to the grand total of 113,042, one of the highest of any American outfit in the ETO.

The 7th Armored returned to the United States on 8 October 1945, and was inactivated that following day. During the Korean War, the 7th Armored was reactivated at Camp Roberts, California, 24 November 1950, and was again inactivated on 15 November 1953.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—2	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,222
Distinguished Unit Citations—1 *	Killed In Action—994
Distinguished Service Crosses—8	Wounded—4,003
Silver Stars—1,316	Missing—165
	Captured—925
	Total Casualties—6,087

\* One to most of the entire division—St. Vith, Belgium

Other 7th Armored Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II:

Cpl Thomas J. Kelly, 48th Amd Inf Bn, 5 April 1945, Alemert, Germany

## 7TH ARMORED DIVISION "Lucky 7th"

## AUGUST 1944

14 Aug 1111  
 15 Aug 11111111 8  
 16 Aug 11111  
 17 Aug 1111  
 18 Aug 11111  
 19 Aug 111  
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 23 Aug 11111  
 24 Aug 111  
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 26 Aug 11111  
 27 Aug 1111111  
 28 Aug 1111111  
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82

## SEPTEMBER 1944

1 Sept 1111111  
 2 Sept 11  
 4 Sept 1  
 6 Sept 11111111111111 15  
 7 Sept 1111111  
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 10 Sept 11111  
 11 Sept 1111111111 10  
 12 Sept 1  
 13 Sept 11111  
 14 Sept 1111111 8  
 15 Sept 11111  
 16 Sept 1111111111 11  
 17 Sept 111111111111 13  
 18 Sept 11111  
 19 Sept 111111111111111111 24  
 20 Sept 11111111111111 15  
 21 Sept 111111111111 12  
 22 Sept 1  
 23 Sept 1  
 24 Sept 111  
 26 Sept 111  
 30 Sept 1111

181

## OCTOBER 1944

1 Oct 1111111111 10  
 2 Oct 111111111 9  
 3 Oct 11111  
 4 Oct 111111111 10  
 5 Oct 1111111111111111 20  
 6 Oct 111  
 7 Oct 1111111  
 11 Oct 1  
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 14 Oct 11  
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 16 Oct 111111  
 17 Oct 11  
 18 Oct 1  
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 21 Oct 111111  
 22 Oct 1111  
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 24 Oct 111  
 25 Oct 1  
 27 Oct 11111111111111 16  
 28 Oct 1111111111111 14  
 29 Oct 11111111111111111111 26 \*  
 30 Oct 1111111

167

approx.  
45\*men



7TH ARMORED DIVISION "Lucky 7th"

NOVEMBER 1944

1 Nov 11  
 2 Nov 111  
 3 Nov 111111  
 4 Nov 11111111 8  
 5 Nov 11  
 6 Nov 11111  
 7 Nov 111111  
 9 Nov 1  
 10 Nov 1  
 20 Nov 1  
 23 Nov 11  
 25 Nov 1  
 30 Nov 11  
 40

DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 11  
 5 Dec 1  
 6 Dec 11  
 8 Dec 1  
 17 Dec 1  
 18 Dec 111111  
 19 Dec 111  
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 21 Dec 1111111111111111 19  
 22 Dec 11111111111111111111 24  
 23 Dec 11111111111111111111 22  
 24 Dec 11111111 8  
 25 Dec 1  
 26 Dec 1  
 27 Dec 1  
 29 Dec 1  
 30 Dec 1  
 100

JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 1  
 2 Jan 1  
 11 Jan 1  
 16 Jan 1  
 20 Jan 11  
 21 Jan 11111111  
 22 Jan 11111111 8  
 23 Jan 111  
 24 Jan 1111111  
 25 Jan 111111111111 13  
 26 Jan 111  
 27 Jan 111  
 28 Jan 11  
 52

MARCH 1945

3 Mar 1  
 11 Mar 1  
 12 Mar 111  
 13 Mar 11  
 14 Mar 1  
 26 Mar 11111111  
 27 Mar 1111111111 10  
 28 Mar 11111111 8  
 29 Mar 11111111111111 14  
 30 Mar 11  
 49

7TH ARMORED DIVISION "Lucky 7th"

APRIL 1945

3 Apr 1  
 4 Apr 11111  
 5 Apr 1111  
 6 Apr 111111  
 7 Apr 1111  
 8 Apr 11111111111 11  
 9 Apr 1111  
 10 Apr 1111  
 11 Apr 1111  
 12 Apr 111  
 13 Apr 111  
 14 Apr 1111  
 15 Apr 11

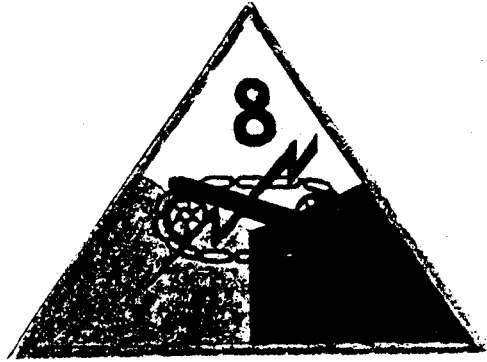
55

MAY 1945

5 May 1  
 1

7TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----29 October 1944  
 bloodiest month-----September 1944  
 2nd bloodiest day-----19 September and 22 December 1944  
 3rd bloodiest day-----23 December 1944  
 Total battle deaths-----1,222  
 727 are listed=59.5% KIA-----994



8TH ARMORED DIVISION "Thundering Herd"

Activated—1 April 1942

Returned To United States—10 November 1945

Inactivated—14 November 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Siegfried Line Rhineland North-Central Germany

Days In Combat—63

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):  
Maj-Gen John M. Devine

October 1944—August 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 8th Armored Division, once known as the "Show Horse" Division, proved it was a workhorse outfit in the relatively short time it was in combat. The 8th Armored would have been in action much sooner had it not been so valuable as a training division. Before it sailed overseas on 7 November 1944, the Thundering Herd had trained over 50,000 officers and men who were shipped to the Mediterranean and European theaters of operation to fill gaps in 8 other armored divisions.

When our tank forces took the severe mauling at Kasserine Pass, in Tunisia, 4,000 trained replacements of the 8th Armored were shipped directly to Tunisia, to help save the day, and help eventually push the Germans and Italians out of North Africa.

After training at Tidworth, England, the 8th Armored landed in France on 5 January 1945, and assembled in the Bacqueville area of upper Normandy. The 8th then moved to Pont-à-Mousson, for some additional training.

Part of the 8th Armored first saw combat two weeks later. Between 19-28 January 1945, Combat Command A, supporting the 94th Infantry Division in the difficult fighting in the Saar-Moselle Triangle of the Siegfried Line, helped force the crack German 11th Panzer Division out of the fortress towns of Nennig, Berg, and Sinz.

In February 1945, the 8th Armored was sent secretly up north to southern Holland, near Roermond, to relieve the British 7th Armored Division, the famous "Desert Rats" of North Africa fame.

On 19 February 1945, the 8th Armored launched a diversionary attack, pushing the Germans north of the Heide Woods, and east of the Roer River.

Then, on 27 February 1945, the 8th began its attack across the Roer, joining in the U.S. 9th Army offensive to the Rhine. The 8th Armored crossed the Roer at Hilfarthe, 27 February, and attacked toward Wegberg with CCA. Meeting heavy resistance all the way, CCA overran Tetelrath, as CCB and CCR crossed the Roer the next day, overcoming crossfire from panzerfausts, mortars, burp guns, antitank weapons, and small-arms fire.

The 8th Armored sped northward as CCA took Wachtendonk, on 2 March 1945. The following day CCB captured Aldekerk, while CCR crossed the Niers River, at Mühlhausen. The 8th was then temporarily withdrawn from the battle, except for CCB which assisted the 35th Infantry Division in the drive on Oberkruchten and Lintfort. These two towns were taken by 4 March 1945, and Rheinberg on the following day in hard fighting. In fact, 5 March 1945, was the 8th Armored's bloodiest day in combat. 65 men were killed on this day.

CCB then fought for Ossenbergh, 7-9 March 1945.

The 8th Armored Division then received a period of rest and maintenance from 10-25 March 1945.

The 8th Armored crossed the Rhine on 26 March 1945, and attacked Dorsten, above the northern edge of the Ruhr, overcoming fierce resistance by the 116th Panzer Division. This town fell on 29 March.

Continuing eastward against scattered opposition, the 8th crossed the Lippe River, and entered the Battle of the Ruhr Pocket on 3 April 1945. CCA advanced up the Paderborn-Soest Highway, while CCR approached Elsen. On the next day the 8th Armored reached the Mohne River and cleared Overhagen and Erwitte. The division next took Ost Oennen, 6 April, and cleared the area around Soest in bitter combat. It next overran Werl, 8 April, and captured Unna, near the city of Dortmund, after heavy fighting on 11 April 1945. The 8th Armored, coming down from the north, had cut the Ruhr Pocket in two, in conjunction with the 7th Armored Division which bored in from the south. Thousands of Germans were captured. The 8th then mopped-up.

While the fighting was still going on in the Ruhr Pocket, the 8th Armored was relieved by the 95th Infantry Division on 13 April 1945.

Soon after, the 8th was sent racing 100 miles across north-central Germany to the town of Wolfenbüttel, where it mopped-up scattered resistance. After clearing opposition in a woods south of Derenburg, the 8th moved somewhat to the south to help clear the Germans out of the Harz Mountains, a large, forested region with some very high hills.

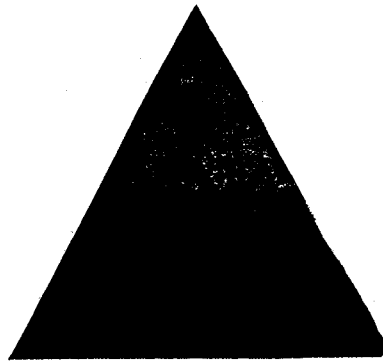
The 8th Armored massed around Blankenburg, at the eastern edge of the Harz, on 20 April 1945. Following a heavy air and artillery assault, a tank-infantry attack was made, and, against light resistance, Blankenburg was taken before dark, as well as Michaelstein and Cattenstedt. This was the 8th Armored's last combat of the war.

On 23 April 1945, the 8th went on occupational duty in the Harz Mountains region. After V-E Day, 8 May 1945, it was moved into northern Czechoslovakia. The 8th Armored returned to the United States in November 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0  
Distinguished Unit Citations—0  
Distinguished Service Crosses—0  
Silver Stars—143

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—355  
Killed In Action—299  
Wounded—1,375  
Missing—5  
Captured—41  
Total Casualties—1,720





9TH ARMORED DIVISION "Phantom"

Activated—15 July 1942

Returned To United States—10 October 1945

Inactivated—13 October 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Siegfried Line      Ardennes      Rhineland      Central Europe

Days In Combat—91

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen John W. Leonard

October 1942—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 9th Armored Division landed in Normandy in September 1944, and first went into the line on 23 October 1944, on patrol duty in a quiet sector along the Luxembourg-German border.

The 9th Armored was one of several divisions placed under the 8th Corps, U.S. 1st Army, and this was where the Germans struck their heaviest blow in their all-out counteroffensive in the Ardennes on 16 December 1944.

The 9th Armored, with no real combat experience, was the most powerful unit present to oppose the German onslaught. In its first major battle, the 9th's 3 combat commands were forced to fight separately. Sheer guts saved the 9th Armored in this huge, confusing battle. Combat Command B made a 6-day stand at St. Vith (along with several other American units) against numerically superior forces. It struck an advancing German unit with such power that it succeeded in pushing it back across the Our River. Without flank protection CCB was forced to eventually pull back.

German forces again surged forth in an effort to destroy the combat command. In addition to elements of the 1st SS Panzer and 62nd Volksgrenadier Divisions, other German units included the 18th Volksgrenadier and part of the 116th Panzer Divisions. Despite ammunition and food shortages, lack of air support, and the constant threat of being completely cut-off, CCB kept on smashing the relentless enemy attacks. After 6 days, the command withdrew back through an escape route opened up by the 82nd Airborne Division.

Meanwhile, CCA fought for 10 days near Echternach, Luxembourg, at the southern end of the German assault, and then, after an all-night march without rest, launched its part in the operation that resulted in the breaking of the German siege of Bastogne.

CCR received a Distinguished Unit Citation for its part in the epic stand at Bastogne. It stood up against the German juggernaut and delayed it for 36 hours, giving the 101st Airborne Division precious time to dig-in to defend this vital town. It was during all this fighting that the 9th Armored had a Medal of Honor winner, Corporal Horace M. Thorne, Troop D, 89th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, near Grufflingen, Belgium, on 21 December 1944.

He was the leader of a combat patrol, with the mission of driving German forces from dug-in positions in a heavily wooded area. As he advanced with a light machinegun, a German Mark III tank emerged from the woods and was quickly immobilized by fire from American light tanks supporting the patrol. Two of the enemy tankmen were shot by Corporal Thorne before

they could jump to the ground. To complete the destruction of the tank and its crew, Cpl Thorne crept forward alone through intense enemy machinegun fire until close enough to toss two grenades into the tank's open turret, killing two more Germans.

He then seized a machinegun and set it up on the vehicle's rear deck. He fired short, rapid bursts into the German positions from his advantageous, but exposed position, and killed or wounded 8 of them. Two enemy machinegun crews left their positions and retreated in confusion. The corporal's gun then jammed, but rather than leave his post, he attempted to clear the stoppage, and enemy small-arms fire, concentrating on the tank, killed him instantly.

Cpl Thorne's heroic initiative and self-sacrifice inflicted considerable casualties on the Germans and insured the success of his patrol's mission.

The 9th Armored received a rest during much of January 1945, as the huge, bloody Battle of the Bulge drew to a close.

In February 1945, the Phantom Division got ready for an attack across the Roer River. It jumped-off on 28 February, as part of the U.S. 1st Army's drive to the Rhine, and the 9th couldn't be stopped. The division slashed across the Roer to Rheinbach, and then electrified the entire Allied world with its capture, intact, of the Ludendorff Railroad Bridge at Remagen.

On 7 March 1945, the Phantoms, striking with lightning speed and scorning all risks, moved swiftly. A platoon of new Pershing tanks with 90mm guns, which could handle anything the Germans had, was assembled. In the town of Remagen, tanks and GIs moved hastily against spotty resistance, mostly from snipers. One prisoner said that the bridge was to be blown at 1600 hours (4 P.M.). The 9th Armored had 45 minutes to capture the bridge intact. Its men raced across the bridge under fire and established a bridgehead across the Rhine before the German engineers could blow the bridge. One 500 pound charge of TNT, very fortunately for the Americans, failed to explode. Luck was with the Allies.

Needless to say, Generals Eisenhower, Bradley, and just about everyone else on the Allied side were elated when they heard the news. Four U.S. divisions were quickly moved into the area to exploit the bridgehead—the 1st, 9th, 78th, and 99th Infantry. There was vicious fighting for about a week in the bridgehead, but the Americans were not to be denied this golden opportunity. As well as the war in Europe being, no doubt, considerably shortened, military authorities have also estimated that this heroic action by the 9th Armored Division saved at least a minimum of 5,000 American lives.

Exploiting the bridgehead, the 9th Armored advanced southeast across the Lahn River to Limburg, where it liberated thousands of Allied POWs.

The 9th drove on toward Frankfurt, and then turned north to assist in the closing of the Ruhr Pocket.

The 9th Armored then drove eastward through central Germany. A bridge was captured intact over the Saale River near Naumburg. Further east, rugged fighting developed through the thick defense belt around Leipzig. The Germans used hundreds of ground-mounted antiaircraft guns, 500 of which were either knocked out or found abandoned by the 9th Armored. CCA captured a radio-radar station at Audgast, reputed to be the most powerful in Germany, as well as seizing an airfield at Polenz containing 250 planes.

The 2nd and 69th Infantry Divisions then completed the taking of Leipzig, Germany's 5th largest city, after the 9th Armored had completely encircled the city. Some of the 9th's tanks assisted the 69th in the fighting inside the city.

Then, in the final American offensive of the war in Europe, the 9th Armored was put under General Patton's 3rd Army. The 9th Armored attacked into northwestern Czechoslovakia in the vicinity of Karlovy Vary before V-E Day finally came on 8 May 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1  
Distinguished Unit Citations—11 \*  
Distinguished Service Crosses—1  
Silver Stars—191

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—741  
Killed In Action—607  
Wounded—2,350  
Missing—87  
Captured—908  
Total Casualties—3,952

\* One each to Combat Commands B and R—  
St. Vith and Bastogne, respectively

## 9TH ARMORED DIVISION "Phantom"

## NOVEMBER 1944

2 Nov 1  
5 Nov 1  
7 Nov 1  
10 Nov 1  
4

## DECEMBER 1944

6 Dec 1  
16 Dec 111  
17 Dec 11111111111111111111 25\*  
18 Dec 11111111111111111111 approx.  
19 Dec 11111111111 13 20 55\*men  
20 Dec 1111111  
21 Dec 1111111111 11  
22 Dec 111111111 10  
23 Dec 11  
24 Dec 111111111 10  
25 Dec 1  
26 Dec 1111111  
27 Dec 111  
28 Dec 11111  
29 Dec 11111111 9  
30 Dec 11111111 8  
31 Dec 1

136

## JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 11111111111 11  
2 Jan 1  
3 Jan 1  
4 Jan 1  
5 Jan 1  
24 Jan 1  
16

## FEBRUARY 1945

14 Feb 1  
25 Feb 1  
28 Feb 1111  
6

## MARCH 1945

1 Mar 11111111111111111111 23  
2 Mar 1111111111 11  
3 Mar 1111  
4 Mar 1111111111111111 18  
5 Mar 11111111 8  
6 Mar 11  
7 Mar 1111  
8 Mar 11111  
9 Mar 1111111  
10 Mar 1111  
11 Mar 111  
13 Mar 1  
14 Mar 1111111 8  
15 Mar 111111111111 14  
16 Mar 11111111111111 17  
17 Mar 1111111  
18 Mar 11  
21 Mar 1  
22 Mar 11111111 8  
25 Mar 1111  
26 Mar 11  
27 Mar 111111111111 13  
28 Mar 1  
30 Mar 11111111 9  
31 Mar 111  
179

## APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111  
2 Apr 1  
4 Apr 11  
5 Apr 1  
9 Apr 11  
10 Apr 11111  
11 Apr 111  
12 Apr 111  
13 Apr 1111111111 11  
14 Apr 11111  
15 Apr 1111111 8  
16 Apr 111  
18 Apr 1111  
22 Apr 1  
28 Apr 1  
53

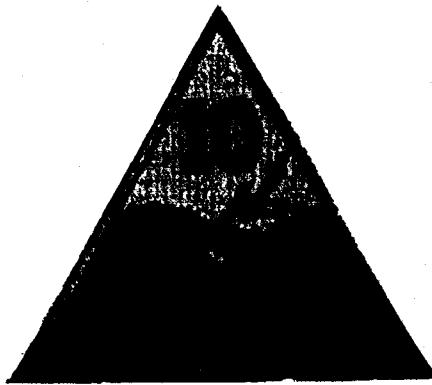
## MAY 1945

6 May 1  
1

## 9TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----17 December 1944  
bloodiest month-----March 1945  
2nd bloodiest day-----1 March 1945  
3rd bloodiest day-----18 December 1944  
Total battle deaths-----741  
395 are listed=53.3% KIA--607





10TH ARMORED DIVISION "Tiger"

Activated—15 July 1942

Returned To United States and Inactivated—13 October 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Lorraine Siegfried Line Ardennes Saar  
Rhineland Central Europe

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen William H. Morris, Jr.

July 1944—May 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 10th Armored Division was activated at Ft. Benning, Georgia, on 15 July 1942, and, after extensive training, landed at Cherbourg, France, on 23 September 1944. The 10th Armored was the first U.S. armored division to land on French soil directly from America. It put in another month of training at Teurtheville, France, before entering combat near Mars La Tour, on 2 November 1944, as part of the 20th Corps, U.S. 3rd Army. The 10th Armored was soon dubbed the "Ghost Division" by the Germans.

In its initiation to combat, while the 5th and 95th Infantry Divisions made a direct attack on the fortress city of Metz, the 10th Armored encircled the ancient city to seal off the enemy's escape routes and to prevent reinforcements from breaking through.

On 15 November 1944, the entire 10th Armored was assembled near Kerling, northern Lorraine, and soon pressed forward. In a devastating attack it crashed against the defenses of the German 416th Infantry and part of the 25th Panzer Grenadier Divisions. By 19 November, the Germans had been forced back to the Siegfried Line area as the 10th Armored advanced to the vicinity of Merzig. Elements of the division were the first 3rd Army soldiers to set foot on German soil. The 25th Panzer Grenadier counterattacked and fierce fighting ensued, but the Germans were beaten back with heavy losses. The following several days were spent in locating enemy positions in patrolling actions.

Advancing into the so-called Saar-Moselle Triangle (or Orscholz Barrier), the Tigers met intensive resistance at Nennig, and were temporarily forced to withdraw under a protective artillery barrage. The town of Tettingen was also bitterly contested. By 2 December, the last resistance in the Merzig sector was ended with the capture of Driesbach. The 10th was preparing for a 3rd Army assault to the Rhine, when the Germans opened their massive counteroffensive in the Ardennes on 16 December 1944.

The 10th Armored was ordered northward and held defensive positions at Noville and Bras, Belgium, in bitter, confused fighting, suffering heavy casualties and, in turn, inflicting even worse losses on the Germans. Combat Command B was forced back to the vicinity of Bastogne. Here, it helped the 101st Airborne Division in an epic stand against almost overwhelming German forces and repeated assaults. At one time, there were no less than 9 German divisions somewhere around Bastogne. But they just couldn't break the Americans' heroic stand, and suffered appalling losses in their efforts. Along with the entire 101st Airborne, CCB of the 10th Armored received the Distinguished Unit Citation for this monumental feat of arms.

After resting for a short time in January 1945, the 10th Armored moved back south, and again into the Saar area. In conjunction with the 94th Infantry Division and 5th Ranger Battalion, the 10th cleared much of the Saar-Moselle Triangle in the most bitter type of combat. Nevertheless, the speed in which the 10th advanced against some of the most heavily

fortified positions on the Western Front was really remarkable. Highly important was a successful operation in which the Tigers and their vehicles were brought together east of the Saar River, after having crossed separately at Ayl and Ockfen on 25 February. The 10th Armored denied the Germans a stable, continuous line of defense, and made it possible to launch a successful attack on Trier (population 77,000). The key city was finally taken in early-March 1945, after violent fighting in which the 10th lost numerous tanks to heavy anti-tank fire. By early-March, after capturing Trier, the Tigers had taken a total of some 10,000 POWs in the Triangle, 4,500 at Trier, alone. This entire operation earned the highest praise from General Patton.

Then, beginning 13 March 1945, as part of a massive 3rd Army assault into the Palatinate, the 10th Armored smashed through the city of Kaiserslautern, advanced to the Rhine near Landau against a routed and confused enemy, and crossed that fabled river on 28 March, near Mannheim. At Schwetzingen the Tigers ran into resistance by the German 198th Infantry Division. But then, in conjunction with the 63rd Infantry Division, the 10th Armored took the famous university city of Heidelberg against hardly any resistance. Indeed, a good share of the populace, sick of the war, turned out to throw flowers at the Americans!

However, further east, all three divisions of the U.S. 6th Corps, 7th Army—the 10th Armored and the 63rd and 100th Infantry Divisions—ran into furious fighting in the Neckar River Valley.

After forcing the Neckar and then Kocher Rivers, again working with the 63rd Division, the 10th Armored was halted in a thrust toward Crailsheim by furious German opposition including counterattacks and air strikes. The battle soon developed into a major affair as the Germans continued to battle tenaciously. They even threw in their newest weapon, the ME 262. Heavily armed and able to fly at blinding speed, this jet undoubtedly would have made a considerable difference in the course of the war, had the Germans begun producing them much sooner than they did.

On the night of 10 April, the Germans made a rugged attack with 600 troops from the 6th SS Mountain Division. Penetrating the main line of resistance, these Austrians fought a pitched battle with the Americans in the streets of Crailsheim. The enemy managed to occupy some buildings, but these were soon burned and blasted out and this situation restored.

Shortly after this, on the 11th, another force of some 600 Germans supported by self-propelled guns attacked Ilshofen from the northwest. This attack was also foiled.

The 10th Armored, however, soon realized that there were just too many Germans in this area with rockets and heavy air support, and with the tankers being subjected to numerous strafing attacks. And so, after capturing 2,000 prisoners in the Crailsheim battle, General Morris directed the 10th to shift back to the northwest and capture Öhringen, thus relieving pressure on the 100th Infantry Division which was battling in Heilbronn, to the west and back on the Neckar River. The 10th had to fight German soldiers and civilians alike who resisted with panzerfausts, burp guns, and grenades. What a strange, tragic land—this Germany under Nazism. In one town the people would throw flowers at the GIs and wave white flags out of their windows, and in another town fight like demons!

The Tiger Division then advanced almost straight south, moving east of the Neckar and through Württemberg via Bubenorbis, Gaildorf, and Schwäbisch Gmünd, crossing the Rems River and reaching Kirchheim. The 10th then continued on to the Danube where it crossed at Ehingen, 23-25 April 1945.

Advancing into southern Bavaria, the 10th Armored was greeted at Memmingen by about 5,000 gleeful, howling Allied POWs. Among others, there were British, French, Belgians, Russians, and Yugoslavs.

At Riedhausen, elements of the 10th met stiff resistance and were temporarily stopped. But not for long. The tankers and infantrymen soon surged forward 23 miles to take Oberammergau, scene of the world-famous Passion Play. Not pausing, the GIs pushed on to within 5 miles of Garmisch-Partenkirchen where they were halted by a huge crater. At the same time, further west, other elements entered beautiful Neuschwanstein Castle near Füssen, where the Germans had confiscated millions of dollars worth of artistic loot that they had stripped from all over Europe.

This phase of the action provided one of the most dramatic episodes in the 10th Armored's distinguished combat record. For the 10th contributed in no small measure to shattering any hope of remaining die-hard Nazis for a last ditch stand in the western part of the

National Redoubt. The vital Echlesbacher Bridge, connecting the lowlands of southern Bavaria with the German Alpine country, was seized intact. This involved a daring night raid in which German guards on either end of the span were overpowered before they could blow it up.

As the 10th Armored entered the Alps, the main danger was from Germans with panzerfausts on the higher ground overlooking the roads. As the 10th entered the Austrian border, entrenched German infantry attempted to bar the way but were quickly brushed aside.

On 30 April, the 10th Armored bagged 2,500 prisoners and in just 5 days had negotiated some 100 miles of difficult terrain. On this day, also, part of the 10th pushed to within 35 miles of the Italian frontier, toward Innsbruck, when it was stopped by road craters. But the men of the 10th Armored figured that Garmisch was a pretty nice place to end the war, anyway.

This final drive below the Danube into southern Bavaria and the Austrian Tyrol was characterized by the Tigers meeting mostly sporadic to moderate resistance. It was also marked by sleepless days and nights, sizzling speed, strained nerves, rain, snow, mud, and cold. But at last the ordeal was over. Among other feats of arms, the 10th Armored had captured 56,000 prisoners and 650 cities and towns. After extensive occupational duty in southern Bavaria, the 10th Armored returned home in October 1945, and was inactivated.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0  
Distinguished Unit Citations—5 \*  
Distinguished Service Crosses—19  
Silver Stars—412

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—945  
Killed In Action—790  
Wounded—4,003  
Missing—64  
Captured—216  
Total Casualties—5,073

\* One to Combat Command B—Defense Of Bastogne

10TH ARMORED DIVISION "Tiger"

OCTOBER 1944

20 Oct 1  
 30 Oct 1  
 2

NOVEMBER 1944

5 Nov 1  
 11 Nov 1  
 14 Nov 1  
 15 Nov 1  
 16 Nov 1111111  
 17 Nov 11111111 9  
 18 Nov 111111111111111111 20  
 19 Nov 111111111 9  
 20 Nov 1111111111 10  
 21 Nov 1111111  
 22 Nov 11111111 8  
 23 Nov 11111  
 24 Nov 1111  
 25 Nov 11  
 26 Nov 111111111 9  
 27 Nov 1111111  
 28 Nov 11  
 29 Nov 1  
 30 Nov 111111

110

DECEMBER 1944

5 Dec 1  
 6 Dec 1  
 8 Dec 1  
 18 Dec 111111111 9  
 19 Dec 11111111111111111111111111111111 29\*  
 20 Dec 1111111111111 14 approx.  
 21 Dec 111111 55\*men  
 22 Dec 1111111  
 23 Dec 111111  
 24 Dec 11111111111 11  
 25 Dec 11  
 27 Dec 1  
 30 Dec 11  
 31 Dec 11  
 92

JANUARY 1945

2 Jan 1  
 3 Jan 1  
 5 Jan 1  
 9 Jan 1  
 12 Jan 1  
 13 Jan 1  
 16 Jan 111  
 18 Jan 11  
 22 Jan 1  
 23 Jan 1  
 28 Jan 1  
 14

## 10TH ARMORED DIVISION "Tiger"

## FEBRUARY 1945

20 Feb 111111  
 22 Feb 1111  
 23 Feb 11  
 24 Feb 11111  
 25 Feb 11111111111 12  
 26 Feb 1111111 8  
 27 Feb 11111111 9  
 28 Feb 111

49

## MARCH 1945

1 Mar 111111111111111111 21  
 2 Mar 11  
 3 Mar 1  
 4 Mar 1111  
 5 Mar 1111111  
 6 Mar 1111111111 11  
 8 Mar 111111111111 13  
 9 Mar 1111111  
 11 Mar 11  
 12 Mar 1  
 16 Mar 1111111  
 18 Mar 11111111 9  
 19 Mar 111  
 20 Mar 11  
 21 Mar 1111111111111111 18  
 22 Mar 1111111  
 23 Mar 11111111 9  
 24 Mar 1  
 26 Mar 1  
 30 Mar 1  
 31 Mar 11111111111 11

138

## APRIL 1945

1 Apr 1111111111 10  
 2 Apr 111111111111 13  
 3 Apr 111  
 4 Apr 1  
 5 Apr 1111111111 10  
 6 Apr 111  
 7 Apr 1111  
 8 Apr 111111  
 9 Apr 111111  
 10 Apr 1111111 8  
 11 Apr 1  
 12 Apr 1111  
 14 Apr 11  
 15 Apr 1  
 16 Apr 111  
 17 Apr 11  
 18 Apr 11  
 19 Apr 1  
 20 Apr 1111  
 21 Apr 11111  
 22 Apr 111  
 24 Apr 1  
 26 Apr 1  
 27 Apr 1  
 28 Apr 1  
 29 Apr 111  
 30 Apr 1

100

## MAY 1945

5 May 1  
 1

## 10TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day—19 December 1944  
 bloodiest month—March 1945  
 2nd bloodiest day—1 March 1945  
 3rd bloodiest day—18 November 1944  
 Total battle deaths—945  
 506 are listed=52.4% KIA—790



11TH ARMORED DIVISION "Thunderbolts"

Activated—15 August 1942

Inactivated—31 August 1945 in Europe

Battle Credits, World War II:—Ardennes Rhineland Central Europe

Days In Combat—96

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Brig-Gen Charles S. Kilburn  
Maj-Gen Holmes E. Dager

March 1944—March 1945  
March 1945—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 11th Armored Division arrived in England on 12 November 1944, and trained for one month on the Salisbury Plain.

The 11th Armored landed in Normandy in mid-December 1944, assigned to contain the Germans holding out in the Brittany port of Lorient. However, the German counteroffensive in the Ardennes resulted in a forced march to the Meuse River, and the defense of a 30-mile sector from Givet to Sedan, beginning 23 December 1944.

Under the 3rd Army, the 11th Armored and 87th Infantry Divisions launched an attack from the Neufchâteau area in southeastern Belgium on 30 December. This attack ran into the right flank of a renewed German assault on Bastogne, and the fighting was heavy and furious, amid appalling winter conditions—the worst winter in Europe in half-a-century. The Germans then decided to stabilize, establishing well-chosen positions from which they lashed out repeatedly with tank-infantry counterattacks. The Germans were supported by 75mm artillery, heavy mortar, and rocket fire.

On New Year's Day, 1945, an attack was launched on Chenogne which fell by noon that day. CCA then attacked in the heavily defended Hubermont-Millomont-Rechimont areas. The leading tank force made some progress, but was soon slowed down by a heavy German armored-infantry counterattack. However, air support, artillery, and tank fire stopped this attack with huge losses to the Germans.

In the most bitter combat, the 11th Armored slugged northward through Morhet. In 5 freezing days, the Thunderbolts had tackled two crack German divisions, punched them back several miles, cleared 30 square miles of rugged terrain, and liberated a dozen towns. The 11th suffered very heavy casualties, but so did the Germans, as the latter were slowly forced back to the north. Bertogne, Compogne, and Wycort were captured, and then, on 16 January, the Thunderbolts linked-up with elements of the U.S. 1st Army at Houffalize. On the 18th, the 11th Armored was relieved by the 17th Airborne Division. Few outfits have ever received a bloodier initiation to combat amid even worse weather conditions, and the 11th Armored Division was now a battle-proven, combat hardened outfit.

Resuming the attack in early-February 1945, the 11th pushed into the austere Eifel, taking a number of smaller towns by 20 February.

After a brief rest, the 11th Armored crossed the Prüm and Kyll Rivers, and took the towns of Gerolstein and Nieder Bettingen against violent opposition by elements of the 5th Parach-

ute and 340th Volksgrenadier Divisions. In the sweep to the Rhine, Andernach and Brühl fell by 9 March. By 17 March, the 11th had crossed the Moselle at Bullay and entered the Palatinate. On 19 March 1945, the 11th Armored had a Medal of Honor winner, Staff Sergeant Herbert H. Burr, Company C, 41st Tank Battalion, near Dorrmoschel, Germany.

Sgt. Burr displayed conspicuous gallantry when the tank in which he was a bow gunner was hit by an enemy rocket. The rest of the crew abandoned the tank, but Sgt. Burr immediately climbed into the driver's seat. As he rounded a turn he encountered an 88mm antitank gun and its crew at point-blank range. Heroically disregarding his own safety, he made straight for this gun and drove his tank over it, completely demolishing it and causing the crew to flee in confusion.

He then skillfully sideswiped a German truck, overturned it, and then returned to his company with the tank. He then ran through a hail of sniper fire to direct medical personnel to a stricken comrade. Sgt. Burr survived to later receive his award.

The airport at Worms was captured on 21 March, and then, after rest and maintenance, the 11th Armored drove across the Rhine at Oppenheim. Heading northeast, the division ran into tough resistance near Hanau, including some very heavy German armored elements. After overcoming this, the 11th helped take the sizeable town of Fulda, and, after crossing the Werra River, advanced into the southern part of the Thüringen Forest in central Germany, reaching Oberhof, Zella-Mehlis, and Suhl on 3 April. Suhl fell in house-to-house combat.

Swinging in an arc to the southeast, the Thunderbolts took Coburg and Kulmbach, and then Bayreuth against scattered sniper resistance, 14 April. Further south, the 11th Armored ran into considerable mortar fire before overrunning the town of Grafenwöhr and its nearby armored training area. 20 April was spent clearing and consolidating in this area.

Then, continuing the advance, the 11th attacked generally southeast in a corridor between the Danube and the Czech border, generally following along the north side of the Danube. The division, after capturing a number of other small towns, reached Cham, not far from the Czech border. This town is about 30 miles northeast of Regensburg, and 1,200 feet high in the Bohemian Forest. Large numbers of Hungarian troops who were still allied to the Germans surrendered in this region.

In the final all-out drive, the 11th Armored overran Grafenau and Freyung, and also seized Neufelden and Zwettl. Though on the run, elements of the 2nd SS Panzer "Das Reich" and other German units were in the 11th's zone of advance. The Germans put up their last fanatical resistance along the approaches to the city of Linz, Austria, but the Thunderbolts blasted away at them until the city finally fell on 5 May 1945.

Soon after, the 11th Armored liberated the concentration camps at Mauthausen and Gusen. At Mauthausen there were about 20,000 slave-laborers of 16 different nationalities. These filthy camps, emanating wretched human misery and the stench of death, were thrown open to the cleansing air. The dead littering the grounds were buried and the other emaciated inmates who had miraculously escaped the slaughter were given medical care, food, and clothing. Nurses of the 66th Field Hospital, working with CCB, tended these half-dead creatures too weak and helpless to move out of their own excrement. What joy this triumphant fighting outfit had felt rapidly turned to violent hatred at this sight of attempted mass obliteration. Despite all, however, the task of cleaning up the camp and caring for the inmates was completed with customary division thoroughness. Some 1,000 German prison guards were rounded up and taken back to Gallneukirchen as prisoners.

Elements of the 11th then pushed south and east, and the Russian 7th Parachute Guards Division was contacted at Amstetten on V-E Day, 8 May 1945. The 11th then assembled at Freudenthal. The Thunderbolts had taken a grand total of 76,229 prisoners.

The 11th Armored was then placed on occupational duty in the Oberdonau area until inactivated on 31 August 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1  
Distinguished Unit Citations—0  
Distinguished Service Crosses—3  
Silver Stars—227

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—626  
Killed In Action—523  
Wounded—2,394  
Missing—11  
Captured—40  
Total Casualties—2,968

11TH ARMORED DIVISION "Thunderbolt"

DECEMBER 1944

30 Dec 1111111111111111 17  
 31 Dec 1111111111111111111111111111 32\*  
 49 approx. 60\*men

JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 1111111111111111111111111111 28  
 2 Jan 111111111111 13  
 4 Jan 1  
 5 Jan 11111  
 6 Jan 1  
 7 Jan 1  
 13 Jan 11111111111 12  
 14 Jan 1111111111111111111111111111 31  
 15 Jan 11111111111 12  
 16 Jan 111111  
 17 Jan 11  
 18 Jan 1  
 19 Jan 1  
 22 Jan 1  
 115

FEBRUARY 1945

1 Feb 1  
 6 Feb 11  
 8 Feb 1  
 9 Feb 1  
 10 Feb 11111  
 12 Feb 1  
 16 Feb 11  
 19 Feb 1  
 20 Feb 1111  
 22 Feb 11  
 20

MARCH 1945

2 Mar 1  
 3 Mar 11  
 4 Mar 111111  
 5 Mar 111  
 6 Mar 11111111111111 13  
 7 Mar 1111  
 8 Mar 111  
 9 Mar 11  
 10 Mar 111  
 11 Mar 111  
 12 Mar 1  
 14 Mar 1  
 17 Mar 1  
 18 Mar 111111111111 13  
 19 Mar 111  
 20 Mar 11111  
 23 Mar 1  
 24 Mar 1  
 25 Mar 1  
 28 Mar 1  
 29 Mar 111111111 10  
 30 Mar 11111  
 31 Mar 11111

88

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111  
 2 Apr 111  
 3 Apr 111111111 9  
 4 Apr 111  
 5 Apr 11  
 7 Apr 111  
 8 Apr 1  
 9 Apr 1  
 12 Apr 1  
 14 Apr 1  
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 23 Apr 11  
 24 Apr 11  
 25 Apr 111  
 26 Apr 111  
 28 Apr 11  
 29 Apr 1  
 30 Apr 11111

46

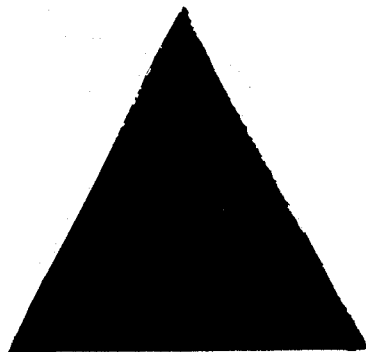
MAY 1945

1 May 1111  
 4 May 1111  
 6 May 111  
 11

11TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----31 December 1944  
 bloodiest month-----January 1945  
 2nd bloodiest day-----14 January 1945  
 3rd bloodiest day-----1 January 1945  
 Total battle deaths-----628  
 329 are listed=52.3% KIA--523





12TH ARMORED DIVISION "Hellcat"

Activated—15 September 1942

Returned To United States—1 December 1945

Inactivated—3 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Siegfried Line      Alsace      Saar      Rhineland  
Central Europe

Days In Combat—102

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Roderick R. Allen

September 1944—July 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 12th Armored Division landed at Liverpool, England, on 2 October 1944, and then was stationed at Tidworth. It arrived at Le Havre, France, 11 November 1944.

Advance elements first met the Germans near Weisslingen, on 5 December 1944, and the entire division relieved the 4th Armored Division at Singling on 7 December 1944, and advanced against the Maginot Line fortifications. In this attack, Rohrbach, in northern Alsace, and the area about Bettviller were liberated by 12 December. Utweiler, Germany, was seized on 21 December, as the 12th Armored bit into the outer ring of the Siegfried Line fortifications. During this operation the 12th Armored sustained casualties of 62 men killed in action, 454 wounded, and 4 men missing in action. The 12th captured 229 prisoners.

After a short period of maintenance and rehabilitation, the 12th Armored moved against the German offensive in northern Alsace which had commenced on 1 January 1945. Basically, the situation in Alsace, at this time, was this: The Germans made four main efforts in this offensive—an attack near the fortress town of Bitcher; another in the Hardt Mountains further east; a third yet further east in the northeast corner of Alsace, near Hatten and Rittershoffen; and a fourth attack where the Germans forced a bridgehead across the Rhine in the Gamsheim-Drusenheim area, somewhat north of the city of Strasbourg, a major German objective. It was against this last German effort that the 12th Armored moved.

U.S. Intelligence had badly underestimated the strength of this German bridgehead, at first believing this force to number no more than 800-1,200 men. As it turned out, there were no less than two crack German divisions in this area, the 10th SS Panzer and 553rd Volksgrenadier.

Between 16-20 January 1945, furious fighting took place in the Gamsheim-Drusenheim bridgehead between the 12th Armored and the Germans, especially in Herrlisheim. The 12th, in very heavy combat, attempted to eliminate this enemy bridgehead, but was forced back with heavy losses. However, on 19 January 1945, the 12th Armored defeated a very strong enemy attack consisting of over 800 infantrymen and 50 tanks. Soon after, the 12th was relieved by the 36th Infantry Division which continued the eventually successful battle, aided by elements of the 79th Infantry Division.

After this bitter battle, the 12th Armored was one of several U.S. divisions called upon to help out the French eliminate the troublesome Colmar Pocket in central Alsace. The Germans had had time to build up an elaborate system of defense works with many mines,



12TH ARMORED DIVISION "Hellcat"

MARCH 1945

7 Mar 1  
 8 Mar 1  
 18 Mar 1  
 19 Mar 11111111 9  
 20 Mar 11111  
 21 Mar 111111  
 22 Mar 111111  
 23 Mar 111111111111 13  
 24 Mar 11  
 28 Mar 1  
 29 Mar 111  
 31 Mar 111111111 10

58

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111111111111111111 21  
 2 Apr 1  
 4 Apr 111111  
 5 Apr 111111111 10  
 6 Apr 1  
 7 Apr 11111  
 8 Apr 1111  
 9 Apr 1  
 10 Apr 111111111111 14  
 11 Apr 1111  
 12 Apr 1111111 8  
 13 Apr 11  
 15 Apr 111  
 16 Apr 11  
 17 Apr 1  
 18 Apr 1  
 19 Apr 11  
 20 Apr 1  
 21 Apr 1  
 22 Apr 11  
 23 Apr 111  
 24 Apr 11  
 25 Apr 1111111 8  
 26 Apr 1111  
 29 Apr 1

109

MAY 1945

1 May 1  
 3 May 11  
 4 May 11

5

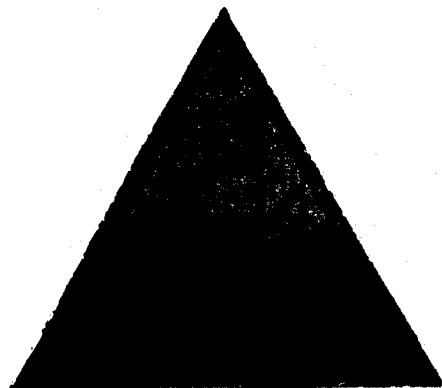
JULY 1945

16 July 111  
 17 July 1

4

12TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----16 January 1945  
 bloodiest month-----January 1945  
 2nd bloodiest day-----17 January 1945  
 3rd bloodiest day-----1 April 1945  
 Total battle deaths-----718  
 377 are listed=52.5% KIA-605



**13TH ARMORED DIVISION "Black Cat"**

Activated—15 October 1942

Returned To United States—23 July 1945

Inactivated—15 November 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Ruhr Pocket Central Europe

Days In Combat—16

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen John B. Wogan

Maj-Gen John Millikin

October 1942—April 1945

April—September 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 13th Armored Division landed at Le Havre, France, on 29 January 1945. After performing occupation duties, the 13th moved to Homberg, near Kassel, in western Germany, and prepared for combat.

The 13th Armored entered the Battle of the Ruhr Pocket, the attack jumping-off from Honnef on 10 April 1945. After crossing the Sieg River, the 13th pushed northward just east of the Rhine, toward Siegburg. Fierce resistance was encountered from the German 3rd Parachute Division, and casualties were considerable, including the loss of 30 tanks. Nevertheless, the 13th Armored battled into the pocket, taking Siegburg and then Bergisch-Gladbach. The division continued north toward Mettmann and the industrial city of Duisburg, as resistance in the pocket collapsed in mid-April 1945.

Then, receiving orders to transfer to Patton's 3rd Army, the Black Cats proceeded on a rather long journey into Bavaria.

Starting off in the attack from Parsberg, 26 April, the 13th Armored first crossed the Regen and then the Danube Rivers, the latter near Mattling. It then cleared the good-sized town of Straubing, and then advanced toward the Isar River.

Moderate to heavy resistance was encountered in this drive through southern Germany. The 13th was never stopped, its men fighting with the skill and coolness of hardened veterans. Fighting against an enemy who wouldn't admit he was licked, the 13th beat back two heavy infantry attacks and then crossed the Isar River. Continuing on to the Austrian border, the division crossed the Inn River and smashed into Braunau, Austria, birthplace of Adolf Hitler. A bridgehead was established at Marktl, but not exploited as orders came down to reassemble north of the Inn on 3 May. Preparations were made for further advances, when the war in Europe ended on 8 May 1945.

The 13th Armored remained in Germany until 25 June, and then left Le Havre, France, for home on 14 July 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0  
Distinguished Unit Citations—0  
Distinguished Service Crosses—0  
Silver Stars—6

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—129  
Killed In Action—107  
Wounded—712  
Missing—16  
Captured—34  
Total Casualties—869

13TH ARMORED DIVISION "Black Cat"

MARCH 1945

27 Mar 1

1

APRIL 1945

3 Apr 1  
 10 Apr 11  
 11 Apr 1  
 12 Apr llllllllllllllllll 16\*  
 13 Apr lllllllllll 10 approx.  
 14 Apr 11 25\*men  
 15 Apr llllllll  
 16 Apr llllllllllllllll 13  
 17 Apr 11  
 18 Apr 11  
 19 Apr 1  
 21 Apr 1  
 23 Apr 1  
 25 Apr 1  
 28 Apr llll  
 30 Apr llll

68

MAY 1945

1 May 111

3 May 1

4

13TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----12 April 1945

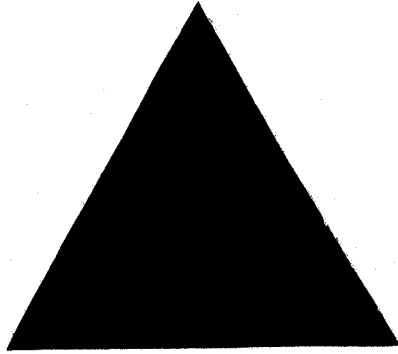
bloodiest month-----April 1945

2nd bloodiest day-----16 April 1945

3rd bloodiest day-----13 April 1945

Total battle deaths-----129

73 are listed=56.5% KIA--107



14TH ARMORED DIVISION "Liberator"

Activated—15 November 1942

Returned To United States—7 September 1945

Inactivated—16 September 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Vosges Mountains Alsace Siegfried Line Rhineland  
Central Europe

Days In Combat—167

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Albert C. Smith

July 1944—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 14th Armored Division, activated at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, in November 1942, was destined to fight under two armies, the 7th and 3rd, in that order.

The 14th Armored landed at Marseille, France, on 29 October 1944. Within two weeks elements of the division were in minor action, maintaining defensive positions along the French-Italian border.

The 14th was then soon moved north, and saw its first major combat in the attacks through the Vosges Mountains, under the 6th Corps, U.S. 7th Army. Hard fighting, 27-28 November 1944, at Gertwiller, Benfeld, and Barr, cracked German defenses, and the 14th Armored was on the Alsatian Plain by early-December 1944.

After regrouping, the 14th attacked into northern Alsace, along with other 7th Army divisions. It crossed the Lauter River, on 12 December 1944, and bit into the Siegfried Line against heavy opposition, 18-19 December. On Christmas Day, the 14th was assigned defensive positions running south of Bitche, near Neunhoffen.

When the Germans began their furious offensive in northern Alsace, on 1 January 1945, the 14th Armored was in the thick of the action right on the first day of the attack. First, it helped thwart the German thrust in the Bitche area in heavy fighting. It was during this hard-fought action that the 14th Armored had a Medal of Honor winner, Pfc George B. Turner, Battery C, 499th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, Philippsbourg, France, 3 January 1945.

Pfc Turner was 45 years old when he won his nation's highest award. He was cut-off from his artillery unit by a German tank-infantry attack. He noticed two German tanks and around 75 German soldiers advancing down the main street of the town.

Seizing a bazooka, he advanced under intense small-arms and cannon fire to meet the tanks. Standing in the center of the road, he fired at them and destroyed one and disabled the other. From a nearby halftrack, he then dismounted a machinegun, placed it in the open street, and fired into the German infantrymen, killing or wounding a large number of them, and breaking up their attack.

In the American counterattack which followed, two supporting tanks were disabled by an enemy antitank gun. Firing a light machinegun from the hip, Pfc Turner held off the Germans so that the crews of these tanks could get out of them. Painfully wounded by an explosion from one of the tanks, he refused to be evacuated, and remained with the infantry until the following day.

Pfc Turner then helped drive off an enemy patrol, and assisted in capturing a hostile strongpoint. He also voluntarily drove a truck through heavy enemy fire to deliver wounded

men to a rearward aid station.

The intrepid courage and great initiative displayed by Pfc Turner contributed vitally in the defense of Philippsbourg, and inspired the troops around him. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. military. And he survived the war to receive his award.

Although eventually forced to withdraw from the Bitche area, the 14th Armored remained intact. But then the Germans tried to break through in the northeastern part of Alsace. They attacked with a number of crack divisions—the 21st Panzer, 25th Panzer Grenadier, 7th Parachute, 10th SS Panzer, and 553rd Volksgrenadier. In very heavy, violent fighting the 14th Armored, along with the 12th Armored and 36th, 42nd, 79th, and 103rd Infantry Divisions—all helped to slow down and finally stop this dangerous onslaught. 12 January 1945, was the 14th Armored's bloodiest day in combat of the war, and the 14th played a conspicuous part in frustrating the German effort to capture the city of Strasbourg, a major objective.

However, fierce fighting continued to rage in the northeast part of Alsace, and the 14th was again forced to give up ground. After 19 January 1945, the fighting died-down in the 14th's sector. Combat Command B then cleared Schweighausen and part of the Bois de Ohlungen (woods) by 25 January, and by the end of the month, the German offensive in Alsace had come to a complete halt. During this cold, bloody month of January 1945, in Alsace, northeastern France, the 14th Armored had at least 230 men killed in action, hundreds more wounded, and numerous men captured.

After resting during most of February 1945 (although there were still some dangerous patrol actions), the 14th took part in the Siegfried Line offensive, mid-March 1945, in the latter part of the attack, and then suffered heavy casualties in the fight to the Rhine. By the end of March, the 14th had captured Schaidt and Germersheim, on the Rhine.

On Easter Sunday, 1 April 1945, the 14th Armored crossed the Rhine, near Worms, and advanced east-northeast. In the left (north) flank of the 7th Army, it ran into a major battle in Gemünden, on the Main River, which required the help of fighter-bomber strikes against the Germans. The 14th was assisted in this fight by the 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division.

The 14th Armored then took Lohr, Brückenau, Neustadt, and other towns, and then swung south to liberate 5,000 war prisoners at Hammelburg, including General Patton's son-in-law.

Driving on eastward, and outflanking Bayreuth and Nuremberg, the 14th Armored was then placed under Patton's 3rd Army.

From 19-21 April 1945, the 14th Armored was involved in some protracted combat with one of the Americans' most persistent nemesis' throughout the fighting on the Western Front—the 17th SS Panzer Grenadier Division—recent defenders of blasted-out Nuremberg. This troublesome German outfit was finally forced back, and the 14th then resumed its attack. It reached the Altmühl River, at Beilngries and Gungolding on 24 April. The Liberators then proceeded with bridging this river under heavy enemy fire. The division crossed the Altmühl, 26 April 1945, and reached the Danube that same day with CCA at Menning, CCB at Neustadt, and CCR at Malling. The 14th Armored then advanced rapidly to liberate the POW camp at Moosburg, and freeing over 10,000 Allied prisoners.

The Liberators then crossed the Isar River, deep in Bavaria, and were advancing toward the Inn River, on the Austrian border against moderate resistance, when the division was pinched out of the attack.

The 14th Armored fired its last rounds of the war in Europe, on 2 May 1945, and was processing POWs, when V-E Day finally came on 8 May 1945. The advance through south-central Germany and Bavaria hadn't been an easy one. During April-early May 1945, the 14th Armored had 145 men killed in action or died of wounds.

After occupational duties, the 14th Armored returned home in September 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1  
Distinguished Unit Citations—2  
Distinguished Service Crosses—9  
Silver Stars—273

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—609  
Killed In Action—544  
Wounded—1,955  
Missing—18  
Captured—212  
Total Casualties—2,729

14TH ARMORED DIVISION "Liberator"

NOVEMBER 1944

18 Nov 1  
 20 Nov 1  
 21 Nov 1  
 22 Nov 111  
 23 Nov 1  
 24 Nov 1111  
 25 Nov 111  
 26 Nov 1  
 27 Nov 111111  
 28 Nov 111111111111 14  
 29 Nov 11  
 30 Nov 1  
 39

DECEMBER 1944

3 Dec 1  
 7 Dec 111  
 8 Dec 11  
 14 Dec 111  
 15 Dec 1111  
 16 Dec 11  
 17 Dec 11  
 18 Dec 11111111 9  
 19 Dec 11111  
 20 Dec 1  
 22 Dec 1  
 26 Dec 1  
 30 Dec 11  
 36

JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 1111111111111111 17  
 2 Jan 11  
 3 Jan 11  
 5 Jan 1  
 7 Jan 1111111  
 8 Jan 1  
 10 Jan 11111  
 11 Jan 111111  
 12 Jan 1111111111111111 20\*  
 13 Jan 11111111111 12 approx.  
 14 Jan 11 37\*men  
 15 Jan 1111  
 16 Jan 111111  
 17 Jan 111111  
 18 Jan 111111  
 19 Jan 11111111 9  
 20 Jan 1  
 21 Jan 1  
 25 Jan 111  
 27 Jan 1  
 31 Jan 11  
 115

FEBRUARY 1945

2 Feb 1  
 4 Feb 1  
 6 Feb 1  
 7 Feb 11  
 24 Feb 1  
 25 Feb 11111  
 27 Feb 111  
 14



14TH ARMORED DIVISION "Liberator"

MARCH 1945

14 Mar 11  
 18 Mar 1  
 19 Mar 1  
 20 Mar 1111  
 21 Mar 1111111  
 22 Mar 1111111111 11  
 23 Mar 1111111111 10  
 24 Mar 111111111 9  
 25 Mar 1  
 46

APRIL 1945

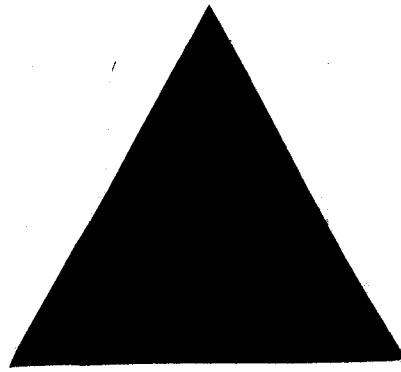
1 Apr 1  
 2 Apr 111111  
 3 Apr 111111111111 12  
 4 Apr 1111111 8  
 5 Apr 1111  
 6 Apr 1111  
 7 Apr 11111  
 15 Apr 1111  
 16 Apr 11  
 17 Apr 11  
 18 Apr 11  
 19 Apr 1111  
 20 Apr 111111111 9  
 21 Apr 1111  
 23 Apr 1  
 24 Apr 11  
 25 Apr 11  
 26 Apr 111  
 27 Apr 1  
 28 Apr 11  
 78

MAY 1945

1 May 11  
 3 May 1  
 5 May 1  
 15 May 1  
 5

14TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----12 January 1945  
 bloodiest month-----January 1945  
 2nd bloodiest day-----1 January 1945  
 3rd bloodiest day-----28 November 1944  
 Total battle deaths-----609  
 333 are listed=54.6% KIA-544



## 16TH ARMORED DIVISION

Activated—15 July 1943

Returned To United States—6 October 1945

Inactivated—15 October 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Central Europe

Days In Combat—3

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Brig-Gen John L. Pierce

September 1944—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 16th Armored Division arrived in France on 11 February 1945, and was eventually assigned to the 3rd Army.

The 16th Armored was given a security mission at Nuremberg, Germany, on 28 April 1945. One of its components, the 23rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (mechanized), was attached to the 86th Infantry Division. While under this division's control, it advanced south in Bavaria. It crossed the Isar River, 30 April 1945, advanced to Indorf, seizing several small villages, and was driving on Wasserburg against slight resistance when ordered to return to Nuremberg.

The 16th Armored proceeded to Waidhaus, Germany, 5 May 1945, and then took part in the final American offensive of the war in Europe, Patton's 3rd Army attack into western Czechoslovakia. The 16th launched an attack on Pilsen on the 6th, capturing this famous beer city against scattered and sporadic resistance. The 7th and 8th of May were spent in mopping-up actions and patrolling. Elements of the division also advanced to the town of Rokycany, several miles to the northeast of Pilsen. This was the closest that any American troops got to Prague. In 3 days, the 16th Armored captured 8,000 prisoners.

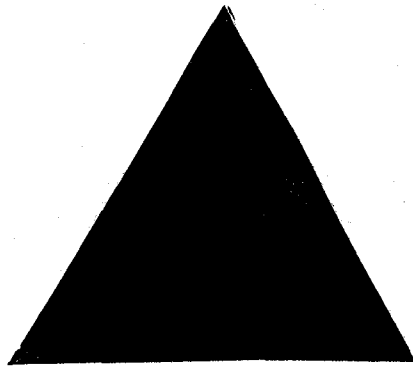
After its brief flurry of combat, the 16th had the trying job of herding together German soldiers and civilians attempting to flee from the Russian forces in Prague.

The 16th Armored was one of several American divisions which saw limited action in Europe, since the Germans collapsed sooner than expected. However, there had been much anxiety of a final all-out German stand in the Bavarian Alps. And there was also a sizeable well-armed force of Germans sitting tight in west-central Czechoslovakia when the war ended. The Allies just weren't taking any chances.

After V-E Day, 8 May 1945, the 16th Armored saw extended occupational duty in the American occupied sector of Czechoslovakia, until the country was eventually evacuated to the Russians.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0  
Distinguished Unit Citations—0  
Distinguished Service Crosses—2  
Silver Stars—4

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—5  
Killed In Action—4  
Wounded—28  
Missing—0  
Captured—0  
Total Casualties—32



## 20TH ARMORED DIVISION

Activated—15 March 1943

Returned To United States—2 August 1945

Inactivated—2 April 1946

Battle Credits, World War II: Central Europe

Days In Combat—8

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):  
Maj-Gen Orlando Ward

September 1944—August 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 20th Armored Division had made itself felt long before it went overseas. Thousands of men, trained in its ranks, had been shipped to Europe and assigned to other armored units.

The 20th Armored arrived at Le Havre, France, on 16 February 1945. After training at Buchy, it moved through Belgium, to Langendernbach, Germany, 10 April. At Marktbreit, the 20th was attached to the 3rd Corps, 20 April. Three days later, it was detached and reassigned to the 15th Corps, U.S. 7th Army, at Würzburg, Germany.

Elements of the division first saw action when a false surrender by the Germans resulted in fighting in the town of Dorf on 25 April.

The 20th then assembled near Deiningen, and then crossed the Danube on 28 April 1945. It advanced deep into Bavaria, encountering mostly sporadic resistance. The division took Schrobenhausen and secured crossings over the ILM River.

Then the 20th Armored helped attack the big Bavarian city of Munich on 29 April, smashing fanatical resistance at an SS barracks and anti-tank school. The city fell on the next day.

The 20th then crossed the Inn River at Wasserburg, 3 May, and entered Traunstein, by Lake Chiem on the 4th. Continuing on into Austria, the 20th Armored smashed into Salzburg, capturing several high-ranking German officers, just behind spearheading elements of the 3rd Infantry Division, and just as V-E Day arrived in Europe, 8 May 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—0  
Distinguished Unit Citations—5  
Distinguished Service Crosses—0  
Silver Stars—31

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—59  
Killed In Action—46  
Wounded—134  
Missing—1  
Captured—5  
Total Casualties—186

1 WWII

20TH ARMORED DIVISION

APRIL 1945

25 Apr 11  
28 Apr 111  
29 Apr 11111111111111 14\*approx.  
30 Apr 111111111 10 22\*men

29

MAY 1945

1 May 11

2

20TH ARMORED DIVISION'S

\*bloodiest day-----29 April 1945

bloodiest month-----April 1945

Total battle deaths-----54

31 are listed=57.4% KIA-46

## U.S. UNIT CASUALTIES—WORLD WAR II

(In the order of the number of total battle deaths)

UNIT	TOTAL DEAD	KIA	WOUNDED	TOTAL CASUALTIES
3rd Infantry Dvn	5,634	4,922	18,766	25,977
4th Infantry Dvn	4,798	4,017	17,371	22,580
29th Infantry Dvn	4,736	3,870	15,541	20,603
9th Infantry Dvn	4,531	3,863	17,416	23,284
1st Marine Dvn	4,465		13,849	18,314
1st Infantry Dvn	4,365	3,616	15,208	20,659
45th Infantry Dvn	<del>4,276</del>	3,714	14,541	21,260
36th Infantry Dvn	3,890	3,318	14,190	20,652
90th Infantry Dvn	3,868	3,270	14,386	19,128
34th Infantry Dvn	3,708	3,145	12,545	17,680
30th Infantry Dvn	3,525	2,992	13,376	18,435
83rd Infantry Dvn	3,387	2,960	11,000	14,902
4th Marine Dvn	3,317		13,006	16,323
2nd Infantry Dvn	3,272	2,833	12,000	16,812
80th Infantry Dvn	3,194	2,800	11,500	15,865
35th Infantry Dvn	2,936	2,476	11,526	15,813
79th Infantry Dvn	2,923	2,454	10,971	15,181
28th Infantry Dvn	2,873	2,316	9,609	16,762
8th Infantry Dvn	2,804	2,513	10,057	13,967
2nd Marine Dvn	2,729		8,753	11,482
5th Infantry Dvn	2,628	2,277	9,549	12,797
88th Infantry Dvn	2,529	2,282	9,225	13,095
32nd Infantry Dvn	2,524	2,108	6,627	8,763
101st Airborne Dvn	2,500	2,188	6,800	10,162
7th Infantry Dvn	2,346	1,957	7,258	9,221
3rd Armored Dvn	2,302	2,043	7,160	9,673
96th Infantry Dvn	2,166	1,596	7,281	8,945
26th Infantry Dvn	2,116	1,892	7,886	10,743
82nd Airborne Dvn	2,116	1,737	6,950	9,581
5th Marine Dvn	2,113		6,450	8,563
27th Infantry Dvn	1,977	1,545	5,485	7,071
3rd Marine Dvn	1,932		6,744	8,676
1st Armored Dvn	1,907	1,623	6,300	8,657
77th Infantry Dvn	1,904	1,482	6,000	7,559
85th Infantry Dvn	1,749	1,572	6,314	8,785

UNIT	TOTAL DEAD	KIA	WOUNDED	TOTAL CASUALTIES
78th Infantry Dvn	1,655	1,432	6,103	8,151
6th Marine Dvn	1,637		6,590	8,227
91st Infantry Dvn	1,633	1,456	6,748	8,800
43rd Infantry Dvn	1,514	1,213	5,187	6,411
25th Infantry Dvn	1,508	1,253	4,190	5,450
4th Armored Dvn	1,483	1,282	5,098	7,258
104th Infantry Dvn	1,465	1,285	5,200	6,818
2nd Armored Dvn	1,456	1,200	5,757	7,283
37th Infantry Dvn	1,456	1,112	5,261	6,378
84th Infantry Dvn	1,420	1,282	5,098	7,258
24th Infantry Dvn	1,441	1,209	5,321	6,547
95th Infantry Dvn	1,374	1,206	4,945	6,592
6th Armored Dvn	1,270	1,074	4,200	5,445
87th Infantry Dvn	1,269	1,124	4,342	6,004
Americal Dvn	1,259	1,075	3,350	4,442
7th Armored Dvn	1,222	994	4,000	6,084
1st Cavalry Dvn	1,152	887	4,035	4,932
99th Infantry Dvn	1,131	983	4,177	6,543
17th Airborne Dvn	1,130	978	4,704	6,332
6th Infantry Dvn	1,120	898	3,876	4,777
44th Infantry Dvn	1,101	940	4,209	5,557
94th Infantry Dvn	1,100	950	4,789	6,474
102nd Infantry Dvn	1,012	888	3,668	4,878
41st Infantry Dvn	975	758	3,504	4,275
63rd Infantry Dvn	960	844	3,326	4,487
10th Armored Dvn	945	790	4,000	5,070
100th Infantry Dvn	944	847	3,539	5,002
10th Mountain Dvn	941	862	3,134	4,062
75th Infantry Dvn	922	818	3,314	4,325
5th Armored Dvn	840	665	2,842	3,570
70th Infantry Dvn	840	758	2,713	3,922
103rd Infantry Dvn	821	659	3,329	4,497
66th Infantry Dvn *	800	795	636	1,452
442nd Infantry Rgt		680		
38th Infantry Dvn	791	653	2,814	3,472
76th Infantry Dvn	779	667	2,197	3,033
9th Armored Dvn	741	607	2,350	3,952

UNIT	TOTAL DEAD	KIA	WOUNDED	TOTAL CASUALTIES
12th Armored Dvn	718	605	2,416	3,516
40th Infantry Dvn	718	587	2,407	2,994
42nd Infantry Dvn	655	553	2,212	3,971
11th Airborne Dvn	631	516	1,926	2,453
11th Armored Dvn	628	523	2,394	2,968
92nd Infantry Dvn	610	544	2,187	2,993
14th Armored Dvn	609	544	1,955	2,729
81st Infantry Dvn	520	374	1,942	2,322
106th Infantry Dvn	513	444	1,278	8,419 **
33rd Infantry Dvn	<del>509</del>	388	2,024	2,418
1st Spec Serv Force	449	419		2,500
31st Infantry Dvn	418	342	1,392	1,733
69th Infantry Dvn	384	341	1,146	1,506
8th Armored Dvn	355	299	1,375	1,720
158th Infantry Rgt	340	290	1,097	1,390
89th Infantry Dvn	311	281	690	1,016
65th Infantry Dvn	261	233	927	1,230
97th Infantry Dvn	215	188	721	979
71st Infantry Dvn	169	150	643	821
113th Cavalry Grp	161	154		
86th Infantry Dvn	161	136	618	785
473rd Infantry Rgt		160	450	
3rd Ranger Bn	150			
1st Ranger Bn	140			
4th Ranger Bn	140			
13th Armored Dvn	129	107	712	819
5th Ranger Bn		117		
20th Armored Dvn	54	46	134	186
93rd Infantry Dvn	50	43	133	194
16th Armored Dvn	5	4	28	32

No casualty figures are available for the following units:

Philippine Inf Dvn	6th Ranger Bn	99th Infantry Bn
1st Marine Provl Bgde	6th Cavalry Grp	112th Cavalry Rgt
2nd Ranger Bn	13th Amd Grp	147th Infantry Rgt
2nd Cavalry Grp	14th Cavalry Grp	474th Infantry Rgt
3rd Cavalry Grp	15th Cavalry Grp	503rd Parachute Rgt
4th Cavalry Grp	22nd Marine Rgt	517th Parachute Rgt
Marine Raiders	Merrill's Marauders	Mars Task Force
	102nd Cavalry Grp	106th Cavalry Grp

## Notes on the casualty listing:

- 1 Some of the totals are approximate figures. However, the total battle death and the KIA (killed in action) figures are quite accurate. An exception to this is the Ranger battalions. All of those battalions which are listed are approximate figures except for the 5th Ranger Battalion which is an exact figure.
- 2 \* The 66th Infantry Division lost over 700 men in the English Channel in December 1944, due to enemy submarine action.
- 3 \*\* The 106th Infantry Division had close to 7,000 men captured in the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944.
- 4 No killed in action figures are available for any of the Marine divisions—only the total ~~battle~~ death figures.
- 5 The total battle death column includes those men who later died of wounds.
- 6 Captured and missing in action figures have been omitted primarily due to lack of space. In the Pacific, as a rule, very few men surrendered to the Japanese.
- 7 Figures are also incomplete for the 1st Special Service Force and the Japanese-American 442nd Infantry Regiment, the 473rd Infantry Regiment, and the 113th Cavalry Group. The 473rd fought in Italy, and the 113th fought in Europe.
- 8 The casualty figures for all of these units does not include any units or personnel which may have been temporarily attached to a given unit at any time.



U.S. BATTLE DEATHS IN WORLD WAR II—INCLUDES ARMY, MARINE CORPS, AND NAVY

France	52,844
Germany	42,915
Sicily and Italy	25,953
Belgium	10,418
Tunisia	3,053
Holland	2,468
Luxembourg	1,297
Algeria	671
Morocco	130 *
Austria	118
Czechoslovakia	116
Yugoslavia	7
	<hr/>
	139,990

Philippines	26,428	(Leyte, Luzon, Mindanao, Cebu, Samar, Negros, and others)
Okinawa	13,415	(Also, includes Ie Shima, Tsugen Shima, and Kerama Rettc
Iwo Jima	6,100 *	
Mariana Islands	5,160	(Saipan, Tinian, and Guam)
Solomon Islands	3,625	(Guadalcanal, New Georgia, Bougainville, and others)
New Guinea	2,774	(Also, includes Biak, Wakde, Noemfoor, and Morotai)
Palau Islands	2,715	(Peleliu, Angaur, and smaller islands)
Gilbert Islands	1,715	(Tarawa and Makin)
Burma	729	
Marshall Islands	708	(Eniwetok and Kwajalein)
Aleutian Islands	457	(Attu and Kiska)
Admiralty Islands	329	(Los Negros, Manus, and Lorengau)
New Britain	315	
China	61	
	<hr/>	
	64,530	

GRAND TOTAL—————204,520 (In this listing)

\* Approximate figures

## WORLD WAR II

North Africa—battle deaths listed in order for Morocco-Algeria: Nov-Dec 1942

	Listed	Approx. Total
1st Amd Dvn	91	190
9th Inf Dvn	33	70
3rd Inf Dvn		66 (exact figure)
34th Inf Dvn	19	45
2nd Amd Dvn	7	20
1st Inf Dvn	unavailable	

Approx. total-290 (not including the 1st Infantry Dvn)

North Africa—battle deaths listed in order for Tunisia: Jan—13 May 1943

1st Inf Dvn		750 (approx. figure)
1st Amd Dvn	290	550
9th Inf Dvn	220	450
34th Inf Dvn	183	380
1st Ranger Bn	unavailable	

Approx. total-2,130 (not counting the 1st Ranger Bn)

Sicily—battle deaths listed in order for Sicily: 10 July—17 Aug 1943

3rd Inf Dvn		381 (exact figure)
45th Inf Dvn		302 (exact figure)
1st Inf Dvn		264 (exact figure)
82nd Abn Dvn		206 (exact figure)
9th Inf Dvn	63	130
2nd Amd Dvn	23	60
Rangers	unavailable	

Approx. total-1,345 (not counting the Rangers)

Italy—battle deaths listed in order for Southern Italy (includes 1st Battle of Cassino)  
9 Sept 1943—into February 1944

36th Inf Dvn	692	1,400	Cassino:
34th Inf Dvn	601	1,225	34th Inf Dvn 610
45th Inf Dvn	404	820	36th Inf Dvn 370 (142nd Rg)
3rd Inf Dvn		683 (exact figure)	Approx. total-980
82nd Abn Dvn	81	175	
1st Amd Dvn	61	110	
1st Spec Srv Force	unavailable		
Rangers	unavailable		

Approx. total-4,410 (not counting the last 2 units)

Italy—battle deaths listed in order for Anzio (includes both the beachhead and the breakout to Rome): 22 Jan—4 June 1944

	Listed	Approx. Total
3rd Inf Dvn		1,585 (exact figure)
45th Inf Dvn	661	1,330
34th Inf Dvn	252	520
1st Amd Dvn	260	500
36th Inf Dvn	104	220
82nd Abn Dvn	68	150 (504th Para Rgt, only)
91st Inf Dvn	5	12
1st Spec Srv Frce Rangers	unavailable	unavailable

Approx. total-4,320 (not counting the last 2 units)

Italy—battle deaths listed in order for the Rome-Arno Campaign: June—early-Sept 1944

91st Inf Dvn	270	545
88th Inf Dvn	237	490
34th Inf Dvn	195	415
1st Amd Dvn	156	300
36th Inf Dvn	93	200
92nd Inf Dvn		104 (exact figure)
85th Inf Dvn	35	65

Approx. total-2,120

Italy—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle Through the Gothic Line and into the Northern Apennines (includes from about mid-Sept—through Oct 1944)

88th Inf Dvn	437	890
85th Inf Dvn	414	800
91st Inf Dvn	362	730
34th Inf Dvn	253	520
1st Amd Dvn	59	110
92nd Inf Dvn		80 (exact figure)

Approx. total-3,130

Italy—battle deaths listed in order for the Final Allied Offensive In Northern Italy— from out of the Apennines—into the Po Valley and to the Alps: beginning mid-April—2 May 1945

10th Mtn Dvn	272	500
88th Inf Dvn	91	195
91st Inf Dvn	75	155
1st Amd Dvn	73	130
92nd Inf Dvn		115 (exact figure)
34th Inf Dvn	40	90
85th Inf Dvn	18	35
442nd Inf Rgt	unavailable	
473rd Inf Rgt	unavailable	

Approx. total-1,220 (not including the last 2 units)

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle of Normandy: 6 June 1944-  
mid-Aug 1944

	Listed	Approx. Total	
29th Inf Dvn	1,301	2,700	
4th Inf Dvn	1,216	2,500	
90th Inf Dvn	1,049	1,950	Helping to repulse German
9th Inf Dvn	847	1,700	Counteroffensive at Mortain, Normandy
2nd Inf Dvn	818	1,650	7-14 August 1944:
30th Inf Dvn	803	1,640	30th Inf Dvn 355
83rd Inf Dvn	810	1,580	35th Inf Dvn 165
79th Inf Dvn	596	1,200	4th Inf Dvn 115
101st Abn Dvn	400	850	3rd Amd Dvn 110
35th Inf Dvn	394	825	2nd Amd Dvn 95
3rd Amd Dvn	361	710	1st Inf Dvn unknown
28th Inf Dvn	332	710	
8th Inf Dvn	320	630	
82nd Abn Dvn	250	530	
2nd Amd Dvn	197	425	
5th Inf Dvn	134	300	
80th Inf Dvn	70	135	
5th Amd Dvn	45	105	
4th Amd Dvn	42	90	
1st Inf Dvn		unavailable	

Approx. total-20,230 (not counting the 1st Inf Dvn)

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle of Brittany: 1 Aug 1944-  
mid-Sept 1944

8th Inf Dvn	411	790
29th Inf Dvn	325	700
2nd Inf Dvn	229	480
83rd Inf Dvn	213	400
6th Amd Dvn	117	250
4th Amd Dvn	42	100

Approx. total-2,720

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for U.S. 1st Army Attack Into The Siegfried Line:  
Mid-Sept 1944

28th Inf Dvn	245
3rd Amd Dvn	225
9th Inf Dvn	200
4th Inf Dvn	180
5th Amd Dvn	125
30th Inf Dvn	90
2nd Amd Dvn	25

Approx. total-1,090

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the U.S. 3rd Army Offensive from Lorraine—into the Saar, and U.S. 7th Army Offensive from southern Lorraine—into Alsace; co-ordinated together into one big massive offensive: beginning 8 Nov 1944—well into Dec 1944

	Listed	Approx. Total
95th Inf Dvn	481	980 (3rd Army)
26th Inf Dvn	412	840 (3rd Army)
90th Inf Dvn	331	640 (3rd Army)
80th Inf Dvn	321	635 (3rd Army)
35th Inf Dvn	277	575 (3rd Army)
79th Inf Dvn	257	515 (7th Army)
44th Inf Dvn	225	465 (7th Army)
100th Inf Dvn	219	420 (7th Army)
103rd Inf Dvn	189	380 (7th Army)
87th Inf Dvn	169	315 (3rd Army)
4th Amd Dvn	144	300 (3rd Army)
5th Inf Dvn	134	285 (3rd Army)
6th Amd Dvn	108	225 (3rd Army)
45th Inf Dvn	101	210 (7th Army)
10th Amd Dvn	87	185 (3rd Army)
14th Amd Dvn	55	100 (7th Army)
12th Amd Dvn	33	62 (7th Army) (exact figure)

Approx. total-7,335

note: Some of the above units entered combat well after the offensive was under way.

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for Southern France: August 1944

36th Inf Dvn	128	270
3rd Inf Dvn		220 (exact figure)
45th Inf Dvn	52	115
1st Spec Srv Frce		unavailable
517th Para Rgt		unavailable

Approx. total-605 (not including the last 2 units)

Italy—battle deaths listed in order for the Northern Apennines: November 1944—to the beginning of the U.S. 5th Army Offensive which began on 14 April 1945. Also, this listing doesn't include the beginning of the 92nd Infantry Dvn's attack which commenced on 5 April 1945.

10th Mtn Dvn	440
92nd Inf Dvn	362 (exact figure)
34th Inf Dvn	180
88th Inf Dvn	175
91st Inf Dvn	130
85th Inf Dvn	90
1st Amd Dvn	55

Approx. total-1,430

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle In The Hürtgen Forest, extreme western Germany—Altogether, beginning in mid-Sept 1944 and lasting through most of Dec 1944. The 9th Infantry Dvn was the first American unit to fight in this forest.

	Listed	Approx. Total
4th Inf Dvn	391	815
9th Inf Dvn	351	710
28th Inf Dvn	252	550
8th Inf Dvn	264	500
83rd Inf Dvn	204	390
5th Amd Dvn	120	255
1st Inf Dvn	unavailable	

~~Approx.~~ total-3,220 (not including the great 1st Infantry Dvn which, no doubt, lost at least 400 men in this terrible forest)

note: The 8th Infantry Dvn's fighting in this forest overlaps with the autumn Assault To The Roer River.

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for U.S. 3rd Army divisions in Lorraine, northern France (along the line of the Moselle River). Much of the Battle of Metz is included in this time sequence which is from early-September-7 November 1944:

	Approx. Total
80th Inf Dvn	1,000
5th Inf Dvn	735 M
35th Inf Dvn	600
90th Inf Dvn	300 M
7th Amd Dvn	250 M
4th Amd Dvn	230
26th Inf Dvn	190
6th Amd Dvn.	145
10th Amd Dvn	10

Approx. total—3,460

M—indicates was in the Battle of Metz

Italy—battle deaths listed in order (approx. totals):

Allied break through the Gustav Line, Italy: beginning 11 May 1944

85th Inf Dvn	510
88th Inf Dvn	220

Approx. total-730

Europe

Vosges Mountains, northeastern France: October 1944, only (approx. totals)

3rd Inf Dvn	unavailable
79th Inf Dvn	380
36th Inf Dvn	320

45th Inf Dvn	300	Approx. total-1000 (not including the 3rd Infantry Dvn)
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The Remagen Bridgehead, across the Rhine, Germany: Mid-March 1945

1st Inf Dvn	unavailable
78th Inf Dvn	335
9th Inf Dvn	270
99th Inf Dvn	200
9th Amd Dvn	120

Approx. total-925 (not counting the 1st Infantry Dvn)

The Scheldt Estuary, southwestern Holland: Late-Oct—Early Nov 1944

104th Inf Dvn	270
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"Operation Market Garden"—Airdrop Into Southern Holland: 17 Sept—into Nov 1944

101st Abn Dvn	750
82nd Abn Dvn	460

Approx. total-1,210

note: The break through the Gustav Line, Italy and the clearing of the Scheldt Estuary in south Holland were largely British operations.

The Battle of Metz, Lorraine, France: beginning 7 Sept—late-Nov 1944

5th Inf Dvn	770
95th Inf Dvn	380
7th Amd Dvn	250
90th Inf Dvn	230

Approx. total-1,630

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle of the Bulge: 16 Dec 1944-  
28 Jan 1945

	Listed	Approx. Total
101st Abn Dvn	290	610
26th Inf Dvn	280	575
80th Inf Dvn	292	570
30th Inf Dvn	227	475
75th Inf Dvn	223	465
84th Inf Dvn	232	455
17th Abn Dvn	218	450
83rd Inf Dvn	234	450
28th Inf Dvn	187	440
35th Inf Dvn	198	430
99th Inf Dvn	<del>219</del>	425
5th Inf Dvn	172	400
106th Inf Dvn	189	400
90th Inf Dvn	204	385
3rd Amd Dvn	184	360
2nd Inf Dvn	175	350
87th Inf Dvn	170	320
6th Amd Dvn	142	315
82nd Abn Dvn	145	310
4th Inf Dvn	141	300
78th Inf Dvn	147	280
9th Amd Dvn	131	275
11th Amd Dvn	133	275
7th Amd Dvn	146	270
4th Amd Dvn	91	190
10th Amd Dvn	86	180
2nd Amd Dvn	80	175
9th Inf Dvn	75	150
5th Amd Dvn	14	35
1st Inf Dvn	unavailable	

Approx. total-11,315 (not counting the 1st Inf Dvn)

note: Several different cavalry groups (consisting of around 3,000 men each) were also in the Battle of the Bulge, but no casualty figures are available for them, and, likewise, the 517th Parachute Regiment.



Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle Against the German Offensive In Northern Alsace, France: Throughout Jan 1945

	Listed	Approx. Total
45th Inf Dvn	147	315
70th Inf Dvn	145	300
79th Inf Dvn	145	290
42nd Inf Dvn	140	290
12th Amd Dvn	102	245
14th Amd Dvn	115	225
36th Inf Dvn	85	185
44th Inf Dvn	73	170
100th Inf Dvn	70	150
103rd Inf Dvn	<del>69</del>	140
63rd Inf Dvn	36	85
95th Inf Dvn	9	25

Approx. total-2,420

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle of the Colmar Pocket, eastern Alsace, northeastern France: 20 Jan-12 Feb 1945

3rd Inf Dvn		317 (exact figure)
28th Inf Dvn	75	170
75th Inf Dvn	65	150
63rd Inf Dvn	51	115 (254th Rgt, only)
12th Amd Dvn	28	65

Approx. total-820

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for U.S. 7th Army breakthrough the Siegfried Line mid-March 1945

36th Inf Dvn	103	215
103rd Inf Dvn	80	160
45th Inf Dvn	57	120
42nd Inf Dvn	55	120
63rd Inf Dvn	46	105
65th Inf Dvn	43	90
70th Inf Dvn	27	60
14th Amd Dvn	22	45
100th Inf Dvn	18	35
71st Inf Dvn	5	10
6th Amd Dvn	4	10
3rd Inf Dvn		unavailable

Approx. total-965 (not counting the 3rd Inf Dvn)

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Assault to the Roer River: mid-November—  
into Dec 1944

8th Inf Dvn	575
84th Inf Dvn	550
104th Inf Dvn	520
29th Inf Dvn	500
102nd Inf Dvn	460
30th Inf Dvn	225
2nd Amd Dvn	160
3rd Amd Dvn	140

Approx. total-3,130

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Assault Across the Roer—to the Rhine:  
beginning 23 Feb-into early-March 1945. U.S. 9th and part of 1st Armies.

8th Inf Dvn	385
84th Inf Dvn	265
102nd Inf Dvn	255
104th Inf Dvn	235
69th Inf Dvn	160
29th Inf Dvn	140
30th Inf Dvn	140
8th Amd Dvn	135
9th Amd Dvn	135
3rd Amd Dvn	130
2nd Amd Dvn	105
35th Inf Dvn	95
83rd Inf Dvn	50
5th Amd Dvn	30
75th Inf Dvn	30
79th Inf Dvn	15

Approx. total-2,310

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Battle of the Ruhr Pocket: late-March—  
mid-April 1945

8th Inf Dvn	320
78th Inf Dvn	180
99th Inf Dvn	150
97th Inf Dvn	140
75th Inf Dvn	130
3rd Amd Dvn	120
9th Inf Dvn	105
7th Amd Dvn	100
13th Amd Dvn	95
95th Inf Dvn	95
8th Amd Dvn	90
86th Inf Dvn	90
104th Inf Dvn	80
35th Inf Dvn	60
82nd Abn Dvn	55
101st Abn Dvn	45
2nd Amd Dvn	40
79th Inf Dvn	40
5th Inf Dvn	25
94th Inf Dvn	25
29th Inf Dvn	15
83rd Inf Dvn	10
1st Inf Dvn	unavailable

Approx. total-2,015 (not counting the 1st Inf Dvn)

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Eifel Campaign, western Germany, by the U.S. 3rd Army: 29 Jan—12 March 1945

	Listed	Approx. Total
76th Inf Dvn	287	580
4th Inf Dvn	251	500
80th Inf Dvn	237	460
87th Inf Dvn	216	390
5th Inf Dvn	142	320
90th Inf Dvn	136	250
69th Inf Dvn	81	170 (1st Army)
4th Amd Dvn	77	165
2nd Inf Dvn	60	130 (1st Army)
6th Amd Dvn	<del>57</del>	125
11th Amd Dvn	56	120
10th Amd Dvn	44	100
28th Inf Dvn	20	50 (1st Army)
17th Abn Dvn	12	30

Approx. total-3,390

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for the Palatinate Campaign, western Germany, to the Rhine, by the U.S. 3rd Army: 13-23 March 1945

26th Inf Dvn	67	145
80th Inf Dvn	73	135
94th Inf Dvn	64	135
90th Inf Dvn	64	110
10th Amd Dvn	47	105
12th Amd Dvn	34	80
4th Amd Dvn	26	60
11th Amd Dvn	19	45
5th Inf Dvn	17	40
76th Inf Dvn	18	38
89th Inf Dvn	17	37
65th Inf Dvn	2	5

Approx. total-940

Europe—number of battle deaths listed when and where the following units crossed the Rhine in Germany: March-April 1945

1st Inf Dvn	unavailable	15-16 Mar 45	Remagen bridgehead, 1st Army
2nd Inf Dvn	20	23 Mar 45	mid-Rhineland, 1st Army
2nd Amd Dvn	negligible	27 Mar 45	near Wesel, 9th Army
3rd Inf Dvn	unavailable	26 Mar 45	Worms bridgehead, 7th Army
3rd Amd Dvn	2	23 Mar 45	near Cologne, 1st Army
4th Inf Dvn	negligible	30 Mar 45	7th Army area
4th Amd Dvn	18	24 Mar 45	Worms bridgehead, 3rd Army
5th Inf Dvn	3	22 Mar 45	Oppenheim bridgehead, 3rd Army
5th Amd Dvn	5	30-31 Mar 45	at Wesel, 9th Army
6th Amd Dvn	5	25 Mar 45	at Oppenheim, 3rd Army
7th Amd Dvn	negligible	25 Mar 45	1st Army area
8th Inf Dvn	16	29-30 Mar 45	near Cologne, 1st Army
8th Amd Dvn	negligible	26 Mar 45	into the Ruhr, 9th Army
9th Inf Dvn	40	9 Mar 45	Remagen bridgehead, 1st Army
9th Amd Dvn	8	7 Mar 45	Remagen bridgehead, 1st Army
10th Amd Dvn	negligible	28 Mar 45	7th Army area
11th Amd Dvn	unknown	late-Mar 45	at Oppenheim, 3rd Army
12th Amd Dvn	3	27-28 Mar 45	at Worms, 7th Army
14th Amd Dvn	2	1 Apr 45	near Worms, 7th Army
26th Inf Dvn	negligible	26 Mar 45	at Oppenheim, 3rd Army
29th Inf Dvn	unknown	unknown	9th Army area
30th Inf Dvn	35	24 Mar 45	near Buderich, 9th Army
35th Inf Dvn	15	25-26 Mar 45	near Rheinberg, 9th Army
42nd Inf Dvn	3	31 Mar 45	7th Army area
44th Inf Dvn	negligible	26-27 Mar 45	at Worms, 7th Army
45th Inf Dvn	30	26 Mar 45	near Worms, 7th Army
63rd Inf Dvn	negligible	28 Mar 45	at Neuschloss, 7th Army
65th Inf Dvn	negligible	29-30 Mar 45	near Schwabenheim, 3rd Army
69th Inf Dvn	negligible	26-28 Mar 45	1st Army area
71st Inf Dvn	negligible	30 Mar 45	at Oppenheim, 7th Army
75th Inf Dvn	6	24 and 30 Mar 45	into the Ruhr, 9th Army
76th Inf Dvn	negligible	26-27 Mar 45	at Boppard, 3rd Army
78th Inf Dvn	16	8 Mar 45	Remagen bridgehead, 1st Army
79th Inf Dvn	40	24 Mar 45	near Rheinberg, 9th Army
80th Inf Dvn	30	27-28 Mar 45	Oppenheim vicinity, 3rd Army
83rd Inf Dvn	negligible	29 Mar 45	south of Wesel, 9th Army
84th Inf Dvn	negligible	1 Apr 45	9th Army area
87th Inf Dvn	35	25 Mar 45	Braubach-Boppard area, 3rd Army
89th Inf Dvn	110	26 Mar 45	Wellmich-Oberwesel region, 3rd Army
90th Inf Dvn	35	24 Mar 45	near Mainz, 3rd Army
95th Inf Dvn	unknown	early-Apr 45	into the Ruhr, 9th Army
99th Inf Dvn	30	10-11 Mar 45	Remagen bridgehead, 1st Army
100th Inf Dvn	negligible	31 Mar 45	7th Army area
102nd Inf Dvn	negligible	3-4 Apr 45	at Wesel, 9th Army
104th Inf Dvn	3	21-22 Mar 45	at Honnef, 1st Army

note: Any divisions not listed which were in Europe—they were either mopping-up, policing, or resting in areas behind the main line of advance at the time of these Rhine crossings. There are 520 known approximate battle deaths in this works. The 17th Airborne Dvn airdropped across the Rhine near Wesel, on 24 March 1945, losing, altogether, on that day, approximately 350 men!

Europe—battle deaths listed in order for Across The Elbe—Into Mecklenburg,  
northern Germany: late-April—8 May 1945

82nd Abn Dvn	29
8th Inf Dvn	15
7th Amd Dvn	2
Approx. total	46

Europe—battle deaths listed in order—Into Czechoslovakia: late-April—9 May 1945

97th Inf Dvn	57
90th Inf Dvn	35
5th Inf Dvn	12
26th Inf Dvn	9
89th Inf Dvn	9
16th Amd Dvn	5
87th Inf Dvn	2
9th Amd Dvn	2

Approx. total 131

Europe—battle deaths listed in order—At, and South Of The Danube, southern Germany,  
including (for some units) Austria: late-April—8 May 1945

65th Inf Dvn	72	
20th Amd Dvn	50	M
12th Amd Dvn	46	
45th Inf Dvn	40	M
86th Inf Dvn	40	
100th Inf Dvn	35	(southern Württemberg, somewhat north of the Danube)
63rd Inf Dvn	32	
42nd Inf Dvn	31	M
11th Amd Dvn	28	
99th Inf Dvn	27	
44th Inf Dvn	24	
13th Amd Dvn	20	
103rd Inf Dvn	18	
10th Amd Dvn	17	
71st Inf Dvn	17	
14th Amd Dvn	16	
36th Inf Dvn	10	
26th Inf Dvn	9	
4th Inf Dvn	6	
80th Inf Dvn	2	
101st Abn Dvn	2	
	3rd Inf Dvn	unavailable

Approx. total 542

M Includes fighting in Munich, Germany

## Europe—battle deaths listed in order for April 1945: Germany and northern Italy

	Listed	Approx. Total		Listed	Approx. Total
10th Mtn Dvn	270	510	26th Inf Dvn	20	45
63rd Inf Dvn	194	410	101st Abn Dvn	19	45
83rd Inf Dvn	164	305	103rd Inf Dvn	21	42
8th Inf Dvn	164	300	79th Inf Dvn	20	40
3rd Inf Dvn		250	5th Inf Dvn	14	40
3rd Amd Dvn	123	225	85th Inf Dvn	18	33
100th Inf Dvn	122	225	36th Inf Dvn	12	30
9th Inf Dvn	109	225	94th Inf Dvn	10	25
97th Inf Dvn	102	200	106th Inf Dvn	9	20
4th Inf Dvn	95	200	28th Inf Dvn	6	20
12th Amd Dvn	92	200	70th Inf Dvn	3	8
45th Inf Dvn	<del>92</del>	200	1st Inf Dvn		unavailable
69th Inf Dvn	94	195			
88th Inf Dvn	90	195			Approx. total-8,485 (not counting the 1st Inf Dvn)
78th Inf Dvn	100	185			
99th Inf Dvn	95	180			
10th Amd Dvn	86	180			
2nd Inf Dvn	80	170			
80th Inf Dvn	86	165			
91st Inf Dvn	80	165			
104th Inf Dvn	68	150			
14th Amd Dvn	78	145			
75th Inf Dvn	67	145			
86th Inf Dvn	74	145			
42nd Inf Dvn	68	140			
44th Inf Dvn	62	135			
13th Amd Dvn	55	124			
1st Amd Dvn	70	120			
84th Inf Dvn	60	115			
4th Amd Dvn	52	115			
92nd Inf Dvn		115 (exact figure)			
89th Inf Dvn	52	110			
30th Inf Dvn	46	110			
8th Amd Dvn	54	105			
95th Inf Dvn	48	105			
9th Amd Dvn	47	105			
65th Inf Dvn	54	100			
71st Inf Dvn	54	100			
76th Inf Dvn	50	100			
6th Amd Dvn	46	100			
17th Abn Dvn	44	100			
34th Inf Dvn	43	100			
5th Amd Dvn	44	95			
11th Amd Dvn	44	95			
2nd Amd Dvn	41	95			
7th Amd Dvn	55	90			
87th Inf Dvn	45	80			
90th Inf Dvn	42	80			
82nd Abn Dvn	35	80			
102nd Inf Dvn	35	80			
35th Inf Dvn	27	65			
29th Inf Dvn	23	55 (exact figure)			
20th Amd Dvn	29	52			

## In Brittany, France—April 1945

66th Inf Dvn	12 (exact figure)
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## WORLD WAR II

Pacific—battle deaths listed in order for all of the following units and campaigns:

Guadalcanal: 7 Aug 1942—9 Feb 1943

	Listed	Approx. Total
1st Mar Dvn		642 (exact figure)
Americal Dvn	193	365
2nd Mar Dvn		342 (exact figure)
25th Inf Dvn	115	230
Marine Raiders		unavailable
147th Inf Rgt		unavailable

Approx. total-1,580 (not including the last 2 units)

Papua, Southeast New Guinea: Nov 1942—2 Jan 1943

32nd Inf Dvn	253	530
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Attu: May 1943

7th Inf Dvn		441 (exact figure)
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New Georgia: July-August 1943

43rd Inf Dvn	171	550
37th Inf Dvn	103	225
25th Inf Dvn	71	145
Marine Raiders		unavailable

Approx. total-920 (not including the Marine Raiders)

Makin: 20-23 Nov 1943

27th Inf Dvn		71 (exact figure) (165th Rgt, only)
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Tarawa: 20-24 Nov 1943

2nd Mar Dvn		1,000 (approx. figure)
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Bougainville: Nov 1943—Nov 1944

Americal Dvn	151	275
3rd Mar Dvn		253 (exact figure)
37th Inf Dvn	89	200
93rd Inf Dvn	13	25
Marine Raiders		unavailable

Approx. total-755 (not including the Marine Raiders)

note: Only the Americal Dvn stayed on Bougainville until late-1944.

Pacific—battle deaths listed in order for all of the following units and campaigns:

New Britain: 26 Dec 1943—well into 1944

	Listed	Approx. Total
1st Mar Dvn		310 (exact figure)
40th Inf Dvn	5	15
	Approx. total-325	

Kwajalein: Early-Feb 1944

4th Mar Dvn		190 (exact figure)
7th Inf Dvn	65	170
	Approx. total-360	

Eniwetok: Mid-Feb 1944

27th Inf Dvn	40	100 (106th Rgt, only)
22nd Mar Rgt		unavailable

Admiralty Islands: March 1944

1st Cav Dvn		326 (exact figure)
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Biak: May—Aug 1944

41st Inf Dvn	192	400
24th Inf Dvn	22	40 (34th Rgt, only)
	Approx. total-440	

Northern New Guinea: April—Sept 1944

32nd Inf Dvn	100	230
6th Inf Dvn	121	220
31st Inf Dvn	55	115
41st Inf Dvn	44	90
158th Inf Rgt		70 (exact figure)
24th Inf Dvn		43 (exact figure)
43rd Inf Dvn	13	35
33rd Inf Dvn	2	5
112th Cav Rgt		unavailable

Approx. total-710 (not including the 112th Cavalry Rgt)

Saipan: 15 June—into Aug 1944

2nd Mar Dvn		1,200 (approx. figure)
4th Mar Dvn		1,107 (exact figure)
27th Inf Dvn		1,025 (approx. figure)

Approx. total-3,335



Pacific—battle deaths listed in order for all of the following units and campaigns:

	Listed	Approx. Total
Tinian: July-into Aug 1944		
4th Mar Dvn		214 (exact figure)
2nd Mar Dvn		185 (approx. figure)
Approx. total-400		
Guam: July-Aug 1944		
3rd Mar Dvn		619 (exact figure)
77th Inf Dvn		248 (exact figure)
1st Mar Prov Bgde	unavailable	
Total-867 (not including the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade)		
Peleliu: Mid-Sept—Nov 1944		
1st Mar Dvn		1,252 (exact figure)
81st Inf Dvn		208 (exact figure)
Total-1,460		
Angaur: Mid-Sept-Oct 1944		
81st Inf Dvn		265 (exact figure)
Morotai: Mid-Sept—into Dec 1944		
31st Inf Dvn	34	75
33rd Inf Dvn	25	55
32nd Inf Dvn	2	5
Approx. total-135		
Leyte: 20 Oct 1944—into Feb 1945		
7th Inf Dvn		584 (exact figure)
24th Inf Dvn		544 (exact figure)
96th Inf Dvn		532 (exact figure)
77th Inf Dvn	233	490
32nd Inf Dvn		450 (exact figure)
1st Cav Dvn		203 (exact figure)
11th Abn Dvn		200 (approx. figure)
Americal Dvn	82	145
38th Inf Dvn	51	105
112th Cav Rgt	unavailable	
Approx. total-3,255 (not including the 112th Cavalry Rgt or the 6th Ranger Battalion)		

Pacific—battle deaths listed in order for all of the following units and campaigns:

Luzon: 9 January—mid-August 1945

	Listed	Approx. Total
25th Inf Dvn	536	1,070
43rd Inf Dvn	473	970
6th Inf Dvn	494	930
32nd Inf Dvn	407	900
37th Inf Dvn	411	850
1st Cav Dvn	368	710
38th Inf Dvn	336	675
11th Abn Dvn	225	430
33rd Inf Dvn	199	420
40th Inf Dvn	<del>188</del>	390
158th Inf Rgt		245 (exact figure)
24th Inf Dvn	60	140 (34th Rgt, only)
6th Ranger Bn	unavailable	
13th Amd Grp	unavailable	
112th Cav Rgt	unavailable	

Approx. total-6,730 (not including the last 3 formations)

Iwo Jima: 19 February—end of March 1945

5th Mar Dvn	2,113 (exact figure)
4th Mar Dvn	1,800 (approx. figure)
3rd Mar Dvn	988 (exact figure)
147th Inf Rgt	unavailable

Approx. total-4,900 (not including the 147th Infantry Rgt)

Okinawa: 1 April—end of June 1945 (all are exact figures)

1st Mar Dvn	2,234
6th Mar Dvn	1,637
96th Inf Dvn	1,506
7th Inf Dvn	1,122
77th Inf Dvn	1,018
27th Inf Dvn	711
2nd Mar Dvn	36 (8th Rgt, only)

Total-8,264

Corregidor (recapture): February 1945

503rd Para Rgt	250 (approx. figure)
Other minor elements	unavailable

Cebu: Late-March—April 1945

Americal Dvn	410 (exact figure)
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Ie Shima: 16-29 April 1945

77th Inf Dvn	230 (approx. figure)
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Pacific—battle deaths listed in order for all of the following units and campaigns:

Panay: March 1945

	Approx. Total
40th Inf Dvn	20 (exact figure)

Negros: April—June 1945

40th Inf Dvn	325
503rd Para Rgt	unavailable

Mindanao: 17 April—mid-August 1945

24th Inf Dvn	<del>300</del>
31st Inf Dvn	220
41st Inf Dvn	110
93rd Inf Dvn	5
	835 Approx. total

Burma: February 1944—August 1945

Merrill's Marauders and Mars Task Force	729 (exact figure)
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In the Battle-Myitkyina—Summer 1944

Merrill's Marauders	272
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