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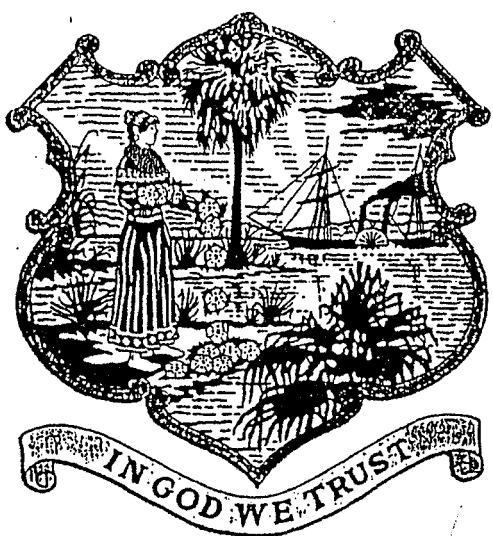
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FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF
MILITARY AFFAIRS



**Special Archives Publication
Number**

134

**SUMMARY HISTORIES:
WORLD WAR II
NATIONAL GUARD DIVISIONS**

*State Arsenal
St. Francis Barracks
St. Augustine, Florida*

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL**

**POST OFFICE BOX 1008
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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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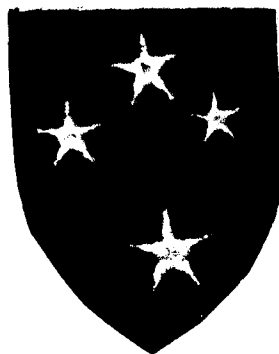
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Tampa, Florida 33620

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AMERICAL DIVISION

Activated—27 May 1942 in New Caledonia

Returned To United States—21 November 1945

Inactivated—12 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Guadalcanal Bougainville
Southern Philippines

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Alexander M. Patch	May—December 1942
Brig-Gen Edmund B. Sebree	January—May 1943
Maj-Gen John R. Hodge	May 1943—April 1944
Maj-Gen Robert McClure	April—October 1944
Maj-Gen William H. Arnold	November 1944—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The Americal Division had no number during World War II. But it didn't need one, as it became famous among the Americans, and only too well-known to the Japanese.

In early-1942, the Japanese were on the rampage in the southwest Pacific, and Task Force 6814 was rushed first to Australia, and then to New Caledonia, where it conducted a defensive mission. There, it prepared for an offensive, and was organized into a division. Its first commander, Major-General Alexander Patch, would later command the U.S. 7th Army in Europe. The division's name was derived from a combination of America and New Caledonia.

The 164th Infantry Regiment of the Americal was the first Army unit to reinforce the hard-pressed 1st Marine Division on Guadalcanal, arriving on 13 October 1942. It got there in time to see plenty of action, as Japanese warships and planes continued to bombard the island, especially at night.

From 23-26 October 1942, the Japanese launched their heaviest land attacks on Guadalcanal, but the 164th Infantry, with the marines, held their ground and beat the Japs back in some of the most vicious and desperate fighting of the war. The 164th and the marines then counterattacked, 5-11 November 1942, and the 164th helped reduce Japanese strongpoints at Koli Point and Gavaga Creek. In these actions the 164th had 26 men killed and 52 wounded. Japanese losses were far greater.

Then, later on in November 1942, in between incessant rains, the 182nd Infantry Regiment of the Americal arrived, as did a large part of the 2nd Marine Division. From 18-23 November, a large force of Marine and Army units, including the 182nd Infantry Regiment, crossed the Matanikau River to try to advance toward Kokumbona and the Poha River. But the Japanese resisted so fiercely and skilfully that the Americans were forced to halt and dig-in.

In early-December 1942, General Patch took command of all ground forces on Guadalcanal, as the 132nd Infantry Regiment of the Americal arrived on the embattled island, while the 1st Marine Division was evacuated for a well-

deserved rest and rehabilitation.

In January 1943, the 132nd Infantry Regiment, in conjunction with the recently arrived 25th Infantry Division, attacked Mt. Austen, and engaged in very bitter fighting at the Gifu Strongpoint, 24 December 1942-9 January 1943, when it was relieved in line by the 25th Infantry Division. Beginning on 16 January 1943, the 182nd Infantry participated in the advance along the east coast, and on 1 February, the 132nd landed at Verahue, and reached the Tenaru Village by 9 February 1943. It was on this latter date that organized Japanese resistance was declared ended on Guadalcanal. The Americal Division was the only Army division to be awarded by the Navy with its Presidential Unit Citation. 365 men in the Americal made the supreme sacrifice on Guadalcanal.

The Americal next moved by echelon to the Fiji Islands, 1 March-10 April 1943.

In December 1943, the Americal joined in the fight for Bougainville. The 3rd Marine Division, which had initially invaded the island left, while the 37th Infantry Division, which had landed in mid-November 1943, stayed on. The Americal stayed on Bougainville for nearly a year. It was early in the Americal's stay on Bougainville, that it had a Medal of Honor winner, Staff Sergeant Jesse R. Drowley, on 30 January 1944.

S/Sgt Drowley was a squad leader in a platoon whose mission was to remain under cover while holding a perimeter defense and acting as a reserve.

When intense enemy fire prevented aid from reaching three seriously wounded men from an assault company, he rushed forward to carry the wounded to cover.

Then Sgt Drowley discovered a pillbox which was inflicting heavy casualties on the Americans. Signalling to the crew of a tank, he climbed to the turret, grabbed a submachinegun, and directed the tank to within 20 feet of the pillbox, where he received a severe bullet wound in the chest. Refusing medical aid, he stayed on the tank, and was again wounded very seriously, losing his left eye. Nevertheless, he remained along side the tank until the Jap pillbox was completely demolished, and another directly behind it, also destroyed. The sergeant's voluntary mission completed, he then returned alone for medical treatment. He lived to receive his award.

In March 1944, the battle on Bougainville erupted with renewed fury. The Japanese attacked through the jungle, trekking around from Buin. The hardest blows fell upon the 37th Infantry Division, but the Americal also saw several days of heavy combat. An enemy attack on 10 March 1944, took the south knob of key Hill 260 from the 182nd Infantry Regiment, and it wasn't recovered until the Japs abandoned it on 15 March.

In April 1944, the Americal went over to the offensive, pushing east of the Mavavia River, and securing several hill masses. There was some heavy fighting on 16 April, as the outpost line was extended beyond the Torokina River. The Americal continued patrolling in the Torokina, Numa Numa, and Laruma sectors until relieved by the Australian 3rd Division on 10 December 1944.

Then, on 8 January 1945, the Americal sailed for the Philippines, where it began cleaning out pockets of remaining Japanese on Leyte and Samar. Elements of the division also conducted a number of smaller operations in the Visayan Islands, mopping-up Japanese on the relatively small islands of Biri, Capul, Ticao, and Burias. Then the Americal opened its attack at Villaba, on Leyte, and completed its encirclement of the Japanese in the northwest coastal region of the island, and mopped-up until 10 March 1945.

On 26 March 1945, the Americal landed on Cebu, and soon found itself mixed up in rough, difficult combat. After battling off of the beaches, the division reached the city of Cebu. Then, as the soldiers pursued into the hills, the Japs poured it on with everything they had, and blew-up an ammunition dump. The explosions killed 20 Americans and wounded 30 more. The 182nd Infantry

Regiment fought for Go Chan Hill, 28-29 March 1945 (the latter date being the division's bloodiest day in combat), and then battled to clear some other hills, being heavily counterattacked on Bolo Ridge on 1 April. The 132nd Infantry Regiment was counterattacked while approaching Hill 27 on 7 April 1945, but took both Hills 20 and 26 by 10 April. The 3rd Battalion, 164th Infantry Regiment landed on Bohol on 11 April 1945. There were only 330 Japanese on this island, but there were some sharp actions before it was secured by 25 April.

Meanwhile, back on Cebu, there was bitter fighting. The Americal fought the battle of Babay Ridge, 12-17 April 1945, and suffered heavy casualties. Action on Cebu continued until the end of June 1945. The island cost the lives of 410 men in the Americal.

The 164th Infantry landed on southern Negros, 26 April 1945, and fought for the Palimpinon Heights until 28 May. Many Japanese were slain near Balasbalas, 7-12 June 1945.

Also, elements of the Americal landed on the north coast of Mindanao to act as a rearguard for one of the 40th Infantry Division's regiments.

By 17 June 1945, the Americal was back on Cebu, where it flushed out remaining Japanese stragglers, and trained for the proposed invasion of Japan.

On 10 September 1945, the Americal Division landed in Japan for occupational duty in the Yokohama area. The men who had started out without a name and ended up without a number had really done all right!

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,259
Distinguished Unit Citations—2 *	Killed In Action—1,075
Distinguished Service Crosses—45	Wounded—3,350
Silver Stars—565	Missing—16
	Captured—1
	Total Casualties—4,442

* One to the entire division—Guadalcanal

The Americal Division served in the Vietnam War.

AMERICAL DIVISION

OCTOBER 1942

15 Oct 1
18 Oct 111
20 Oct 11
25 Oct 11
26 Oct 111111111 9
27 Oct 1
18

NOVEMBER 1942

3 Nov 1
5 Nov 111
6 Nov 1
7 Nov 11
10 Nov 11
11 Nov 1
14 Nov 1
15 Nov 1
17 Nov 1
19 Nov 11111
20 Nov 11111111 8
21 Nov 1111111111111 14
22 Nov 1111111111111 14
23 Nov 1111111
24 Nov 11
25 Nov 111
26 Nov 11111
28 Nov 111
29 Nov 11
30 Nov 1111
80

DECEMBER 1942

1 Dec 1
2 Dec 11
7 Dec 1
8 Dec 1
10 Dec 1
19 Dec 11
20 Dec 111
21 Dec 111111
23 Dec 1
25 Dec 111111
26 Dec 11
27 Dec 11
28 Dec 111
29 Dec 111
34

JANUARY 1943

1 Jan 111
2 Jan 111111111 9
3 Jan 1111111
4 Jan 1111
5 Jan 1111
6 Jan 1
7 Jan 1111111
8 Jan 1111
9 Jan 1
10 Jan 1
12 Jan 1
14 Jan 11111111 8
22 Jan 1
30 Jan 1111
31 Jan 11
57

AMERICAL DIVISION

FEBRUARY 1943

1 Feb 1
 4 Feb 111
 5 Feb 1
 7 Feb 11
 12 Feb 1
 14 Feb 1
 9

JANUARY 1944

3 Jan 1
 8 Jan 1
 12 Jan 11
 18 Jan 1
 19 Jan 1
 20 Jan 11
 23 Jan 11
 26 Jan 11111
 30 Jan 11111111 8
 23

FEBRUARY 1944

6 Feb 1
 13 Feb 1
 22 Feb 1
 28 Feb 1
 4

MARCH 1944

2 Mar 1
 4 Mar 1
 5 Mar 1
 7 Mar 1
 8 Mar 11
 9 Mar 1
 10 Mar 111111111111 12
 11 Mar 1111111
 12 Mar 1111111
 13 Mar 11
 14 Mar 1111
 15 Mar 11
 16 Mar 1
 17 Mar 11
 18 Mar 1
 19 Mar 111
 20 Mar 11111
 23 Mar 11
 24 Mar 1
 25 Mar 1
 26 Mar 11
 29 Mar 11
 30 Mar 11

APRIL 1944

1 Apr 1
 2 Apr 11
 4 Apr 11
 5 Apr 1
 7 Apr 11111
 8 Apr 1
 14 Apr 1
 16 Apr 111111111 9
 17 Apr 1
 21 Apr 1
 23 Apr 1
 25 Apr 1
 26

MAY 1944

2 May 11
 2

JUNE 1944

5 June 1
 7 June 1
 9 June 1
 3

JULY 1944

8 July 111

AUGUST 1944

8 Aug 1
 11 Aug 1
 12 Aug 1
 13 Aug 1
 17 Aug 1
 20 Aug 1
 25 Aug 1
 29 Aug 11
 9

SEPTEMBER 1944

24 Sept 1111
 28 Sept 11
 30 Sept 1
 7

OCTOBER 1944

1 Oct 1
 2 Oct 1
 3 Oct 11
 15 Oct 1
 26 Oct 111
 8

NOVEMBER 1944

5 Nov 1
 9 Nov 1
 28 Nov 1
 3

63

AMERICAL DIVISION

FEBRUARY 1945

10 Feb 11
 11 Feb 11
 12 Feb 1
 13 Feb 1
 14 Feb 11
 15 Feb 1
 16 Feb 1
 17 Feb 11
 18 Feb 11
 20 Feb 1111111111 10
 21 Feb 1111111111 10
 22 Feb 111
 23 Feb 1
 24 Feb 11
 25 Feb 11111
 26 Feb 11
 27 Feb 11
 28 Feb 111111

55

MARCH 1945

1 Mar 11111
 2 Mar 11
 3 Mar 1111
 4 Mar 111
 5 Mar 11111
 6 Mar 11
 7 Mar 1111
 8 Mar 111
 9 Mar 1
 10 Mar 111
 11 Mar 11
 12 Mar 1
 20 Mar 1
 26 Mar 11111
 27 Mar 11
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 29 Mar 111111111111111111 20*
 30 Mar 11111111111111 15
 31 Mar 111111

92

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111
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 29 Apr 111111111 9

128

MAY 1945

1 May 1111
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 5 May 1
 6 May 11
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 9 May 111
 10 May 1
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 14 May 1
 15 May 1111
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 19 May 111
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 23 May 1
 24 May 11
 25 May 111
 26 May 11

51

AMERICAL DIVISION

JUNE 1945

4 June 1
 6 June 1
 8 June 11
 9 June 11
 10 June 11
 12 June 1
 18 June 1
 21 June 1

11

JULY 1945

7 July 1
 1

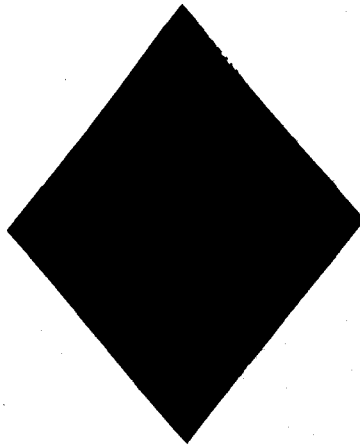
AUGUST 1945

3 Aug 1
 25 Aug 1
 2

AMERICAL DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day—————29 March 1945
 bloodiest month—————April 1945
 2nd bloodiest day—————14 April 1945
 3rd bloodiest day—————30 March 1945

Total battle deaths—————1,259
 690 are listed=54.6% KIA—1,075



26TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Yankee"

Originally—New England National Guard

Activated (WW II)—16 January 1941

Returned To United States and Inactivated—December 1945

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

Days In Combat—210

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Willard S. Paul

August 1943—June 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 26th Infantry Division had units like the 104th Infantry Regiment which could trace their lineage clear back to even before the Revolutionary War.

In World War I, the 26th led all other Guard divisions in number of combat decorations, and fought near Château-Thierry, being subjected to brutal gas attacks. The Yankee Division subsequently fought at Verdun, and also took part in the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives. Altogether, it had 13,664 casualties. Coincidentally, its days in combat tallied 210—the same as in World War II.

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the 26th was "raided" and many of its more experienced men went into the famous Americal Division which fought on Guadalcanal, on Bougainville, and in the Philippines.

The 26th rebuilt itself and eventually landed in Normandy, on 7 September 1944, but did not enter combat until one month later on 7 October 1944. The bulk of the division relieved the 4th Armored Division in western Lorraine, and maintained defensive positions. Meanwhile, the 328th Infantry Regiment was temporarily attached to the 80th Infantry Division and saw action with this unit between 5-15 October. On 22 October 1944, a limited attack was carried out in the Moncourt Woods by the other two regiments of the 26th, and this assault resulted in considerable casualties.

Then, on 8 November 1944, General Patton launched an offensive in very inclement weather to surprise the Germans and, hopefully, drive into the Saar. The 26th attacked with three regiments abreast and the Germans offered very determined resistance. The fighting was bloody and difficult as the 26th crossed the Seille River, took Château-Salins and Moyenvic, and entered Koecking Ridge Forest. It was on the very first day of this 3rd Army offensive that the 26th had a Medal of Honor winner, Technician 5th Grade Alfred L. Wilson, Medical Detachment, near Bezange la Petite, France, 8 November 1944.

T/5 Grade Wilson administered aid to men from a company other than his own which was under constant artillery fire. He then returned to his own company when a shellburst injured a number of its men. While giving first aid, he was seriously wounded, but refused to be evacuated. In spite of great pain and loss of blood, he continued to give first aid until too weak to stand. Crawling from one patient to another, he continued his work un-

til excessive loss of blood prevented him from moving. He then verbally directed unskilled men in giving first aid. He eventually was unable to speak above a whisper, and then lapsed into unconsciousness. The effects of his wound later caused his death.

By his distinguished devotion to duty and his own personal sacrifice, T/5 Grade Wilson helped save the lives of at least ten wounded men.

The 26th kept on advancing against very strong German opposition, and suffering very heavy losses. On 19 November 1944, the division was forced to a halt on the Diéuze-Benestroff line. The Germans then began slowly withdrawing, and the 104th Infantry Regiment took Marimont, while the 328th Infantry Regiment occupied Diéuze on 20 November, assisted by the 4th Armored Division. The 26th advanced rapidly behind the retreating Germans, but on 21 November, part of the 104th Infantry was isolated at Albestroff. Flooding, mines, and heavy enemy fire compounded the difficulty in enveloping this important crossroads town. The 328th Infantry was sent into the attack to assist the 101st Infantry Regiment, and Albestroff was taken on 23 November. However, skillful rearguard actions by the Germans kept the 328th Infantry out of Honskirch until 27 November 1944. The 101st Infantry participated in the 4th Armored Division's advance east of the Sarre River. The 26th took Sarre-Union in house-to-house fighting which lasted until 4 December 1944.

The 26th regrouped, after reaching the Maginot fortifications, 7 December 1944, and the 328th Infantry Regiment attacked Fort Witting at dawn, 9 December, and Rederching fell to 104th Infantry Regiment the following day.

The 26th then crossed the Blies River into Germany, and was now in the Siegfried Line. Then, on 13 December 1944, the 26th was relieved by the recently arrived 87th Infantry Division. Since the beginning of the 3rd Army offensive from Lorraine-into the Saar, the 26th Infantry Division, among other losses, had, between 8 November-13 December 1944, 840 men killed in action or died of wounds. It had been a bloody campaign.

The 26th returned to Metz for rest and rehabilitation, but this was interrupted a few days later by the German counteroffensive in the Ardennes.

No outfit fought harder in the Battle of the Bulge than the Yankee Division. The 26th was one of the first 3rd Army divisions to attack the Germans on their southern flank—in appalling winter conditions. Struggling forward into Luxembourg, the 26th attacked at Rambrouch and Grosbous on 22 December 1944. The Germans, camouflaged in white, raked the Americans with murderous artillery, mortar, machinegun, and rifle fire. Beating back intense German counterattacks, the 26th took Arsdorf on Christmas Day after sustaining heavy casualties. Then the division attacked toward the Wiltz River, but was forced to withdraw in the face of determined German resistance.

After regrouping, 5-8 January 1945, the 26th forced a small bridgehead near Oberwampach, across the Wiltz, on 20 January 1945. The 26th continued its advance and took Grumelscheid on the next day, and then crossed the Clerf River three days later. By this time, cases of frostbite and trench foot were a real problem. The Battle of the Bulge was officially declared over on 28 January 1945. The huge battle had cost the 26th 575 men killed in action or died of wounds, many hundreds more wounded, and numerous men captured.

The 26th then shifted to the west bank of the Saar River, inside Germany, and maintained defensive positions north of Saarlautern, from 29 January-6 March 1945. No major battles were fought by the division during this period.

And then, the 3rd Army offensive into the Palatinate region of western Germany opened on 13 March 1945. The 104th Infantry seized the Prims River bridge at Huettersdorf, 17 March, while the 328th Infantry cleared Merzig and Haustadt. The 26th was the first 3rd Army outfit to make contact with a 7th Army unit (6th Armored Division) advancing from the south. In between was the German 1st Army, caught in a vise-like trap, and confused Germans were captured by the thousands.

The 26th crossed the Rhine at Oppenheim, 25-26 March 1945. Advancing northeast, Hanau was taken in house-to-house combat by 28 March. The Yankees then pushed through Fulda, 1 April 1945, and helped reduce Meiningen on the 5th. Advancing deeper into central Germany, in the wake of the 11th Armored Division, the 26th moved through part of the Thüringen Forest against inconsistent opposition, capturing numerous towns and villages.

Still under the 3rd Army, the 26th cut a swath southeastward, advancing in the corridor

between the Danube and the Czech border. The 26th closed to the Ilz River on 30 April 1945, and the 104th Infantry Regiment took positions beyond Hauzenberg, near the Austrian border, without resistance. The 328th Infantry Regiment, meanwhile, established a bridgehead across the Ilz, at Strasskirchen.

Continuing southeast into Austria, the 26th assisted the 11th Armored Division in the capture of the city of Linz. Die-hard Germans offered bitter resistance, even though the war was almost over, but Linz fell on 4 May 1945.

The 26th then changed the direction of its attack to the northeast, and was moving across the Vltava (Moldau) River in Czechoslovakia, when V-E Day finally arrived on 8 May 1945.

The Yankee Division had made heavy sacrifices in blood (as had so many other outfits) in being one of the 3rd Army's most reliable and effective divisions. The 26th returned home in December 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1
Distinguished Unit Citations—1
Distinguished Service Crosses—43
Silver Stars—955

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—2,136
Killed In Action—1,850
Wounded—7,886
Missing—159
Captured—806
Total Casualties—10,701

26TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Yankee"

SEPTEMBER 1944

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OCTOBER 1944

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NOVEMBER 1944

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26TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Yankee"

DECEMBER 1944

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JANUARY 1945

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FEBRUARY 1945

8 Feb 11
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26TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Yankee"

MARCH 1945

1 Mar 1
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APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111111
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MAY 1945

1 May 1
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26TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day—19 November 1944
 bloodiest month—November 1944
 2nd bloodiest day—21 November 1944
 3rd bloodiest day—16 and 23 November 1944

Total battle deaths—2,116
 1,140 are listed=53.8% KIA—1,892



27TH INFANTRY DIVISION "New York"

Originally—New York National Guard

Activated (WW II)—15 October 1940

Returned To United States—15 December 1945

Inactivated—31 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Makin Atoll Eniwetok Saipan Okinawa

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Ralph C. Smith

November 1942—June 1944

Maj-Gen George W. Griner, Jr.

June 1944—December 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 27th Infantry Division first saw action in World War I, in the Somme Offensive of 1918, and also in western Belgium. The 27th had 1,442 men killed in action and 6,892 wounded in that war.

Before Pearl Harbor, the 27th was commonly known as the "Empire" or "New York" Division, having been originally composed of National Guardsmen from "upstate" New York.

After patrolling the west coast of the United States for a few weeks after Pearl Harbor, the 27th sailed for Hawaii, and manned defensive positions on Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii, while also conducting training procedures.

In November 1943, the 27th earned its first battle star. While the 2nd Marine Division stormed into the hell of Tarawa, the 27th's 165th Infantry Regiment and other elements went ashore on Makin Atoll, on the main island of Butaritari, somewhat to the north. It was nowhere near as bad as Tarawa, but bad enough. After three days of fierce fighting, the 165th radioed to the task force off shore, "Makin taken." It cost the life of the regimental commander and 70 men. The Japanese garrison was wiped out.

After Makin, the 27th's 106th Infantry Regiment took the small island of Majuro without opposition, and then went on to join the fighting in the Marshalls, in February 1944, seeing action on Eniwetok. This island was invaded on 19 February 1944, and the 106th Infantry suffered heavy losses on the first day of this assault. Eniwetok was secured after three days of furious fighting which included a Japanese counterattack. The 106th Infantry lost close to 100 men.

The 106th Infantry Regiment returned to Hawaii, to rejoin the rest of the 27th on 13 April 1944.

The 27th fought as an entire unit, for the first time, during the capture of Saipan, in the Marianas, in June-July 1944. The 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions made the initial assault landings on 15 June 1944. The 27th, first held in floating reserve, landed its 165th Infantry Regiment on the night of 16 June, to support the heavily engaged 4th Marine Division. The 105th Infantry Regiment was landed the following day.

The 165th Infantry, supported by artillery and naval gunfire, cleared Aslito Airfield, and its surrounding heights by 18 June 1944.

The 165th and 105th Infantry then advanced over rugged terrain and attacked Nafutan Point on extreme southern Saipan. This area was cleared after about a week of hard fighting, and the 106th Infantry landed on Saipan, on 20 June 1944.

The two marine divisions were having an equally tough time, and so the 27th was placed in

between the two marine divisions as they battled northward, on 23 June 1944.

The 27th had the roughest terrain to negotiate, and the Japanese were entrenched in caves and concrete fortifications, and offered their usual fanatical resistance. The 106th Infantry Regiment assaulted Death Valley, while the 165th Infantry Regiment fought on Purple Heart Ridge. The 106th Infantry began reducing Hell's Pocket, 28 June 1944, and had cleared both Death Valley and Purple Heart Ridge by the 30th. Casualties were very heavy, as the terrific battle continued unabated.

Attacking with all three regiments, the 27th gained positions commanding Tanapag Plain, and on 4 July, the 106th Infantry reached the seaplane base at Flores Point. After taking the town of Garapan, the 2nd Marine Division was pinched out of the attack, and the 27th and the 4th Marine Division continued to battle north with the 27th on the left and the 4th on the right.

And then, on the Tanapag Plain, in the pre-dawn hours of 7 July 1944, the Japanese launched a tremendous Banzai attack, with the heaviest blow falling against the 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division. There were over 5,000 Japanese in on the overall assault. Many of the Japs were armed only with clubs, swords, or bayonets, and many of them were drunk. None seemed afraid to die.

In some of the most savage fighting of the entire war, the Japs came on wildly, screaming obscenities, and were mowed down and blasted by the hundreds. Still, by their sheer weight of numbers, size and momentum of their onslaught, and their utter disregard for losses, the Japs reached the American lines, and there was wild, terrific hand-to-hand fighting. It was in this extremely violent combat that the 27th produced one of its three Medal of Honor winners of the war, Lieutenant-Colonel William J. O'Brien, 1st Battalion, 105th Infantry Regiment. Lt-Colonel O'Brien had already distinguished himself by his valiant and skillful leadership earlier in the battle on Saipan.

Then, on 7 July 1944, his and another battalion of the 105th Infantry were hit full force by the above mentioned onslaught. With vicious, bloody hand-to-hand fighting going on everywhere, the American lines were pierced by sheer weight of numbers. With many casualties, and ammunition running low, Lt-Col O'Brien refused to leave the front lines. Striding up and down the lines, he fired at the enemy with a pistol in each hand, and his presence bolstered the morale of the men, encouraged them in their desperate fight, and sustained them in their heroic stand.

Though seriously wounded, Lt-Col O'Brien refused to be evacuated and, after exhausting his pistol ammunition, he manned a .50 caliber machinegun mounted on a jeep, and continued firing. When last seen alive, he was standing upright and firing into the Jap hordes that were enveloping him. Some time later, his body was found surrounded by dead Japanese. A lasting inspiration to his entire battalion, even the whole 27th Division, Lt-Col O'Brien's exceptional valor was in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. military.

With the greatest effort the 105th Infantry did everything it could to try to throw the remaining Japanese back. But there were just too many of them and, in a mixed-up, wild free-for-all, hundreds of the Japs broke through to attack a marine artillery unit to the rear. The marines fought valiantly, but they, too, were unable to stop the frenzied enemy, as some elements of the 105th were pulled off the island by water. The lunging Japanese drive finally spent itself, and lost momentum at a U.S. command post, where cooks, clerks, and staff officers stood their ground.

The terrible battlefield was littered with men from both sides—with the majority of them being dead Japanese. Over 4,000 of them were counted on the battlefield. The 105th Infantry Regiment lost way over 300 men. The entire 105th Infantry was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for this heroic action.

As a finale to the overall battle on Saipan, the 165th Infantry then cleared Hara-kiri Gulch, suffering very heavy losses on 9 July 1944. Shortly after, the island was declared secured, but the 27th remained throughout August 1944, cleaning out isolated pockets of Japanese in the hills and cliffs of Saipan. Altogether, the 27th lost 1,053 men on terrible Saipan!

The division then sailed to the New Hebrides for rest and rehabilitation.

On 25 March 1945, the 27th sailed from Espiritu Santo, and arrived on Okinawa, 9 April

1945, nine days after the initial assault landings by four other divisions, the 1st and 6th Marine and 7th and 96th Infantry.

On 10 April 1945, the 105th Infantry Regiment assaulted Tsugen Shima, an island off of Okinawa, and secured it in moderate to heavy combat by the next day. The 105th rejoined the rest of the 27th back on Okinawa, on 13 April.

On 19 April 1945, the 27th participated in a general assault on the outer belt of the Shuri Line defenses. The Japanese had been treated to a very heavy naval and air bombardment, but this had little effect on their well-organized system of cave-tunnel defenses.

The 27th fought valiantly, but the 106th Infantry was stopped at the Urasoe-Mura Escarpment. This area was secured only after the defeat of several Japanese counterattacks, and a fierce battle which ended on 23 April.

Meanwhile, the 105th Infantry battled up Kakazu Ridge, in a costly attack which claimed many men, as well as 22 tanks.

The 165th Infantry was committed on 20 April, and became involved in the battle for Item Pocket, which lasted until 27 April 1945.

The 27th then made efforts to improve its positions, and, after a bitter struggle, took Machinato Airfield, on 28 April. But the raging battle continued, and on 1 May 1945, the 27th was relieved by the 1st Marine Division.

After rest and rehabilitation, elements of the 27th landed on Tora Shima, another small island near Okinawa, 12 May 1945. The landing was unopposed.

Isolated pockets of Japanese were causing sufficient trouble on northern Okinawa, that the 27th was next committed there. In a battle that was literally fought in the clouds, the division, after over a week of fighting, secured Onna Take Hill, on 2 June 1945. The 27th continued to mop-up on northern Okinawa, until 4 August 1945. The 27th lost 711 men on Okinawa.

The 27th left Okinawa, 7 September 1945, and moved to Japan, pulling occupational duties in the Niigata and Fukushima areas. The 27th left for home in December 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—3
Distinguished Unit Citations—2 *
Distinguished Service Crosses—21
Silver Stars—412

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,977
Killed In Action—1,545
Wounded—5,485
Missing—40
Captured—1
Total Casualties—7,071

* One to the entire 105th Infantry Regiment—Saipan

Other 27th Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action *

Sgt Thomas A. Baker, * 105th Inf Rgt, 19 June-7 July 1944, on Saipan

Pfc Alejandro R. Ruiz, 165th Inf Rgt, 28 April 1945, on Okinawa

27TH INFANTRY DIVISION "New York"

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FEBRUARY 1944

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JUNE 1944

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27TH INFANTRY DIVISION "New York"

APRIL 1945

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MAY 1945

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 23 May 111
 26 May 1
 27 May 1
 29 May 1
 30 May 11

94

JUNE 1945

5 June 1
 8 June 11
 9 June 111
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 12 June 11
 13 June 1
 22 June 1
 28 June 1

13

JULY 1945

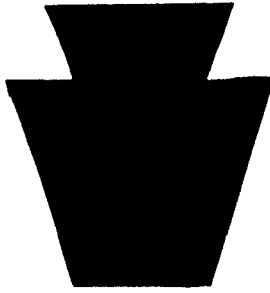
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5

27TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

* bloodiest day-----7 July 1944
 bloodiest month-----July 1944
 2nd bloodiest day-----9 July 1944
 3rd bloodiest day-----30 April 1945

Total battle deaths-----1,977
 1,057 are listed=53.4% KIA--1,566



28TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Keystone"

Pennsylvania

Activated (WW II)—17 February 1941

Returned To United States—2 August 1945

Inactivated—13 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Normandy Northern France Siegfried Line
Ardennes Alsace Rhineland

Days In Combat—196

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):
Maj-Gen Lloyd D. Brown January 1943—July 1944
Maj-Gen Norman D. Cota August 1944—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 28th Infantry Division, nicknamed the "Bloody Buckets" by the Germans because of the shape and color of its shoulder patch and its furious assaults, took part in some of the heaviest fighting in World War I. The 28th had 2,165 men killed in action and another 11,974 more wounded in that conflict. The division is probably best noted in World War I for its rescue of the famous "Lost Battalion" of the 77th Division in the Meuse-Argonne forest.

In World War II, the 28th, after training in England and Wales, landed in Normandy on 22 July 1944. Entering the bitter hedgerow struggle, the 28th was placed in the line in between two veterans of D-Day, the 4th and 29th Infantry Divisions. The 28th inched forward against desperate opposition.

It was usually a standard German tactic to hit new divisions as they were committed, and casualties were heavy. On 2 August, alone, the 28th sustained 750 casualties. The town of Percy fell, and then the 110th Infantry Regiment hammered at Gathemo for 3 days before it finally fell with the help of a task force from the 2nd Armored Division. Two days later, on 12 August, Brigadier-General James E. Wharton was killed a few hours after assuming command of the division by a sniper's bullet as he visited the command post of the 112th Infantry Regiment. He was replaced by Brigadier-General Norman "Dutch" Cota, who had heroically commanded the 29th Infantry Division on Omaha Beach.

Gradually, the American offensive in Normandy gained momentum, and the 28th captured Sourdeval. After a few days rest, the Bucketeaders raced to the Seine River, and helped capture Elbeuf on 25 August.

After parading down the Champs-Élysées in Paris, 29 August 1944, the proud division continued its sustained drive through northern France and Luxembourg to the Siegfried Line on the German frontier.

At dawn on 14 September 1944, the 28th and five other 1st Army divisions launched an attack against the Siegfried Line. But the Germans had had time to man this sector in strength, murderous fire met the Americans, and the attack made little headway. It was during this period that the 28th had a Medal of Honor winner, Technical Sergeant Francis J. Clark, Company K, 109th Infantry Regiment.

On 12 September 1944, Company K began fording the Our River near Kalborn, Luxembourg, to take some high ground on the opposite bank, which was German soil. Covered by fog, one

platoon made the opposite shore, but when a second reached the far shore, the Germans opened up with withering fire.

Sgt Clark led this platoon to safety and rescued a wounded soldier. Later, he attacked an enemy machinegun with grenades and killed two Germans. He roamed the line and flanks, killing and wounding an undetermined number of the enemy, scattering German patrols, and eventually forcing the withdrawal of an entire company of German soldiers.

On 17 September 1944, near Sevenig, Germany, Sgt Clark advanced alone against a machinegun, killed the gunner, and forced his assistant to flee. The Germans counterattacked and Company K suffered heavy casualties. Seeing that two platoons lacked leadership, he took over command and moved among the men, giving them encouragement.

On the 18th, he was wounded, but refused to be evacuated, taking up a position in a pillbox as night came. Emerging at daybreak, he killed a German setting up a machinegun not more than five yards away. Locating another enemy emplacement, Sgt Clark moved up unobserved and disposed of two Germans with rifle fire. Later that day, he volunteered to take food and water to members of an isolated platoon.

Sgt Clark's actions of leadership and heroism were vital in defeating counterattacks by formidable enemy forces, and put fighting heart into the hard-pressed men of Company K.

Fierce fighting continued at the Siegfried Line. On 19 September 1944, the 112th Infantry Regiment, with the 5th Armored Division, defeated strong German counterattacks against the Wallendorf bridgehead. After more fighting, the 28th was given a rest, starting on 9 October 1944. Then the Bucketeers were given new orders—to relieve the 9th Infantry Division, near Schmidt, in the Hürtgen Forest.

On 26 October 1944, the 28th slowly marched into the dark, damp, forbidding, evil forest. It was almost like right out of a German fairy tale—but filled with death. The men of the 28th were met by the exhausted veterans of the 9th Division as they staggered out of the forest with haunted looks, the faces of men who had seen much dying and misery. It was foggy and the men's boots sank in the mud. It was cold. There were shellholes, splintered trees, damaged vehicles, battered road signs, and destroyed bunkers. And, as the men of the 28th soon learned to their horror, the Germans had planted thousands of mines of all types.

On 2 November 1944, the 28th jumped-off into an attack toward the small town of Schmidt, deep in the forest. Although there was no air support, a heavy artillery bombardment preceded the attack. At first, good progress was made in the center, and two villages were taken. Little did the 28th know that the crack 116th Panzer and 89th Infantry Divisions, plus elements of two other German divisions were massing for a very heavy assault.

On 4 November 1944, a tremendous artillery barrage fell upon the 28th, and then the Germans surged forward with tanks and infantry. The 28th fought courageously, and over the next several days violent fighting caused Vossenack and Schmidt to change hands several times. But there were just too many Germans, and the 28th lacked enough tanks and anti-tank weapons to cope with the huge German assault. The Germans eventually captured Schmidt. Royal Tiger tanks thrust the ugly snouts of their guns right up to the windows of some of the buildings which some of the GIs were holding. These men had no choice but to either give up or be blown to bits.

In the overall battle the division was forced to pull back the 112th Infantry Regiment on 14 November 1944 (a particularly bloody day), and on the 17th, the 110th Infantry Regiment was also forced to withdraw. By 19 November 1944, it was all over, and the 28th had lost at least 550 men.

This action of the 28th in the Hürtgen Forest was as bitter as any of the war. The division's attack had been smashed, and there were over 6,000 casualties! But it wasn't the 28th's fault. It was a very good, veteran outfit, and its tactical planning had been sound. SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force) had failed to appreciate the strength of the Germans in this region, and should not have sent single divisions into the forest, one at a time, to be severely mauled. Several other divisions would yet fight in the green hell of the Hürtgenwald, but the 28th's experience was as bad as any. Military experts would later consider the fighting in the Hürtgen Forest to be the worst

of any on the Western Front.

After this extremely bitter, costly experience, the 28th was sent to a supposedly quiet sector of the front—the Ardennes. The Bucketeers did get a few weeks of relative quiet, but then came the great German counteroffensive—the Battle of the Bulge, beginning on 16 December 1944.

The heaviest blow fell on the U.S. 8th Corps—and the strung-out 28th was smack in the center of it. No less than 9 German divisions were concentrated opposite the 28th's extended sector in the northern portion of Luxembourg. The Allies had never expected the Germans to launch a major attack in the rugged Ardennes, and in the middle of winter, and the 28th was simply overwhelmed.

After the terrible experience in the Hürtgen Forest, it was one of the more unfortunate events of the war that the 28th took the brunt of the German onslaught. Although, here and there, some men broke and ran, as a whole, the 28th put up a magnificent fight, inflicted tremendous losses on the Germans, and seriously upset their timetable, allowing the 101st Airborne Division and elements of the 9th and 10th Armored Divisions precious time to establish a very formidable defense of the key town of Bastogne, a major German objective. But the 28th, once again, suffered very heavy losses in men and equipment, with 20 December 1944, being an especially costly day. The 28th was badly shattered as remnants of the division fell back to the west. Between the Hürtgen Forest debacle and the Ardennes, the 28th suffered over 12,000 casualties!

The 28th moved to a defensive position along the Meuse River, from Givet to Verdun, where it was reconstituted with replacements.

Then, after a short rest, the 28th was moved by freight cars south into central Alsace, to help eliminate the troublesome Colmar Pocket in late-January 1945. The 28th was one of several American divisions sent into this region to help out the French 1st Army. It was a very vicious and bloody battle fought in deep snow, densely wooded areas, and in numerous small towns and villages.

On 1 February 1945, the 28th attacked and, in heavy combat, reached the sizeable town of Colmar the next day, but tanks of the French 5th Armored Division swept past it to enter the city first. After mopping-up in Colmar was finished by 3 February, the 28th joined French armor blocking the Vosges in the region southwest of Colmar, along the Ill and Fecht Rivers. The 28th passed through some French infantry and crossed the Rhine-Rhône Canal on 6 February 1945.

The Colmar Pocket was finally erased by 12 February 1945. The 28th lost close to 170 men in this battle, and the entire 109th Infantry Regiment received the French Croix de Guerre.

After this battle, the 28th was moved up far to the north in the right flank of the U.S. 1st Army, west of the Rhine.

The 28th relieved the 2nd Infantry Division on 20 February 1945. It seized Schleiden, 4 March, and began advancing toward the Ahr River on 6 March 1945. The 110th Infantry reached Zingsheim, and the 112th Infantry reached Goldbach on the first day of this offensive. The 28th advanced to the Ahr River, at Blankenheim, 7 March, and assembled in the Nieder Mendig sector for rehabilitation, and the holding of defensive positions along the middle Rhine.

On 13 April 1945, the 28th assumed occupational duties in Jülich, Germany, and on 24 April 1945, relieved the 36th Infantry Division in the Palatinate area of western Germany. The division then took over responsibility for the military government in Hessen and in the Saar, as well as the Palatinate, as V-E Day finally came on 8 May 1945.

The 28th had taken the worst that the war could throw at it. The 28th was called upon to participate in some of the most desperate fighting of the war, and never once did it fail to add luster to its reputation as a first-class combat unit.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—2,873
Distinguished Unit Citations—1 *	Killed In Action—2,316
Distinguished Service Crosses—29	Wounded—9,609
Silver Stars—435	Missing—884
	Captured—3,953
	Total Casualties—16,762

* To the entire 112th Infantry Regiment—Battle of the Bulge

28TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Keystone"

JULY 1944

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AUGUST 1944

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SEPTEMBER 1944

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28TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Keystone"

JANUARY 1945

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FEBRUARY 1945

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MARCH 1945

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APRIL 1945

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28TH INFANTRY DIVISION

*bloodiest day-----20 December 1944

bloodiest month-----August 1944

2nd bloodiest day-----8 November 1944

3rd bloodiest day-----10 August 1944

Total battle deaths-----2,700 (approximately)

1,398 are listed=51.7% KIA--2,300 (approximately)



29TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Blue and Gray"

Originally—Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, District of Columbia National Guard

Activated (WW II)—3 February 1941

Returned To United States—4 January 1946

Inactivated—17 January 1946

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

Days In Combat—242

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Charles H. Gerhardt

July 1943—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 29th Infantry Division has, as its shoulder patch, blue and gray colors combined in a monad, the Korean symbol for eternal life. The Blue and Gray Division, so named because it had men about equally divided from northern and southern states in the First World War, had a prominent part in that conflict. It sustained over 6,000 casualties in the Meuse-Argonne.

In World War II, the 29th more than lived up to that record, by suffering over 20,000 casualties!

From October 1942—early-June 1944, the 29th conducted intensive training in Scotland and England. Although untried in combat, but well-trained, the 29th was picked to help spearhead the D-Day invasion of Normandy on 6 June 1944. Along with the great 1st Infantry Division, it landed on Omaha Beach—and into a hellish storm of artillery, mortar, machine-gun, and small-arms fire from the high ground somewhat inland above the vulnerable beachhead.

Some of the men were hit while still in the water. Others, wounded, swam weakly until their feet touched bottom and then dragged themselves on to the sands. Men who had reached the beach unhurt found their position on the wide exposed sands more dangerous, and some ran back into the water up to their necks for concealment and cover from the enemy fire. Others stayed on the beach, burrowing holes into the shingle and sand until the rising tide engulfed them. Ten minutes after the landing ramps dropped, Company A, 116th Infantry Regiment was without any officers.

Meanwhile, Companies E, F, and G fared a good deal better. This was greatly due to a grass fire along several hundred yards of bluff above the beach set off by naval rockets, and which greatly inhibited German observation of the beachhead. Still, the ordeal was anything but easy, and the only real solution was to move inland off the beaches, since the Germans had every foot of it zeroed in.

It was touch and go for awhile, but a highly instrumental force was the 29th's acting commander, Major-General Norman "Dutch" Cota. Cajoling, cursing, encouraging, and rallying his men, he gradually got enough of them together to get off the beaches, which spelled the difference between victory and defeat. Gradually, the 29th pushed inland, and there were many individual acts of heroism. One such case was that of Technical Sergeant Frank D. Peregory,

Company K, 116th Infantry Regiment.

Leading elements of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry were advancing near Grandcanpe. Suddenly, they were halted by decimating machine-gun fire from firmly entrenched German forces on the high ground overlooking the town. After numerous attempts to neutralize the German position by supporting artillery and tank fire had proved ineffective, T/Sgt Peregory, on his own initiative, advanced up the hill under withering fire, and worked his way to the crest where he discovered an entrenchment leading to the main enemy fortifications 200 yards away. Without hesitating, he leaped into the trench and moved toward the emplacement. Encountering a squad of enemy riflemen, he attacked them with hand grenades and bayonet, killed 8 and forced 3 more to surrender.

Continuing along the trench, he singlehandedly forced the surrender of 32 more riflemen, captured the machine-gunners, and opened the way for his unit to advance and secure its objective.

Sgt Peregory was later killed in a subsequent action, and was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

No American division in the terrific fighting in Normandy had it tougher than the Fighting 29th, and no division suffered greater casualties, which skyrocketed at an alarming rate.

After capturing Isigny, with the aid of naval gunfire, the 29th cut across the Elle River and inched slowly and painfully toward St. Lô, fighting bitterly in the hedgerows of Normandy.

These hedgerows had been planted centuries earlier by the Norman farmers to help as protection from the harsh wind and rains blowing inland from the English Channel. The hedgerows were an extremely dense, fence-like growth of vegetation growing at intervals across generally more open terrain, sometimes as little as 30 or 40 yards apart. They consisted of vines, trees, thick brush, bushes, and other bramble, usually 8 to 10 feet thick, and up to 15 feet high. Sometimes, a line of this growth would be on top of several feet of solid, built-up earth. Also, these hedgerows might be on either side of a sunken-in road.

Against such terrain, the 29th and other 1st Army divisions inched painfully forward. Obviously, such countryside offered a distinct advantage to the defender, and often, a small group of Germans, well dug-in and concealed, could hold off a much larger force of Americans for a lengthy period of time. Air support was of limited value, since the opposing sides were often too close to each other, and so the risk of hitting our own troops. Often, the GIs couldn't see beyond the next hedgerow.

The 29th, slowly inching forward against very tough opposition, bore the brunt of the heaviest fighting for the key town of St. Lô. In two days, the 29th sustained 1,000 casualties, and the 35th Infantry Division almost as many. It was some of the most bitter, frustrating, and costly fighting that American troops have ever experienced. One hill on the way to St. Lô was very appropriately dubbed "Purple Heart Hill." In and around St. Lô were two élite German divisions, the 3rd Parachute and 352nd Infantry, the latter of which had opposed the landings at Omaha Beach.

Major Tom Howie, who had distinguished himself for gallantry in the fierce attack on this important town, was killed just outside of it. He had wanted to lead his men into St. Lô, and they saw that his wish came true. When St. Lô finally fell on 18 July 1944, the 29th's victorious columns included a lone ambulance—containing the flag-draped body of the Major of St. Lô.

After St. Lô, the 29th joined in the battle for Vire. The Germans resisted tenaciously, but the town fell on 7 August.

Altogether, in Normandy the 29th lost some 2,500 men, had another 8,000 wounded, and almost 200 missing in action!

After all this, turning 200 miles into the western tip of Brittany, the 29th, along with the 2nd and 8th Infantry Divisions, the 2nd and 5th Ranger Battalions, and French Forces of the Interior, attacked the fortified port city of Brest. It was during this fighting that the 29th had another Medal of Honor winner, Staff Sergeant Sherwood Hallman, 175th Infantry Regiment, at Brest, 13 September 1944.

Realizing that an important German position must be neutralized without delay, Sgt Hallman ordered his squad to cover his movements by fire while he advanced alone to a point from which he could make an assault.

Without hesitating the sergeant leaped over a hedgerow into a sunken road, the central

point of the German defenses which was known to contain a machine-gun position and at least 30 riflemen.

Firing his carbine and hurling grenades, Sgt Hallman, unassisted, killed or wounded 4 Germans, then ordered the remainder to surrender. Immediately, 12 Germans gave up, and the position was shortly secured by the remainder of his company.

Seeing the surrender of this position, about 75 of the enemy in the vicinity surrendered, yielding a defensive organization which his entire battalion had been unable to take.

This single act of heroism resulted in the immediate advance of the entire battalion about 2,000 yards to a position from which Fort Keranroux was taken.

Very unfortunately, Sgt Hallman's award was posthumous, for he died of wounds the following day.

In another bitter, lengthy, tedious, and costly battle Brest finally fell after 39 days of furious fighting against first-rate German troops, including the 2nd Parachute Division. Over 35,000 Germans were taken prisoner, but it cost the Americans and French 10,000 casualties. The 29th had 624 men killed in action.

After a rest in the fields of Brittany, the 29th was entrained clear across northern France, through Belgium, and then attacked through the extreme southeast corner of Holland. The division took the cities of Maastricht and Kerkrade, before hitting the Siegfried Line.

On 29 September 1944, the 29th went into position in the Siegfried Line, relieving the mighty 2nd Armored Division between Gangelt and Teveren. The 29th, after battling in the enclosed hedgerow terrain for so long, soon felt the sharp consciousness of exposure to the enemy in the flat terrain of the Rhineland. The region was broken only by draws and patches of woods. And, for the first time, the 29th was in the enemy's homeland. At places like Schierwaldenrath, Breberen, and Hatterath Woods the Blue and Gray saw some bitter combat against crack German troops.

Then, there was the so-called furious battle for the Aachen Gap in which the 29th fought in conjunction with such famous units as the 1st and 30th Infantry Divisions, and in which the Germans mounted repeated vicious counterattacks. The city of Aachen was taken by the 1st Infantry Division on 21 October 1944.

On 30 October, the 29th was relieved by the newly arrived 102nd Infantry Division, and prepared for the assault to the Roer River.

The U.S. 9th Army assault to the Roer, mid-November-into December 1944, was some of the most bitter fighting on the Western Front. Setterich, Siersdorf, Durboslar—all towns on the way to the Roer that had to be assaulted in furious combat that meant heavy losses for the 29th as well as for the Germans. So bitterly did the Germans hang on to Durboslar, that they had to be blasted out by air strikes. In Putzdorf, though, the Germans had an active concentration of tanks and struck out with them right and left in attempting to retake Aldenhoven and Niedermerz. Artillery was called upon to break up these attacks. Although Aldenhoven was secured, the enemy clung to Niedermerz throughout 20 November. Artillery concentrations were required that night, and house clearing by the infantry the next day, before the Germans gave in. Around 300 POWs were taken, almost all of them from cellars.

Almost every day there was at least one large enemy counterattack. On the night of 25-26 November, the Germans bombed Bourheim in a prelude to their last fierce attack in that area.

Meanwhile, two miles further north, another battle raged at Koslar. 22 November was a day of slow, hard fighting in rain and mud. That night a German counterattack was broken up.

Next, came Kirchberg. There seemed no end to it for the tired, dirty, battered men of the 29th. But, with the capture of this town, the last sizeable enemy force was finally driven across the Roer.

From 1 October-31 December 1944, the 29th lost over 700 men—killed in action and died of wounds.

From 8 December 1944-23 February 1945, the valiant 29th was one of the 9th Army divisions which helped hold the line at the Roer River, while the Battle of the Bulge raged further to the south.

Finally, the attack across the Roer jumped-off on 23 February 1945. Against heavy resistance the assault carried the 29th through Jülich, Broich, and Immerath, and then into the textile manufacturing city of Mönchen-Gladbach by 1 March. Up to this time, this was the largest German city taken by the Western Allies, with a population of 200,000 people.

During March 1945, the 29th rested and rehabilitated.

In early-April, the 116th Infantry Regiment, which had been cited on Omaha Beach, was attached to the 75th Infantry Division to help clear up the northern side of the Ruhr Pocket. The rest of the 29th advanced across north-central Germany toward the Elbe River.

On 21 April, some resistance was met at Grabau, but this was quickly overcome.

The Germans had brought down some of their divisions from Norway in a futile attempt to bolster their defenses in these closing days of the Third Reich. One of these divisions, the 160th Infantry, offered some spirited, though short-lived resistance near Dannenberg, as the 29th approached the Elbe. However, by the end of the day, the 24th, over 1,600 prisoners had been taken.

The toughest opposition during this advance came from scattered anti-personnel and anti-tank minefields, and from mines laid in the roads.

By 24 April, the 115th and 116th Infantry Regiments had reached the Elbe, with the 84th Infantry Division to the south, and the British 5th Infantry Division on the north.

In the meantime, the 175th Infantry Regiment had been detached to help clear out a stubborn group of Germans in the Klotze Forest.

During the month of April 1945, the 29th had 55 men killed in action, 140 wounded, and 2 men missing.

After V-E Day, 8 May 1945, the Blue and Gray Division was assigned military government duty in the Bremen area of northwest Germany, along the coast.

The 29th returned to the United States in January 1946, and was demobilized. Only 2 other U.S. Army divisions, the 3rd and 4th Infantry, had lost more men than the 29th, a really great division. What a sacrifice it had made!

Honors:	Congressional Medals of Honor—2	Casualties:	Total Battle Deaths—4,824
	Distinguished Unit Citations—5 *		Killed In Action—3,887
	Distinguished Service Crosses—44		Wounded—15,541
	Silver Stars—84		Missing—347
			Captured—845
			Total Casualties—20,620

* One each to the 115th and 116th Infantry Regiments—D-Day, Normandy

29TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Blue and Gray"

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29TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Blue and Gray"

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29TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Blue and Gray"

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29TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----6 June 1944
bloodiest month-----June 1944
2nd bloodiest day-----30 July 1944
3rd " " "-----18 June 1944
4th " " "-----11 July 1944
5th " " "-----12 July 1944
Total battle deaths-----4,736
2,555 are listed=53.9% KIA-3,870



30TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Old Hickory"

Originally—Tennessee, North and South Carolina National Guard

Activated (WW II)—16 September 1940

Returned To United States—19 August 1945

Inactivated—25 November 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Normandy Northern France-Belgium Siegfried Line
Ardennes Rhineland North-Central Germany

Days In Combat—282

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):
Maj-Gen Leland S. Hobbs

September 1942—September 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 30th Infantry Division, in World War II, arrived in England on 22 February 1944, and trained until the first part of June.

The 30th entered the fighting in Normandy on 15 June 1944, D-plus 9, and met difficult opposition as soon as the leading squads had crept past the line of the railroad leading east from Carentan. Among the 30th's first opponents in the bloody fighting in the hedgerows were elements of the 275th and 352nd Infantry and 17th SS Panzer Grenadier Divisions. When the men were halted by the inevitable burp of a machine-pistol or chatter of a machine-gun from the next hedgerow, German mortar shells seemed to arrive with deadly promptness. The best bet was to keep trying to advance, a point which battalion commanders drummed into their men on which success depended. Enemy counterattacks coming when men were tired and their ranks depleted, were often more dangerous than when the Americans launched their attacks.

The last half of June 1944 was plenty bloody enough for the 30th in the hedgerows of Normandy, but July was the most costly month of the division's entire fighting in Europe. Old Hickory fought some of the best divisions in the entire German Army. Divisions such as the crack Panzerlehr which made an attack on 13 July, and which for a week the 30th made slow intermittent progress against. In the first seven days of the Vire River area attack, 7-13 July, the 30th lost 3,200 officers and men in dead, wounded, and missing! Then there was the 14th Parachute Regiment of the German 5th Parachute Division. On 16 July, the strapping German paratroopers appeared in savage counterattacks, supported by tanks and backed up by exceptionally heavy artillery fire. The 120th Infantry Regiment massacred about a company of them in the open as they crossed its field of fire. There was the élite 2nd Panzer Division which, lavishly equipped with tanks and many other types of weapons and vehicles, was just as formidable of an opponent as either the German paratroopers or the SS troops. Against all these formations the 30th more than held its own, taking a heavy toll of the enemy in return for its own high casualties.

In mid-July 1944, although the 30th didn't actually enter the key town of St. Lô, the division played a vital role in the overall battle, with the town falling to the 29th Infantry Division and the 113th Cavalry Group on 18 July.

Then, after an Allied high-level saturation bombing behind the German lines in which some of the bombs accidentally fell in the 30th's zone and killed 64 men, an American breakthrough was achieved beginning on 25 July 1944, and the 30th helped spearhead it. The attack slowly gained in momentum and a number of German divisions were very badly mauled

in the most bitter combat. However, the 3 weeks of fighting between the assault across the Vire and the capture of Tessy had provided a sustained nightmare of losses. There were many cases where, three days after a replacement had reported to the rear echelon, he would be stricken off the division roster—evacuated by the clearing station or dead.

Advancing to the vicinity of Mortain, the 30th relieved the equally great 1st Infantry Division on 6 August. The 30th shortly found itself in a very fight for its survival.

On the very next day, the Germans struck with an unusually strong counterblow with 4 of their very best divisions—the 1st and 2nd SS Panzer and the 2nd and 116th Panzer. The object of this attack was to cut through to Avranches on the coast and trap a large part of General Patton's 3rd Army which had already begun moving into Brittany and fanning out to the Loire River.

On the northern side of the attack the 116th Panzer was contained by the 4th Infantry Division. The three other German divisions did well, at first. Numerous U.S. forward positions were overrun and a battalion headquarters was surrounded. The 2nd Panzer raced to Juvigny, but then came under very heavy artillery fire. The 1st SS Panzer was in the center of the attack. At the southern end, the 2nd SS Panzer "Das Reich" swept through Mortain and pushed toward St. Hilaire, but was thwarted by the heroic resistance of the 30th Infantry Division. The brunt of the onslaught fell upon the 1st Battalion, 117th Infantry Regiment. It threw every man into the line, stemmed the attack, and was later cited. One group of men on a high hill were cut-off for 5 days but refused all demands to surrender. The 35th Infantry Division and combat commands of the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions were moved into the battle to help out the hard-pressed 30th, and after a week of violent fighting, the Germans gave up the idea and began to withdraw. They never threatened to touch the sea again. The 30th lost some 1,800 men killed, wounded, captured, and missing. The Germans lost over 100 tanks. Their infantry losses were unknown, but they were, no doubt, in accordance with their high losses in tanks and other equipment.

The Old Hickory Division didn't rest long. It took Reully, crossed the Seine, and drove on through Peronne, Cambrai, Valenciennes, and Tournai, the region of so much heavy fighting in World War I. In September, the 30th continued on eastward through Belgium, and into the Dutch panhandle of extreme southeastern Holland. There had been localized opposition, but at best by disorganized groups of Germans lost in the shuffle. It was a time of rapid motorized pursuit. However, in southeast Holland, there was some fierce action around Valkenburg.

As the 30th reached the Siegfried Line in extreme western Germany, resistance stiffened a great deal. In fact, the Germans soon contested every yard of ground.

The assault to crash the Siegfried Line began, for the 30th, on 2 October 1944. The 30th, in the bitterest type of combat against the 3rd Panzer Grenadier and elements of the 116th Panzer Divisions, broke through at Palenberg and Rimborg and, by 16 October, had made contact with the 1st Infantry Division and helped encircle the city of Aachen. Fighting alongside the 30th in this vicious battle was the valiant Norwegian-American 99th Infantry Battalion. One of the hottest spots in this area was the town of Wurselen where the Germans conducted a series of savage counterattacks. Their artillery was also uncanny. It was in this drawn-out battle for Wurselen that the 30th had one of its 6 Medal of Honor winners of the war, Staff Sergeant Freeman V. Horner, Company K, 119th Infantry Regiment, 16 November 1944.

S/Sgt Horner and other members of his company were attacking Wurselen against stubborn resistance, when machine-gun fire from houses on the edge of the town pinned them in flat, open terrain 100 yards from their objective. As they lay in the field, enemy artillery observers directed fire upon them, causing serious casualties.

Realizing that the machine-guns must be eliminated in order to permit the company to advance from its precarious position, Sgt Horner voluntarily stood up with his submachine-gun and rushed into the teeth of concentrated fire, burdened by a heavy load of ammunition and hand grenades. Just as he reached a position of seeming safety, he was fired on by a machine-gun which had remained silent up to that time. He coolly wheeled in his fully exposed position while bullets barely missed him and killed two enemy gunners with a single, devastating burst. He turned to face the fire of the other 2 machine-guns and, dodging fire as he ran, charged the two positions 50 yards away. Demoralized by their inability to hit the intrepid infantryman, the enemy abandoned their guns and took cover in the cellar of the

house they occupied. Sgt Horner busted into the building, hurled 2 grenades down the cellar stairs, and called out for the Germans to surrender. Four men gave themselves up.

By his extraordinary courage, Sgt Horner eliminated 3 enemy machine-gun positions, killed or captured 7 Germans, and cleared the path for his company's successful assault on Wurselen.

After a rest period, the Old Hickory took part in the U.S. 9th Army's assault to the Roer River. It advanced to the Inde River at Altdorf, 28 November 1944, and, fighting on the flat Cologne Plain, did very well and reached the Roer at a total cost of around 225 men killed and 1,058 wounded. However, units on either side of the 30th, notably the 29th Infantry and 2nd Armored Divisions, sustained very heavy losses in this battle. After the push to the Roer, the 30th received another rest period. But not for long.

On 17 December 1944, Old Hickory raced to the south into eastern Belgium to help stop the onrushing Germans. The Battle of the Bulge was on in full fury.

There then followed one of the proudest chapters in the 30th Infantry Division's history; the defeat of the 1st SS "Leibstandarte" Panzer Division, "Hitler's Own." This élite and ruthlessly fanatical outfit had managed to thread its way through weak spots in the American lines and for one week was on the rampage—until stopped by the 30th in some of the most bitter fighting of the war at a town called Stavelot. In spite of the intense cold, the young, fanatical SS troopers waded across the icy Amblève River in an attempt to get at the GIs. They never made it, and were slaughtered in their efforts, although one comparatively small group did manage to establish a small bridgehead on the Americans' side of the river. The Germans quickly began an attack from out of this foothold, but the Americans rallied and drove them back. One courageous and rather amazing action was that of Staff Sergeant Paul L. Bolden, Company I, 120th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1944.

When his company was pinned down by heavy automatic and rifle fire from a house 200 yards ahead, he voluntarily attacked it. Sgt Bolden and another soldier moved forward into a hail of bullets to eliminate this German strongpoint. Crawling forward, the pair finally reached the house. Sgt Bolden was under a window, and his comrade across the street where he could deliver covering fire.

In rapid succession, Sgt Bolden hurled a fragmentation grenade and a white phosphorus grenade into the building. Then, fully realizing he faced tremendous odds, he rushed to the door, threw it open, and fired into 35 SS troopers who were trying to reorganize themselves after the havoc wrought by the grenades. Twenty Germans were killed by his sub-machine-gun before he was struck in the shoulder, chest, and stomach by part of a burst which killed the other soldier across the street.

Sgt Bolden withdrew from the house, waiting for the surviving Germans to come out and surrender. When none appeared, he summoned his ebbing strength and, overcoming extreme pain, boldly walked back into the house, firing as he went. He had killed the remaining 15 enemy soldiers, when his ammunition ran out! Sgt Bolden survived his wounds to later receive the Medal of Honor.

The 30th took care of its share of the German counteroffensive so effectively that the Germans, convinced that no ordinary infantry division could treat them that way, began calling it "Roosevelt's SS troops."

Confident of victory, the SS fanatics had driven themselves almost as ruthlessly as they had treated the civilians and prisoners whose mutilated bodies lay stiff in the snow near Malmédy. Among other losses, the 1st SS lost 92 tanks and had 2,500 men killed.

The 30th then participated in the 1st Army counteroffensive. A particular tough action in this phase of the battle was at Thirimont, 13-16 January 1945, against the formidable 3rd Parachute Division. By 26 January, the 30th had reached a point two miles south of St. Vith, before being moved back to an assembly area near Lierneux.

The last great battle of the winter campaign, the assault across the Roer, finally began during the pre-dawn hours of 23 February 1945. It was long overdue. For almost 3 months American sentries had glared across the river from their outposts on the west bank.

At 2:45 A.M. on the 23rd, the artillery commenced pounding the Germans in a terrific 45 minute barrage. The 30th then crossed the Roer, some men on a foot-bridge built by the engineers and some in assault boats. So heavy had been the artillery fire and so rapid the advance of the U.S. infantry, that most of the Germans on the opposite side of the Roer had to be dragged from their cellars. The German 363rd Infantry Division was soon finished as

an effective fighting force, but some trouble was provided by the 9th Panzer Division. By 6 March 1945, surrounded at last by friendly troops, Old Hickory moved on back to the area where the Belgian-Dutch-German borders meet for rest and rehabilitation. The 30th had been picked to help spearhead the 9th Army's assault crossing of the Rhine River.

The assault commenced on the night of 24 March 1945. The 30th and 79th Infantry Divisions led the way for the 9th Army, the 30th crossing at Buderich. Opposition, initially, was sporadic since the Germans were caught by surprise. But on 27 March, the 30th ran into some fierce resistance put up by the 116th Panzer Division between Dorsten and Haltern.

Bypassing along the northern edge of the Ruhr, the 30th continued on eastward into the province of Westphalia, mopping-up pockets of German resistance. Fierce opposition was met in and around the storybook town of Hamelin in early-April, and the ancient, medieval town was blasted by artillery fire.

The 30th then proceeded on eastward, capturing the sizeable town of Hildesheim, 11 April, and the next day reached the city of Braunschweig (Brunswick) where it ran into moderate resistance of no lengthy duration.

The advance continued toward Tangermünde, on the Elbe, which the 5th Armored Division had already reached. The 30th then turned sharply south through Wolmirstedt, and, with the aid of the mighty 2nd Armored Division, cleared the city of Magdeburg in 24 hours.

During the 3 weeks between the fall of Magdeburg and V-E Day, 8 May 1945, the 30th captured 7,468 prisoners—as many as it had taken in its first 3 months of combat in 1944.

The Russians had been contacted at Grünewald, and after a short occupational period, the 30th then began leaving for home, arriving on 19 August 1945.

The 30th Infantry Division in World War II had an unusually high esprit de corps, and was one of the finest American divisions of the war.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—6
Distinguished Unit Citations—8
Distinguished Service Crosses—50
Silver Stars—1,773

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—3,547
Killed In Action—3,003
Wounded—13,376
Missing—903
Captured—1,164
Total Casualties—18,446

Other 30th Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action *

1st Lt Raymond O. Beaudoin, * 119th Inf Rgt, 6 April 1945, Hamelin, Germany
Sgt Francis S. Currey, 120th Inf Rgt, 21 December 1944, Malmédy, Belgium
Pvt Harold G. Kiner, * 117th Inf Rgt, 2 October 1944, near Palenberg, Germany
S/Sgt Jack J. Pendleton, * 120th Inf Rgt, 12 October 1944, Bardenberg, Germany

30TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Old Hickory"

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30TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Old Hickory"

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 21 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 1
 22 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 11
 23 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 12
 24 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 8
 25 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 1
 26 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 1
 27 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 13
 28 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 1
 30 Nov lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll 1

124

30TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Old Hickory"

DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 1
2 Dec 1
5 Dec 1
9 Dec 11
14 Dec 1
17 Dec 1
18 Dec 1
19 Dec 11111111111111 15
20 Dec 11111
21 Dec 11111111111111111111111111 27
22 Dec 111111
23 Dec 1111
24 Dec 1111111 8
25 Dec 11111111111111111111111111111111111111 50
26 Dec 11
28 Dec 1
29 Dec 11
30 Dec 1
31 Dec 11

131

JANUARY 1945

2 Jan 1
3 Jan 1
7 Jan 1
11 Jan 1
12 Jan 1
13 Jan 111 36
14 Jan 11111111111111111111111111111111 25
15 Jan 11111111111111111111111111111111 28
16 Jan 11111111111111111111 17
17 Jan 111
18 Jan 11
19 Jan 1111111111 10
20 Jan 111111
21 Jan 111111111 9
22 Jan 1
23 Jan 1111
24 Jan 1
26 Jan 1
28 Jan 11

150

30TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Old Hickory"

FEBRUARY 1945

8 Feb 1
 10 Feb 1
 14 Feb 1
 19 Feb 1111
 22 Feb 1
 23 Feb 11111111111111111111111111 24
 24 Feb 11111111111111 13
 25 Feb 111111111111 12
 26 Feb 111
 27 Feb 11111111111111111111 20
 28 Feb 11

82

MARCH 1945

1 Mar 111
 2 Mar 1
 9 Mar 1
 10 Mar 1
 13 Mar 1
 15 Mar 1
 18 Mar 1
 23 Mar 11
 24 Mar 11111111111111111111 18
 25 Mar 1111111111111111 16
 26 Mar 111111111111111111 18
 27 Mar 1111
 28 Mar 111
 29 Mar 1
 31 Mar 1

72

APRIL 1945

2 Apr 1111
 3 Apr 111111111111 11
 4 Apr 11
 6 Apr 1111
 8 Apr 11
 11 Apr 1
 12 Apr 11111
 13 Apr 1111
 14 Apr 111111
 15 Apr 11
 17 Apr 11111
 18 Apr 1111
 19 Apr 1
 29 Apr 1

52

MAY 1945

3 May 1
 1

30TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day _____ 7 August 1944
 bloodiest month _____ July 1944
 2nd bloodiest day _____ 25 December 1944
 3rd " " _____ 25 July 1944
 4th " " _____ 16 July 1944
 5th " " _____ 26 July 1944

Total battle deaths _____ 3,525
 1,933 are listed = 54.8% KIA — 2,992



31ST INFANTRY DIVISION "Dixie"

Originally—Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi National Guard

Activated (WW II)—25 November 1940

Returned To United States—12 December 1945

Inactivated—21 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Northern New Guinea Morotai Mindanao

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen John C. Persons	November 1940—September 1944
Maj-Gen Clarence A. Martin	September 1944—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 31st Infantry Division, as is obviously indicated, consisted of a great many men from the deep south, but long before the war was over it also had many men in its ranks from northern states. Differences about the Civil War and sometimes resulting fist-fights were long resolved and forgotten by the time the division got ready to go overseas. The 31st, after rigorous training at various camps in the United States, including Camp Blanding, Florida, left the Hampton Roads, Virginia, port of embarkation on 12 March 1944.

The 31st arrived in Oro Bay, New Guinea, on 24 April 1944, and engaged in amphibious training prior to entering combat.

The 31st's 124th Infantry Regiment caught a heavy assignment for its first action. It was sent into the operation around Aitape, northern New Guinea, and had a major part in breaking the back of the bypassed Japanese 18th Army, as it attempted to battle its way across the Driniumor River. 31 July 1944, was the 31st's bloodiest day in this fighting, and losses were fairly heavy. Fighting continued on into early August, with the 124th accounting for some 3,000 Japanese.

Meanwhile, the 155th and 167th Infantry Regiments took part in the Wakde-Sarmi operation, further west on the northern New Guinea coast, relieving the 6th Infantry Division. Action was much lighter, but still, the two regiments accounted for more than 1,000 Japanese while on the Maffin Bay perimeter, which guarded a 5th Air Force airstrip.

On 15 September 1944, the 31st landed on the island of Morotai, while the 1st Marine and 81st Infantry Divisions assaulted the Palau Islands, further to the north. Despite a treacherous landing beach, in which even bulldozers sank in the muck, the Dixies quickly secured a beachhead against light resistance, and seized Pitoe Airdrome. This action cut-off 20,000 Japanese troops on the larger island of Halmahera, just to the south.

For seven months the 31st maintained a perimeter defense for the 13th Air Force. Companies lived in outposts for weeks at a time, supplied by barge and plane. Men spent their nights on guard in pillboxes, and patrols probed continuously into the mountainous jungle for any Japanese driven into the interior of the island. In seven months on Morotai, the 31st killed several thousand Japanese. During the occupation

of Morotai, elements of the division seized Mapia and the Asia Islands to find that the Japanese had already evacuated from these places.

Then, on 22 April 1945, the 31st, in conjunction with the 24th Infantry Division, landed on the southern side of the large island of Mindanao, in the southern Philippines. Moving up along the Sayre Highway and along the Kibawe-Talomo Trail, the 31st fought the Japanese in head-high cogon grass and in deep rain forests, through knee-deep mud and torrential rains. The Japanese withdrew into the interior and, as the 24th Division headed east toward the city of Davao, the 31st advanced northward, deeper into the wild region of central Mindanao. The Japanese resisted stubbornly, but were defeated in a firefight at Misinsman on 1 May.

The 31st's bloodiest battle came when it met the Japs below the Maramag Airstrip. Here, the fanatical enemy had dug-in beneath great tree roots. On 6-7 May 1945, two battalion-sized attacks by the Americans were repulsed with heavy casualties. In fact, 6 May 1945, was the 31st's bloodiest day in combat of the war. However, after a few days, the Americans, supported by strong artillery fire, overran the enemy positions, and by 12 May, the Japanese had been routed from Colgan Woods. An enemy counterattack was defeated, and the 155th Infantry Regiment then took over the point of march. The 155th surprised a large group of Japanese sunning themselves along a stream. In a quick attack the regiment wiped out all 96 of them while losing just one man.

The advance along the Talomo Trail was checked on 16 May 1945, but then continued by the 167th Infantry Regiment.

The 31st continued on northward against deteriorating resistance by the Japanese 30th Division. The 155th Infantry took the Japanese supply base at Malaybalay, 21 May, and Kalasungay the next day. On 23 May 1945, the 31st contacted the 108th Infantry Regiment, 40th Infantry Division which had landed on the northern coast of Mindanao and advanced southward. The 31st then continued in dangerous mopping-up operations. The division got its one Medal of Honor winner of the war, Corporal Harry R. Harr, Company D, 124th Infantry Regiment, near Maglamin, Mindanao, 5 June 1945.

When an enemy grenade landed in the midst of a group of men, including himself, he realized that under the circumstances he couldn't safely throw the unexploded missile. Corporal Harr covered the grenade with his body, smothering the blast, and heroically saving the lives of several of his fellow-soldiers at the cost of his own.

The 31st was commended by Lt General Robert L. Eichelberger, commanding the U.S. 8th Army, for its performance on Mindanao.

With the aid of large Filipino guerrilla units, the 31st continued mopping-up operations in the Agusan River sector along both the Kibawe-Talomo Trail and the Sayre Highway, from Malaybalay to Valencia, until the end of the war on 14 August 1945. Following the Japanese surrender, the 31st concentrated on accepting their capitulation on Mindanao. The 31st returned home in December 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1
Distinguished Unit Citations—3
Distinguished Service Crosses—7
Silver Stars—178

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—418
Killed In Action—342
Wounded—1,392
Missing—0
Captured—1
Total Casualties—1,733

31ST INFANTRY DIVISION "Dixie"

JULY 1944

13 July 11
 14 July 111
 15 July 11
 16 July 111
 17 July 1
 19 July 11
 20 July 11
 21 July 111
 22 July 11111
 29 July 1111
 31 July 11111111 9

36

AUGUST 1944

3 Aug 1111
 4 Aug 1
 5 Aug 11111
 6 Aug 11
 7 Aug 1
 8 Aug 11111
 11 Aug 1
 13 Aug 1
 18 Aug 11
 29 Aug 1111

26

SEPTEMBER 1944

6 Sept 1
 16 Sept 11
 17 Sept 1
 18 Sept 1
 22 Sept 111
 23 Sept 1

9

OCTOBER 1944

7 Oct 1
 8 Oct 1
 17 Oct 1
 18 Oct 1
 25 Oct 1

5

NOVEMBER 1944

14 Nov 1
 16 Nov 1111111
 17 Nov 1

9

DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 1
 4 Dec 1
 10 Dec 1
 14 Dec 1
 15 Dec 1
 18 Dec 1
 26 Dec 1

7

JANUARY 1945

6 Jan 11
 17 Jan 1
 18 Jan 1
 27 Jan 11

6

APRIL 1945

26 Apr 111111111 9
 27 Apr 1

10

31ST INFANTRY DIVISION "Dixie"

MAY 1945	JUNE 1945	JULY 1945	AUGUST 1945
1 May 1	1 June 1	22 July 1	3 Aug 1
6 May 1111111111111111111111111111 30*	2 June 11111	1	9 Aug 1
7 May 1111	3 June 1		11 Aug 1
8 May 1 approx. 60%men	4 June 1		16 Aug 1
9 May 1	5 June 111111		4
10 May 1	6 June 1		
11 May 11111	7 June 1		
15 May 11	8 June 1		
17 May 1	9 June 1		
20 May 11	12 June 1		
21 May 11	13 June 1		
22 May 1	16 June 11		
23 May 1	17 June 11		
25 May 1	18 June 1		
27 May 11	19 June 11		
29 May 1	20 June 1		
30 May 11	22 June 111111		
58	25 June 11		
	26 June 11		
	27 June 11		
	28 June 111		
	43		

31ST INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----6 May 1945
bloodiest month-----May 1945
2nd bloodiest day-----31 July 1944 and 26 April 1945
3rd bloodiest day-----16 November 1944
Total battle deaths-----418
214 are listed=51.1% KIA---742



32ND INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Arrow"

Originally—Michigan-Wisconsin National Guard

Activated (WW II)—15 October 1940

Inactivated—28 February 1946 in Japan

Battle Credits, World War II: Papua Northern New Guinea Leyte Luzon

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Edwin F. Harding

March 1942—January 1943

Maj-Gen William H. Gill

February 1943—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 32nd Infantry Division, the "Red Arrow", earned another nickname in World War I. It was given to the division by the French—"Les Terribles", when the 32nd won 4 battle stars, and was the first American division to crack the Hindenburg Line. The 32nd had 2,250 men killed in action, and 11,011 more wounded in that war.

In World War II, the 32nd left the San Francisco port of embarkation on 22 April 1942. Landing in Adelaide, South Australia, it trained there, and then moved to a camp just outside of Brisbane, Queensland.

Most of the 32nd was rushed to southeast New Guinea (Papua), by air in mid-September 1942, when Japanese forces attempted to complete the crossing of the Owen Stanley Mountains, and threatened the vital Allied base at Port Moresby. At this time, fighting was also raging on Guadalcanal, as the Japanese tried simultaneously to take both the Solomon Islands and New Guinea, in preparation for an assault on Australia.

Fighting along the Goldie River, to protect the Australians' right flank, the 32nd forced the Japanese back along the Kokoda Trail, and helped stop the enemy threat to Port Moresby. The rest of the 32nd was joined on 15 November 1942, by the 2nd Battalion, 126th Infantry Regiment, which had trekked over the mountain range in 49 agonizing days.

Few ordeals in the war can compare with what the 32nd went through to capture the Japanese stronghold at Buna, on the southeast coast of New Guinea. Buna was a miserable plantation area surrounded by stinking swamps, swollen rivers, and the jungle. In it the Japanese had built-up a series of interlocking defense positions, mostly bunkers, and they resisted with the utmost tenacity. New to combat, the 32nd had not only to fight the swamps, jungle, diseases, and the Japanese, but its own inexperience, as well. Large-scale maneuvers were impossible—positions of the opposing sides were often less than 50 yards apart, and snipers were everywhere. Men fought knee-deep in swamp water, and worse, the Americans and Australians lacked equipment, enough weapons and ammunition, and enough food. C-rations were luxuries to be dreamt about. Worst of all, however, was the climate.

In this hot and humid jungle, flooded by torrential rains, every kind of fever and disease flourished. There was malaria, dengue fever, and tropical dysentery. Men's bodies were covered by tropical ulcers. The dead decomposed quickly and added to the stench of the swamps, and the Japanese carried gas masks against the intolerable odor. Entire American companies were fever-ridden.

The battle for the Buna beachhead had commenced on 19 November 1942. In heavy fighting

the Duropa Plantation was assaulted on 26 November 1942.

The bitter fighting continued unabated throughout December 1942, with 5 December 1942, being one of the 32nd's bloodiest days of the war. The 127th Infantry Regiment moved up to Dobodura, and seized evacuated Buna Village, 14 December 1942, after heavy fighting in the plantation and Simemi Creek bunker area.

The battle for Buna Mission began on 24 December 1942. After very difficult and strenuous combat, elements of the 32nd were eventually able to break through on a narrow front to the sea. Figuring prominently in this success was a German-born Sergeant Hermann Bottcher, who, by his outstanding bravery, leadership, skill as a soldier, and repeated volunteering for hazardous assignments, helped make this event possible. He was later killed on Leyte. Sergeant Bottcher left behind a lot of good friends.

Also, figuring greatly in this success to split the Japanese beachhead was Sergeant Kenneth E. Gruennert, Company L, 127th Infantry Regiment, 24 December 1942.

On this day Sgt Gruennert was second in command of a platoon with the mission of driving through the Japanese lines to the beach 600 yards ahead, when within 150 yards of the objective, the platoon encountered two enemy pillboxes. Sgt Gruennert advanced alone against the first one, and put it out of action with grenades and rifle fire, killing 3 Japanese. Seriously wounded in the shoulder, he bandaged his wound under cover of the pillbox, refusing to withdraw to the aid station and leave his men.

With great daring, and under extremely heavy fire, he then attacked the second pillbox. As he neared it he threw grenades which forced the enemy out where they were easy targets for his platoon. But before his men could reach him, he was killed by a Jap sniper.

Sgt Gruennert's inspiring valor cleared the way for his platoon which was the first to attain the beach in this successful effort to split the enemy positions. His actions were in the highest traditions of the U.S. military. Sgt Gruennert was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

This action had a great deal to do with breaking the backbone of the Japanese defenses at Buna. One enemy bunker was destroyed, and then another, as the Japanese were compressed into an ever smaller area. The 32nd finally took Buna Mission on 2 January 1943, and, with the fall of Sanananda on 22 January 1943, the campaign was officially over.

Like Guadalcanal, this early campaign in Papua, New Guinea, proved that the Japanese could be soundly beaten in jungle warfare and, as well, removed the threat of a Japanese invasion of Australia. The 32nd lost 530 men in the Papuan campaign.

The 32nd then returned to Australia for badly needed rest and rehabilitation.

Nearly a year later, on 2 January 1944, the 126th Infantry Regiment of the 32nd went back into action at Saidor, on the eastern coast of New Guinea. The 126th was joined by the 128th Infantry Regiment on 19 January 1944. This move was to block Japanese troops who were retreating further north away from Australian forces, and these two regiments inflicted severe losses upon them. A junction was made with the Australians on 10 February 1944, and this operation was completed by mid-April 1944.

By 4 May 1944, a large part of the 32nd had landed on the northern New Guinea coast, at Aitape. Slight initial enemy resistance in this region eventually gave way to sustained Japanese action along the Driniumor River. On 5 June 1944, the 127th Infantry Regiment took the ridge north of Afua.

The 32nd attacked to drive the Japanese back across the Drindarai, and especially heavy fighting occurred on 11, 22, and 29 July 1944. Until mid-August 1944, fighting continued by the 32nd and several other U.S. outfits. These were the 112th Cavalry Regiment and large contingents of the 31st and 43rd Infantry Divisions. The Japanese 18th Army tried desperately to get past Aitape (moving west), and to attack the Allied base at Hollandia. The Japs never made it, and had over 9,000 men killed in their efforts. In this operation the 32nd had way over 200 men killed in action.

Elements of the 32nd then reinforced the Wakde-Sarmi area of northern New Guinea, further west of Aitape, 15 August 1944, and the 126th Infantry was detached to reinforce the 31st Infantry Division on Morotai, 16 September 1944. The rest of the 32nd left Aitape, for Hollandia, and got ready for the Philippines.

The 32nd entered the battle for Leyte, on 14 November 1944, relieving the exhausted 24th

Infantry Division. Going into action along the Pinamopoan-Ormoc Road, the 32nd took Limon, and smashed the Yamashita Line in bitter hand-to-hand combat. The battle was fought in precipitous hills with deep mud and torrential downpours, and with tangled forests overhead. The 32nd battled on Corkscrew and Breakneck Ridges, and it was a lot of bloody fighting. In fact, 22 November 1944, was the 32nd's most costly day of the entire war.

Heavy fighting raged through the remainder of November 1944, and the division fought furiously for Kilay Ridge, from 29 November-5 December 1944.

The bitter fighting on Leyte continued, and 11 December 1944, was another very costly day. On the night of 13-14 December, the 32nd was counterattacked along Highway 2, but the Japs were beaten back.

The Red Arrow linked-up with elements of the 1st Cavalry Division at Lonoy, on 22 December 1944, and this marked the collapse of Japanese resistance in the upper Ormoc Valley.

In 37 days of combat on Leyte, the 32nd had gained just $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles. But, in this slow advance, the division had succeeded in turning the Japanese left flank, and slew 6,700 of them. In return, 450 men in the 32nd made the supreme sacrifice on Leyte.

Withdrawn from the battle on 4 January 1945, the 32nd rested for just three weeks, and then moved on to Luzon, for more murderous fighting, landing at Lingayen Gulf, on 27 January 1945.

Pushing northward into the Caraballo Mountains, between the 33rd and 25th Infantry Divisions, the 32nd saw bitter combat along the treacherous Villa Verde Trail, where every other Japanese soldier seemed to be armed with a machinegun.

February 1945, wasn't too bad for the 32nd, but as March came around the fighting was bloody, difficult, and drawn-out. It was during this exhausting combat that the 32nd had several more Medal of Honor winners, one of whom was Pfc Thomas E. Atkins, Company A, 127th Infantry Regiment, along the Villa Verde Trail, 10 March 1945.

With two companions, he occupied a position on a ridge outside the perimeter defense. At about 3 A.M., two companies of Japanese attacked with rifles, machineguns, grenades, TNT charges, and land mines, severely wounding Pfc Atkins, and killing his two comrades. Despite the intense enemy fire, and pain from a deep wound, he held his ground and returned heavy fire. After the attack was repulsed, he remained in his precarious position to repel any subsequent assaults instead of returning to the American lines for medical treatment.

The Japanese made repeated fierce attacks, but for 4 hours Pfc Atkins determinedly remained in his foxhole, bearing the brunt of each assault, and maintaining steady and accurate fire until each charge was hurled back.

By 7 A.M., numerous enemy dead lay in front of his position. He had fired over 400 rounds, all that he and his two dead companions possessed, and had used 3 rifles until each one had jammed too badly for further operation.

During a lull, he withdrew to secure a rifle and more ammunition, and was persuaded to remain for medical treatment. While waiting, he saw a Jap within the perimeter and, seizing a nearby rifle, shot him. A few minutes later, while lying on a litter, he discovered an enemy group moving up behind his platoon's lines. Despite his severe wound, he sat up, delivered heavy and accurate rifle fire against the group, and forced them to withdraw.

Pfc Atkins' superb bravery and his determination to hold his post against the main force of repeated enemy attacks, even though painfully wounded, were major factors in enabling his fellow soldiers to maintain their lines against a numerically superior enemy. And he lived to receive his award.

During the rest of March 1945, the 32nd fought rugged battles at Salacsac Pass, and along the Arboredo and Ambayang Valleys. Hill 159 was taken, 6 April 1945, despite torrential downpours. The Japanese often had to be buried in their underground foxholes and in caves.

April 1945, was a very costly month for the 32nd. Salacsac Pass finally fell, 10 April, and clearing operations commenced along the Villa Verde Trail. But there was no let-up to the bitter, drawn-out fighting in the 32nd's sector of the front. And the division became increasingly depleted through shortage of adequate replacements for its losses. The 128th Infantry was, for awhile, down to an effective total strength of some 1,500 men, less than half of its authorized strength. And the other two infantry regiments weren't in much better shape.

The key town of Imugan was finally taken after lengthy and costly fighting, on 28 May 1945. Contact was then made with the 25th Infantry Division near Santa Fe, and this secured vital Balete Pass, the gateway to the Cagayan River Valley.

In this lengthy, bitter campaign on Luzon, the 32nd helped destroy the rest of the Japanese 2nd Tank Division, and killed some 6,000 Japanese. The 32nd lost 820 men.

The 32nd rested and rehabilitated from 4 June-8 July 1945. Some active elements of the division mopped-up in the Bauang-Naguilan-Caba-Aringay area.

After this, the 32nd advanced from Anabat, to reduce Japanese defenses in the mountains of northern Luzon. The Agno River Valley was secured, and Highway 11 was opened in the Baguio area, as a supply route.

Operations ceased on 14 August 1945, with the Japanese surrender, and the 32nd shipped out for Japan, for occupational duties, on 20 October 1945. By then, 30 per cent of its personnel had been overseas for more than 3 years—and the 32nd had piled up more combat time than any other U.S. division in any theater of World War II—654 days!

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—11
Distinguished Unit Citations—14 *
Distinguished Service Crosses—37
Silver Stars—657

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—2,524
Killed In Action—2,108
Wounded—6,627
Missing—27
Captured—1
Total Casualties—8,763

* One to the entire 32nd Infantry Division—Papua, New Guinea

Other 32nd Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action *

1st Sgt Elmer J. Burr, * 127th Inf Rgt, 24 December 1942, Buna, Papua, New Guinea
S/Sgt Gerald L. Endl, * 128th Inf Rgt, 11 July 1944, near Anamo, northern New Guinea
Pfc David M. Gonzales, * 127th Inf Rgt, 25 April 1945, Villa Verde Trail, Luzon
Sgt Leroy Johnson, * 126th Inf Rgt, 15 December 1944, near Limon, Leyte
Pvt Donald R. Lobaugh, * 127th Inf Rgt, 22 July 1944, near Afua, northern New Guinea
Pfc William A. McWhorter, * 126th Inf Rgt, 5 December 1944, on Leyte
Pfc William R. Shockley, * 128th Inf Rgt, 31 March 1945, Villa Verde Trail, Luzon
S/Sgt Ysmael R. Villegas, * 127th Inf Rgt, 20 March 1945, Villa Verde Trail, Luzon
Pfc Dirk J. Vlug, 126th Inf Rgt, 15 December 1944, near Limon, Leyte

32ND INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Arrow"

OCTOBER 1942

29 Oct 111

3

NOVEMBER 1942

5 Nov 11

10 Nov 1

16 Nov 1111

17 Nov 11

18 Nov 1

19 Nov 111

20 Nov 11

21 Nov 111111111111 13

22 Nov 111111

23 Nov 111111

24 Nov 11

26 Nov 111111111111 14

27 Nov 1111111

28 Nov 111

29 Nov 1111

30 Nov 1111111111 11

81

DECEMBER 1942

1 Dec 11111111111111 14

2 Dec 1111111111111111 17

3 Dec 11111

4 Dec 1111111

5 Dec 1111111111111111111111111111 29

6 Dec 11111

7 Dec 11111

8 Dec 1111111

9 Dec 1111

10 Dec 111

11 Dec 111111

12 Dec 1

14 Dec 111

15 Dec 11111

16 Dec 111111

17 Dec 111

18 Dec 1111

19 Dec 11111

20 Dec 111111111111 13

21 Dec 11

22 Dec 1

24 Dec 11111111 8

25 Dec 1111111111 11

26 Dec 1111111

27 Dec 111111

28 Dec 111

29 Dec 111111111111 13

30 Dec 1

31 Dec 11111111111111 16

210

JANUARY 1943

1 Jan 1111111111111111 18

2 Jan 1111

3 Jan 1

4 Jan 1111111 8

5 Jan 1

6 Jan 1

7 Jan 11

8 Jan 11

9 Jan 1

10 Jan 1

12 Jan 11

14 Jan 111

15 Jan 1

19 Jan 11

20 Jan 1111

21 Jan 1

22 Jan 1

28 Jan 1

30 Jan 1

55

NOVEMBER 1943

1 Nov 1

26 Nov 1

2

32ND INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Arrow"

DECEMBER 1944

1 Dec 11111111111111111111 22
 2 Dec 111111111111 12
 3 Dec 11111
 4 Dec 1111
 5 Dec 11111111 8
 6 Dec 111111
 7 Dec 11
 8 Dec 11111
 9 Dec 111111
 10 Dec 11111
 11 Dec 1111111111111111 16
 12 Dec 11111
 13 Dec 111111111 9
 14 Dec 111111111 9
 15 Dec 111
 16 Dec 1
 17 Dec 1
 18 Dec 1111111111 10
 19 Dec 11
 20 Dec 111111111 9
 21 Dec 111
 22 Dec 1
 24 Dec 1
 25 Dec 11
 30 Dec 1
 31 Dec 1111

152

FEBRUARY 1945

5 Feb 1
 7 Feb 1
 9 Feb 1
 14 Feb 1111
 21 Feb 1
 22 Feb 11111
 23 Feb 11
 25 Feb 1
 26 Feb 1
 27 Feb 11

19

MARCH 1945

1 Mar 1
 2 Mar 11111
 3 Mar 11
 5 Mar 11111111 8
 8 Mar 11111
 9 Mar 111
 10 Mar 111111
 11 Mar 11
 13 Mar 11111
 14 Mar 11
 15 Mar 11111
 16 Mar 11
 17 Mar 111111
 18 Mar 11
 19 Mar 1
 20 Mar 11111111111 11
 21 Mar 1111111
 22 Mar 1111
 23 Mar 1111111111 11
 24 Mar 11111
 25 Mar 1
 27 Mar 111111111111111 17
 28 Mar 1111
 29 Mar 11111111 9
 30 Mar 111111
 31 Mar 111111111 9

139

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111
 3 Apr 1111
 4 Apr 1
 6 Apr 11
 7 Apr 111111
 8 Apr 111111111111 14
 9 Apr 1111
 10 Apr 111111
 11 Apr 1111111111111111 20
 12 Apr 11111
 13 Apr 1111111
 14 Apr 1111111 8
 15 Apr 111
 16 Apr 11111
 17 Apr 1111111
 18 Apr 111111
 19 Apr 1111
 20 Apr 11
 21 Apr 111111111111 15
 22 Apr 111
 23 Apr 1111111
 24 Apr 1111111111 12
 25 Apr 111
 26 Apr 11111111111111 17
 27 Apr 11
 28 Apr 1111
 29 Apr 1
 30 Apr 11111111111111 18

189

32ND INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Arrow"

MAY 1945

1 May 111111
 2 May 1
 3 May 11111
 4 May 111111
 5 May 1111
 7 May 111111
 8 May 11111111111111 14
 9 May 111111
 10 May 11111
 11 May 11111111111111 13
 12 May 11111111 8
 13 May 1111
 14 May 111
 16 May 11
 17 May 11111
 18 May 1
 19 May 111
 20 May 11
 21 May 1
 22 May 111
 23 May 11111
 24 May 11
 25 May 111
 26 May 1
 27 May 1111
 28 May 1
 29 May 11
 30 May 111
 31 May 1

JUNE 1945

1 June 1111
 2 June 1
 3 June 1
 7 June 1
 15 June 11
 18 June 11
 11

JULY 1945

6 July 1
 13 July 1
 21 July 1
 25 July 1111
 27 July 111
 28 July 1
 29 July 11
 31 July 11
 15

AUGUST 1945

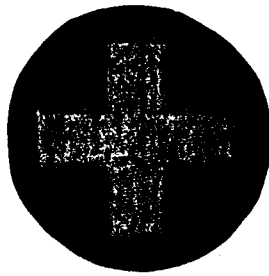
4 Aug 1
 15 Aug 11
 3

120

32ND INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----22 November 1944
 bloodiest month-----December 1942
 2nd bloodiest day-----5 December 1942
 3rd bloodiest day-----11 July 1944

Total battle deaths-----2,524
 1,298 are listed=55.7% KIA--2,108



33RD INFANTRY DIVISION "Golden Cross"

Illinois National Guard

Activated (WW II)—5 March 1941

Inactivated—3 February 1946 in Japan

Battle Credits, World War II: Northern New Guinea Morotai Luzon

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Percy W. Clarkson October 1943—November 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 33rd Infantry Division, also known as the "Illinois" or "Prairie" Division, participated in the Somme Offensive of 1918, and in the Meuse-Argonne operation in World War I. The division trained at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, took part in the Louisiana maneuvers, was transferred to Ft. Lewis, Washington, in September 1942, and left the San Francisco port of embarkation on 7 July 1943.

The 33rd arrived in Hawaii, 12 July 1943, and, while guarding installations, received training in jungle warfare. On 11 May 1944, it arrived in New Guinea. The 123rd Infantry Regiment took part in the Wakde-Sarmi operation in northern New Guinea, arriving at Maffin Bay on 1 September 1944. It provided a perimeter defense by aggressive patrolling for Wakde Airdrome and the Toem-Sarmi area. This regiment was relieved on 26 January 1945.

Although the 31st Infantry Division had invaded the island of Morotai, near Halmahera, on 15 September 1944, large numbers of Japanese were still hiding out in the hills. And so, in mid-December 1944, the 33rd began sailing for Morotai. As long as Morotai remained secured, 20,000 Japanese would be cut-off on Halmahera. Defensive perimeters were established, and the 33rd reduced Japanese forces at the headwaters of the Pilowo River. Along with the 31st Division, the 33rd gradually ferreted the Japs out of the mountains in small groups, maintaining aggressive patrol activities.

The next, and by far, the toughest operation for the 33rd was on Luzon. The division landed at Lingayen Gulf on 10 February 1945, a month after the initial assault landing, and relieved the exhausted 43rd Infantry Division in the Damortis-Rosario-Pozorrubio area, 13-15 February 1945.

Attacking northward, the 33rd sustained heavy casualties, 19-20 February 1945, as it opened its drive into the Caraballo Mountains toward the objective of Baguio, the summer capital of the Philippines, and, also, the headquarters of General Yamashita. Working with the 32nd and 37th Infantry Divisions, the 33rd was in for a number of bitter battles with the desperate Japs.

The 33rd seized Questionmark and Benchmark Hills after heavy fighting by 22 February, and after battling entrenched Japanese in the hills. Two companies of the division were temporarily isolated, and suffered a great deal from thirst before eventually being rescued.

The 130th Infantry Regiment took Aringay and a bridge nearby, 7 March 1945, without opposition, and went on to capture Mt. Magabang the following day. The 136th Infantry, meanwhile, maintained pressure on the Japanese as it advanced

along Kennon Road, while the 123rd Infantry patrolled northeast of Pugo. A division task force composed of a battalion of the 130th Infantry linked-up with Filipino guerrilla forces from northern Luzon in the vicinity of San Fernando, 21 March 1945, but the Japanese had already withdrawn.

Not long after, the 123rd Infantry Regiment took Mt. Calugong, 8 April 1945, and pushed beyond Galiano. The 130th Infantry captured Asin, 12 April, in a surprise night attack, but further advances were stopped by a Japanese tunnel complex nearby. This tunnel complex was then given the treatment by the division artillery. The 33rd then renewed its attack on 21 April, and reduced the tunnels one after the other in close combat. Meanwhile, other elements of the division arrived in Tuba on 25 April 1945. On this same day the 130th Infantry Regiment, trucked into positions, began the assault on the hills surrounding Baguio, and took Mt. Mirador. Baguio finally fell after fierce and heavy fighting, under the concerted attack of the 33rd and 37th Infantry Divisions on 27 April 1945. Manuel Roxas, later president of the Philippines, was liberated with the fall of Baguio, as well as several thousand other people, many of them escaping through the 33rd's lines.

The 33rd was then given the mission of clearing northward from Baguio to break up remaining enemy pockets of resistance. With the capture of the San Nicholas-Tebbo-Itogon Route by 12 May 1945, organized opposition in the 33rd's region of operations collapsed. It was in this action that the 33rd had one of its 3 Medal of Honor winners of the war, Private (later Sergeant) John R. McKinney, Company A, 123rd Infantry Regiment, 11 May 1945.

Pvt McKinney was helping to defend an outpost, when just before daybreak, around 100 Japanese stealthily attacked the perimeter defense, concentrating on his position. Pvt McKinney, having just completed a long tour of duty at his machinegun, was resting a few feet away, when a Japanese soldier dealt him a glancing blow on the head with a saber. Although dazed by the blow, he bludgeoned his attacker, and then shot another Jap who was charging him.

Meanwhile, one of his comrades at his gun was wounded, and another man at the position carried him to safety.

Alone, Pvt McKinney, in hand-to-hand combat, killed 10 Japanese. In the melee, however, his machinegun was rendered inoperative. Armed only with a rifle and some hand grenades, he then stopped a furious assault by the Japanese who remained, and then clubbed them to death with his rifle. When help arrived, he had thwarted this attack, and was in complete control of the area. 38 dead Japanese lay sprawled around his position.

Pvt McKinney's extraordinary courage and fighting skill had singlehandedly stopped cold a Japanese attack and saved his company from possible annihilation. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military.

The 33rd advanced on Highway 11, occupied Tabio and Ambuclac on 13 June, and secured this area after the fall of Bokod on 17 June 1945. Daklan Airstrip was captured on 22 June.

The 33rd was relieved by the 32nd Infantry Division on 30 June 1945, and moved to Bauang for rehabilitation. The division was engaged in amphibious training in the Philippines when the war ended on 14 August 1945. The 33rd landed on the main Japanese island of Honshu, 25 September 1945, and performed occupational duties until inactivated there on 3 February 1946.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—3
Distinguished Unit Citations—6
Distinguished Service Crosses—31
Silver Stars—470

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—524
Killed In Action—396
Wounded—2,024
Missing—5
Captured—1
Total Casualties—2,426

Other 33rd Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: KIA *

Pfc Dexter J. Kerstetter, 130th Inf Rgt, 13 April 1945, near Galiano, Luzon
S/Sgt Howard E. Woodford, * 130th Inf Rgt, 6 June 1945, near Tabio, Luzon

33RD INFANTRY DIVISION "Golden Cross"

SEPTEMBER 1944

26 Sept 111

3

OCTOBER 1944

7 Oct 1

20 Oct 1111

5

DECEMBER 1944

3 Dec 1

9 Dec 1

26 Dec 11

27 Dec 1

29 Dec 1

31 Dec 1

7

JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 1

2 Jan 1

3 Jan 1

4 Jan 111111

6 Jan 11

7 Jan 1

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FEBRUARY 1945

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27 Feb 1111

28 Feb 1

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MARCH 1945

1 Mar 11

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7 Mar 11

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9 Mar 1

10 Mar 1

11 Mar 1

14 Mar 11111

19 Mar 1

21 Mar 11

22 Mar 1

24 Mar 1

26 Mar 11111

27 Mar 111

29 Mar 111111

30 Mar 1

31 Mar 1

52

33RD INFANTRY DIVISION "Golden Cross"

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 11
 2 Apr 11
 3 Apr 1
 4 Apr 11
 7 Apr 11
 10 Apr 1
 11 Apr 111111111111 13
 12 Apr 111111
 14 Apr 111
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 24 Apr 111111
 25 Apr 1111
 26 Apr 11111
 28 Apr 1
 29 Apr 1111
 30 Apr 11

84

MAY 1945

2 May 1
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 31 May 11

25

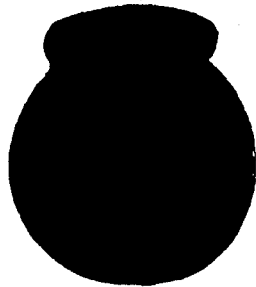
JUNE 1945

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 6 June 1111
 7 June 1
 8 June 1
 12 June 111
 13 June 1
 15 June 1
 16 June 1
 24 June 11

15

33RD INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----19 February 1945
 bloodiest month-----April 1945
 2nd bloodiest day-----20 February and 11 April 1945
 3rd bloodiest day-----16 April 1945
 Total battle deaths-----509
 264 are listed=51.8% KIA-388



34TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Bull"

Originally—Iowa, Minnesota, Dakotas National Guard

Activated (WW II)—10 February 1941

Returned To United States and Inactivated—3 November 1945

Battle Credits, World War II:	Algeria	Tunisia	Southern Italy	Cassino
Days In Combat—512	Anzio	Rome-Arno	Northern Apennines	Po Valley

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Charles W. Ryder

May 1942—July 1944

Maj-Gen Charles L. Bolte

July 1944—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 34th Infantry Division was the first division to be shipped overseas after Pearl Harbor, embarking in January 1942, and sailing to Northern Ireland, where it trained for the invasion of North Africa.

The 34th has a shoulder patch of which the background is an "olla", a Mexican water bottle, inspired by the desert country of the Southwest, where it trained during World War I.

Part of the 34th saw its first action when the 168th Infantry Regiment landed west of Algiers, during the Allied invasion of North Africa, on 8 November 1942. The 168th sustained fairly heavy losses against the French on the first day of the attack, until the latter agreed to a cease-fire on the 11th.

The rest of the 34th landed in North Africa on 3 January 1943.

After Algeria, the 34th trained some more for the campaign in Tunisia. Part of it was hit hard by the German attack through Kasserine Pass in mid-February 1943, and the 168th Infantry Regiment became isolated on Djebel Lessouda, and was forced to infiltrate out at night. The Germans were eventually forced back after hard fighting.

The 34th had another rough time at Fondouk, late-March-early April 1943, while attempting to support a local British attack. The division came under very heavy artillery fire, and its part in the attack bogged down with considerable losses.

However, in the famous Battle of Hill 609, the Red Bull more than repaid the enemy for its previous setbacks. After the 135th Infantry Regiment took Hill 490, 28 April 1943, and held it against a counterattack, the 34th assaulted Hill 609. The Germans on this large, rocky, fortified hill included some of the best troops in their entire army, including the tough Barenthin Regiment and much of the Hermann Göring Division. Many of these troops thought that the hill could never be taken. But the 34th, supported by tanks of the 1st Armored Division, battled up the slopes against withering enemy fire. By tenacity, courage, and perseverance, the Americans finally won out, and this key bastion in the German defenses fell on 1 May 1943.

The capture of Hill 609 paved the way for the advance on Mateur, Bizerte, and smaller towns. The 34th drove through Chouigui Pass to Tebourba, and then Ferryville. The German-Italian Army in Tunisia called it quits on 13 May 1943. Total casualties in the campaign, for the 34th, came to 4,254 men, including approximately 380 men killed.

The 34th rested during the Sicilian campaign. Then it trained for the Salerno landing, although only the 151st Field Artillery Battalion was in on the initial assault landing. The rest of the 34th landed in southern Italy on 25 September 1943.

During the 20 long months of fighting in Italy that followed, the 34th fired a total of

1,125,639 artillery shells, a record for any division artillery in the war.

In southern Italy, contacting the Germans at the Calore River, 28 September 1943, the 34th advanced northward to take Calazzo against stubborn resistance by the 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division. The 34th fought through strong opposition and heavy rains to cross the Volturno River on 13 October 1943. Fighting against local counterattacks and obstinate German rearguard actions, the Red Bull slowly continued further north into almost trackless mountain areas. The 133rd Infantry Regiment crossed the winding Volturno a second time on 18 October, and the 168th Infantry Regiment entered evacuated Dragoni the next day. On 20 October 1943, the 34th began the push on Capriati al Volturno, and made its third crossing of the Volturno near Roccaravindo on 3 November.

Along with the 3rd and 45th Infantry Divisions, plus some British outfits, the 34th began a bloody 10-day Battle for the Winter Line on 4 November 1943. Despite valiant efforts on the part of the American and British units involved, the Germans were just too well dug-in with some of their best units, and, for the most part, this assault failed. However, the 168th Infantry Regiment stormed Monte Pantano and, in bloody hand-to-hand fighting, defeated German attempts to take it back. On 9 December 1943, the 34th was pulled out of the line for rest and rehabilitation.

On 30 December 1943, the 34th returned to attack the extremely strong Gustav Line, and relieved the 36th Infantry Division in line. On 5 January 1944, the 135th Infantry Regiment began the battle for San Vittore, while the 168th Infantry moved to outflank La Chiala, and the 133rd Infantry Regiment (attached to the 1st Special Service Force) attacked Monte Maio. 7 January 1944, was one of the 34th's bloodiest days in combat of the entire war. The 168th Infantry cleared the heights overlooking the Rapido River, 13 January, and the 135th Infantry finally won Monte Trocchio on the 15th.

Then, in late-January 1944, the 34th attacked into the extremely strong defenses of the Cassino area, which was part of the German Gustav Line. Attached to the 34th, at this time, was the 142nd Infantry Regiment, 36th Infantry Division, and the Japanese-American 100th Infantry Battalion.

Before it could cross the Rapido, the Red Bull was forced to go through a marshy area heavily laden with mines. Nevertheless, by continual probing, the 34th succeeded in getting across the narrow, but swift-flowing Rapido, and making a small, but important breach in the German line. The 168th Infantry Regiment attacked through this bridgehead and took Hills 56 and 213 after hard fighting which included the repulse of a strong German counter-attack on 30 January 1944.

After several days of grueling and continuous fighting, the 34th, in a gradual flanking maneuver, had captured several hills north of Monte Cassino, on top of which was the monastery. As the intensive battle continued the 133rd Infantry Regiment attempted to capture a highly fortified hill which blocked the entrance to Cassino. It was in this action that the 34th had one of its 9 Medal of Honor winners of the war in an extremely daring and valiant action by Pfc Leo J. Powers, on 3 February 1944.

By singlehandedly destroying 3 enemy pillboxes with grenades in the face of furious fire, he worked his way over the entire company front against tremendous odds and, almost alone, broke the backbone of this heavily defended and strategic German position. Pfc Powers' heroic action enabled the entire 133rd Infantry Regiment to advance into Cassino town.

Once inside the town, the 133rd had to fight one of the most furious actions of the war. It was violent building-to-building combat, and the Germans launched numerous counterattacks. The following day the 133rd Infantry attempted to clear the barracks north of Cassino, but, despite tank reinforcement, was repulsed with heavy casualties.

Meanwhile, the 135th Infantry Regiment managed to get a shock force right up to the walls of the monastery, but these valiant men were forced back. The 168th Infantry Regiment attacked from just to the north of Monte Cassino, and the 135th Infantry captured the key Hill 593. At times, the opposing sides were close enough to throw rocks at each other, and hand grenades were often the decisive weapon. But all attempts to capture Monte Cassino and the towering monastery failed, although on 5 February 1944, large elements of the 34th were a mere 3 miles from the Via Casilina, a main highway leading to Rome. Three miles!—the distance between Heaven and hell...

During the course of the fighting, the Austrian 44th Infantry Division was shattered as an effective fighting force. But the Germans moved other first-class troops into the area,

including the 90th Panzer Grenadier and vaunted 1st Parachute Divisions. The German 1st Parachute Division "Green Devils" was probably the finest unit in the entire German Army.

On 8 February 1944, the 34th made one final all-out attack in alternate rain and snow, but by 13 February, the division was totally exhausted, and its positions in the mountains were taken over by the 4th Indian Division. Some of the 34th's companies were down to $\frac{1}{4}$ th of their original strength, while some of the surviving men had to be carried out of their positions on stretchers, since they were too numb and stiff to walk, due to the exposure from the cold in the mountains, lack of sleep, and the constant fighting. Since the start of this 1st Battle of Cassino, the 34th had lost over 600 men killed in action or died of wounds, many more wounded, and a number of men missing or captured.

The 34th Infantry Division's performance and its attached units at Cassino ranks among the top feats of arms of the war. (Subsequent assaults on Cassino by the 4th Indian and 2nd New Zealand Divisions also failed. The area wasn't cleared until mid-May 1944, in a massive assault by five Allied divisions). The 34th and its attached units had almost made it alone.

After rest and rehabilitation, the 34th landed in the Anzio beachhead on 25 March 1944. It maintained defensive positions until the offensive began, 23 May 1944, to break out of the beachhead area. This involved more very furious and heavy fighting. The 133rd Infantry Regiment led the division attack toward Monte Arrestino. After the junction of U.S. forces outside the beachhead on 25 May 1944, the 34th followed up the 1st Armored Division, and saw heavy fighting at Lanuvio. On 29 May 1944, the 34th had another Medal of Honor winner in a very valiant action, Captain William W. Galt, 168th Infantry Regiment.

Captain Galt was battalion S-3. Following two unsuccessful attacks by his battalion in a critical period of action, on his own accord, he went forward to ascertain just how serious the situation was. He volunteered to personally lead the next attack himself.

The captain jumped up upon the lone remaining tank destroyer. As it moved forward, followed by a company of riflemen, he manned the .30 caliber machinegun on the turret. He located and directed fire on an enemy 77mm antitank gun and destroyed it.

Nearing the German positions, Captain Galt fully exposed in the turret, ceaselessly firing his machinegun and tossing grenades into the zigzag series of trenches, despite a hail of enemy fire. As the tank destroyer advanced, the captain so maneuvered it so that 40 of the enemy were trapped in one trench. When they refused to surrender, he pressed the trigger of the machinegun and dispatched every one of them. A few minutes later, an 88mm shell struck the tank destroyer, mortally wounding him as he fell across his gun.

Captain Galt had given great impetus to this attack, and was a source of inspiration. His courage and leadership exemplify the highest traditions of the U.S. armed forces.

In heavy fighting, the 34th pushed past Rome, to Civitavecchia, and then further north up the western coast of Italy. The division overran Tarquinia, on Highway 1, on 9 June 1944, and then took over the advance from the 36th Infantry Division on 26 June 1944.

Against fierce resistance by the 16th SS Panzer Grenadier Division, the 133rd Infantry Regiment took Cecina, 30 June-2 July 1944, the 135th Infantry won the battle for Rosignano, 3-7 July, and the 168th Infantry took Castellina on 6 July. After a short respite, the 34th moved on to capture Leghorn (Livorno) on 19 July 1944, and, soon after, reached the Arno.

During August 1944, the 34th rested and rehabilitated.

Then, on 10 September 1944, the 34th, along with other 5th Army outfits, began the assault on the German Gothic Line. In brilliant fighting against much of the German 4th Parachute Division, the 34th captured Monte Frassino, 15 September 1944. The 133rd Infantry Regiment of the division fought for Torricella Hill, 13-21 September, and then went on to take Montepiano by the 23rd. This area was all in the region of Futa Pass. Then, after a hard battle, Monte Bastione fell to the 135th Infantry on 28 September 1944.

Continuing further north in the mountains, along with other 5th Army outfits, against very tough resistance, the 34th was eventually stalemated at the battle of Monte Belmonte, 16-23 October 1944. This action saw the employment of searchlights and "artificial moonlight" (searchlights reflecting off of the low clouds in the sky at night).

By the end of October 1944, the entire U.S. 5th Army, as well as the British 8th Army, was completely exhausted from the incessant fighting in the mountains amid the unusually foul weather. The two Allies were unable to break out of the mountains and into the Po Valley before winter set-in. Besides the weather and rugged terrain, the Germans still had

some of their best formations on the Italian Front. Among them were the 1st and 4th Parachute, 26th Panzer, 29th and 90th Panzer Grenadier, 8th Mountain, and quite a few first-rate infantry divisions.

The 34th dug-in south of the city of Bologna for the long winter. Except for 5 February 1945, no heavy fighting occurred for the 34th all through that long winter of 1944-45. For the most part, action consisted of relatively small, but still highly dangerous patrol activities. For over 5 months the 34th and other Allied outfits waited and shivered in the mountains, and prepared for the long-awaited offensive in the coming spring.

Finally, on 14 April 1945, the 5th Army opened its all-out offensive to smash the Germans in northern Italy. The offensive against Bologna was initiated on 15 April, by the Polish Corps, part of the U.S. 91st Infantry Division, and the 34th. 18 April 1945, was the 34th's most costly day of this entire offensive, as the division fought past furiously contested Gorgognano Ridge, the Sevizzano Heights, and Drei Mori Hill to help seize Bologna with the 133rd Infantry Regiment on 21 April 1945.

On 23 April, the 34th screened Highway 9, taking Reggio, and relieving the 1st Armored Division. After a sharp, but short fight, south of Piacenza, the 34th raced westward, capturing Cremona and Milan.

The final campaign in Italy contained a couple of ironies for the 34th. At Bologna had been the élite German 1st Parachute Division, which had handed the Allies repeated setbacks at Cassino. The 34th, and especially the Polish Corps, had the satisfaction of eliminating on the battlefield this tough, élite enemy formation. And, in northwest Italy, the German 75th Corps surrendered to the 34th—which included the German 34th Infantry Division, veteran of the Russian Front. At the time of the German surrender in Italy, on 2 May 1945, the 34th had reached the Ticino River, northwest of Milan.

Besides all the fighting in North Africa, no outfit fought longer or harder up the long boot of Italy than the Fighting 34th Infantry Division, which piled-up more combat time than any other American division in the Mediterranean-European Theater of Operations.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—9
Distinguished Unit Citations—3
Distinguished Service Crosses—6
Silver Stars—1,153

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—3,708
Killed In Action—3,145
Wounded—12,545
Missing—622
Captured—1,368
Total Casualties—17,680

Other 34th Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action *

Pvt Robert D. Booker, * 9 April 1943, near Fondouk, Tunisia
2nd Lt Ernest H. Dervishian, 23 May 1944, near Cisterna, Italy
S/Sgt George J. Hall, 135th Inf Rgt, 23 May 1944, Anzio Beachhead, Italy
1st Lt Beryl R. Newman, 133rd Inf Rgt, 26 May 1944, near Cisterna, Italy
2nd Lt Paul F. Riordan, * 133rd Inf Rgt, 3-8 February 1944, Cassino, Italy
Pvt Furman L. Smith, * 135th Inf Rgt, 31 May 1944, near Lanuvio, Italy
2nd Lt Thomas W. Wigle, * 135th Inf Rgt, 14 September 1944, Monte Frassinio, Italy

34TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Bull"

NOVEMBER 1942

8 Nov 111111111111111 15
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 14 Nov 1
 22 Nov 111
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DECEMBER 1942

6 Dec 1
 7 Dec 1
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JANUARY 1943

18 Jan 1
 31 Jan 111111111111 12
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FEBRUARY 1943

1 Feb 1
 2 Feb 1111
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 12 Feb 1
 16 Feb 11
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 20 Feb 111111
 22 Feb 11111
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 28 Feb 1
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MARCH 1943

10 Mar 11
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 27 Mar 11111
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 30 Mar 111111111111 14
 31 Mar 111111111 10
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APRIL 1943

1 Apr 1111111111 10
 2 Apr 1
 3 Apr 111
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 9 Apr 1111111111111111111111111111 28
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 11 Apr 1
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 107

MAY 1943

2 May 1
 3 May 1
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 7 May 11111111111111 14
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34TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Bull"

OCTOBER 1943

1 Oct 1
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NOVEMBER 1943

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DECEMBER 1943

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34TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Bull"

JANUARY 1944

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FEBRUARY 1944

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 13 Feb 111111
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 24 Feb 1

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MARCH 1944

8 Mar 1
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 30 Mar 11
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34TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Bull"

JULY 1944

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SEPTEMBER 1944

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OCTOBER 1944

1 Oct 111111
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34TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Red Bull"

NOVEMBER 1944	DECEMBER 1944	JANUARY 1945	MARCH 1945	APRIL 1945
1 Nov 111111	1 Dec 1	3 Jan 1	2 Mar 1	8 Apr 1
2 Nov 1111	3 Dec 1	12 Jan 1	5 Mar 1	9 Apr 1
3 Nov 1	8 Dec 1	17 Jan 11	7 Mar 11	12 Apr 1
4 Nov 1	9 Dec 1	22 Jan 1	9 Mar 1	15 Apr 11
6 Nov 11	10 Dec 11111	23 Jan 1	11 Mar 1	16 Apr 11
11 Nov 111	11 Dec 1	26 Jan 1	17 Mar 1	17 Apr 111
12 Nov 11	13 Dec 1	29 Jan 1	19 Mar 1	18 Apr 11111111111111111111 22
14 Nov 1	14 Dec 1		22 Mar 11	19 Apr 1111
15 Nov 111	18 Dec 1	8	25 Mar 1	20 Apr 11111
16 Nov 1	19 Dec 1			23 Apr 1
19 Nov 1	22 Dec 11		11	24 Apr 11111
21 Nov 111111	26 Dec 111	FEBRUARY 1945		25 Apr 1
22 Nov 11111111 8	30 Dec 1	3 Feb 1		26 Apr 111111
23 Nov 1		5 Feb 1111111111111111 17		28 Apr 1
26 Nov 1	20	10 Feb 1		
28 Nov 1		21 Feb 11		55
29 Nov 1		21		
43				
				MAY 1945
				24 May 1
				1

34TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest days-----7 January 1944; 29 May 1944; 1 June 1944; 1 July 1944
 bloodiest month-----February 1944
 5th bloodiest day-----26 January 1944
 6th " " "-----2 February 1944
 7th " " "-----9 April 1943; 9 February 1944

Total battle deaths-----3,708
 2,025 are listed=54.6% KIA-3,145



35TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Santa Fe"

Originally—Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska National Guard

Activated (WW II)—23 December 1940

Returned To United States—10 September 1945

Inactivated—7 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Normandy North-Central France
 Lorraine-Saar Ardennes Alsace
Days In Combat—264 Rhineland North-Central Germany

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):
 Maj-Gen Paul W. Baade January 1943—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 35th Infantry Division had an inconspicuous captain of artillery in World War I, Harry S. Truman. 27 years later, while on his way to the Potsdam Conference, he got to inspect some 1,600 men from the soldiers wearing the same Santa Fe cross on their shoulders. He was well-guarded. The men of the 35th wore 5 major battle stars, and could tell of fighting under 4 different American armies to help crush Nazi tyranny. The 35th fought under the 1st, 3rd, 7th, and 9th Armies, in that order.

The 35th's shoulder patch originated during the Indian Wars. The white cross on a blue field is to honor the men who blazed the old Santa Fe Trail. In World War I, the 35th saw heavy fighting in the Meuse-Argonne.

The 35th arrived in England on 25 May 1944, and received further training.

The 35th entered combat in Normandy on 10 July 1944. In the hot, jungle-like quiet of that night, the Santa Fe Division moved silently along dusty roads to form a battle line running southeast from the Vire River, above La Meauffe to La Nicollerie.

Just before dawn on 11 July 1944, more than 200 division and supporting corps artillery pounded German positions in a thundering barrage. Then, at 0600, the infantry charged through the hedgerow country with grenades, bayonets, and point-blank fire. In La Meauffe, every building was a converted pillbox. U.S. artillery levelled these strongpoints with deadly accurate barrages, and the infantry drove the Germans from the town. Between 15-17 July 1944, the 35th beat back 12 German counterattacks at Emilie, before battling into rubble-strewn St. Lô, on 18 July. In one 2-day period, the 35th sustained almost 1,000 casualties.

After mopping-up in the St. Lô area, the division blasted its way onward to Vire, and then, further south, helped repulse a very strong German counterthrust in the vicinity of Mortain, in one of the most vicious battles in France, and suffered heavy casualties. Altogether, the fighting in Normandy cost the 35th some 825 men.

Spearheaded by the 4th Armored Division, the 35th advanced across north-central France and captured Orleáns in a day and night of hard fighting by 18 August 1944. The division continued its drive across France, taking Montargis, 23 August, and after crossing the Seine and then Meuse Rivers, forced the Moselle at Crevechamps, on 11 September. The city of Nancy was liberated on 15 September 1944.

Then, in mid-September 1944, the 35th, under the U.S. 3rd Army, saw a great deal of more tough fighting. In the thick Champenoux Forest, south of the Nancy-Saarbrücken Highway were stubborn German concentrations which had to be erased. The Germans, holding ideal defensive positions, repulsed a first attack. Two days later, the GIs rode on tanks to the edge of the woods, and then annihilated the defenders in bloody hand-to-hand combat.

The town of Gremercy and the Château-Salins Forest was another German stronghold. The Germans commenced violent counterattacks against the 35th with their 559th Volksgrenadier Division beginning on 26 September, and for 3 days the fighting see-sawed viciously before the Germans were finally forced back with the aid of the 6th Armored Division.

As the autumn wore on and the weather deteriorated, the Santa Fe Division fought through northern Lorraine and toward the Saar, along with other 3rd Army outfits. Between Morhange and Sarreguemines, the Germans resisted with the utmost skill and determination, and it was very rough going. It was during this fighting that the 35th had a Medal of Honor winner, Staff Sergeant Junior J. Spurrier, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, at Achain, France, on 13 November 1944.

At 2, in the afternoon, Company G attacked the village of Achain. S/Sgt Spurrier, armed with an automatic rifle, passed around the village and advanced alone. Attacking from the west, he immediately killed three Germans. From this time until dark, the sergeant, using his rifle, a pistol, grenades, and a rocket launcher, continued his solitary attack against the enemy in the face of heavy small-arms and automatic weapons fire. As a result of his courageous actions, he killed an officer and 24 enlisted men and captured two officers and two enlisted men. Sgt Spurrier survived the war.

The advance to the Saar continued, but the 137th Infantry Regiment was hit by a German counterattack which forced it out of Hilsprich, 23 November. However, the 134th Infantry Regiment took the town with tanks and massive artillery fire the next day.

The 35th pushed into Sarreguemines, 6 December 1944, and, as it fought for this town, the 134th and 320th Infantry Regiments assaulted across the Saar River the following day. This bridgehead was defended against strong enemy attacks, with liberal air and artillery support. Sarreguemines was reduced after house-to-house combat by 11 December 1944.

The 35th then attacked across the Blies River on 12 December, where it was subjected to fierce German counterattacks at Habkirchen, which was eventually secured on 15 December 1944. The 137th Infantry was then forced out of Breiterwald on the same day, and on 20-21 December 1944, the 35th was relieved by the 44th and 87th Infantry Divisions after almost 162 days of continual combat. The division then moved back to Metz for rehabilitation.

By this time, the Germans had already begun their furious onslaught in the Ardennes. The Battle of the Bulge was on in full fury. The 35th was one of the 3rd Army divisions picked to attack northward into the southern side of the German penetration. The weather was bitter cold with some snowstorms and heavy drifting—the worst winter in Europe in half-a-century.

Under these appalling conditions, the 35th crossed the Sure River, 27 December 1944, and held its own against elements of 4 different German divisions including the bulk of the double-tough, élite 1st SS Panzer Division "Leibstandarte" and part of the equally tough 5th Parachute Division. In the face of these odds, the fighting was unmatched in ferocity, and the 35th was temporarily stalemated. Heroically, the 35th fought tenaciously and it finally paid off. The Germans were forced back in extremely hard fighting, and the vulnerable right flank of the Bastogne Highway was secured. Few American troops have ever been called upon to fight in more trying conditions. In spite of it all, the 35th took Villers-la-Bonne-Eau, 10 January 1945, after

a 13-day battle. The 35th then advanced to Oubourcy and took it in house-to-house combat on 15 January 1945. The town of Lutrebois then fell after a bitter 5-day battle. On 18 January, the 35th was relieved, and returned to Metz to resume its interrupted rest. But not for long.

The 35th was soon sent to the U.S. 7th Army area in Alsace to help stabilize the front there. The division occupied the Forêt Dominiale (forest), and extensive patrol activity was conducted.

After only around one week in Alsace, the 35th, in still cold weather, was rushed almost 300 miles to the north into southern Holland. It relieved the British 52nd Infantry Division, and held defensive positions along the Roer River from 6-22 February 1945.

Then, as part of an all-out U.S. 9th Army offensive, the 35th, beginning on 25 February 1945, attacked across the Roer at Linnich. The division advanced rapidly against moderate resistance in its zone of attack. On 6 March 1945, the 35th reached the Rhine, mopped-up Rheinberg, and then advanced through heavy opposition to the Wesel River, where Ft. Blucher was seized on 11 March. The 35th was then sent back to the rear for rest and rehabilitation.

The 35th crossed the Rhine, east of Rheinberg, on 26-27 March 1945. The division was then engaged at Kirchhellen until the end of the month. The 134th Infantry Regiment reached the Zweig Canal at Meckinghoven on 2 April, and then joined the rest of the 35th defending the Rhein-Herne Canal sector.

After regrouping, the Santa Fe attacked across the canal to positions beyond the city of Gelsenkirchen, 9 April, and then closed up to the Ruhr River, west of Witten by 11 April 1945.

The 35th then advanced across north-central Germany, bypassing the city of Braunschweig (Brunswick). Resistance was sporadic in its zone of attack, and the division reached the wide Elbe River on 14 April 1945. The 35th then mopped-up in the vicinity of Angern and Kolbitz until 26 April, and then shifted to Hannover for occupational duty and mopping-up actions. Later, the 35th joined the recently formed 15th Army.

The 35th returned home in September 1945, and was inactivated that following December.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—2,997
Distinguished Unit Citations—6 *	Killed In Action—2,485
Distinguished Service Crosses—44	Wounded—11,526
Silver Stars—688	Missing—340
	Captured—1,471
	Total Casualties—15,822

* One to the entire 134th Infantry Regiment—Battle of the Bulge

35TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Santa Fe"

JULY 1944

11 July 1111111111111111 16
 12 July 11111111111111 14
 13 July 11111111111111 13
 14 July 1111111111111111 18
 15 July 111 55*
 16 July 11111111111111111111 24 approx.
 17 July 111 35 100*men
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 19 July 1111111111 10
 20 July 111111
 21 July 1111
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 25 July 11111111 9
 26 July 11111111 8
 27 July 1111111
 28 July 11111111111111111111 18
 29 July 1111111
 30 July 11111111111111111111111111111111 25
 31 July 11111111 8

311

AUGUST 1944

1 Aug 111 23
 2 Aug 111 20
 3 Aug 1111111111 9
 4 Aug 1111111111111111 14
 5 Aug 1111
 6 Aug 1
 7 Aug 111111
 8 Aug 1111111
 9 Aug 111111111111 12
 10 Aug 11111111111111 13
 11 Aug 11111111111111 13
 12 Aug 11111111111111111111 17
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 14 Aug 11111
 15 Aug 1
 16 Aug 111
 17 Aug 11111111 8
 18 Aug 111
 19 Aug 1
 20 Aug 1
 22 Aug 11
 24 Aug 1
 25 Aug 1
 27 Aug 11

183

35TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Santa Fe"

SEPTEMBER 1944

3 Sept 1
 10 Sept 11
 11 Sept 1111111111 11
 12 Sept 1111111111111111 20
 13 Sept 11111111111111 15
 14 Sept 111111111 10
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 23 Sept 1111111111111111 21
 24 Sept 11111
 25 Sept 1111111 8
 26 Sept 11111111111 12
 27 Sept 1111111 8
 28 Sept 11111111111111 16
 29 Sept 111111111 10
 30 Sept 1111111111111111 18

235

OCTOBER 1944

1 Oct 11111111111111 15
 2 Oct 11111111111111 15
 3 Oct 11
 4 Oct 1
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 6 Oct 1
 7 Oct 1
 8 Oct 111
 9 Oct 1
 10 Oct 111111111111111111 25
 11 Oct 1111111
 12 Oct 11111
 17 Oct 1
 18 Oct 1
 20 Oct 11
 31 Oct 1

82

NOVEMBER 1944

1 Nov 1
 4 Nov 1
 5 Nov 1
 7 Nov 1
 8 Nov 1111111111111111 18
 9 Nov 111111111 10
 10 Nov 11111111111111111111 25
 11 Nov 1111111111111111 18
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 16 Nov 11111111 10
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 18 Nov 111111
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 22 Nov 111111111111 14
 23 Nov 11111111 10
 24 Nov 1111111 8
 25 Nov 1111
 26 Nov 1111111 8
 27 Nov 11
 28 Nov 1
 29 Nov 1
 30 Nov 11

232

35TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Santa Fe"

DECEMBER 1944

2 Dec 11
 3 Dec 1
 4 Dec 11
 5 Dec 1111
 6 Dec 11111111 8
 8 Dec 1111111111 11
 9 Dec 111111111111111111 20
 10 Dec 1
 11 Dec 1111
 12 Dec 11111111 9
 13 Dec 11111111 8
 14 Dec 11111
 15 Dec 1111111111 10
 16 Dec 1111111111 11
 17 Dec 11111111111 12
 18 Dec 111
 19 Dec 11
 20 Dec 111111111111 12
 21 Dec 1
 22 Dec 1
 23 Dec 111
 28 Dec 1
 29 Dec 111
 30 Dec 111
 31 Dec 111

140

JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 1111111111111111111111111111 28
 2 Jan 11111111111111 14
 3 Jan 11111
 4 Jan 11111111111111 14
 5 Jan 11111111111111 15
 6 Jan 111111111111 12
 7 Jan 11111111111111111111111111 25
 8 Jan 111111
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 10 Jan 1111111111111111 18
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 12 Jan 111111111111 13
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 15 Jan 11
 16 Jan 111
 17 Jan 1111111111 10
 18 Jan 111
 19 Jan 111
 21 Jan 1
 23 Jan 1
 24 Jan 11
 25 Jan 11111111 9
 26 Jan 1
 28 Jan 11

236

FEBRUARY 1945

1 Feb 1
 4 Feb 1
 5 Feb 1
 7 Feb 11
 12 Feb 1
 13 Feb 1
 16 Feb 1
 17 Feb 11
 23 Feb 111
 24 Feb 1
 26 Feb 1111111111 10
 27 Feb 111111
 28 Feb 1

31

35TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Santa Fe"

MARCH 1945

2 Mar 1
 3 Mar 1
 4 Mar 111
 5 Mar 1111
 6 Mar 1
 7 Mar 11
 8 Mar 1111111111111111 17
 9 Mar 11111
 26 Mar 11111111 9
 27 Mar 11
 28 Mar 11111111111111 15
 29 Mar 11
 30 Mar 11111111 8
 31 Mar 1

71

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 1
 2 Apr 1
 4 Apr 11
 7 Apr 1
 8 Apr 11
 10 Apr 1
 11 Apr 111
 12 Apr 11
 13 Apr 11
 16 Apr 111111
 17 Apr 111111
 22 Apr 1
 23 Apr 1
 28 Apr 1

32

JUNE 1945

18 June 1
 1

35TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

bloodiest day-----15 July 1944

bloodiest month-----July 1944

2nd bloodiest day-----17 July 1944

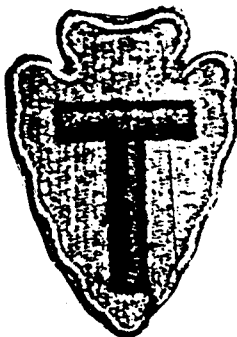
3rd " " "-----1 January 1945

4th " " "-----30 July, 10 October, and 10 November 1944; 7 January 1945

5th " " "-----16 July 1944

Total battle deaths-----2,936

1,554 are listed=52.9% KIA-2,476



36TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Texans"

Originally—Texas National Guard

Activated (WW II)—25 November 1940

Returned To United States—15 December 1945

Inactivated—15 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Salerne Beachhead Southern Italy Anzio Rome—Arno
Southern France Vosges Mountains Alsace
Siegfried Line Rhineland Central Europe

Days In Combat—400

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Fred L. Walker

September 1941—June 1944

Maj-Gen John E. Dahlquist

July 1944—November 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 36th Infantry Division first saw action during World War I, in the Meuse-Argonne campaign.

In World War II, it was the first U.S. division to land on continental Europe.

The 36th Division landed in North Africa, 13 April 1943, and trained at Arzew and Rabat.

Then, on 9 September 1943, it landed at Paestum on the Gulf of Salerno. The 36th's baptism of fire was a bloody one. The crack 16th Panzer Division, veteran of the Russian Front, was waiting slightly inland from the beachhead, and commenced strong counterattacks, as later did the 29th Panzer Grenadier Division. Meanwhile, two British divisions, British commands, and a U.S. ranger battalion had landed to the left (west) of the 36th, and the next day, the U.S. 45th Infantry Division landed. Other formidable German units began attacks on the entire beachhead, and for several days the issue was critical, but tenacious Allied resistance, and fire from an artillery battalion of the U.S. 34th Division and accurate offshore naval gunfire helped save the situation. The Allies grimly hung on and slowly began forcing their way inland, the 36th securing the area from Agropoli to Altavilla. It was in the battle for Altavilla that the 36th produced one of the most famous heroes of the war, Corporal Charles E. "Commando" Kelly, Company L, 143rd Infantry Regiment, 13 September 1943.

Corporal Kelly voluntarily joined a patrol and located and neutralized enemy gun positions. Again voluntarily, he made his way under intense fire to a hill a mile away, reporting on his return that it was held by the Germans. Joining another patrol, he helped put 2 machine-guns out of action. He then found an ammunition dump under fire, and joined in its defense. Corporal Kelly protected his position from the upper floor of a farmhouse all that night, and was under constant attack from the enemy in other buildings, in ditches and gullies, and from nearby heights.

That following morning the Germans readied for an all-out assault. Corporal Kelly fired with his rifle, a bazooka, then with a BAR—and then, as the Germans surged forward, with 60 mm mortar shells. He did this by pulling out the safety pin which neutralizes the propelling charge and the cap which sets off the charge. Then he gently tapped the shell on a window ledge and listened anxiously. He heard the sound of the second pin inside falling,

and knew he had a live bomb in his hands. The Germans were about to rush the house any second. He threw the shell as one would throw a football, hard as he could, and there was a heavy explosion. When the smoke cleared away, a ditch was filled with sprawled Germans. He threw numerous mortar shells at the enemy in this manner, inflicting heavy casualties, and then, he and some other men in the building made their escape during that night. Corporal Kelly survived the war to later receive the Medal of Honor—one of 14 awarded to men of the 36th Infantry Division.

After the Salerno beachhead was secured by 17 September 1943, the 36th was given a rest, returning to the front on 15 November, and relieving the 3rd Infantry Division.

In early-December 1943, the 5th Army began "Operation Raincoat", aptly named since, during this period, "sunny Italy" was not so sunny. The weather was unusually bleak and rainy, and the nights were bitter cold. This operation was aimed at breaking the German Winter Line, just south of Cassino. In some of the most rugged fighting of the war, the 36th fought such memorable battles as Monte Lungo, Monte Sammucro, a particularly tough battle, Monte Trocchio, and the bitter 10-day battle for San Pietro.

Before San Pietro could be taken, the Germans had to be forced off of these heights in very strenuous fighting. Often, supplies had to be brought up by pack-mule, and the Germans had all the advantages of the defender. It was a rifleman's war under grueling hardships, and it was during this time that famed war correspondent Ernie Pyle hooked up with the 36th. He soon wrote one of the most moving stories to come out of the war about a beloved company commander who was killed in action, Captain Henry T. Waskow. This article later was the principal theme for "GI Joe", the movie about Ernie's war experiences.

It wasn't until Christmas Eve, 1943, when a final desperate attack was made by weary elements of the 141st Infantry Regiment, that the key hill mass of Sammucro was seized, finally forcing the Germans out of San Pietro after their position had become untenable. John Huston made a 30-minute film of part of the Battle of San Pietro, which has come to be considered, by many, the best film to come out of the war.

Then, in January 1944, in conjunction with the 34th Infantry Division's assault on Cassino, two regiments of the 36th were assigned the extremely difficult task of assaulting across the narrow, but swift-flowing Rapido River. Crack German grenadiers raked them with mortar, machine-gun, and rifle fire and the attack failed. But the Texans had fought courageously against overwhelming odds. Meanwhile, the 142nd Infantry Regiment was helping the 34th Division's valiant, but abortive attempt to take Cassino.

Following the savage battle at the Rapido, the 36th was given 7 weeks of rest, and then re-entered the fighting. It joined the forces at the Anzio beachhead, 25 May 1944, and helped in the breakout from the beachhead in very heavy fighting. In fact, it was such tough going for the Americans and British in trying to break the seemingly iron ring of German defenses south of Rome, that they again were almost stalemated. But then, in a brilliant maneuver, the 36th succeeded in locating a small gap in the German lines, exploited this advantage in some skillful night maneuvering, and captured the key town of Velletri. This paved the way for the fall of Rome, which the Allies finally entered on 4 June 1944—two days before the invasion of Normandy. If Generals Alexander and Clark received the key to "the eternal city", it was the 36th which turned that key and handed it to them.

The men of the 36th hoped for some well-deserved time in Rome, but they never got it. Instead, they were ordered to continue on north along the western coast. Sharp, but fairly short, resistance was met in the hills around Magliano. The division then advanced as far north as Piombino, 26 June, before being pulled back to Paestum for rest and recuperation.

The Texans made their second amphibious assault landing of the war, this time in southern France on 15 August 1944. They met the stiffest opposition of any of the assault forces, but it was not of lengthy duration, and most objectives were quickly obtained. Advancing up the Rhône River Valley, Montélimar fell on 28 August, after a raging battle, and a large part of the German 19th Army was badly shot-up as it retreated to the north. Meanwhile, the 143rd Infantry Regiment had captured the city of Grenoble, toward the Swiss frontier.

Along with the 3rd and 45th Infantry Divisions and French units, the 36th then continued north. It fought through Luxeuil, the WW I base of the famous Lafayette Escadrille, and then to the Moselle River at Remiremont, at the base of the high Vosges. Here, the Germans

put up bitter resistance.

The Moselle was one of the Germans' heaviest fixed lines of defense, but the Texans outwitted the defenders. Led by the 70-year old mayor of Raon-aux-Bois, who knew the river well, the 141st Infantry, wading waist-deep, sneaked across a little-known ford during the night and established a bridgehead. Recovering from their surprise, the Germans turned murderous fire on the battalions, but the Americans drove on into the forests that cover the slopes of the Vosges. The famous Japanese American 442nd Infantry Regiment, which was attached to the 36th at this time, distinguished itself with a gallant attack which took Bruyères, and also fought through to a battalion of the 36th which had become surrounded, and saved its men from probable annihilation. Mines, artillery, and snipers made the battle in the forests a nightmare.

In a grinding offensive, the 36th crossed the Meurthe River, fought through the burning town of Corcieux, breached the 2,900-foot high Ste. Marie Pass, and entered the flat Alsatian Plain.

On 6 December 1944, in and around Sélestat, the Germans began a series of strong and skillful attacks, the object of which was nothing less than to destroy the 36th Division. The Germans used first-rate troops in these vicious attacks, including SS elements. In some of the division's most desperate fighting of the war, all of these enemy assaults were hurled back with very heavy losses to the Germans, and one battalion of the 36th was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation. Shortly after, the 36th was pulled out of the line after 122 consecutive days of combat. But not for very long.

On 1 January 1945, the Germans opened a furious offensive in northern Alsace with some 14 divisions, right at the height of the Battle of the Bulge, raging to the northwest. The 36th was rushed northward to help stop the Germans who were attacking with great élan. By 3 January, the entire division had taken up defensive positions in the area about Montbronn, 10 miles southwest of Bitche. In very hard fighting the Germans dented the line between Lemburg and Götzenbruck, but this loss was restored before dark of the same day. After 6 January, enemy attacks in the 36th's sector were contained, and then gradually died down, as the Germans became discouraged at what little success they had in this area.

However, over in the extreme right flank of the U.S. 7th Army sector, it was another story. In the area between Gamsheim and Drusenheim, the Germans had managed to force a dangerous bridgehead over the Rhine with two crack divisions, the élite 10th SS Panzer Division and the 553rd Volksgrenadier. A furious battle soon developed. The U.S. 12th Armored Division, attempting to eliminate this bridgehead, 16-18 January, was thrown back with considerable losses. The U.S. 79th Infantry Division was also having a rough time of it northeast of Haguenau in beating back repeated enemy assaults. To bolster and save this critical situation, the 36th was ordered from Montbronn, save for the 141st Infantry which remained in that area and was attached to the 100th Infantry Division.

The weather was still bitter cold as the 143rd Infantry moved in to support the 12th Armored on 19 January. The furious fighting continued, but a big turning point in the battle was when Lt. Colonel Marion P. Bowden led his battalion in a determined counterattack that killed 83 men and captured 176 more from the 10th SS Panzer, some of Germany's best troops.

After this, the enemy pressure in this area gradually sputtered out, as the snow fell to a heavy 12-inch covering. Artificial moonlight at night (searchlights reflecting off of the low ceiling, overcast sky) detected the slightest enemy movements. By the end of January, the entire German offensive had come to a halt.

In early-February 1945, the 36th fought back to regain lost ground and smashed into Oberhoffen and Herrlisheim, both of which the Germans bitterly contested. In fact, they resisted fanatically, and it was bitter house-to-house combat. Opening American attacks on Herrlisheim were thrown back, but the Germans were eventually forced to evacuate the town. In Oberhoffen it was a violent struggle almost 2 weeks long in which the 36th had two more Medal of Honor winners, 2nd Lt Edward Dahlgren and Sgt Emile Deleau, Jr. of the 142nd Infantry Regiment.

Sgt Deleau won his award posthumously. He was in Company A, and led his squad in a night attack on Oberhoffen on 1 February 1945. After clearing one building, he moved his men toward a second house from which came heavy machine-gun fire. He courageously ran forward, firing his submachinegun as he went, until close enough to hurl a grenade through a window,

killing 3 Germans and wrecking their gun. His progress was then stopped by heavy rifle and machine-gun fire from another house. Sgt Deleau dashed through the door, his gun blazing, and captured 10 Germans. His squad then took up a position for the night and waited for daylight to resume the attack.

At dawn on 2 February, Sgt Deleau pressed forward with his unit and killed 2 snipers, when more machine-gun fire barred the way. Despite this fire, he raced across an open area and killed the 2-man crew of this gun with a grenade. Working to the front of a building, he located another machine-gun. Finding it impossible to toss a grenade at it from his protected position, he fearlessly moved away from the building and was about to hurl a grenade when he was instantly killed by a burst from the gun he sought to knock out.

With magnificent courage and daring aggressiveness, Sgt Deleau cleared four well-defended houses of the enemy, and, at the sacrifice of his own life, aided his entire battalion to reach its objective with minimum casualties.

Then, after a rest period, as part of an all-out 7th Army offensive to smash the Siegfried Line, beginning 15 March 1945, the 36th slashed forward in yet more furious fighting, hitting the fortifications at Wissembourg. On the 36th's left flank was the U.S. 103rd Infantry Division, and on the right, next to the Rhine, was the 3rd Algerian Division of the French 1st Army. It took several days of heavy fighting against German artillery, rocket, mortar, machine-gun, and rifle fire before the 36th smashed through and into the Palatinate. After helping to mop-up the enemy in this region, the 36th got a well-deserved and lengthy rest.

Toward the end of the war in Europe, the 36th was moved deep into Bavaria where it relieved the 63rd Infantry Division at Landsberg on 29 April 1945. Continuing the advance on eastward below the Alps, the 36th captured Field Marshal von Rundstedt at Bad Tolz, 1 May, and then, at Rosenheim, captured the number two ranked Nazi, portly Hermann Göring.

Elements of the division then turned south into Austria—some men noted in mock alarm—back toward Italy. Kitzbühel and other smaller villages and towns were taken, and then the Germans finally surrendered on 8 May 1945.

The 36th was one of the great-fighting American divisions of World War II, having seen more than its share of the war. The 36th returned home in December 1945, although many of its men had rotated back to the United States much earlier.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—14
Distinguished Unit Citations—12 *
Distinguished Service Crosses—80
Silver Stars—2,354

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—3,890
Killed In Action—3,318
Wounded—14,190
Missing—494
Captured—2,650
Total Casualties—20,652

* One to the entire 142nd Infantry Regiment—Siegfried Line (Alsace-Germany)

Other 36th Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action *

T/5 Grade Bernard P. Bell, 142nd Inf Rgt, 18 Dec 1944, near Mittelwihr, Alsace, France

1st Lt Arnold L. Bjorklund, 142nd Inf Rgt, 13 September 1943, Salerno beachhead, Italy

T/5 Grade Charles H. Coolidge, 141st Inf Rgt, 24-27 Oct 1944, east of Belmont-sur-Buttant, France

T/5 Grade Morris E. Crain, * 141st Inf Rgt, 13 March 1945, Haguenau, Alsace, France

Pvt William J. Crawford, 142nd Inf Rgt, 13 September 1943, Salerno beachhead, Italy

Sgt Edward C. Dahlgren, 142nd Inf Rgt, 11 February 1945, Oberhoffen, Alsace, France

2nd Lt Stephen R. Gregg, 143rd Inf Rgt, 27 August 1944, near Montélimar, France

Pfc Silvestre S. Herrera, 142nd Inf Rgt, 15 March 1945, near Mertzwiller, Alsace, France

Sgt James M. Logan, 141st Inf Rgt, 9 September 1943, near Salerno, Italy

S/Sgt Thomas E. McCall, 143rd Inf Rgt, 22 January 1944, near San Angelo, Italy

Sgt Ellis R. Weicht, * 142nd Inf Rgt, 3 December 1944, St. Hippolyte, Alsace, France

S/Sgt Homer L. Wise, 142nd Inf Rgt, 14 June 1944, Magliano, Italy

36TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Texans"

MARCH 1944

1 Mar 1
 3 Mar 1
 5 Mar 1
 11 Mar 1
 18 Mar 1

5

MAY 1944

25 May 11
 26 May 1
 27 May 1
 28 May 11111111111111 15
 29 May 111111111111 13
 30 May 1111111111 11
 31 May 1111111111 10

53

JUNE 1944

1 June 11111111111111111111 24
 2 June 111111111111111111 20
 3 June 111111111111111111 19
 4 June 1111111111 10
 5 June 1111111
 6 June 1
 9 June 111
 11 June 1111111111111111 18
 12 June 11111111 9
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 14 June 111111111111111111 21
 15 June 111
 16 June 1
 17 June 111111111111 14
 18 June 111111
 19 June 1111
 20 June 111
 21 June 111
 22 June 1111111
 23 June 11111
 24 June 11

190

AUGUST 1944

15 Aug 11111111111111 15
 16 Aug 11111111111111111111 25
 17 Aug 1111111
 18 Aug 1
 19 Aug 1111111
 20 Aug 1111
 22 Aug 1
 23 Aug 111111
 24 Aug 1111111
 25 Aug 111111111111 13
 26 Aug 111111111111 14
 27 Aug 1111111111111111 18
 28 Aug 11111111111111 16
 29 Aug 1111111111 10
 30 Aug 111111111111 13
 31 Aug 1

158

36TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Texans"

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 1
 2 Apr 1
 13 Apr 111
 18 Apr 11111
 30 Apr 11

12

MAY 1945

1 May 1
 2 May 111
 4 May 1
 29 May 1

6

JULY 1945

20 July 1

1

36TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----9 September 1943 or 22 January 1944

bloodiest month-----January 1944

3rd bloodiest day-----21 January 1944

4th " " "-----15 March 1945

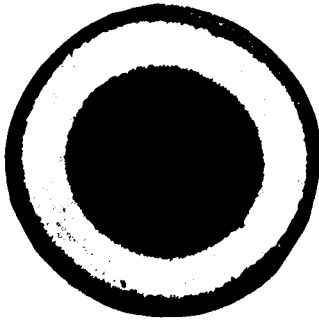
5th " " "-----23 January 1944

6th " " "-----12 February 1944

7th " " "-----9 December 1943

Total battle deaths-----3,890

2,121 are listed=~~54.5%~~ KIA-3,318



37TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Buckeye"

Originally—Ohio National Guard

Activated (WW II)—15 October 1940

Returned To United States—November 1945

Inactivated—18 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: New Georgia Bougainville Luzon

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Robert S. Beightler

Commanded the division throughout the entire war

Combat Chronicle: The 37th Infantry Division was originally activated in August 1917, and saw action in the Meuse-Argonne and in western Belgium, during World War I.

The 37th was reactivated in October 1940, and, after intensive training, arrived in the Fiji Islands, in June 1942, against a possible Japanese invasion. There, the 37th continued its training. After Guadalcanal had been secured, the division moved to that island in April 1943, and got ready to invade New Georgia, in the central Solomons.

First elements of the 37th landed on New Georgia, in conjunction with Marine Raider battalions, on 5 July 1943. The rest of the division landed on 20 July 1943, and assisted the 43rd Infantry Division in capturing Munda Airfield, in one of the hardest, most difficult operations of the war in the Pacific. New Georgia was rain, mud, swamps, English speaking Japanese—and furious fighting.

On 20 July 1943, the 145th Infantry Regiment relieved the exhausted 169th Infantry Regiment, 43rd Infantry Division. On this same day the 148th Infantry Regiment broke through some enemy positions, and a road through the jungle between Laiana and the Munda Track was completed, allowing the Americans to receive more supplies.

By 22 July 1943, total U.S. land forces on New Georgia, Rendova, and smaller islands amounted to 32,000 Army troops and 1,700 Marine personnel.

On 25 July 1943, the 37th and 43rd Divisions opened a massive assault on Munda. But the going was still very tough, as the Japanese continued their tenacious opposition. First attacks on a ridge mass by the 37th were repulsed with heavy casualties, and there was also severe fighting on Horseshoe Hill. It was on 31 July 1943, that the 37th had one of its 7 Medal of Honor winners of the war, Private Rodger W. Young, of the 148th Infantry Regiment.

A song was later written titled, "The Ballad of Rodger Young". Bespectacled and mild-mannered, some thought he was too frail for combat, although he was well-liked by his fellow soldiers. Rodger showed his mettle on 31 July 1943.

Operating in dense jungle, his platoon was suddenly pinned down by intense machinegun fire. Although the other men had trouble locating the weapon, Pvt Young was sure he saw it, and immediately began crawling toward the machinegun. Although hit twice, he continued his heroic advance, answering with rifle fire. When close enough, he began throwing grenades, and though this time he was hit mortally, he had succeeded in drawing the enemy fire on to himself. In so doing, he permitted his platoon to withdraw to a comparatively safe area, while inflicting several casualties on the enemy. Pvt Young's sacrifice was

an inspiration to the men of his entire company.

Munda Airfield was finally taken on 5 August 1943, and mopping-up procedures then began on the entire island. The 37th returned to Guadalcanal for rest and recuperation.

The 37th will probably always be best remembered for its slaughter of the Japanese on Bougainville, in the northern Solomons. The Buckeyes began relieving the 3rd Marine Division there in mid-November 1943. They took over the perimeter defense of the area, and constructed roads and bridges, and engaged in extensive patrol activity.

Then, some three months later in March 1944, some 16,000 Japanese who had been waiting for the Americans to strike at Buin, on the other side of the island, trekked through the jungle and struck in full fury, making 8 major attacks. (The Americal Division was also on Bougainville at this time). The enemy assault consisted mainly of the infamous 6th Division, perpetrators of the rape of Nanking.

The main Japanese assaults on the 37th consisted of 4 major attacks. These included the 8 March 1944 attack on Hill 700, the "Hill of Heroes", where the battle raged in an area no more than 100 yards long and 50 yards wide, and where a salient driven into the lines of the 145th Infantry Regiment wasn't reduced until 13 March 1944; a main attack on 11 March 1944, toward Piva Airfield which hit the 129th Infantry Regiment; and a 23 March 1944 general attack which penetrated the 37th's lines before it was defeated.

In April 1944, patrols cleared the Laruma River Valley of major enemy units. The 37th then remained on Bougainville, and trained for the invasion of Luzon.

On 9 January 1945, the 37th, along with the 6th, 40th, and 43rd Infantry Divisions, came ashore at Lingayen Gulf, on Luzon, in the Philippines. The 37th helped spearhead the drive toward Manila. Meeting slight resistance at first, the 37th met heavy opposition at Clark Field and Fort Stotsenburg, reaching Manila on 4 February 1945.

Manila was the only large city battle of the Pacific War, and the 37th bore the brunt of the fighting. In terms of duration, ferocity, and casualties, it paralleled or surpassed many of the city battles in Europe. The Americans soon realized that they couldn't hope to save a large part of the city from being wrecked, while at the same time root-out the Japanese. And so, they reluctantly lifted restrictions on their artillery. Wherever possible, though, they avoided the more valuable buildings including churches, hospitals, and administrative structures, but the Japs made this hard to do because of their fanatical resistance. Every building was a fortress, almost every street corner a machinegun nest. Thousands of mines had been planted by the Japanese, and there were numerous booby-traps. And the Japanese had 16,000 men inside the city. The 37th had more than one Medal of Honor winner in Manila, one of whom was Pfc Joseph J. Cicchetti, Company A, 148th Infantry Regiment, 9 February 1945.

He was with troops assaulting the first important line of enemy defenses. The Japanese had converted the partially destroyed Manila Gas Works and adjacent buildings into a formidable system of mutual supporting strongpoints from which they concentrated machinegun, mortar, and heavy artillery fire on the Americans. Casualties rapidly mounted, and the medical aid men, finding it increasingly difficult to evacuate the wounded, called for volunteer litter bearers.

Pfc Cicchetti immediately responded, organized a litter team, and skilfully led it for more than 4 hours in rescuing 14 wounded men, constantly passing back and forth over a 400-yard route which was the impact area for a tremendous volume of the most intense enemy fire. On one return trip the path was blocked by machinegun fire, but Pfc Cicchetti deliberately exposed himself to draw the automatic fire which he neutralized with his own rifle, while ordering the rest of the team to rush past to safety with the wounded.

While gallantly continuing his work, he noticed a group of wounded and helpless soldiers some distance away and ran to their rescue, although the enemy fire had increased in renewed intensity. As he approached the casualties, he was struck in the head by a shell fragment. With complete disregard for this gaping wound, he continued to his comrades, and lifted one and carried him on his shoulders 50 yards to safety. He then collapsed and died.

By his skilled leadership, indomitable will, and dauntless courage, Pfc Cicchetti saved the lives of many of his fellow soldiers at the cost of his own. His actions upheld the highest traditions of the U.S. military.

Furious building-to-building fighting continued. On 23 February 1945, an assault was begun on Intramuros after heavy artillery preparation. The 145th Infantry stormed the Quezon and Parian Gates, while the 129th Infantry crossed the Pasig River in assault boats and attacked the Mint Building. Meanwhile, the 148th Infantry cleared the Legislative Building. The fighting was furious and the heat was stifling, but by 3 March 1945, Manila was finally cleared. The city was left in ruins, and thousands of Filipino civilians who had been caught up in the battle were slaughtered by the Japs, as they, themselves were being annihilated.

After garrison duty in Manila, 5-26 March 1945, and then a well-earned rest, the 37th was shifted north into the Caraballo Mountains. Meanwhile, the 145th Infantry Regiment was temporarily detached to help out other units in the fighting in the hills northeast of Manila.

While this took place, in the more northern part of Luzon, more hard and heavy fighting occurred. Late in April 1945, the 37th, in conjunction with the 33rd Infantry Division, slugged forward and took the mile-high city of Baguio. Baguio was the summer capital of the Philippines, and had also been the headquarters of General Yamashita. Next, the 148th Infantry Regiment helped out the 25th Infantry Division in the rugged, bloody fighting through Balete Pass.

After resting during most of May, the 37th advanced into the Cagayen River Valley in June 1945, after a sharp fight at Oriung Pass. Advancing northward in the valley the 37th took Ilagan against deteriorating resistance, and eventually made contact north of Tuguegarao with elements of the 511th Parachute Regiment, 11th Airborne Division, which had dropped near Aparri.

The 37th then struck eastward into the wild Sierra Madre Mountains of northeastern Luzon, where the division eliminated about 1,000 of the enemy before V-J Day, 14 August 1945. The 37th lost some 50 men killed in action in this last operation.

Few outfits in the Pacific had seen more of the enemy, or slain more of them than the Buckeye Division. The 37th then helped process prisoners of war, until it returned home in November 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—7
 Distinguished Unit Citations—9 *
 Distinguished Service Crosses—116
 Silver Stars—1,008

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,456
 Killed In Action—1,112
 Wounded—5,261
 Missing—4
 Captured—1
 Total Casualties—6,378

* One to the entire 148th Infantry Regiment—Luzon

Other 37th Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action *

Pfc Anthony L. Krotiak, * 148th Inf Rgt, 8 May 1945, Balete Pass, Luzon
 Pfc Frank J. Petrarca, * 145th Inf Rgt, 27 July 1943, Horseshoe Hill, New Georgia
 Pfc John N. Reese, Jr., * 148th Inf Rgt, 9 February 1945, Manila, Luzon
 Pvt Cleto Rodriguez, 148th Inf Rgt, 9 February 1945, Manila, Luzon
 2nd Lt Robert M. Viale, * 148th Inf Rgt, 5 February 1945, Manila, Luzon

37TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Buckeye"

JULY 1943

10 July 1
 11 July 111111
 15 July 1
 17 July 1
 18 July 1111
 19 July 1111
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 21 July 11111
 22 July 1111111 8
 23 July 11
 24 July 1
 25 July 11111
 26 July 111
 27 July 11111111 9
 28 July 1111111111 12
 29 July 11111111 9
 30 July 11111111111111 17
 31 July 1111111111111 14

106

AUGUST 1943

1 Aug 111111111111 13
 2 Aug 11111
 3 Aug 1
 4 Aug 111111111111 14
 5 Aug 1
 7 Aug 1
 21 Aug 1

36

NOVEMBER 1943

8 Nov 1
 12 Nov 1

2

DECEMBER 1943

10 Dec 1
 23 Dec 1
 29 Dec 1

3

MARCH 1944

9 Mar 111111111 10
 10 Mar 11111
 11 Mar 11111111111111 16
 12 Mar 1111111111111 15
 13 Mar 1
 14 Mar 11111
 15 Mar 11111111 9
 16 Mar 11
 18 Mar 11111
 19 Mar 1
 20 Mar 1111
 22 Mar 1
 23 Mar 1
 24 Mar 11111111111111 17
 25 Mar 11
 26 Mar 111111
 27 Mar 1
 30 Mar 1

102

APRIL 1944

11 Apr 1
 1

MAY 1944

19 May 1
 23 May 1
 24 May 1
 29 May 1

4

JULY 1944

28 July 1
 1

37TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Buckeye"

MAY 1945

1 May 1
 2 May 1
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 5 May 111
 7 May 1111
 8 May 11111111111 10
 10 May 11
 12 May 1111
 14 May 111
 16 May 11
 21 May 1
 22 May 1
 31 May 11
 36

JUNE 1945

1 June 11
 2 June 1111
 3 June 11
 6 June 111
 7 June 11
 10 June 1111111
 11 June 1111
 13 June 11
 15 June 11
 17 June 1
 18 June 1
 19 June 11
 20 June 1111
 21 June 1
 22 June 111
 24 June 111
 26 June 11

45

JULY 1945

2 July 1
 3 July 11
 7 July 1
 8 July 1
 13 July 1
 19 July 1111
 20 July 1
 22 July 1
 23 July 1
 31 July 1
 14

AUGUST 1945

1 Aug 11
 5 Aug 1111
 6 Aug 11111
 9 Aug 1
 12

37TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----9 February 1945
 bloodiest month-----February 1945
 2nd bloodiest day-----10 February 1945
 3rd bloodiest day-----14 February 1945
 Total battle deaths-----1,456
 759 are listed=52.1% KIA--1,112



38TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Cyclone"

Originally—Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia National Guard

Activated (WW II)—17 January 1941

Returned To United States—30 October 1945

Inactivated—10 November 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Leyte Bataan Peninsula Luzon

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Henry L. Jones

April 1942—February 1945

Maj-Gen William C. Chase

February—July 1945

Maj-Gen Frederick A. Irving

August 1945—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 38th Infantry Division got its nickname, the "Cyclone Division", when it was stationed at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. The tent-city in which it was bivouacked was levelled by tremendous winds. Someone dubbed the 38th the Cyclones, and the name stuck.

After extensive training in the United States, the 38th left the San Francisco port of embarkation on 3 January 1944.

The 38th arrived in Hawaii, on 17 January 1944, and took over the defense of Oahu. After this, the division sailed to New Guinea, where part of it trained in the Oro Bay area from July–November 1944.

In early-December 1944, the 38th shipped out for Leyte, in the Philippines, while heavy fighting was still raging on that island.

On the evening of 5 December 1944, some 350 Japanese paratroopers dropped on the Buri and San Pablo airstrips, in central Leyte, attempting to recapture them. While some elements of the 11th Airborne and 96th Infantry Divisions were already in this area, the tough Jap paratroopers caused sufficient havoc, that the 38th's 149th Infantry Regiment was sent into the battle to help out. The first night of this battle, 5 December 1944, turned out to be the 38th's bloodiest day in combat of the war, as the Japanese paratroopers resisted fanatically. The Japs were very hard to flush out of the jungle surrounding the airstrips, and for the next three days the paratroopers of the 11th Airborne had a go at it. The 149th Infantry finally finished up the tough battle by 10 December 1944, with the Japanese paratroopers being annihilated. The 149th defended the airstrips until relieved on 4 January 1945.

A battalion of the 152nd Infantry Regiment was moved to Agojo Point, on Samar, while the 151st Infantry Regiment performed security operations in the Culaisan Point-Barugo area, on Leyte, while under the control of the 24th Infantry Division. The 38th lost approximately 100 men on Leyte.

The 38th's next battle began when it landed on the southwestern coast of Luzon, north of Subic Bay, on 29 January 1945, reinforced by the 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. This landing cut-in behind a large force of Japanese troops who were fighting large elements of the U.S. 6th Army in the central Luzon plains, further north. At first, everything went pretty well according to plan. Moving rapidly inland against scattered resistance, the 38th captured Olongapo, and an airstrip at San Marcelino.

But then, advancing further east across the top of the Bataan Peninsula, the 38th ran into a hornet's nest of some 3,000 Japanese, well dug-in at a place called Zig Zag Pass. This

pass twists and turns through some of the most mountainous and densest jungle terrain anywhere in the world. The Japanese used all their resources in an effort to hold this pass. Mountain guns blasted the winding road to the pass. Mines made every step a dangerous one. Machineguns swept every twist and turn, and from caves and heavily fortified pillboxes the Japs poured continual artillery and mortar fire. In one instance, an entire battalion was getting ready to set up a perimeter defense for the night on some high ground when, suddenly, a group of Japs began firing from in the midst of them. They had been hiding in camouflaged foxholes and trenches, and casualties were heavy on both sides. Such was the nature of the fighting. The Japanese had a number of tanks in the pass area, too.

The battle was furious, particularly on 8 February 1945. But the 38th was not to be denied victory. The enemy was given a heavy artillery bombardment, the 34th Infantry Regiment was brought forward, and progress improved. Nevertheless, it took 16 days of very rugged combat to break through the pass. The 38th, employing all three regiments in this pass, plus the 34th Infantry Regiment, altogether, lost 375 men.

Next, the 38th completed the reconquest of Bataan. The 151st Infantry Regiment made an amphibious attack at Mariveles, catching the Japs off-guard, and defeating a major Japanese counterattack on the night of 15 February 1945.

The 38th pushed down the east coast road to Pilar, and across the peninsula to Bagac, securing most of the Bataan Peninsula by 21 February 1945.

A battalion of the 151st Infantry was detached to relieve the 503rd Parachute Regiment on Corregidor, on 24 February 1945. "The Rock" was secured by 28 February.

The 38th then moved to Fort Stotsenburg, 10 March 1945, and relieved the 43rd Infantry Division there. It then pushed west to destroy entrenched Japanese between the fort and Mount Pinatubo.

Meanwhile, battalion-sized landings were conducted by the 151st Infantry on Caballo Island and Fort Drum, on 27 March 1945, and on Carabao, 16 April.

Fierce fighting continued for the 149th Infantry in the wild Zambales Mountains of southwestern Luzon. It was during this fighting that the 38th had a Medal of Honor winner, Pfc William H. Thomas, Company B, 149th Infantry Regiment, 22 April 1945.

Pfc Thomas was a member of the leading squad of Company B, which was attacking along a narrow, wooded ridge. The Japanese, strongly entrenched in camouflaged emplacements on the hill beyond, directed heavy fire and hurled explosive charges on the attacking GIs. Pfc Thomas, an automatic rifleman, was struck by one of these charges, which blew off both of his legs below the knees. He refused medical aid and evacuation, and continued to fire at the enemy until his weapon was put out of action by an enemy bullet. Still refusing treatment, he threw his last two grenades. He killed 3 Japanese after suffering the wounds from which he died later that day.

The effective fire of Pfc Thomas prevented the repulse of his platoon, and assured the capture of this enemy position. His magnificent courage was an everlasting inspiration to his fellow soldiers.

The 38th moved as a unit to the Sierra Madre Mountains, northeast of Manila, to relieve the exhausted 6th Infantry Division on 30 April 1945. This battle is officially called the Battle of East-Central Luzon. Initially, the Japanese had 15,000 troops in this region. With the 43rd Infantry Division capturing Ipo Dam on 17 May 1945, the 38th, meanwhile, fought a series of furious battles to capture Wawa Dam, the other of the two dams which was vital to Manila's water supply.

This region was almost impassable terrain, and the Japanese had a well-developed and interlocking series of caves, tunnels, pillboxes, and artillery emplacements.

After an intensive artillery bombardment, the 152nd Infantry Regiment attacked Woodpecker Ridge, on 2 May 1945, but its advance was suspended until 4 May, when it attacked again, and again was brought to a halt.

In the meantime, the 145th Infantry Regiment of the 37th Infantry Division, which was attached to the 38th in this battle, attacked the Shimbu Line, 4 May 1945, as the 38th approached Wawa Dam. After heavy fighting the 145th gained the top of Sugar Loaf Hill, 6 May 1945.

The following day the 152nd Infantry reattacked Woodpecker Ridge, while the 145th Infantry finally took Mount Binicayan, 9 May, after several assaults.

On 16 May 1945, the 152nd Infantry renewed its effort to force Woodpecker Ridge.

The 149th Infantry relieved the 145th Infantry on Mount Pacawagan, and continued the drive on Wawa Dam, which was met with strong opposition.

In heavy fighting the 152nd Infantry once again tried to storm Woodpecker Ridge, on 18 May 1945, assisted by flamethrowing tanks. Fierce fighting continued until 22 May, when this ridge was finally taken, and on 28 May 1945, the Japanese abandoned Wawa Dam. It was captured intact.

By the time this dam was taken, the Avengers of Bataan—the 38th, had killed 17,600 Japanese, captured 466 prisoners, and had established an exceedingly low ratio of killed in action to enemy dead—1 to 27.

With the help of Filipino guerrilla units, the 38th continued mopping-up Japanese remnants in east-central Luzon. There were some sharp actions during June 1945. Operations ceased with the Japanese surrender on 14 August 1945. Luzon had cost the 38th some 650 men.

After the war, the 38th saw occupational duty in Japan, before returning home and being inactivated at Camp Anza, Arlington, California, on 10 November 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1
Distinguished Unit Citations—1
Distinguished Service Crosses—6
Silver Stars—225

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—793
Killed In Action—653
Wounded—2,814
Missing—5
Captured—0
Total Casualties—3,472

38TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Cyclone"

APRIL 1945

4 Apr 1
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 14 Apr 111
 15 Apr 1
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 17 Apr 111
 18 Apr 1
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 25 Apr 111111
 26 Apr 11
 28 Apr 11111
 29 Apr 1

48

MAY 1945

1 May 1
 2 May 1111111111 10
 4 May 11
 5 May 111
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 9 May 1111111 8
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 20 May 111111
 21 May 11111
 22 May 111111
 23 May 11
 24 May 11
 25 May 1
 26 May 11
 27 May 1
 28 May 1
 29 May 1
 30 May 111111
 31 May 11

102

JUNE 1945

2 June 11
 5 June 111
 7 June 1
 8 June 1
 9 June 111111
 10 June 1
 11 June 1
 12 June 11111
 13 June 1111
 15 June 1
 19 June 1
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 24 June 1

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JULY 1945

4 July 1
 1

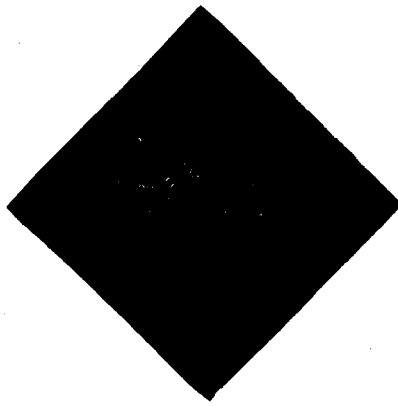
AUGUST 1945

1 Aug 1
 2 Aug 11

3

38TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----5 December 1944
 bloodiest month-----February 1945
 2nd bloodiest day-----8 February 1945
 3rd bloodiest day-----7 February 1945
 Total battle deaths-----791
 438 are listed=55.3% KIA--653



40TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Sunburst"

Originally—California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah National Guard

Activated—3 March 1941

Returned To United States and Inactivated—7 April 1946

Battle Credits, World War II: New Britain Luzon Southern Philippines

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Rapp Brush

April 1942—July 1945

Brig-Gen Donald J. Myers

July 1945—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 40th Infantry Division arrived in the Hawaiian Islands in September 1942, and was assigned the defense of some of the outer islands in that group. Training continued as defensive positions were improved and maintained. In July 1943, the 40th was concentrated on Oahu, and relieved the 24th Infantry Division. It was, in turn, relieved of this assignment in October 1943. On 20 December 1943, the 40th began moving to Guadalcanal to prepare for combat.

On 24 April 1944, the 40th left Guadalcanal for New Britain, continuing the offensive initiated by the 1st Marine Division, which had left the large island.

The men of the 40th knifed through snarled jungle growth, heavy rains and mud being constant problems. The three regiments of the division took up positions at Talasea, on the north coast, at Arawe, on the southwestern end, and at Cape Gloucester, also on the western coast. Neutralization of the enemy was effected by patrols. From Talasea, elements advanced 25 miles eastward to capture the Cape Moskins Airdrome, and make escape-proof the trap which surrounded thousands of Japanese in the Rabaul area. The Japanese made no major attacks on the 40th, and no major battles were fought by the division on New Britain. It was relieved by the 5th Australian Division in late-November 1944. The 40th assembled at Borgen Bay, 28 November 1944, and moved via the Huon Gulf, New Guinea and Manus Island to the Philippines.

Then, on 9 January 1945, the 40th, along with the 6th, 37th, and 43rd Infantry Divisions, landed at Lingayen Gulf, on Luzon, in the Philippines.

Seizing Lingayen Airfield against considerable resistance, the 40th then occupied Bolinao Peninsula and San Miguel. Advancing south-southeast toward Manila, the division reached Clark Field, and ran into heavy fighting in the Fort Stotsenburg area and in the Bamban Hills. The Japanese defenses in this area were very tough, and the Americans had to pause before launching a renewed and stronger attack on 28 January. The fighting was fierce and the Japanese made several counterattacks. The 40th's 160th Infantry Regiment advanced against Storm King Mountain in the face of strong resistance, supported by air and tank fire on 6 February 1945. As this was occurring, the 185th Infantry Regiment gained Hill 1500, after heavy fighting, on 15 February, and, after several attempts, the 108th Infantry Regiment captured another important hill on the 16th. After contested Object Hill was taken, 19 February, the Sunburst Division then rested while air strikes softened up the Japanese in the wild Zambales Mountains, immediately to the west.

On 23 February 1945, the 40th again took the offensive, taking Sacobia Ridge. With

the fall of Hill 1700 on 25 February, the 40th was relieved in this region by the 43rd Infantry Division on 2 March 1945. The 40th, before leaving Luzon, also captured Camp O'Donnell, where hundreds of prisoners from the infamous Bataan Death March had died.

After 53 days of almost continuous combat on Luzon, the 40th had sent 6,145 Japanese to their ancestors. The division then assembled in the San Fabian-San Jacinto-Manaoag area for rehabilitation.

On 18 March 1945, the 40th surprised the Japanese by landing on Panay. By the 21st, it had taken Iloilo, the second most important city in the Philippines. Iloilo had been badly damaged by the Japs, but the harbor facilities were immediately put to use. Within 10 days, all of Panay had been liberated, and American planes began landing on airstrips at Santa Barbara and Mundurriao. Since there had been no large Japanese forces on Panay, U.S. casualties were light—20 killed and 50 wounded.

Elements of the 40th next landed on Guimaras and Inampulugan to erase any threat to American sea lanes in the central Philippines.

Then, on 29 March 1945, the Sunburst Division landed on the northwestern coast of Negros. There soon developed a bitter campaign in the mountainous jungle regions of northern Negros against some 13,500 Japanese from their 102nd Division. The Japanese had very strong positions which were heavily shelled by artillery and bombed from the air but, as usual, it took the infantry to root-out the enemy from his stubborn defenses. The 40th was also hampered by the deteriorating weather which produced heavy rains and fog.

With the 503rd Parachute Regiment attached, the 40th attacked the main line of the Japanese defenses with all three regiments on 9 April 1945. The fighting was intense as the division cleared ridges and ravines inspite of sharp enemy counterattacks and torrential downpours. The drive was temporarily halted while air and artillery support were called in, and then resumed on 17 April. The 160th Infantry Regiment gained the crest of Hill 3155 the next day, but then lost it to a determined Japanese assault. This position switched hands until finally won by the 160th on 23 May 1945. Meanwhile, the 185th Infantry Regiment stormed Virgin Ridge and pushed toward the final enemy stronghold on Hill 4055. The 40th had a Medal of Honor winner, Staff Sergeant John C. Sjogren, Company I, 160th Infantry Regiment, 23 May 1945.

Although wounded, with great courage, determination, and combat sagacity, Sgt Sjogren, using mainly hand grenades and while covered by members of his platoon, singlehandedly killed 43 Japanese and knocked out 9 pillboxes, thus paving the way for his company's successful advance. Sgt Sjogren survived the remainder of the war.

The Japanese withdrew from Hill 4055, 31 May, and pulled back into the wild interior of Negros, and so ending further organized resistance. By 1 June 1945, the 40th had killed or captured almost 5,000 Japanese on Panay and Negros. In return, the 40th lost about 370 men.

Meanwhile, the division's 108th Infantry Regiment had landed on the northern coast of Mindanao to link-up with the 31st Infantry Division, which had been fighting northward from central Mindanao. This link-up was successfully made on 23 May 1945.

After mopping-up on Negros, the 40th returned to Panay in June-July 1945. In September 1945, the 40th was sent to Korea for occupational duty.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—748
Distinguished Unit Citations—3	Killed In Action—614
Distinguished Service Crosses—12	Wounded—2,407
Silver Stars—245	Missing—3
	Captured—1
	Total Casualties—3,025

The 40th Infantry Division was federalized during the Korean War, and saw action in that conflict from December 1951-July 1953.

40TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Sunburst"

May 1944

7 May 111
 17 May 1
 4

JULY 1944

12 July 1
 1

NOVEMBER 1944

26 Nov 1
 1

JANUARY 1945

10 Jan 11111111111111111111 23
 11 Jan 1
 15 Jan 1
 20 Jan 1
 23 Jan 1111
 24 Jan 111111
 25 Jan 1111111
 26 Jan 1111
 27 Jan 111111111 10
 28 Jan 111111
 29 Jan 1111111111 11
 30 Jan 11111
 31 Jan 1111

83

FEBRUARY 1945

2 Feb 111
 3 Feb 11
 4 Feb 1
 7 Feb 1111
 8 Feb 1111111111111111111111 27*
 9 Feb 111111111 10 approx.
 10 Feb 1 45*men
 11 Feb 111111111 10
 12 Feb 11111111111 12
 13 Feb 11111111111 13
 14 Feb 111111111 10
 15 Feb 1111111 8
 16 Feb 1111
 17 Feb 1111111 8
 18 Feb 11
 19 Feb 111111
 20 Feb 1111
 21 Feb 1
 22 Feb 111
 23 Feb 11111
 24 Feb 1111111
 25 Feb 111
 26 Feb 11
 27 Feb 1
 28 Feb 1

148

MARCH 1945

4 Mar 1
 12 Mar 11
 19 Mar 11
 20 Mar 1
 21 Mar 1
 27 Mar 11
 29 Mar 1
 31 Mar 11
 12

40TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Sunburst"

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 1
 2 Apr 11
 3 Apr 11
 4 Apr 11
 7 Apr 1
 9 Apr 11111
 10 Apr 111
 11 Apr 11
 12 Apr 1
 13 Apr 11111
 15 Apr 1
 16 Apr 11
 17 Apr 1
 18 Apr 11
 19 Apr 1
 20 Apr 111
 21 Apr 111111111 9
 22 Apr 1111111
 23 Apr 1
 24 Apr 111
 25 Apr 11
 26 Apr 11
 27 Apr 11111111111111 15
 28 Apr 11
 29 Apr 111111
 30 Apr 1

82

MAY 1945

1 May 11111
 2 May 1
 4 May 11111
 6 May 1
 7 May 111
 9 May 111111
 10 May 1
 11 May 1
 13 May 111
 14 May 1
 15 May 11111
 16 May 11
 18 May 1
 21 May 11
 22 May 111
 23 May 1
 24 May 1
 26 May 1
 28 May 11

45

JUNE 1945

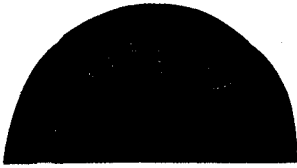
1 June 1
 3 June 1
 8 June 1
 11 June 1
 13 June 1
 14 June 11

7

40TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day—————8 February 1945
 bloodiest month—————February 1945
 2nd bloodiest day—————10 January 1945
 3rd bloodiest day—————27 April 1945

Total battle deaths—————718
 383 are listed=53.3% KIA—587



41ST INFANTRY DIVISION "Jungleers"

Originally—Pacific Northwest National Guard

Activated (WW II)—16 September 1940

Inactivated—31 December 1945 in Japan

Battle Credits, World War II: Papua Northern New Guinea Wakde Biak
Palawan Mindanao Sulu Archipelago

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Horace H. Fuller

December 1941—June 1944

Maj-Gen Jens A. Doe

June 1944—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 41st Infantry Division saw only minor action in the First World War, but in World War II, few other outfits in the Pacific matched its combat record. So mercilessly did the 41st scourge the Japanese, that "Tokyo Rose" always referred to the division as "the butchers."

After training at Ft. Lewis, Washington, and in the California maneuvers, the 41st left the San Francisco port of embarkation on 19 March 1942, and arrived in Melbourne, Australia, on 7 April. In Australia, the 41st underwent intensive training.

Then, after flying over the Owen Stanley Mountains in December 1942, the 163rd Infantry Regiment entered the struggle in southeast New Guinea (Papua) at Dobadura, 2 January 1943. Helping out Australian units and the U.S. 32nd Infantry Division, the latter of which was soon relieved, which were fighting the Japanese in some of the worst jungle climate and terrain in the world, the 163rd Infantry fought continuously along the Sanananda track until 22 January. Elements advanced against tough resistance to the Kumisi River in February. Outnumbered, and with little or no naval or air support, the 163rd had to rely on scanty supplies brought in by air over the Owen Stanley Mountains. When their mission was completed, they came out in rags. But the 163rd had helped to win one of the first major land battles in the Pacific for the United States and Australia. The 163rd left for "the land down under" on 15 July 1943, being relieved by the 41st's 162nd Infantry Regiment.

The 162nd went ashore below Salamaua. Here, it set a theater record—76 days of unrelieved jungle combat. The men presented a strange sight at the end of the campaign, most of them emerging from the bush wearing Japanese naval uniforms. Their own had worn out long before, and only the captured Japanese clothing had saved them from fighting in the raw.

On 22 April 1944, the 163rd Infantry landed at Aitape, while the rest of the 41st came ashore at Humboldt Bay, near Hollandia, both areas on the northern New Guinea coast. Hollandia and the Cyclops and Sentani Airdromes fell after ineffectual resistance, and then the 41st patrolled and mopped-up until relieved on 4 May.

The 163rd Regiment then landed at Arara against slight opposition, 17 May, and consolidated the Arara-Toem area.

The island of Wakde, not far off the north coast of New Guinea, was invaded by the same regiment in three days of fierce fighting, 18-20 May 1944. The 800-man Japanese garrison was wiped out, while the Americans lost about 50 men.

And then, the craggy, cave-ridden, thickly-jungled island of Biak was invaded by the Jungleers on 27 May 1944. It soon became the scene of one of the most unusual and frustrating battles of the Pacific War. It was also one of its bitterest. For the 41st Infantry Division this badly under-publicized battle was the crucible of its combat experiences.

Slightly smaller than New Georgia, Biak lies between the main northern coast of New Guinea and its large Vogelkop Peninsula. In addition to the jungle areas and the rough, broken terrain, the 41st had to face the blistering heat on this weird island—and over 11,000

Japanese centered around their 36th Division, with also, naval troops, engineers, and anti-aircraft personnel. These Japanese, in contrast to those on Wakde, knew what tanks were, and had some of their own on Biak.

Before the assault landing, the Navy had accorded the usual naval bombardment. But this did only a minimum of damage, due to the nature of the rugged terrain and the ideal Japanese hiding places. The Japanese let the Americans come peacefully ashore. The soldiers consolidated their landing and, next day, had almost reached the main airdrome when the Japanese went into action.

The 41st was subjected to a regimental-sized attack from three sides, while other Japs raked them with heavy fire from caves amid the cliffs. They used their tanks in the attack, and when U.S. destroyers fired on the cliffs, the Japs answered back with hidden 6-inch guns and scored some hits. As darkness fell, the Americans were forced to withdraw.

The next morning, the Japanese resumed their attacks, employing several medium tanks which the GIs promptly knocked out with 75mm guns from their Sherman tanks. The enemy attack was thrown back.

On 1 June, the 41st resumed the attack with two regiments. The advance moved ahead slowly for a week against counterattacks and the murderous heat. Mokmer Airfield was captured on 7 June. But this, by no means, ended the battle.

There then began the dreadful battle of the caves. It raged for two weeks. Artillery was practically useless against these caves, and it remained for the infantry to blast, burn, and bury the enemy—any way they could dispose of them.

The Japanese received over 1,000 reinforcements, but the 41st countered this move by bringing over the 163rd Infantry Regiment from Wakde. And the 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division was also ordered to Biak.

The fighting continued with the Americans assaulting in renewed fury. They finally had to use TNT to blast the enemy in his coral-rock caves, and in one large complex the soldiers found the remains of several hundred bodies. The Japanese had become desperate and, in their plight, even resorted to cannibalism! The stench was overpowering. The Jap commander on Biak disemboweled himself, but it wasn't until late-August 1944, that most all the Japanese were liquidated.

To make things even more trying, a typhus outbreak had occurred in July, plus the usual other tropical illnesses, and there were many cases of combat neurosis. Counting the 34th Infantry Regiment, 440 Americans lost their lives on this terrible island, and some 2,000 more were wounded.

After all of this, elements of the 41st landed at Korim Bay and Wardo, 17 August, to prevent Japanese troops from escaping from that area, and then the division patrolled and otherwise rested until 8 February 1945.

The Jungleers then sailed to do their part in recapturing the Philippines. On 28 February, the 186th Infantry Regiment landed on the long, narrow island of Palawan, meeting scattered resistance. This operation was over by 8 March.

The rest of the 41st landed on the Zamboanga Peninsula, western Mindanao, on 10 March. After first encountering light resistance, the 41st then fought a fierce battle until opposition collapsed in May 1945. This operation cost the 41st 220 men killed in action.

After this, parts of the 41st struck Basilan, Tawitawi, and Jolo in the Sulu Archipelago, destroying the Jap garrisons on these islands. There was some sharp fighting on Jolo.

Then, while the 162nd Infantry aided the 24th Infantry Division in battling the Japanese 100th Division in eastern Mindanao, the rest of the 41st continued patrolling and mopping-up activities in the southern Philippines until V-J Day, 14 August 1945.

Occupational duty in Japan followed until inactivation. The end of a long, tough road.

Honors:	Congressional Medals of Honor—0	Casualties:	Total Battle Deaths—975
	Distinguished Unit Citations—3 *		Killed In Action—758
	Distinguished Service Crosses—2		Wounded—3,504
	Silver Stars—540		Missing—13
			Captured—0
			Total Casualties—4,275

* One to the entire 163rd Infantry Regiment—Papua, New Guinea

41ST INFANTRY DIVISION "Jungleers"

JANUARY 1943

6 Jan 11
 7 Jan 11
 8 Jan 11
 9 Jan 11111111 8
 10 Jan 11
 11 Jan 11
 12 Jan 1
 13 Jan 1
 15 Jan 11111111 8
 16 Jan 1111111111 10
 18 Jan 1
 19 Jan 111
 20 Jan 1111111
 22 Jan 111
 23 Jan 11
 25 Jan 11111
 59

FEBRUARY 1943

2 Feb 1
 3 Feb 1
 4 Feb 1
 23 Feb 1
 4

MARCH 1943

11 Mar 1
 12 Mar 1
 2

APRIL 1943

14 Apr 1
 16 Apr 1
 21 Apr 1
 3

JULY 1943

1 July 111111
 5 July 1
 10 July 1
 12 July 1
 20 July 1
 22 July 1
 24 July 1
 28 July 11
 29 July 11
 30 July 11111
 31 July 111
 24

AUGUST 1943

1 Aug 11
 2 Aug 111111
 11 Aug 1
 13 Aug 111
 18 Aug 111
 27 Aug 1
 29 Aug 1
 30 Aug 1
 31 Aug 11

20

SEPTEMBER 1943

1 Sept 11
 2 Sept 1
 5 Sept 1
 8 Sept 111
 7

APRIL 1944

22 Apr 111
 23 Apr 111
 24 Apr 1111111
 27 Apr 11111
 28 Apr 1111
 29 Apr 1
 23

MAY 1944

1 May 1
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 4 May 1
 17 May 1
 18 May 11111111111111 14
 19 May 1
 20 May 11111
 21 May 1
 23 May 1
 25 May 1
 27 May 11111111111111 15
 28 May 11111111111111111111 24
 29 May 1111111111 11
 30 May 1
 31 May 1
 79

41ST INFANTRY DIVISION "Jungleers"

JUNE 1944

1 June 1111
 2 June 1111
 3 June 11
 4 June 11
 5 June 111
 6 June 1
 7 June 1111111111111111 16
 8 June 1111111111111111111111 25*
 9 June 111 approx.
 10 June 11 45*men
 11 June 11
 12 June 1111111111 11
 13 June 1111
 14 June 111111
 15 June 1
 16 June 111111111111111111 20
 17 June 11111111 9
 18 June 1111111
 19 June 1111
 20 June 1111111111 10
 21 June 11111111 8
 22 June 1111111
 23 June 11
 24 June 111
 26 June 11111111 8
 27 June 11111
 28 June 11
 29 June 1
 30 June 1

173

JULY 1944

2 July 1
 3 July 1
 11 July 11
 16 July 111
 17 July 1
 22 July 1
 23 July 1
 25 July 1
 28 July 1
 29 July 11

AUGUST 1944

2 Aug 1
 9 Aug 1
 13 Aug 1
 22 Aug 1
 28 Aug 1
 29 Aug 1
 6

SEPTEMBER 1944

3 Sept 1
 6 Sept 1
 8 Sept 1
 9 Sept 1
 10 Sept 11
 14 Sept 1
 25 Sept 1
 29 Sept 1
 9

JANUARY 1945

12 Jan 1
 20 Jan 1
 21 Jan 1
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FEBRUARY 1945

10 Feb 1
 21 Feb 1
 2

MARCH 1945

3 Mar 1
 4 Mar 1
 6 Mar 1
 10 Mar 111111111 9
 11 Mar 11
 12 Mar 11111
 13 Mar 1111111111 10
 14 Mar 1
 16 Mar 111111111111 13
 17 Mar 111111
 18 Mar 1
 19 Mar 1111
 20 Mar 11
 21 Mar 1111
 22 Mar 11111111 9
 23 Mar 1
 24 Mar 1111
 25 Mar 1
 30 Mar 1
 76

41ST INFANTRY DIVISION "Jungleers"

APRIL 1945

2 Apr 11
 5 Apr 1
 9 Apr 1
 11 Apr 111111
 12 Apr 11
 14 Apr 1
 15 Apr 11111
 17 Apr 111
 20 Apr 111
 29 Apr 1
 25

MAY 1945

4 May 1
 12 May 11
 18 May 1
 25 May 1
 27 May 1
 6

JUNE 1945

5 June 1
 7 June 1
 8 June 1
 9 June 1
 11 June 11
 12 June 1
 15 June 1
 16 June 11
 17 June 11
 18 June 1
 20 June 1
 27 June 1
 28 June 111
 18

JULY 1945

1 July 1
 29 July 1
 2

41ST INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day———8 June 1944
 bloodiest month———June 1944
 2nd bloodiest day———28 May 1944
 3rd bloodiest day———16 June 1944
 Total battle deaths———975
 555 are listed=56.9% KIA—758



42ND INFANTRY DIVISION "Rainbow"

Originally—National Guardsmen from 26 states and the District of Columbia

Army of the United States (WW II)

Activated (WW II)—14 July 1943

Inactivated—29 June 1946 in Europe

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

Days In Combat—106

Commanding General (During Combat, WW II):

 Maj-Gen Henry J. Collins

 Commander during the division's entire
 period of Federal service in World War II

Combat Chronicle: The 42nd Infantry Division, one of America's most famous divisions, never believed in hiding its light under a bushel. Visitors to war-torn Germany reported that one could follow the path of the 42nd by keeping an eye out for rainbows painted on the front and sides of buildings by members of the unit.

The 42nd got its nickname in World War I when one of its majors, noting that its personnel were drawn from 26 states and the District of Columbia, said, "This division will stretch over the land like a rainbow." The major who inspired that nickname would eventually command the 42nd during World War I. He was later General of the Army Douglas MacArthur.

Compared to its World War I counterpart, the 42nd was a little later getting into action against the Germans in World War II. But once in the line, the Rainbow fought with the same dash and courage which characterized it in the 2nd Battle of the Marne, and the Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne offensives. In World War I, the Rainbow Division sustained losses of 2,058 men killed in action and 12,625 wounded.

In World War II, the bulk of the 42nd arrived in Marseille, France, 8-9 December 1944, and was formed into a Task Force Linden. Assigned to the U.S. 7th Army, the task force entered combat in the vicinity of Strasbourg, relieving elements of the 36th Infantry Division on 24 December 1944.

The 42nd was just in time to be on the receiving end of the German offensive in Alsace, about a week later. New to combat, the division had an entire battalion overrun, since the battalion hadn't dug-in deep enough to successfully defend its positions. The majority of these men were captured.

Other than this, 42nd fought hard to help stem the enemy tide, and threw back a number of furious assaults at Hatten and other nearby areas. 6 January 1945, was a particularly costly day for the 42nd, in fact, its bloodiest day of the war. It was during this desperate fighting that the 42nd had a Medal of Honor winner, and it was one of the most fantastic one-man epics of the war. It took place near Hatten, Alsace on 9-10 January 1945.

Master Sergeant Vito R. Bertoldo of Company A, 242nd Infantry Regiment, was guarding two command posts against the assault of powerful armored and infantry forces which had overrun his battalion's main line of resistance (above). As the Germans approached closely, he set-up a machinegun in an exposed area, and for 12 hours kept the enemy at bay.

Eventually, M/Sgt Bertoldo moved back inside the command post, firing through a window. German tanks fired from only 75 yards away. A shell blasted him across the room, but he returned to his weapon. Two enemy personnel carriers, led by a tank approached, and after the troops dismounted, the sergeant calmly leaned out the window and mowed all 20 or more of them down.

When the command post was moved further back, Sgt Bertoldo volunteered to remain behind to cover the withdrawal.

In the morning, he took his machinegun to another building and repulsed another enemy attack, which was led by a self-propelled 88mm gun. Then another 88 gun appeared and, firing point-blank, knocked him down and seriously wounded several other men. A bazooka team set the deadly gun on fire, as the sergeant went back to his gun, dazed, and killed several of the enemy as they withdrew.

Then the Germans began an intensive assault supported by tanks and assault guns. Disregarding the devastating barrage, he hurled white phosphorus grenades into the advancing Germans until they broke and retreated. A tank 50 yards away fired at him, destroyed his machinegun, and again he was blown across the room, but miraculously escaped serious injury!

Once again he returned to the furious battle. With a rifle he singlehandedly covered the withdrawal of his fellow soldiers as the post was finally abandoned.

With indomitable bravery and incredible luck, he had withstood attacks by superior enemy forces for more than 48 hours without rest or relief, killed many of the enemy, and greatly helped his men withdraw to a safer position. Sgt Bertoldo lived to receive his award.

After withdrawing to new positions, the 42nd, along with the 103rd Infantry Division, was conspicuous in beating back renewed heavy German attacks, 24-26 January 1945. By the end of the month, the German offensive had died-out.

After a rest, on 14 February, the 42nd took up positions near Haguenau. During the rest of the month the Rainbows consolidated their positions and conducted extensive patrol activities. Altogether, the fighting in Alsace had cost the 42nd over 350 men killed.

Then, as part of the all-out 7th Army offensive to bust the Siegfried Line, the 42nd broke through it in heavy fighting, 15-21 March 1945. Attacking through the Hardt Mountains, it cleared the towns of Dahn and Busenberg. The weather was such, that vehicles couldn't be used on the icy, hilly roads. It was necessary to move supplies by pack-mule. The 42nd mopped-up in this area, while bridgeheads across the Rhine were being expanded by other outfits.

Crossing the Rhine, 31 March, the 42nd captured Wertheim, 1 April, and then headed into the city of Würzburg, where it found itself in a fierce battle against firemen, police, and SS elements which lasted from 2-6 April. During the battle the Germans launched a furious counterattack within the city, but were hurled back.

The 42nd then helped the 45th Infantry Division take Schweinfurt in hand-to-hand combat.

Further east, the Rainbow Division entered another sizeable town called Fürth, on the western edge of Nuremberg. The 42nd met fanatical resistance, but the town fell by 19 April.

By this time, the weather had turned into a beautiful spring, but the Germans, though on the run, were still armed and dangerous.

Advancing south, the 42nd overcame fierce opposition at Donauwörth on 25 April, and then crossed the Danube. On the 29th, the 42nd helped liberate some 30,000 inmates at one of the most notorious of the Nazi concentration camps—Dachau. Some of the terrible things that had went on there were too awful to really describe. The GIs were enraged.

Considering this late in the war, April 1945 was no cakewalk for the 42nd, which had 129 men killed in action and many more wounded.

After moving through the big Bavarian city of Munich, the 42nd cut across the Austrian border north of Salzburg, capturing prisoners by the thousands.

After V-E Day, the 42nd occupied Ritzbah, the Hollywood of southern Germany.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1
Distinguished Unit Citations—1
Distinguished Service Crosses—4
Silver Stars—622

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—655
Killed In Action—553
Wounded—2,212
Missing—311
Captured—1,175
Total Casualties—4,251

42ND INFANTRY DIVISION "Rainbow"

JANUARY 1945

5 Jan 1111111111 10
 6 Jan 111111111111111111111111 27*
 7 Jan 11111 approx.
 8 Jan 111111 55*men
 9 Jan 1111111111111111111111 23
 10 Jan 111
 11 Jan 1
 12 Jan 1
 13 Jan 11
 14 Jan 111
 15 Jan 11111
 16 Jan 111111
 17 Jan 11111
 18 Jan 111111
 19 Jan 111111111 9
 20 Jan 1
 21 Jan 1
 23 Jan 111
 24 Jan 111
 25 Jan 1111111111111111111111 24
 26 Jan 11111111111111111111 20
 27 Jan 1
 28 Jan 1
 31 Jan 11

169

FEBRUARY 1945

18 Feb 11
 19 Feb 1
 22 Feb 1
 23 Feb 1
 24 Feb 1
 25 Feb 1
 27 Feb 11
 28 Feb 1111
 13

MARCH 1945

1 Mar 1
 2 Mar 11
 3 Mar 11111111 8
 4 Mar 1
 7 Mar 111111
 9 Mar 1
 10 Mar 11
 12 Mar 1
 13 Mar 1
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 17 Mar 111111111111 13
 18 Mar 1
 19 Mar 11111111111111 14
 20 Mar 111
 21 Mar 1
 31 Mar 1
 92

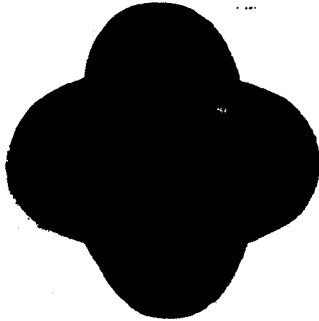
APRIL 1945

1 Apr 111
 3 Apr 1
 4 Apr 11111111 8
 5 Apr 11
 6 Apr 11
 7 Apr 111
 8 Apr 1111
 9 Apr 11111111 8
 10 Apr 111
 11 Apr 111111
 12 Apr 1
 16 Apr 1
 17 Apr 1
 18 Apr 111
 19 Apr 1111
 21 Apr 1
 22 Apr 11
 24 Apr 11
 25 Apr 11111111 9
 27 Apr 11111
 28 Apr 111
 29 Apr 1

73

42ND INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day-----6 January 1945
 bloodiest month-----January 1945
 2nd bloodiest day-----15 March 1945
 3rd bloodiest day-----25 January 1945
 Total battle deaths-----655
 347 are listed=52.9% KIA--553



43RD INFANTRY DIVISION "Winged Victory"

Originally—New England National Guard

Activated (WW II)—24 February 1941

Returned To United States—19 October 1945

Inactivated—26 October 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: New Georgia Northern New Guinea Luzon

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen John H. Hester

August 1941—July 1943

Maj-Gen Leonard F. Wing

August 1943—Inactivation

Combat Chronicle: The 43rd Infantry Division has elements which trace all the way back to 1739. The 43rd was first organized in 1925 with men from Vermont, Maine, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

In World War II, after training in both the Louisiana and Carolina maneuvers, the 43rd moved to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and then to Ft. Ord, California, by September 1942. The 43rd left the San Francisco port of embarkation on 1 October 1942.

The division landed in New Zealand on 23 October 1942. It next sailed to Nouméa, New Caledonia, in November, and then on to Guadalcanal by 17 February 1943, in time to aid in the mopping-up of Japanese stragglers on that recently embattled island.

The Russell Islands, just northwest of Guadalcanal, were occupied without opposition, 21 February 1943, and training continued. Elements landed on Vanunu and Rendova against minor resistance on 30 June 1943.

And then the war began in earnest for the Winged Victory Division. On 5 July 1943, the 43rd, along with Marine Raider battalions and naval units, landed on New Georgia, in the central Solomons. In area, New Georgia is somewhat smaller than Guadalcanal.

The 43rd bore the brunt of the fighting on New Georgia. For over a month, in what many authorities consider the roughest, dirtiest battle of the early war in the Pacific, the 43rd struggled for Munda Airfield. As yet, largely inexperienced in the ways of jungle fighting, the division was opposed by crack Japanese units. All of the tricks of the Japanese which eventually became old stuff to our troops, were strange to the men of the 43rd on New Georgia. The enemy often spoke English, and Jap snipers tied themselves to trees. One Japanese trick was to at night often leave one of their men exposed in the moonlight, sometimes even calling out to the Americans, in the hope of drawing their fire. In this way, they hoped to locate their positions in the jungle.

On 9 July 1943, the 169th and 172nd Infantry Regiments, supported by artillery and naval guns, as well as the Air Force, opened the attack on strategic Munda Airfield. At first, there was very little progress as the Japanese resisted tenaciously and skillfully, and with heavy rains and acute supply problems further hampering operations. For awhile, the 43rd was stalemated in bitter fighting

under strenuous conditions. By the 11th, some progress had been made, but the supply situation had become critical.

By 16 July, the 172nd Infantry had extended the Laiana beachhead, while the 169th Infantry took an important hill, as the intense fighting continued.

Then, on the following day, the Japanese launched a very skillful and coordinated counterattack, but the valiant 43rd withstood this assault. Three days later, the battered 169th Infantry Regiment was relieved by the 145th Infantry Regiment, 37th Infantry Division. Large elements of the 25th Infantry Division also arrived on the embattled island, but the going was still very tough.

On 25 July 1943, the 43rd and 37th Infantry Divisions opened a renewed assault on Munda, and the Japanese still resisted tenaciously. Nevertheless, the 103rd Infantry Regiment of the 43rd took Ilangana and reached the coast at Kia the next day.

The intense fighting continued unabated, but on 29 July 1943, a courageous Army officer of the 43rd played a vital role in breaking the deadlock. The 172nd Infantry Regiment was exhausted after prolonged fighting and heavy casualties. Lieutenant Robert S. Scott led his company toward a Japanese-held hill salient, urging his men forward in the face of enemy machinegun and rifle fire.

Suddenly, the Japanese made a desperate counterattack, which if successful would have gained them undisputed control of this hill. Enemy riflemen charged out onto a plateau, firing their rifles and throwing grenades as they rushed forward. His company began to fall back, but Lt Scott, with only a blasted tree stump for cover, stood his ground against the wild Jap onslaught. Firing his carbine and throwing grenades, he momentarily stopped this assault, using this respite to obtain more grenades.

Although under intense fire, and suffering a bullet wound in the left hand and a shrapnel wound in the head, Lt Scott threw grenade after grenade with devastating accuracy until the beaten enemy retreated.

The Americans, inspired by Lt Scott's courage, swept across the plateau to capture the hill. From this strategic position, his men, aided by elements of the 37th Infantry Division, four days later captured Munda Airfield, 5 August 1943. Lieutenant (later Captain Scott) was later awarded the Medal of Honor.

Soon after the capture of Munda, the remaining Japanese evacuated New Georgia.

Then, on 21 August 1943, the 172nd Infantry Regiment seized Baanga Island against moderate resistance.

On 27 August 1943, the 172nd landed on Arundel and met determined opposition. This regiment was reinforced, and it then cleared Bobmoe Peninsula by 20 September 1943. In all these operations the 43rd lost 581 men.

The 43rd sailed back to New Zealand for rest and rehabilitation beginning on 23 January 1944.

Northern New Guinea was the next stop for the 43rd. On 19 July 1944, the division assumed defensive positions at Aitape. The 43rd had a relatively minor role in this operation, the only action of any consequence for the division being from 3-7 August 1944, when the 43rd had a hand in stopping large elements of Japanese from crossing the Driniumor River. Organized enemy resistance in this region of New Guinea was ended by 25 August 1944.

Then, on 9 January 1945, the 43rd was one of 4 U.S. divisions which launched the initial invasion of Luzon, in the Philippines. From north to south, landing at Lingayen Gulf, were the 43rd, 6th, 37th, and 40th Infantry Divisions.

During the rest of January 1945, on Luzon, no other division sustained heavier casualties than did the 43rd Infantry Division. While other divisions headed to the south toward Manila, the 43rd headed north into the Cabaruan Hills, and almost immediately ran into tenacious Japanese resistance. Several high hills were taken 21 January 1945, after very heavy fighting. The 169th Infantry Regiment next fought the battle for Hill 355, 15-24 January, while the 172nd Infantry Reg-

iment took Hill 900 and secured Rosario by 26 January 1945. During this fighting all of the division beat back a number of vicious Japanese counterattacks. Attached to the 43rd during this period was the 158th Infantry Regiment.

The 172nd and 158th Infantry linked-up at Cataguintingan on 27 January, opening the Damortis-Rosario Road. The 43rd then consolidated along the Baguio Front, and was relieved by the 33rd Infantry Division on 15 February 1945.

Soon after, the 43rd was sent down into southwestern Luzon, and relieved the 40th Infantry Division in the wild Zambales Mountains by 2 March 1945. The 43rd helped to end organized Japanese resistance in this region.

After this, the division was moved into East-Central Luzon (east of Manila) against the strong defenses of the Japanese Shimbu Line. At this time, March-April 1945, the 1st Cavalry and 6th Infantry Divisions and the 112th Cavalry Regiment were also seeing bitter fighting in this region against some 15,000 Japanese troops.

After some exhausting, grueling combat in these hills in which the enemy had some very intricate cave/tunnel defense works, the 43rd succeeded in turning the left flank of the enemy defenses. It brilliantly was able to slash through the Jap defenses in its sector of front and capture, intact, the vital Ipo Dam on 17 May 1945, aided by some 3,000 Filipino guerrilla forces. (The other vital dam in this region, Wawa Dam, was taken, also intact, by the 38th Infantry Division on 29 May 1945).

Mopping-up in the Ipo Dam sector lasted until 2 June 1945, when the 43rd was then moved to the Wawa-Mt. Haponang vicinity, and fought there, 26-30 June 1945.

On 1 July 1945, the division was moved to Cabanatuan, in central Luzon, and trained for the invasion of Japan.

After garrison duty in Manila during September 1945, the 43rd then left the Philippines for a short period of occupational duty in Japan. The 43rd left for home in October 1945.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—2	Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,514
Distinguished Unit Citations—5 *	Killed In Action—1,213
Distinguished Service Crosses—75	Wounded—5,187
Silver Stars—987	Missing—9
	Captured—2
	Total Casualties—6,411

* One to the entire 169th Infantry Regiment—Luzon

Other 43rd Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II:

S/Sgt Robert E. Laws, 169th Inf Rgt, 12 January 1945, Pangasinan Province, Luzon

43RD INFANTRY DIVISION "Winged Victory"

JANUARY 1945

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311

FEBRUARY 1945

1 Feb 111
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 7 Feb 1
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MARCH 1945

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110

43RD INFANTRY DIVISION "Winged Victory"

APRIL 1945

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 7 Apr 11
 8 Apr 111
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 16 Apr 1
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 27 Apr 111111111111 13
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MAY 1945

5 May 11
 7 May 1
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 15 May 11111111 8
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 17 May 111111
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 23 May 1
 24 May 111
 25 May 1
 27 May 111
 58

JUNE 1945

3 June 1
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 8

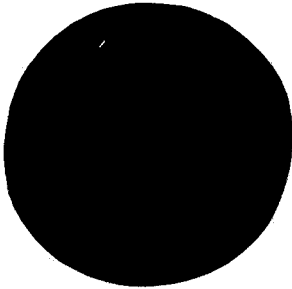
JULY 1945

18 July 1
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43RD INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day———14 January 1945
 bloodiest month———January 1945
 2nd bloodiest day———2 July 1943
 3rd bloodiest day———20 January 1945

Total battle deaths———1,514
 827 are listed=~~54.6%~~ KIA—1,213



44TH INFANTRY DIVISION "44th"

Originally—New York, New Jersey, Delaware National Guard

Activated—March 1923

Returned To United States—21 July 1945

Inactivated—30 November 1945

Battle Credits, World War II: Lorraine Vosges Mountains Alsace Saar
 Rhineland Central Europe

Days In Combat—190

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Robert L. Spragins

August—December 1944

Maj-Gen William F. Dean

December 1944—September 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 44th Infantry Division, after World War II broke out, played an important role in the coastal defense of the eastern United States. Later on, after maneuvers in Louisiana, and then training at Camp Phillips, Kansas, the 44th eventually landed at Cherbourg, France, on 15 September 1944. It trained for another month before entering combat on 18 October 1944, under the U.S. 7th Army.

The 44th relieved the 79th Infantry Division in the Forêt de Parroy (forest), east of Lunéville, to take part in securing several passes in the Vosges Mountains.

The Vosges foothill country was greasy-black with mud and biting with cold as the men of the 44th took up positions in the forest. Within 6 days the division was hit by a heavy German attack and its lines were dented, but it rallied, drove the Germans back, and then continued its active defense. For three weeks the division held a stationary front, as it received its first artillery shelling, sent out patrols, stumbled onto their first mines, and heard its first German propaganda... "Come over to us, soldiers of the 44th, and have a hot meal."

And then, the 44th was elected to spearhead the 7th Army's offensive beginning November 13th. The division's 4 artillery battalions tossed 25,000 rounds at the Germans before the assault commenced! The division then began a slow, but steady advance against very heavy resistance, opposing enemy units being the 553rd Volksgrenadier and 361st Infantry Divisions.

In conjunction with the French 2nd Armored Division, the 44th pushed east across Alsace taking Leintrey and Avricourt by 17 November, and then helped the French liberate the ancient city of Strasbourg. Here, the 44th got its first taste of street-fighting. Snipers were plentiful and persistent, but in one day of ruthless hunting, the 71st Infantry Regiment had cleared the city.

After regrouping, the 44th attacked in the region of Sarrebourg, and was hit hard by a strong German counterthrust by the crack Panzerlehr Division supported by part of the 25th Panzer Grenadier Division.

The main blow fell against the 114th Infantry Regiment. The infantrymen in their fox-holes were pounded by machine-gun fire and 88mm fire from tanks only 60 yards away. The

enemy infantry huddled behind the tanks, hoping the 114th would break and run. They grossly underestimated the Americans, who fought back stoutly as their artillery blasted the German division which finally withdrew after suffering heavy losses. Had this attack succeeded, it would have cut-in behind the entire U.S. 7th Army. General Patch, the 7th Army commander, commended the 44th for its gallant stand.

The 44th then continued north, entering the fortress Bitche area in the Maginot Line. The division artillery poured high explosive shells on Fort Simserhof, and then the engineers and infantry clambered through mine fields and machine-gun fire to plant TNT charges against the turrets of the guns in the pillboxes. The fort fell on 19 December 1944.

The 44th advanced further north to hold a 10-mile front near Sarreguemines, and then threw back three attempted crossings of the Blies River by the Germans in the Siegfried Line.

And then, on New Year's Eve, 1944 (in the 44th's sector), the Germans began their offensive in northern Alsace. The troublesome 17th SS Panzer Grenadier and elements of 2 other divisions attacked the 44th. The Germans, obviously drunk or doped-up and all uniformed in white clothing, charged the American lines shouting, "Happy New Year, Yankee bastards." When the range was right, the doughboys let them have it.

The Fighting 44th never faltered. It beat back no less than 20 enemy attacks and inflicted 6,000 casualties on the Germans. One of these casualties was Standartenführer Hans Lingner, commander of the 17th SS Panzer Grenadier, and the first SS division commander to be captured on the Western Front. It was during all this heavy fighting that the 44th had a Medal of Honor winner, Sergeant Charles A. MacGillivray, Company I, 71st Infantry Regiment, near Woelfling, France, 1 January 1945.

Sgt MacGillivray led his squad forward in darkness to meet the threat of a breakthrough by the Germans. Several enemy machine-guns opened up, stopping the advance. Circling around through woods and snow, he carefully worked his way to one of the gun crews, and shot them from only three feet away. The rest of the Germans temporarily withdrew.

Early that following afternoon, his company was pinned down by furious automatic and small-arms fire. Skillfully, he stalked the enemy, reached a hostile machine-gun crew, and blasted it with a grenade. He then pressed on to within 10 yards of another machine-gun, and its crew spotted him and feverishly tried to swing their weapon around and cut him down. He charged into their midst and killed them with several bursts from his submachinegun.

Without hesitating, the Sergeant moved on to still another machine-gun, creeping, crawling, and rushing from tree to tree, until he was close enough to dispatch this crew with a grenade. In this act, he was seriously wounded, but survived the war.

Sgt MacGillivray's bravery and bold initiative enabled his company to continue on its mission with minimum casualties.

The German offensive was beaten back in very hard fighting amid bitter winter conditions, and then there occurred what seemed to be endless patrol activity on both sides, and numerous skirmishes with the Germans.

On 15 February 1945, the 44th made a 1-day line-straightening attack that totaled 600 POWs and captured two sizeable villages, despite strong opposition.

Eventually, after the 7th Army had fought through the Siegfried Line during the last half of March 1945, the 44th crossed the Rhine on 26 March, in the wake of the 3rd Infantry Division.

The 44th took the city of Mannheim after a tough 2-day battle, 28-29 March, in which sniper's bullets pinged from tenement houses and gutted factory windows, and while German artillery pounded steadily from across the Neckar River.

Then, while the 324th Infantry Regiment set out toward Crailsheim to assist the 10th Armored Division, the 114th Infantry Regiment found itself involved in some very bitter fighting as it protected the supply lines of the 71st and 324th Infantry against marauding bands of Germans. All attacks were beaten off.

Through southern Germany, the 44th was supposed to support and mop-up behind the 10th Armored, but resistance was, mostly, sporadic enough so that detours often put the 44th ahead of the armor.

On 22 April 1945, the 324th and elements of the 10th Armored drove into battered Ulm, an historic city on the Danube with the highest spired cathedral in the world. Scattered bands of die-hards were dealt with, and there were numerous prisoners taken.

After crossing the Danube at Ehingen, 23 April, the war, for the 44th, then became a mad, headlong dash for the Austrian border. Attacking southeast, the division took Füssen and

Wertach, and pursued a disintegrating enemy, who sometimes turned around to fight back fiercely, even though the war was almost "kaput" for Germany.

Pushing into the Austrian Tyrol, the 44th captured Fern Pass, took Imst on 4 May and Landeck on the 5th. The 44th fought to the last. Its regiments were climbing Tyrolean peaks and skirmishing through Alpine forests on the day the German 19th Army finally surrendered at Innsbruck on 7 May 1945.

Among the 44th's total of 44,000 prisoners, was the division's great satisfaction in capturing a number of the prominent German scientists who had a key role in developing the deadly V-2 bomb, including their leader, Wernher von Braun.

After a short period of occupational duty in which the 44th helped provide food and shelter for thousands of displaced persons, it returned to the United States in July 1945. The 44th was inactivated that following November.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—1
Distinguished Unit Citations—3
Distinguished Service Crosses—38
Silver Stars—464

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—1,215
Killed In Action—1,038
Wounded—4,209
Missing—100
Captured—308
Total Casualties—5,655

Note: Major-General William F. Dean later commanded the 24th Infantry Division during the early fighting of the Korean War, and was later awarded the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions and leadership of the 24th in and around Taejon, Korea. Reported missing in action, it was eventually found out that he was a prisoner of war. He was finally released by the communists and returned to the United States.

44TH INFANTRY DIVISION "44th"

OCTOBER 1944

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NOVEMBER 1944

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 30 Nov 111

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DECEMBER 1944

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 25 Dec 1
 28 Dec 1
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44TH INFANTRY DIVISION "44th"

APRIL 1945

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MAY 1945

2 May 11111
 3 May 1
 4 May 1
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44TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest day—————15 February 1945
 bloodiest month—————November 1944
 2nd bloodiest day—————17 November 1944
 3rd bloodiest day—————13 November 1944
 Total battle deaths—————1,101
 607 are listed=55.1% KIA—940



45TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Thunderbird"

Originally—Oklahoma, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico National Guard

Activated—16 September 1940

Returned To United States—14 September 1945

Inactivated—7 December 1945

Battle Credits, World War II:	Sicily	Salerno	Southern Italy	Anzio
	Rome-Arno		Southern France	Vosges Mountains
Days In Combat—511	Alsace	Siegfried Line	Rhineland	Central Europe

Commanding Generals (During Combat, WW II):

Maj-Gen Troy H. Middleton	October 1942—December 1943
Maj-Gen William W. Eagles	December 1943—December 1944
Maj-Gen Robert T. Frederick	December 1944—September 1945

Combat Chronicle: The 45th Infantry Division was stationed at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia, in May 1943, when witnesses saw one of the most unusual displays in American military history. It was a campfire war dance put on by some of the 1,500 American Indians from 28 tribes who belonged to the 45th. Two years later, the 45th was much changed. Few of the original Indians were left—the 45th's total casualties had come to 21,260 men, one of the highest of any U.S. division in World War II.

Another change was that its original shoulder patch had consisted of a respectable old Indian design, the swastika. When the Nazis made this symbol their national emblem, the 45th hastily substituted another traditional Indian figure—the thunderbird, the Red Man's "sacred bearer of unlimited happiness".

The 45th landed in North Africa on 22 June 1943, and trained at Arzew, French Morocco.

On 10 July 1943, the division landed in Sicily, its first major amphibious operation, as well as its initiation to combat. At first, numerous prisoners were captured by the Germans, due greatly to the 45th's inexperience, and some difficulty was encountered in consolidating its portion of the beachhead. But the Thunderbirds rapidly pulled together and then, heading inland to the north, captured Biscari, Caltanissetta, and Termini, advancing so relentlessly that one German prisoner complained, "Don't you ever sleep?"

Along the northern coast, the road sometimes ran right above the sea, with cliffs or steep hills on the other side. The Germans could sometimes delay the advance by simply blowing away a stretch of the road. But the engineers performed remarkable feats of construction. Besides this, the heat on Sicily often topped 100 degrees, and the German 29th Panzer Grenadier Division resisted with the utmost tenacity. Alternating along the northern coast with the 3rd Infantry Division, the 45th had a bloody 6-day battle at a place aptly called "Bloody Ridge." On 1 August 1943, the division was withdrawn for a rest. Among other losses, the 45th had 302 men killed in action on Sicily.

The 45th landed at the Salerno beachhead, 10 September 1943, and into desperate fighting. In fact, for several days the issue was critical, but by the 17th the Germans pulled back.

And then, for 4 bitter months, the 45th fought through the Apennines of southern Italy.

Against stiff resistance the 45th pushed to the Calore River, at a point just north of Benevento, by 27 September. Slugging forward in a northwesterly direction up "the boot", the 45th took Monte Acera, and then, further north, took two days in clearing Piedimonte d'Alife against fierce resistance by the crack 26th Panzer Division. Continuing further north into almost trackless mountain country, the 45th pushed on against stubborn enemy delaying actions and counterattacks. By 3 November 1943, the Thunderbirds had crossed the winding Volturno River. In conjunction with the 34th Infantry Division, the 45th moved through a profusion of mines and booby-traps, and then into a desolate and virtually trackless area of jagged peaks and precipitous cliffs, fighting painfully, approaching utter exhaustion, and incurring heavy casualties both from enemy fire and from exposure to rain and cold. On the right flank the 504th Parachute Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division patrolled almost impassable mountains. After taking Venafro, in the German Winter Line, the 45th inched forward to Sant'Elia. By this time, it was so cold in the mountains that the GIs couldn't dig foxholes in the hard ground. Some of the men turned muleskinners in order to get supplies to the front line over trails impassable for vehicles. Finally, the 45th was pulled out of the line for rest and rehabilitation.

The 45th next landed in the Anzio beachhead—and into some of the most desperate and heaviest fighting of the war. For 76 straight days the division was under ceaseless enemy fire. The 45th had a vital role in helping to foil a major German offensive.

In mid-February 1944, the Germans began a major effort to drive the Allied divisions in the beachhead back into the sea. The 45th, in the center of the line and holding positions astride either side of the Anzio-Albano road, was forced back. The Germans suffered very heavy casualties but, after frantically regrouping during the night, came on again the next day, 17 February 1944, and the 45th, under terrific pressure, was again pressed back. It was on this critical day at the Anzio beachhead that the 45th had one of its 8 Medal of Honor winners of the war in a very courageous series of actions by Pfc William J. Johnston, Company G, 180th Infantry Regiment.

Near Padiglione, Italy, he observed and fired upon an attacking force of around 80 Germans, inflicting at least 25 casualties with his machinegun, and forcing the others to withdraw. All that day he manned his gun without relief, subjected to mortar, artillery, and sniper fire. Two Germans worked so close to his position that his machinegun was ineffective, whereupon he killed one with his pistol, and the other with a rifle taken from a fellow soldier.

He then volunteered to cover his platoon's withdrawal, and was the last man to leave that night. In a new position, Pfc Johnston maintained an all-night vigil, the next morning causing 7 enemy casualties.

On the afternoon of the 18th, some men on his left flank having been forced to pull back, he again covered the withdrawal. Shortly after, he was seriously wounded above the heart, and a soldier saw him crawl up an embankment. This man aided him to courageously resume action behind his machinegun.

Though reported killed in action, Pfc Johnston was seen on the morning of 19 February, slowly and painfully working his way back from his overrun position through enemy lines. He gave valuable information of new enemy dispositions. His heroic determination to destroy the enemy greatly aided in halting a strong German attack, caused very heavy German losses, and so inspired his fellow soldiers that they fought for and held a vitally important position against greatly superior forces. And Pfc Johnston survived the war.

The 45th suffered very heavy casualties, including numerous men captured, but never broke. On the same day (the 19th) a counterattack was commenced by the 1st Armored Division, and the Germans wavered and then fell back. The crisis was over.

There then followed a lengthy period of stalemate at the beachhead, with trench warfare reminiscent of the First World War, with highly dangerous patrol actions.

On 23 May 1944, the 45th, along with a number of other U.S. and British units, broke out of the beachhead area in very tough fighting. The 45th, after bypassing Rome, was given a rest, beginning on 16 June. Altogether, the Italian campaign cost the 45th 1,808 men killed in action and around 7,000 wounded.

Then, the Fighting 45th got ready for its fourth amphibious assault landing of the war—this time, southern France, beginning on 15 August 1944. The Thunderbirds landed in the St. Maxime vicinity against light opposition. Advancing up the Rhône River Valley, along

with the 3rd and 36th Infantry Divisions and a few French units, the 45th became involved in a furious battle at Montélimar. The German 19th Army, between the fighting with the American and French outfits and being badly strafed from the air, was badly mauled as it retreated northward.

The 45th continued in pursuit of the Germans, and was counterattacked at Bourg by the élite 11th Panzer Division. The Germans were beaten back, and then the 45th helped capture the fortress town of Besançon.

The Americans headed into the heavily wooded Vosges Mountains against increasingly tough German resistance. The 45th took the heavily defended city of Épinal, 24 September, crossed the swollen Moselle River, and then captured Rambervillers on the 30th. After fighting slowly and bloodily throughout October 1944, the Thunderbirds eventually forced the Mortagne River. By this time, the 45th was bled white, and was relieved at the beginning of November 1944 by the 100th "Century" Infantry Division.

After resting and receiving replacements, the 45th then fought into northern Alsace, capturing Niederbronn, Reichshoffen, and other small towns and villages—places where a lot of good men died. The division captured the forts north of Mutzig and, by December 1944, had bitten into the fortifications of the Siegfried Line.

Then, on 1 January 1945, the Germans opened a vicious attack into northern Alsace with some 14 divisions. The 45th, fighting hard in the vicinity of Bitche, did as much as any outfit in helping to stem this offensive. It was greatly due to the 45th's efforts that a potentially dangerous German salient around Bitche was contained and eventually eliminated. Although not nearly as publicized as the Battle of the Bulge which was raging at the same time to the northwest, the fighting in Alsace was no less strenuous, and was also fought in very trying winter conditions. Altogether, the fighting up through eastern France had cost the 45th 1,469 men dead.

After more rest and rehabilitation during February 1945, the 45th was one of a dozen 7th Army divisions which launched an all-out effort to smash the Siegfried Line in its sector, beginning on 15 March 1945. On the 45th's left flank was the 3rd Infantry Division, while to the right was the 100th Infantry Division. After several days of grueling combat, the 45th broke through on its front, captured Homburg on the 21st, and then crossed the Rhine near Worms on 26 March. Its commander, at this time, was Major-General Robert T. Frederick, one of the youngest divisional commanders, and who had previously commanded the élite 1st Special Service Force in Italy and southern France.

Heading east, the Thunderbirds found themselves in a 5-day, vicious battle in the sizeable town of Aschaffenburg against die-hard fanatics including young boys and even 14-15-year-old girls whipped up into a frenzy by SS elements. It was one of the 45th's toughest battles, and the worst irony of it is that just beyond this town, there was a slave-laborer camp. Many of these captives were slain by their SS guards who may otherwise have been set free by the 45th, had not the division been delayed by the fanatical resistance in Aschaffenburg, on the Main River.

Continuing further east, the 45th took Schweinfurt in a sharp battle, and then, yet further east, Bamberg in a 1-day battle in which the 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division also participated.

Pivoting south, the 45th then helped take the bombed-out, ruined city of Nuremberg. The remainder of the 2nd Mountain and 17th SS Panzer Grenadier Divisions resisted fanatically, and it was another grim, furious battle lasting several days.

Not only this, but the Americans ran into plenty of trouble before they even entered the ruined symbol of Nazi Germany. While the 42nd "Rainbow" Infantry Division attacked into the western suburb of Fürth, meeting furious resistance, and the 3rd Infantry Division attacked from the north, the 45th swung around to attack from the east and northeast. The Germans had hundreds of 88mm antiaircraft guns ringing the city. Their projectiles, fused to burst overhead, scattered metal fragments for hundreds of yards, and scores of GIs were either killed or badly wounded as they advanced on the city.

Inside the city, the Americans encountered numerous booby-traps and German soldiers with panzerfausts and plenty of machineguns and machine-pistols. But the Americans advanced relentlessly, blasting into rubble any building or house which offered resistance. The 45th knocked out 45 guns and captured numerous prisoners and, by 20 April 1945, the city had fallen soon after a regiment each from the 3rd and 45th Divisions had met at the Regnitz River which flows through the ancient city.

Continuing south, the Thunderbird Division crossed the Danube on 27 April, and by the 30th, had helped capture the big Bavarian city of Munich against sharp, but sporadic resistance. In fact, much of the civilian population, thoroughly sick of the war and of Nazi lies, was of considerable help in often pointing out to the GIs the hiding places of German soldiers

And then, the men of the 45th headed for the notorious concentration camp at Dachau, only 12 miles northwest of Munich. Some of the scenes were indescribable, and hardened veterans were visibly shaken—and enraged. Also, half-crazed with mixed feelings of joy and rage, some of the more able-bodied prisoners itched to get their hands on any of the guards they could get hold of, and the GIs were inclined to let them have their way. The Nazi guards had used huge dogs to help terrorize the inmates. Each of these vicious animals was shot. Any of the GIs there who had had any doubts as to why they had been fighting, now knew.

When the war in Europe ended, 8 May 1945, the 45th was stationed near Dachau. No outfit had fought harder than the Fighting 45th—and few, if any, divisions had been through as many tough battles. The 45th lost 362 men inside Germany.

Honors: Congressional Medals of Honor—8
Distinguished Unit Citations—7
Distinguished Service Crosses—61
Silver Stars—1,848

Casualties: Total Battle Deaths—4,276
Killed In Action—3,714
Wounded—14,541
Missing—478
Captured—2,527
Total Casualties—21,260

Other 45th Infantry Division Medal of Honor winners in World War II: Killed in action *

2nd Lt Van T. Barfoot, 157th Inf Rgt, 23 May 1944, near Carano, Italy

2nd Lt Ernest Childers, 22 September 1943, Oliveto, Italy

2nd Lt Al E. Fisher, 157th Inf Rgt, 12-13 September 1944, near Gramont, France

1st Lt Jack C. Montgomery, 22 February 1944, near Padiglione, Italy

Cpl James D. Slaton, 157th Inf Rgt, 23 September 1943, near Oliveto, Italy

Capt Jack L. Treadwell, 180th Inf Rgt, 18 March 1945, near Nieder-Würzbach, Germany

Cpl Edward G. Wilkin, * 157th Inf Rgt, 18 March 1945, Siegfried Line, Germany

Notes: The third line infantry regiment of the 45th Infantry Division in World War II was the 179th Infantry Regiment.

The 45th Infantry Division was called into federal service during the Korean War, and saw action in that conflict from January 1952—July 1953.

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Thunderbird"

JULY 1943

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AUGUST 1943

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SEPTEMBER 1943

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OCTOBER 1943

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45TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Thunderbird"

NOVEMBER 1943

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 28 Nov 11
 29 Nov 1
 30 Nov 111111

157

DECEMBER 1943

1 Dec 1111
 3 Dec 1
 4 Dec 11111
 5 Dec 111
 6 Dec 111111
 7 Dec 1111
 8 Dec 111
 9 Dec 1
 10 Dec 111
 11 Dec 111
 13 Dec 11
 14 Dec 1
 15 Dec 1111111111111111111111111111 32
 16 Dec 11
 17 Dec 11
 18 Dec 11
 19 Dec 111
 20 Dec 11111111 8
 22 Dec 111111
 23 Dec 11
 24 Dec 1
 25 Dec 1
 29 Dec 1
 30 Dec 111111111111111111111111 24

120

JANUARY 1944

1 Jan 11
 3 Jan 1
 5 Jan 1
 11 Jan 1
 12 Jan 1
 15 Jan 1
 29 Jan 1111
 30 Jan 1
 31 Jan 111

15

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION "Thunderbird"

JANUARY 1945

1 Jan 111111
 2 Jan 11
 3 Jan 11111111 8
 4 Jan 1111111111 10
 5 Jan 1111111111 10
 6 Jan 111111111 9
 7 Jan 11111111 8
 8 Jan 1111111111 11
 9 Jan 1
 10 Jan 111111111 9
 11 Jan 11111111 8
 12 Jan 111111111111 13
 13 Jan 1111
 14 Jan 11111111 8
 15 Jan 111111
 16 Jan 111
 17 Jan 111111111 9
 18 Jan 111
 19 Jan 1111111
 20 Jan 111
 21 Jan 11111111111111111111111111 27
 23 Jan 111

168

FEBRUARY 1945

1 Feb 1
 3 Feb 1
 4 Feb 1
 5 Feb 1
 10 Feb 11
 13 Feb 11
 18 Feb 1
 19 Feb 1
 28 Feb 1
 11

MARCH 1945

7 Mar 1
 9 Mar 1
 15 Mar 11111111111111111111 20
 16 Mar 1
 17 Mar 11111111111 11
 18 Mar 111111111111111111 18
 19 Mar 11111111
 20 Mar 111111111 9
 21 Mar 11
 22 Mar 11
 23 Mar 1
 25 Mar 11
 26 Mar 111111111111111 15
 27 Mar 1
 28 Mar 11111111
 29 Mar 11111111111111111111111111 29
 30 Mar 1
 31 Mar 11111111111 11

139

APRIL 1945

1 Apr 1111
 2 Apr 1111111111111111 15
 3 Apr 11
 4 Apr 111
 5 Apr 1
 6 Apr 1
 10 Apr 1
 12 Apr 111
 13 Apr 11
 14 Apr 11
 16 Apr 1111
 17 Apr 1111111111 11
 18 Apr 11111111111111 15
 19 Apr 111111111 10
 20 Apr 11111
 21 Apr 1
 23 Apr 1
 24 Apr 11
 25 Apr 11
 26 Apr 111111
 27 Apr 1
 28 Apr 1
 30 Apr 11111111111111 15

108

45TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S

*bloodiest days-----16 and 18 February 1944
 bloodiest month-----February 1944
 3rd bloodiest day-----31 May 1944
 4th " "-----1 June 1944
 5th " "-----23 February 1944
 6th " "-----28 May 1944
 7th " "-----10 July 1943

Total battle deaths-----4,276
 2,382 are listed=55.7% KIA-3,714

MAY 1945

4 May 1
 15 May 1
 21 May 1

3

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	4,276	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	509	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	
	<u>139,990</u>	
Philippines	26,428	(Leyte, Luzon, Mindanao, Cebu, Samar, Negros, and others)
Okinawa	13,415	(Also, includes Ie Shima, Tsugen Shima, and Kerama Rettō)
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	
	<u>64,530</u>	
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	
34th Inf Dvn	601	1,225	
45th Inf Dvn	404	820	
3rd Inf Dvn		683 (exact figure)	
82nd Abn Dvn	81	175	
1st Amd Dvn	61	110	
1st Spec Srv Force		unavailable	
Rangers		unavailable	
			Cassino:
			34th Inf Dvn 610
			36th Inf Dvn 370 (142nd Rg)
			Approx. total-980

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	unavailable	
Rangers	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 Counteroffensive at Mortain, Normandy 7-14 August 1944:
9th Inf Dvn	847	1,700	
2nd Inf Dvn	818	1,650	
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)

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	219	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	69	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	57	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	92	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			In Brittany, France—April 1945
2nd Inf Dvn	80	170			
80th Inf Dvn	86	165			66th Inf Dvn
91st Inf Dvn	80	165			12 (exact figure)
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			

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	188	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	500
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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