### RHINE CROSSING TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

We deported from Drais, Germany at 1500 hours, 23 March 1945 and moved a distance of approximately 35 miles to descend into the Rhine valley at Dienheim, closing into an assembly area at 1700 hours to await darkness – and to sweat out our turn to cross the Rhine River! The crossing was to be made on a pontoon bridge established by the 5th Infantry Division at the ferry site just north of Oppenheim, Germany. Orders came at 2100 hours to follow the 915th FA Battalion over the river. The bright moonlight made blackout driving relatively easy, but the same moonlight also made enemy aircraft active at the crossing site. Plenty of excitement ensued when a strafing plane set fire to a loaded gasoline truck approaching the bridge entrance from the north just as the head of the 345th column was about one third of the way across the river. The column halted on the bridge for approximately one hour while a 915th FA Battalion 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> ton Service Battery truck which had jumped the track with its front wheels was placed back on the bridge. The Heinie planes continued to maneuver and strafe, friendly antiaircraft artillery pumped shells into the air, and the gasoline truck continued to burn and light up the bridge site bright as day. Fortunately there were no casualties sustained at the crossing site or on the remainder of the movement to the next position area in the flats northwest of Leeheim, Germany. There were some near casualties though, the incidents are humorous ... now! Captain Decker, Battalion Communications Officer, and Captain Douglas, BC of D Battery of the 537th AAA Battalion were in Leeheim making a "reconnaissance" before our Battalion arrived. Captain Decker had done right well. His pockets were bulging with eggs. As the two officers were walking down the street, the Krauts suddenly put in a perfect concentration of artillery. Although some shells hit just a few yards away, neither of the officers were scratched as they lay biting the dirt in the gutter. Captain Decker's eggs were a total loss; his coat went in for salvage!

This position area also will be will remembered, for though we were situated far enough from the bridge site to be out of the way of enemy planes, and far enough from Leeheim to be out of the way of enemy artillery firing into the town, we were situated at the end of the trajectory of American antiaircraft artillery and AA machine guns defending the bridge. This friendly fire made things lively for us during our two nights stay. We found foxholes very comfortable.

In the Leeheim position area, the firing batteries did excellent shooting under the observation of Lts. O'Connor and Hertzog. We destroyed two 88's, five 20mm anti-aircraft guns, five 40mm anti-aircraft guns, and one heavy machine gun in the vicinity of Wolfskellen; this eliminated enemy resistance holding up the 90th Division's advance to the east.

Again the 4th Armored Division passed through us to take battle position on our Division's south flank. With enemy resistance broken along the Leeheim-Darmstadt road, the division quickly advanced both east and north to positions along the Main River east of Frankfurt. There on the 28th of March, the 357th Infantry forced a crossing of the Main river at Rumpelheim, and the 358th Infantry forced a crossed the river at 2230 hours on the night of March 28th.

On the 29th, we were assigned the mission of reinforcing CT's 358 and 359 in their mission of following and mopping up behind the 4th Armored Division in an advance to the northeast – and thence southeast of Hof, Germany, near the Czechoslovakian border. We started this operation on 30 March 1945 at Enzheim. Often we occupied two, three, or four positions daily. Our route passed through the towns of Merkenfritz, Schlitz, Ausbach, Vacha, Bad Salzungen, Bad Liebenstein, Wiesenthal, Schmalkalden, Zella Mehlis, Gehlberg, Ilmenau, Gehren, Volkmannsdorf, Schlaga, Schonbrunn,

Lobenstein, Frossen, and Krebes. After twenty-eight positions were occupied, we reached Hof on 18 April.

At Ausbach, the batteries had march order. They were moving out on the road just as an urgent fire mission was received from Captain Call's liaison section. Immediately the batteries were ordered back into positions for immediate firing. Though we did not have to fire, the batteries set a record of march ordering, moving 200 yards down the road, and preparing for action in the worst field in 17 minutes. The "Sad Sack" of this fast operation at Ausbach was T/5 Cervantes, Major Guthrie's driver did not see a farmer's spiked tooth harrow lying in the grassy plot in which he selected to turn his vehicle around. Movement was imminent, and there he sat with three flat tires.

On 4 April, on our move between Dorndorf and Leimbach, we had the experience of moving through a crossroad which was being registered on by the liaison plane of one of our corps artillery battalions. No one was hurt in our battalion, though there were some who became slightly nervous.

At Zella Mehlis, we found the Walther pistol factory, much to our delight. Later, much to our disappointment, our "captured" pistols were ordered returned to the factory.

Now we were in the mountainous country next to the Czechoslovakian border. In our move from Heidersbach to Gehlberg, we rose 1500 feet higher over a one-way mountain road to a total elevation of nearly 3000 feet. Snow patches were still lying on the ground beneath the heavy growth of pine trees. In the position area at Gehlberg, we received one of our heaviest enemy counter-battery fires. Several men were wounded. Everyone was happy to leave the position on 10 April.

The next position area was near Stutzerbach, which will long be noted for the trout that came out of the swift flowing mountain streams to supplement the K and C ration diet to which we were being subjected.

When we reached Hof, orders were received by the division to continue the advance to the southeast parallel to the Czechoslovakian border. The 345th again reinforced CT's 358 and 359 in their advance along the Czechoslovakian border, occupying twenty positions from 19 April to 5 May 1945. We fired from nearly every one of these position areas in order to convince the towns in our sector to surrender without resistance.

During this phase of operations we passed through Rehau, Schonwald, Theirsheim, Mitterteich, Tirschenreuth, Floss, Waldthurn, Pleystein, Eslarn, Schonau, Schonthal, Cham, Kotzting, and Furth to end up in the small towns Wolkersdorf, Barnsdorf, and Traidersdorf on 5 May 1945.

T/4 Medlin and the other members of his radio relay station crew (T/4 Talbot, T/5 Patterson, and T/5 Wood) found out the hard way that there are two towns by the name of Pilmersreuth in the same section of Germany. They likewise found out that one of them, the one they first went to, was in enemy territory. At the time they couldn't decide whether the Hungarians whom they encountered were our enemies or friends and therefore let them go their way with all their weapons, field glasses and belongings. They are still wondering why the Hungarians likewise allowed them to return to friendly territory when they found out their mistake.

When the battalion was in position at Madersdorf and Thenried, Battery A moved to Neukirchen near the Czech border for the day of 29 April to afford artillery support to a combat patrol going into Czechoslovakia.

While in position at Grub, Battery C shot time-fire directly into the woods in front of their position area on the night of 27 April, and the next morning captured 198 prisoners. 311 prisoners were captured by our battalion during the month of April.

Our position area, occupied for three days 1000 yards north of Furth, was just south of the Czechoslovakian border, and many men took this opportunity to walk over the border into Czechoslovakia for the first time. From this position, we laid our howitzers on the route of approach of the German 11th Panzer Division as it marched into our lines from Domazlice, Czechoslovakia by the way of Vseruby, to surrender to the 2nd Battalion, 357th Infantry. The surrender of the 11th Panzer Division delayed our assembly movement for the next phase of the Division's operations. When our battalion did move south on the morning of 5 May 1945, its movement was hampered by having to share the road with straggling vehicles of the 11th Panzer Division, which was moving into an assembly area near Kotzting.

From our assembly area in the small towns of Woldersdorf, Barndorf, and Tradersdorf east of Kotzting, we moved 54 miles on the afternoon of 5 May 1945 to Paseko, Czechoslovakia by way of Kotzting, Wettzel, Viechtach, Regen, and Zwiesel, Germany and Mestys Zelenzna Ruda. At last we were in Czechoslovakia.

The last combat march of the battalion over the narrow, rough, muddy mountain trails between Poseko and Kasperski Hory, Czechoslovakia, was (perhaps) a fitting climax to the end of the war for the 345th. That march was made over the most difficult road conditions that we encountered throughout the whole war. Starting from Peseko at 061830 May the first vehicle arrived in Kasperske Hory, only 17 miles away at 062200; and after much hard work and loss of sleep the last vehicle arrived there a 071000. At Kasperske Hory we received the unofficial information that Germany had unconditionally surrendered effective 090001 May.

Our next move was to Drazowitz, where the local fire pumps were borrowed to wash all vehicles. Here the townspeople invited us to participate in their liberation ceremony and gave a dance on May 9th in honor of the battalion and "D" Battery, 537th AAA Bn, our attached anti-aircraft battery.

On 10 May we moved to Resanice, Czechoslovakia, and on the way overtook and passed a small convoy of our Russian allies, our first contact with them.

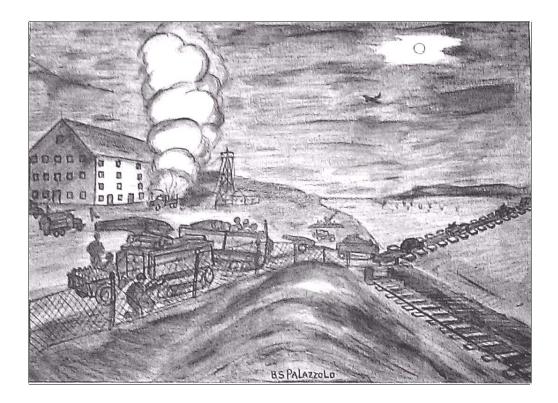
We remained in this fraternizing country until 14 May 1945. Then we moved to Neunburg vorm Wald, Germany by way of Horazdovice, Stribrne, Hory, Klatovy, and Domazlice (Czechoslovakia) and Waldmunchen and Schonthal (Germany) to become occupation troops for the Neunburg Kreis.











#### **OCCUPATION**

THE end of the war had arrived quietly for us. In almost a year of combat we had learned to take things as they came. In September 1944 when we were beginning to be veterans we had made the mistake of sharing the general enthusiasm that the war would be over in a matter of weeks. We had been disappointed then and were not to be surprised again. The battalion kept on playing the game hard from day to day and got out of the habit of listening to the news every hour on the hour. The Cannonball Courier, our battalion newspaper, carried a daily news summary.

In spite of our wariness against over-optimism, however, we began to see certain signs during the last few months that could be sanely and safely interpreted as a preview of the end. When the 11th Panzer Division surrendered to our division even the most pessimistic agreed the war would soon be over; it was.

When Prime Minister Churchill announced VE day as the 9th of May the battalion area was quiet. We went on doing our jobs. We were thankful, but many thought of the job ahead. On the 14th of May our combat job was done. We left our last firing position in Czechoslovakia and headed for our occupation zone, Neunburg vorm Wald, Germany. The day was warm and sunny. At 1920 Battery A, the lead battery of our march column, entered the town that was to be our home for some months to come. We looked around and saw a fairly large German rural community, reported to have a peacetime population of 2,500 persons. Now it was crowded with refugees and DPs of many nationalities. Many former inmates of concentration camps wandered dazedly about the streets. Many of their fellow prisoners had been shot by SS troops in the woods just outside of town. Later on, Lt. Sheely, and his CIC (counterintelligence) crew supervised decent funerals for these victims.

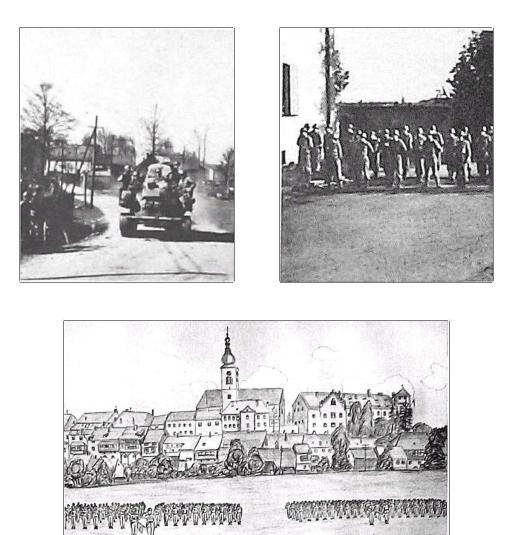
We got right to work on military government for our Kreis and found out that there was more work than we thought. During the first two weeks battery patrols brought in over 2000 PWs to the battalion PW Cage down by the town creek. It seemed as though the whole German army was on the road trying to get home before they were caught. Down the roads and through the fields they came and were caught by our patrols and road blocks.

While we pulled guard and performed our military government duties we were also making our new home livable. Battery A moved into a Gasthaus downtown. Headquarters moved into the Tax Assessor's office, and the other three batteries moved into apartment houses. Our billets were by far the best in which the 345th had ever lived. After living outdoors for so long they looked mighty good to us.

Every man in the Battalion was kept busy either cleaning up our equipment, on guard, military government, or working on the quarters. We began to see an occasional movie, and the athletic program got underway. Volleyball courts, baseball diamonds, and horseshoe pits took shape. Captain Walls and Lt. Gitchel worked hard on the I&E program, and Lt. Stanley outfitted a dark room and started developing pictures. We had acquired around 40 horses, so riding rapidly developed into a major pastime.

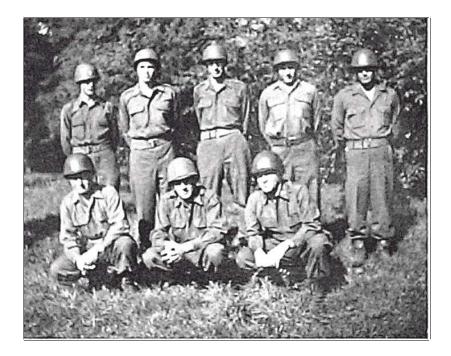
There were many things to do to keep busy, and all the while we kept reading the Stars and Stripes about REDEPLOYMENT. We did not expect to leave the outfit so we kept on with our work. By July 4th we were well established in Neunburg. Our occupational duties were routine now, and we had more time for athletics and recreation. A battalion PX had been set up under the supervision of Mr. Robertson, and we also had an Enlisted Mens club. We began buying our rations there and tasted our first coca-cola since leaving home. There was beer too, and a beer garden.

It was a blow when we started losing our old-timers and high-pointers during redeployment. On the 4th of July, Colonel Norris brought the bulk of the battalion together for the last time in the Rec hall. 1st Sgt. King of HQ Battery received the Silver Star, and several Bronze Stars were presented by the Colonel. He followed the presentation by a talk in which he bid farewell to the 79 men and 8 officers who were to leave the next day, and those who would follow them. Most of us had been together since the first, and it was a sad day for all. The Colonel wished the departing men God Speed and turned to the task ahead. The task of building a new outfit with the nucleus of those who remained. The battalion would go on and perhaps write another chapter such as this in the combat history of the 345th Field Artillery Battalion, 90th Infantry Division.



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# BATTALION STAFF 345th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION



# STAFF AT THE BEGINNING OF COMBAT

CO	LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANK W. NORRIS	TEXAS
EXEC AND S1	MAJOR ALFRED C. GUTHRIE	MO
S2	CAPTAIN DONALD J. HUCKABY	OKLA
<b>S</b> 3	MAJOR LLOYD R. SALISBURY	WASH
S4	CAPTAIN WILLIS B. HANNA	IOWA
ASST S2	2ND LIEUTENANT JAMES R. SHEELY	COLO
ASST S3	CAPTAIN LLOYD M. WALLS	TEXAS
LIAISON O	CAPTAIN JAMES S. BYNUM	TEXAS
COM O	CAPTAIN CHARLES M. DECKER III	TEXAS
MED O	CAPTAIN MITCHEL R. WEISBUCH	ILL
AIR O	1ST LIEUTENANT GRADY F. LILLY	OKLA
PER O	CWO TRAVIS C. MEREDITH	TEXAS
BN MTA O	<b>1ST LIEUTENANT JOSEPH J. THOMAS</b>	OHIO

# STAFF AT THE END OF COMBAT

CO	LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANK W. NORRIS	TEXAS
EXEC AND S1	MAJOR ALFRED C. GUTHRIE	MO
S2	CAPTAIN ARTHUR D. SWIFT	ILL
<b>S</b> 3	MAJOR JAMES S. BYNUM	TEXAS
S4	CAPTAIN WILLIS B. HANNA	IOWA
ASST S2	<b>1ST LIEUTENANT JAMES R. SHEELY</b>	COLO

ASST S3	CAPTAIN LLOYD M. WALLS	TEXAS
LIAISON O	CAPTAIN CHAUNCEY C. CALL	UTAH
COM O	CAPTAIN CHARLES M. DECKER III	TEXAS
MED O	CAPTAIN JOSEPH MINDLIN	ILL
AIR O	1ST LIEUTENANT ALLAN T. O'CONNOR	CAL
OBSVR	2ND LIEUTENANT JOSEPH A. KIEFER	PA
PER O	CWO TRAVIS C. MEREDITH	TEXAS
BN MTA O	CAPTAIN JOSEPH J. THOMAS	OHIO

#### OTHER COMBAT STAFF MEMBERS

ASST S3	CAPTAIN JOHN I. WHITE	ILL
LIAISON O	1ST LIEUTENANT B. A. MAINA	ILL

### HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

### OFFICERS

Major Grady F. Lilly, 0kla. Captain Largent C. Thompson, Tex. 1st Lt. Donald E. Gitchel, Ark. 1st Lt. Jack C. Hester, Ark. 1st Lt. Russell J. Bardee Ohio Captain, Charles M. Decker III, Tex 1st Lt. Charles J. Buysse, Mich. 1st Lt. Frank S. Hertzog, Colo. 1st Lt. Allen T. O'Connor, Cal.

### BATTERY HEADQUARTERS SECTION

1st Sgt. Harold Baker, N.J. Pfc. Jack Havens, Ala. Pvt. Augustus F. Livengood, Tex. Pfc. Frank Watkins, Tex.

### **OPERATIONS**

M/Sgt. Lyle D. Johnson, N. D. M/Sgt. Harold Warren, Ia. T/Sgt. Warren E. Markert, N. Y. S/Sgt. Steve J. Liberski, Wisc. T/4 Gerald W. Fowler, Ia. T/4 Leonard B. Zink, Mo. T/5 Warren C. Behr, Ill. T/5 Paul J. Perry, Ohio. T/5 Alexander Stepanick, Kans. Pfc. Melvin L. Hambrick, N. C. 1st Sgt. Ted G. King, Ia. Pfc. Clayton C. Fox, Tenn. Pfc. Hurley C. Moore Ark.

M/Sgt. John Polinsky, Mich. T/Sgt. Paul Mowry, Mo. S/Sgt. Dan A Bowler, Minn. S/Sgt. George A. Schuelke, Colo. T/4 Arthur J. Rau, S. D. Cpl. Donald G. Raker, S. D. T/5 John O. Cervantes, Cal. T/5 Emmett Reed, Ohio. T/5 John A. Woods, Nebr. Pfc. John E. Johnston, Jr., Md. Pvt. Samuel F. Husat, Ohio.

Pvt. Lambert S. Joel, Wash. D. C.

#### MESSAGE CENTER

Sgt. Donald E. Krug, Ia. Cpl. Arne R. Selin, Minn. T/5 L. V. Wallace, Ariz. T/4 Howard D. Blatchford, Nebr. T/5 Charles O. Tisthammer, Cal.

### SURVEY SECTION

S/Sgt. Charles W. Frye, Kans. T/5 Burnis R. Arkerson, N. C. Pfc. William D. Boone, N. C. Pfc. Quinton D. Gerdes, Nebr. Pfc. Carl Meredith, Nebr. S/Sgt. William J. Frank, Jr., Ill. T/5 Raymond J. Kulas, N. D. Pfc. Gerald D. Dabbs, Tex. Pfc. James B. Gillie, N.Y. Pfc. Irving W. Quimby, N. H.

### AIR SECTION

T/3 Albert G. Perlbach, Pa. Pfc. Leonard L. Card, R. I. Pfc. Wilson E. Rabe, Tex. T/5 Elmer G. Boecker, Colo. Pfc. John G. KIag, Ohio. Pvt. John Marchitelli, N. Y.

### **RADIO SECTION**

S/Sgt. Frederick S. Jones, Tex.
Sgt. Harry W. Smittle, Ohio.
T/4 Glenn A. Dismore, Tex.
T/4 Henry D. Lightfoot, Tenn.
T/4 Clifford A. Talbott, S. D.
Cpl. Harvey Jeff, Nev.
T/5 Joseph J. DeSantis, N. Y.
T/5 Arthur C. Jacobs, Pa.
Pfc. William P. Gillespie, Ga.
Pfc. Herman L. Latham, Tenn.
Pfc. Joseph Melnick, Pa.
Pfc. Jeffery Thomason, Mich.
Pvt. Thomas A. Penesis, Ill.

S/Sgt. Clement J. Knoll, N. D.
T/4 Charles B. Benton, Cal.
T/4 Milton Kirshner, N. Y.
T/4 Eric L. Medlin, N. C.
T/4 Isadore Spring, Del.
Cpl. William J. Okerlund, Mich.
T/5 Alfred F. Holthaus, Ohio.
T/5 John A. Patterson, Ind.
Pfc. Arren M. Hardee, S. C.
Pfc. Chester G. Malinowski, N. Y.
Pfc. James R. Moore, N. J.
Pvt. James M. Dunlop, Ida.

### WIRE SECTION

T/Sgt. Walter E. Kalley, Ohio. S/Sgt. James W. Beauchamp, Tex. Sgt. Charles J. Kortan, S.D. Cpl. Rheinhold H. Braun, N D. Cpl. John M. Wilber, Jr. Colo. T/5 Dale F. Rhone, N. D. T/Sgt. Oliver C. Roby, Ia. S/Sgt. Glenn F. James. 0kla. Cpl. Arthur Anderson, Ga, Cpl. Matthew F. White, Okla. T/5 Anthony A. George, W. Va. T/5 Elzia L. Rodden, Ida. T/5 Paul J. Romore, Ia.
T/5 Harold E. Totten, Ind.
T/5 Clinton S, Witherell, N, Y.
Pfc. William R. Edward, N. C.
Pfc. Arthnr L. Franklin, Miss.
Pfc. Vicente M. Gaoana, Jr, Tex.
Pfc. Raby J. Grimes, N. C.
Pfc. Louis A. Garrou, N. C.
Pfc. Edward F. Janiak, Mass.
Pfc. John J. Samalewicz, Mass.
Pfc. Sparks R. Shifflett, Va.
Pfc. James J, Wakeen, Mich.
Pvt. Merton N. Butts, N.Y.
Pvt. Leon A. Kisielewiski, Mass.

T/5 John J. Spear, Ark.
T/5 Alfred F. Wilkens, Minn.
Pfc. Mitchell E. Douglass, Jr. Fla.
Pfc. William C. Fellers. Tenn.
Pfc. Harrison R. Funk, Ohio.
Pfc. James M, Grady, N. B.
Pfc. LeRoy E Gallos, Ill.
Pfc. Gunther J. Gildemeister, S. D.
Pfc. Fred T. Moomau, Pa.
Pfc. Neal R. Shaffer, Pa.
Pfc. Wilburn P.Smith, Miss.
Pfc. Eugent E. Wright, Okla.
Pvt. Thomas H. Griffith, Ill.
Pvt. Cotarino Trujillo, N. M

### PERSONNEL SECTION

T/Sgt. Johnnie D. Hurst, Tex. Cpl. Donald L. Dowell, Ohio Cpl. Lawrence Kaplan, N. Y. Pvt. Frank E Morgan, Pa. T/4 Joseph F. Wicki, Kans. Cpl. Norman A. Stewart, Jr., Tex. Pfc. David C. Dempster, Mass.

### MESS SECTION

S/Sgt. Raymond L. Marcum, Tex. T/4 Lee Tan, Ariz. T/5 Joseph P. Milam, N. C. Pfc. John F, Dudley, Ala. Pvt. Louis A. Trinidad. Tex. Sgt. Henry C. Martin, Ariz. T/5 Henry W. Jones, N. Y. T/5 Louis Paulo, N. Y. Pfc. Sam Emmett, Tex.

#### SUPPLY SECTION

S/Sgt. William R. Ingalls, Minn.

S/Sgt. Jhalmer Lunde, N. D.

### MOTOR MAINTENANCE

S/Sgt. Delmar D Willard, Ore. T/4 William F. Shoemaker, Ohio T/4 Virgil O. Kelly, Kans. T/5 Albert F. Kukla, Ohio

# BATTERY A

#### HEADQUARTERS SECTION

Capt. Ralph W. Tetzlaff, Ill. Cpl. Gerald Baris, Mo. 1st Sgt. Allen E. Hughes, Okla. T/5 William F. Johnson, Wash. T/5 Victoria D. Spell, Miss.

### DETAIL SECTION

lst Lt. Edward R. Efaw, Wis.

2nd Lt. John E. Beck, Iowa

### SURVEY

S/Sgt. Lowell E. Borke, N. C. Cpl. James F. McLean, N. Y.

S/Sgt. Willard W. Cronk, Iowa Cpl. Thomas L. Sigler, Colo.

### COMMUNICATIONS

T/4 Odis T. Herndon, Jr., Tex.
T/4 Elmer E. Van Gelder, Iowa
Cpl. Lawrence B. Fauquier, Neb.
Tec. 5 Raymond C. Allen, Ill.
T/5 Clementi H. Bowman, Colo.
T/5 Ray Love, Okla.
Pfc. Quedo J. Cavalier, Ohio
Pfc. Bernard Greenthal, N. Y.
Pfc. Carl H. Kramer, Pa.
Pvt. John Barina, N.Y.
Pvt. Floyd H. Keeling, Wash.

T/4 Kenneth A. Peterson, Minn. Cpl. Richard B. Chapple, Tex. Cpl. William W. Slover, Tex. T/5 Arnie T. Boatman, Tex. T/5 John J. Egan, N. V. T/5 Joseph F. Neigowski, N. J. Pfc. Delwin H. Goddard, Me. Pfc. Armando L. Hernandez, Cal. Pfc. Harold G. Wiser, Neb. Pvt. Arthur F. Chandler, Tex.

### FIRING BATTERY

Capt. Vern Clayson, Utah

Pfc. Randall R. Lampman, Iowa

### **1ST SECTION**

S/Sgt. Kenneth R. Andre, Iowa
Cpl. James J. Ertz, Pa.
Cpl. William H. Mottesheard, W. Va.
T/5 Nick N. Holliday, N. Mex.
Pfc. Virgil L. Clausen, Iowa
Pfc. Arnold Jaffe, N. Y.
Pfc. Clifford E. Nicholson, N. D.
Pfc. Fred Schneider, Ill.
Pvt. Leonard Kazmerczak, N. Y.

Sgt. Martin Becker, Tex. Cpl. John F. Miller, Jr., Ohio T/5 Raymond C. Baker, Tex. Pfc. Steve Billas, Pa. Pfc. Raymond R. Cooper, N. Y. Pfc. Reid L. Jordan, Ga. Pfc. Jose E. Rendon, N. Mex. Pfc. Kester B. Stire, W. Va. Pvt. Robert N. Sterling, Pa.

# **2ND SECTION**

Sgt. Billy N. Landers, Okla. Cpl. Leslie O. Davis, Okla. Pfc. Arthur J. Abbate, N. Y. Cpl. Isadore Boltax, N. J. T/4 Joseph F. Foran, Kan. Pfc. Domenic J. Bertolin, Pa. Pfc. Louis H. Boysen, Tex. Pfc. Glenn M. Farwell, Pa. Pfc. Claud J. Gossett, Tex. Pfc. John T. Kennedy, Pa. Pfc. Roxie A. Mudge, S.D. Pfc. Manuel L. Navarro, Calif. Pfc. Richard E. Dake, Calif. Pfc. Zyygmund S. Yorski, Conn. Pvt. Lionel B. Dennis, Calif. Pvt. John H. Goode, Ten. Pvt. Frank J. Kalanoski, N.Y. Pvt. John N. Kutzler, Pa

#### **3RD SECTION**

1st Sgt. Burl Hodgin Okla.
Cpl. George Andriensen, Iowa
Cpl. Ben Ellis, Tex.
Cpl. Gilbert F. Glanz, Md.
T/5 John F. Hallweck, Wis.
Pfc. Victory P. Dean, Neb.
Pfc. Manuel A. Fernandez, N. Mex.
Pfc. Erwin Johnson, N.J.
Pfc. Clarence L. Knouse, Ohio

Pfc. Roy W. Lashley, S.C.
Pfc. Alvin O. Melcher, Tex.
Pfc. John Olson, Wyo.
Pfc. Theodore Plumb, Ariz.
Pfc. Jerome Ransom, Ind.
Pfc. Herberp L. Summers. Ill.
Pfc. Juan S. Vasquez, Tex.
Pvt. Michael R. Koken, Ind.

### **4TH SECTION**

S/Sgt. Elias M. Avilo, Tex. Cpl. Raymond L. Drury, Kan. Cpl. Bert E. Jacks, Ohio Cpl. Robert J. Lansing, Idaho T/5 Edward P. Kochanski, Ill. T/5 Elmer L. Vieregge, Tex. Pfc. James O. Beasley. Ky. Pfc. Ralph Blueye, Tex. Pfc. Able D. Collins, La.
Pfc. Cole B. Gaines, S. C.
Pfc. Bosilio C. Gallardo, Jr., Tex.
Pfc. Albert P. Lesikar, Tex.
Pfc. Leroy McDonald, La.
Pfc. Leo H. Slotsve, N. D.
Pvt. Robert le Cain, Mass.
Pvt. James R. Monger, Okla.

### **5TH SECTION**

Sgt. Bert H. Adoms, Tex. Sgt. Joseph W. Jackson, Jr., N. Mex. Sgt. Andrew Shunko Jr., Ohio Cpl. Clarence J. Kottsick, N. D. T/5 John E. Figaniak, Pa. Pfc. T. G. Carter, Tex. Pfc. Alfred L. Cruz, Mass. Pfc. Samuel Fleck, N. Y. Pfc. Charles E. Freeman, W. Va. Pfc. Bennie J. Gatlin, Ala. Pfc. John L. Gonzalez, Calif. Pfc. Richard F. Hartman, N. Y. Pfc. Earnest R. Honenycutt, Okla. Pfc. Homer W. Judy, Kan. Pfc. Edward F. MaMahon, Wash. Pfc. Benjamin S. Palozzolo, N.Y. Pfc. Howard T Pitts, Md. Pfc. Carl M. Pugh, Ala. Pfc. John L. Rust, Jr., Ohio Pfc. Domenic J. Salbato, Colo. Pfc. Orville D. Starnes, Colo. Pvt.. Robert R. Barkeley, S.C.

### MAINTENANCE SECTION

2nd Lt. James R. Dennis, Jr., Tex. 2nd Lt. David Lee, Ind. 2nd Lt. Peter Francis McAtee, N.Y. S/Sgt. Joseph Brault, Minn. S/Sgt. Woodrow W. Lloyd, Ark. S/Sgt. Rudolph P. Soltis, Wyo. S/Sgt. Dan Z. Topjian, Calif. T/4 Harvey C. Huddleston, Jr. Okla.
T/4 John C. Renskers, N. D.
T/4 Archie C. Smith, Tex.
T/5 Ross F. Howard, Ark
T/5 Henry F. Kominczak, Tex.
T/5 Mayton Prather, Ark.
Pfc. Leonard W. Elbrandt, Wis.

## BATTERY B

#### **HEADQUARTERS SECTION**

Capt. Arthur D. Swift Ill. Capt. Earl H. Wood, Ill. 1st Sgt. John Abraham, Iowa 1st Sgt. Perry A. Robertson, Ark. S/Sgt.Wiliam C. Beacham, N. C. Cpl. Orval P. Hanson, S. D. T/5 Thomas M. Mitchel, Tex. T/5 Mark J. D'Angelo, Pa.

### DETAIL SECTION

Lt. Frank C.Thampson, Ind. 1st Lt. Kenneth, R.LaMoe, Wis. 2nd Lt. Robert W. Grell, Pa. 2nd Lt. Joseph A. Kiefer, Pa. 2nd Lt. Hugh L McManus, La. S/Sgt. Bert H. Adams, Tex. S/Sgt. Donald C. Callahan, Ill. Sgt. Rex Bradshaw, Tex. Sgt. James C. Canady, Tex. T/4 Vernon A. Nyback Minn. T/4 Harold R. Wiles, W. Va. T/4 David N. Whitaker, Tex. Cpl. Clarence I. Sime, Wis. Cpl. Andrew S. Garnett, Va. T/4 Gerard W. Fowler, Iowa Cpl. Clifford A. Muchmore, S. D. Cpl. Richard E. Howard, Ariz. Cpl. Joseph J. McKean, N.Y. Cpl. Jerry M. Pickup, Okla. Cpl. Joseph Petruska, N.J. T/5 David C. Tyner, Va. T/5 Frank C. Pauli, N.Y. T/5 Fredrick Ruiter, Ill. T/5 Baul P. Swantkoski, Okla. Pfc. Roy E. Lee, Tex. Pfc. Isaac F. Gearhart, N.Y.

### WIRE SECTION

T/4 Paul A. Peterson Minn. T/5 Harold L. Friday, Kans. T/5 Joseph R. Cebula, N. B. T/5 Joseph Haugen, Minn. T/5 Frank W. Childers, Wy. Pfc. Norval Dixon, Ky. Pfc. Milliard J. Ryan, Calif. Pfc. Peter J. Mannella, N.Y. Pfc. Peter A. Dilosa, La. Pfc. Willie L. Schaffer, Okla. Pfc. William A. Conerty, N.Y. Pfc. Albert J. Bacon, N. Y. Pfc. Sonny S. Harjo, Okla. Pfc. Gethin T. Gibbon, Pa.

### FIRING BATTERY

#### 1st Lt. James P. Stanley, Mo.

# **1ST SECTION**

Sgt. Chelcie Parkey, Tex. Sgt. Laurence P. Staniford. Calif. Cpl. John M. Sp"nder, Iowa Cpl. John B. Hurta, Tex. T/5 James H. King, Tex. Pfc. John A. Johnson, La. Pfc. Joseph F. Vidmar, Colo. Pvt. Harry Kissig, Pa. S/Sgt. Jhalmer Lunde N. D.

S/Sgt. Herbert H. Barsons Mo. Cpl. Ernest M. Olson, N. D. Cpl. Robert L. Cuthbert, Wyo. Cpl. Joe R. Boatright, Tex. T/5 Robert R. Bullock, N. M. Pfc. Philip T. Ales, Miss. Pfc. Sam Anastas. N. Y. Pfc. Solvatore Bafuma, Conn.

S/Sgt. Michael A. Conforti, Wis. Sgt. John N. Jacquez, N.M. Cpl. Joseph E. Labate, Calif. Cpl. George W. Binion, Tex. T/5 Harold B. Madison Iowa T/5 Virgil L. Edwards, Tex. Pfc. William K. Bowers, Pa. Pfc. Angelo Cerasulo, Jr., Mass. Pfc. John Kochevar, Minn.

Sgt. Thomas L. Weir, Kans Cpl. Carlo P. Paolini, Calif. Cpl. John V. Luther, Okla. T/5 Everett T. Cagle. Okla. Pfc. Marvin J. Bohn, Mo. Pfc. Oskar M. Christensen, Wash. Pfc. William C. Coaten, Miss.
Pfc. Lew E. Gleixner, Pa.
Pfc. Clifford L. Darling, R. I.
Pfc. Juan C. Canava, Tex.
Pfc. Leo Vail, Ala.
Pfc. Ernesv W. Gripp. Pa.
Pvt. John L. Fresen, Ill.
Pvt. Louis M. Sisneros, N. M.
Pvt. Arthur Joseph, Mass.
2ND SECTION

Pfc. Anton V. Gaber, Jr., Colo.
Pfc. Robert W. Gant, N. J.
Pfc. Harold F. Gouge Tenn.
Pfc. Dilly M. Flannagan, La.
Pfc. Alcan L. Fothergill, Ohio
Pfc. Harley Lonnie, Ariz.
Pfc. Marvin D. Spencer, Ill.
Pvt. Scharles E. Weidman, W. V.

### **3RD SECTION**

Pfc. Dane W. Lamont, Ohio Pfc. Frank ft Okruhlik, Tex. Pfc. Luis A. Ortiz, N.Y. Pfc. George Pulchano, R. I. Pfc. James A. Stanton, N.Y. Pvt. Anthony Amarante Conn. Pvt. Ernest A. Miller N.Y. Pvt. Frank A. Gerlette, Pa. Pvt. Seheriano Guzman, Ind.

### **4TH SECTION**

Pfc. Haskell E. Gann, Tenn. Pfc. Leandro Fernandez, Tex. Pfc. Floyd M. Gustafson, Ill. Pfc. Francis L. Roseman N.Y. Pfc. Daniel Varchol, Pk. Pfc. Willim F. Osburn, Okla. Pfc. Agustin C. De La Rosa, Tex

Pfc. Ralph R. Catlin, N.Y.

### **5TH SECTION**

Sgt. Apolph, J. Schneider. S. D. Sgt. George J. Olivieri, Calif. Cpl. James Serdonov, Mich, Cpl. Robert J. Riggs, Tex. T/5 John P. Rhyne, Tex. T/5 Albert J. Klink. N.Y. T/5 Harold L. Woods, Mo. Pfc. Silveo Balli, Calif. Pfc. John R. Clark, Tex. Pfc. Robert L. Dennis. N. C. Pfc. Eliseo Giron, N. M. Pfc. Steve Krancz, Conn. Pfc. Melvin D. Lankford, Mo. Pfc. Melvin O. Laughlin, Idaho Pfc. James H. Wells, Mo. Pfc. Edwin R. Burrer, N. D. Pvt. John R. Nemergut, Pa. Pvt. Wesley F. Heil, Pa. Pvt. Albert Post, N.Y. Pvt. Irving Konowski, Mass. Pvt. Anselme. A. Laroche, N. H. Pvt. Angelo O. La Malfa, N.Y. Pvt. Thomas F. Kiley Mass. Pvt. Joseph T. Krawiec, N.Y.

### MAINTENANCE

1st Lt. Donald W. Clark, Tex.

### MESS

T/4 Antonio K. Garcia, N.M.
Cpl. Evans Burkett, Tex.
T/5 Wallace H. Hartje, N. D.
T/5 Norman C. Shafer, Minn.
Pfc. Antonio P. Bacanegra, Tex.

Pfc. Manuel Oliveira, Mass. Pfc. William F. Hatwig, Ark. Pfc. Billie D. Hogue, Ark. Pfc. Herman L. Smith, Pa.

# MOTOR MAINTENANCE

T/4 Carl W. Manuel, Ark.

T/5 Alfred W. Platt, Tex.

#### SUPPLY

S/Sgt. Russel C. Peirce, Nebr. Cpl. Kermit O. Maristuen, N. D. Cpl. Lewis R. Funderburg, Okla. Pfc. Gilbert G. Vasquez, Tex.

## BATTERY C

### HEADQUARTERS SECTION

Capt. Leon Crenshaw, Mo. 1st Sgt. L. C. Homesley, Tex. 1st Sgt. Marion O. Slape, Tex. T/5 Leon R. Bixby, N. Y. T/5 Jack C. Chapman, Tex.T/5 James H. Whitaker, Calif.Cpl. Woodrow W. Applegate, Tex.

### DETAIL SECTION

1st Lt. Burton K. Gulka, N.Y. 2nd Lt. Jack W. Cherry, Nebr. 2nd Lt. Charles L. Crabtree, Ill. S/ Sgt. James E. Stokes. Tex. Sgt. Vincent S. Alonzo, N. Y. Sgt. Troy V. Sims, Tex. T/4 Glen E Allen, Iowa Cpl. Otis L. Rhodes, Tex. Cpl. Edward J. Carragee, N. Y. Cpl. Kenneth S. Stephens, Nebr. T/5 Jacob D. McMorries, Tex. T/5 Joseph V. Ruiz, Calif. T/5 William E. Minderman, Nebr. T/5 Edward L. Brown, Kans. T/4 Jimmy Yazvac, Md. Pfc. Woodrow F. Bavota, Tex. Pfc. William E. Berteotti, Pa.

#### WI RE SECTION

Cpl. Emilio R. Diridoni, Calif. Cpl. Harold F. Howard, Ill. Cpl. Louie A. Palmer, Mo. T/5 Rosco P. Dowling Mo. T/5 Howard B. Brown, Wyo. T/5 Jim Holloway, Okla. T/5 Jose N. Struck N.M. Pfc. John W. Kozemczak, Pa. Pfc. Milford A. Larence, Tex. Pfc. Thomas T. Livaudias, La. Pfc. Steve S. Pienciak, N.J. Pfc. Phillip, O. Keltner, Ky. Pfc. Alfred F. Tenbush, S.D.

### FIRING BATTERY

### **1ST SECTION**

1st Lt. Edward R. Rittenbaugh, Pa.
1st Lt. Robert E. Wills, N.J.
S/Sgt. Michele B. Paolercio, N. J.
Cpl. Dewey G. Cannon, Miss.
T/5 Durward E. Minks, Minn.
Pfc. Enory F. Wagner, Mo.
Pfc. Costabile L. Cipullo, Mass.
Pfc. Edwin P. Dudenhoeffer, Mo.
Pfc. Charley B. Frye, Tenn.
Pfc. Walter J. Loyd, Okla.
Pvt. Claire W. Portor, Pa.

S/Sgt. Fredrick M. Adams, N.Y. S/Sgt. Donald J. Hitchcock, Minn. Sgt. Dick Goldston, Tex. Cpl. Teddy S. Zobeck, Mich. Pfc. Ceolo O. Maxberry, Okla. Pfc. Ramon A. Aragon, N. M. Pfc. Clemens O. Conrady, Okla Pfc. Joseph D. Forti, Kans. Pfc. Ramon N. Gonzales, N. M. Pvt. Domingo G. Rivera, Calif.

### **2ND SECTION**

1st Sgt. Lavon E. Ayres, Kans. Cpl. Robert C. Randolph, Ark. T/5 Olen O. Daugherty, Ind. Pfc. Roy J. Camp, Miss. Pfc. William H. Gowin, Wis. Pfc. Oscar Haugen, N. D. Cpl. Archie Crisp, N. C. T/5 Nanno Hienstra, Wis. Pfc. Russel M. Boselund, Utah Pfc. Ferdinand P. Civetti, Miss. Pfc. Jesse A. Chaves, Tex. Pfc. Louis J. Krantz, Colo. Pfc. Ralph O. Kushner, Conn. Pfc. Stanislav J. Suchomel. Tex.

Pfc. Andrew M. Messina, N. Y. Pfc. Lewis O. Tomlinson, Va.

#### **3RD SECTION**

Sgt. Charles A. Trimbo, Minn. Cpl. Steve J. Hrin, Pa. Cpl. Albert S. Torres, Tex. Pfc. Johnie S. Allison, Tex. Pfc. Stephen J. Galla, Conn. Pfc. Isaac M. Torres, Tex. Pfc. Lidal C. Haynes, N. C.

Pfc. Joseph A. Kowalski, Conn.

Cpl. Terrence Barry, Minn. Cpl. William E. Lavine, Tex. Pfc. Nicholas Tonkovich, Mo. Pfc. Alexander E. Wroblewski, N. Y. Pfc. Duard R. Brown, Ark. Pfc. Ernest A. Henline, W. Va. Pfc. Stanley J. Hickey, Ga. Pfc. George C. Cole, Ark.

Cpl. Walter J. Brent, Tex. Cpl. Thomas E. Steranka, Penn. T/5 Keneth A. Garner, Ind. Pfc. Eugene M. Conant, Pa. Pfc. Benoit H. LaHaye, Conn. Pfc. Steve F. Lavallie, La. Pfc. Marvin L. Jones. N. C. Pfc. Mathew W. Whittet, Conn.

#### 4TH SECTION

Cpl. Leo L. Foust, Okla. T/5 Raymond J. Cioffi, N.Y. Pfc. Ricardo Valdez, N. M. Pfc. Jim Brending, Tex. Pfc. Robert T. Harrod, Tex. Pfc. John E. Herring, Tex. Pfc. Frank S. John, N. Y.

### **5TH SECTION**

Sgt. Ralph O. Bane, Cal. T/5 Francis R. Hardcastle, Utah. Pfc. David A. Bolen. Tex. Pfc. Burton G. Gilfus, N. Y. Pfc. James G. Lumpkin, N. M. Cpl. Glen R. Peterson, N. D. Pfc. Arthur F. Schiwart, Tex. Pfc. Ellis C. Walker, Calif. Pfc. James W. Brough, Mont.

2nd Lt. Edward R. Buntain, Kans. S/Sgt. Sebastian S. Alessandro, Calif. S/Sgt. Joe E. Trinka, N. D. T/4 Clarence R. Smith, Nebr. T/4 Willie H. Berger, Tex.

T/5 John E. Trumble, N.J. T/5 Frederick O. Hodill, Penn. Pfc. Charles A. Smail, Penn. Pfc. Leonard R. Royce, Calif. Cpl. Walter J. Minucci, Ariz. Pfc. Harvey A. Klement, Wis. Pfc. Emil J. Gestel, Ill. Pfc. Charles T. Williams, N. C.

## MESS

T/5 Herman, S. Baumgartner, N. D. Pfc. Calvin Hoyle, Ariz. Pfc. Easter J. Pezzatti, Calif. Pfc. Herman J. Zoner, S.D.

# AUTOMAINTENANCE

1st Lt. Joseph C. Zufall, Ind. S/Sgt. James M. McKamy, tex. T/4 Emil E. Eisenhauer, Nebr. T/5 Frank W. Cap, S.D. T/4 Gorden L Burton, N. D. T/4 Joe W. Chanik, Tex.

### SUPPLY

S/Sgt. Winfred E. McPherson, Tex. S/Sgt. Jack Wise, W. Va. S/Sgt. Harry G. Okelly, Tex.

### SERVICE BATTERY

#### BATTERY HEADQUARTERS SECTION

Capt. Willis B. Hanna, Ia. 1st Sgt. Victor R. Meier, Calif. 1st Sgt. Stanley J. Zaorski, Mass. Cpl. Hayes W. Gyles, Tex. T/5 Hewitt A. Dardeau, Tex. Pfc. George W. Albright, Pa.

### AMMUNITION TRAIN HEADQUARTERS SECTION

1st Lt. Birdell F. Grossman, Wis. S/Sgt. Michael Mikula,, N. J. T/4 Emil Volcik, Tex. Cpl. Kenneth R. McDarment, Calif. Cpl. Rocco F. Mesite, N. Y. T/5 Steve C. Higgs, Tex. Pfc. Felipe D. Barela, N. M. Pfc. Gerald F. Knight Nebr.

### **BATTERY MAINTENANCE SECTION**

1st Lt. Langdon S. Barron, Jr., Mo. S/Sgt. Rollo O. Woods, Calif. S/Sgt. Karl F. Brehme, Mo. S/Sgt. Virgil V. Yoho, Ohio S/Sgt. Alan Espey, Tex. T/4 Adam A. Kuss, Mich. T/4 Arvid Erickson, Minn. T/4 Lee R. New, Calif. T/5 Paul A. Grefe, Kans.
T/5 Cyril A. Birkenmeier, Mo.
T/5 Paul Blatt, Pa.
T/5 Everett B. D. Tatman, Colo.
Pfc. John Bachie, Ohio
Pfc. Billy J. Byrd, Tenn.
Pfc. Lawrence J. Nemecek, Ill.

# BATTALION MOTOR SECTION

Capt. Joseph J. Thomas, Ohio M/Sgt. Francis J. Krenik, Minn. T/4 William E. Chester, Tex. Cpl. Eugend Poputz, Ohio T/5 Wilbert G. Trueman, Pa. T/5 Daniel M. Kikoski, Mass. Pfc. Herschel V. Greene, Ohio M/Sgt. Edward A. Ernst, Ia. T/3 Charles Maranich, Pa. T/4 George J. Karmazin, Nebr. T/5 Raymond C. Finegan, Ia. T/5 WaIter R. Storlie, Minn. T/5 Albert F. Kukla, Ohio. Pfc. Clarence Hackard, Ia.

#### BATTALION SUPPLY SECTLON

WO(jg) Forst L. Robertson, Mo. T/Sgt. John C. Glendinning, Colo. T/5 Elmer J. Groseth, S. D. T/5 James C. Allen, N. C. T/Sgt. Oswald J. Bernardy, Minn. S/Sgt. Donald J. Kohrs, Ia. T/5 George R. Purves, Pa. Pfc. Joel T. Tande, N. D.

### AMMUNITION TRAIN SECTIONS

Sgt. Victor Batinovich, Wash. Pfc. Joseph H. Oakes, Wash. Pfc. Edward H Berard, N. D. Pfc. Frank C. Stobnicki, N. Y. Pfc. Oscar H. Worley, Ga. Pfc. Oren V. Davis, Ark. T/5 Howard A Leffler. Tex. Pfc. Ralph B. Lee, Ohio Pfc. Robert L. Madden, Tex. Pfc. James B. Rader, W. Va. Pfc. Floyd H. Keeling, Wash. Pfc. Hurley C. Moore, Ark. Pvt. Vernon C. McCahan, Ohio T/5 Walter A. Phelps, Okla. Pfc. Benjamin Salazar, N. M. Pfc. Floyd B. Choat, Ala. Pfc. Jack G. Sims, Calif. Pfc. Ira C. Chiles, Tex. Pfc. Gaston W. Gilbert, Tex. T/5 John S. Treaster, Okla.

T/5 Lionel W. Albert, N. H. Pfc. John Lauck, Wyo. Pfc. Guy French, Ala. Pfc. John D. Steele, Wash. Pfc., Robert H. Scruby, Colo. Sgt. Archie D. Tivis, Nebr. Pfc. Edgar L. Hood, Okla. Pfc. Felipe V. Cordova, N. M. Pfc. Alva E. Kinsey, Tex. Pfc. William J. Carlson, N. D. Pfc. Earl S. Crimmins, Pa. Pfc. Douglas H. Slessor, Mich. Sgt. Orville M. Wright, Ia. Pfc. Mason B. Hamilton, N. Y. Pfc. Jean H. Chaves, Cal. Pfc. George J. Friedel, Tex. Pfc. Patrick C. Maloney, Ind. Pfc. Mike Polori, Minn Cpl. Milton R. Wells, Tex. Pfc. John F. Hoy, N. Y.

### ATTACHED MEDICAL DETACHMENT

S/Sgt. Louis J. Stevens, Minn.
T/3 Bernard C. Boullion, Minn.
T/4 Martin J. Smith, Nebr.
T/5 Raymond A. Burnham, S. D.
T/5 Owen A. Wibstad, Minn.
Pfc. Victor G. Rivas, Tex.
Pfc. Tom Settas, Mich.
T/5 George J. Eppele, Ohio

T/3 Elvin E. Betts, Nebr. T/4 Howard J. Kersey, Ohio T/4 John F. Weed, Mass. T/5 Tony J. Serra, Ill. Pfc. Immanuel B. Jones, Tex. Pfc. Herbert E. Parker, Ohio Pfc. Walter A. Wood, Minn.

### AWARDS

### DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Maj. Grady F. Lilly

1st Lt. Allen T. O'Connor

## SILVER STAR

Cpl. Edward J. Carragee Pvt. Arthur F. Chandler (Posthumous) 2nd Lt. James R. Dennis, Jr. 1st Lt. Don W. Everett 1st Lt. Burtlon T. Goulko (Posthumous) 1st. Lt. Roberrt H. Grell (Posthumous) Maj. Alfred C. Guthrie 1st Lt. Frank S. Hertzog 1st Sgt. Ted G. King 1st Lt. Allen T. O'Connor T/5 Dale E. Rhone 1st Lt. Edward R. Ritenbaugh Pfc. Gilbert G. Vasquez T/5 Elmer L. Vieregge 1st Lt. Robert E. Wills Capt. Earl H. Wood

### SOLDIERS MEDAL

Sgt. Adolph J. Schneider

T/5 Paul P. Swantkoski

### AIR MEDAL

1st Lt. Charles J. Buysse\*\* 1st Lt. Frank S. Hertzog\*\*\*\* 2nd Lt. Davip Lee\* 1st Lt. James R. Sheely Maj. Grady F. Lilly\*\*\*\*\* 1st Lt. Allen T. O'Connor\*\*\*\*\* T/3 Albert C Perlbach

Note Each\* indicates an Oak-leaf Cluster to the Air Medal

### **BRONZE STAR**

1st Sgt. John Abraham Sgt. Vincent S. Alonzo T/4 Glen Er. Alrlen Cpl. Arthur Anderson S/Sgt. Kenneth R. Andre Sgt. Elias M. Avila Sgt. Victor Batinovich\* Pfc. Woodrow F. Bovota S/Sgt. William C. Beacham\*\* 2nd Lt. John E. Beck T/3 Bernard C. Bouillon Cpl. Walter J. Brent S/Sgt. James W. Beauchamp T/5 Edward L. Brown T/5 Robert C. Bullock 2nd Lt. Edward F. Buntain Maj. Jamgs S. Bynum Pvt. William J Carlson 2nd Lt. Jack W. Cherry Pfc. Ferdinand P. Civetti Capt. Vern Clayson 2nd Lt. Charles L. Crabtree Capt. Leon Crenshaw\*\* T/5 Olen O. Dougherty Capt. Charles M. Decker, III Cpl. Emilio P. Diridoni Pfc. Norval Dixon 1st Lt. Edward R. Efaw S/Sgt. Rayymond L. Marcum Cpl. Kenneth McDarment S/Sgt. Janes M. McKamv Cpl. Joseph J. McKeon\* S/Sgt. Winfred E. McPherson T/4 Eric L. Medlin Pfc. Sam Emmett\* T/5 George J. Eppele M/Sgt. Edward A. Ernst 1st Lt. Don W. Everett Pfc. Leandro Fernandez T/5 Raymond E. Finegan Pfc. Haskell E. Gann T/5 Kenneth A. Garner T/Sgt. John C. Clendinning Pfc. Bernard Greenthal T/5 Elmer J. Groseth Maj. Alfred C. Guthrie Capt. Willis B. Hanna T/4 Odin T. Herndon, Jr. 1st Lt. Frank S. Hertzog T/5 Nanno Hiemstra S/Sgt. Donald J. Hitchcock T/5 Nick N. Holliday T/5 John F. Hollweck Pfc. Ernest R. Honeycutt Capt. Donald J. Huckaby T/5 Daniel M. Kikoski S/Sgt. Clement J. Knoll Cpl. Charles J. Kortan Pfc. Joseph J. Kowolski T/4 Adam A. Kuss Pfc. Melvin D Lankford S/Sgt. Steve J. Liberski Pfc. Harold S. Madison 1st Sgt. Victor R. Meier CWO Travis C. Meredith S/Sgt. Michael Mikula, Jr. T/Sgt. Paul Mcswry

Cpl. Clifford A. Muchmore Lt. Col Frank W. Norris\* 1st Lt. Allen T. O'Connor S/Sgt. Herbert J. Parsons\* T/5 Frank C. Pauli T/3 Albert C. Perlbach T/4 Paul A. Peterson Cpl. Joseph Petruska Cpl. Jerry M. Pickup T/4 Arthur J. Rau 1st Lt. Edward R. Ritenbaugh Pfc. Victor G. Rivas WO(JG) Forst L. Robertson T/5 Frederick Ruiter T/5 Joseph V. Ruiz Maj. Lloyd R. Salisbury 1st Lt. James R. Sheely 1st Sgt. Marion O. Slape 1st Lt. James P. Stanley\* Cpl. Kenneth S. Stephens S/Sgt. James E. Stokes Capt. Arthur D. Swift\* Capt. Ralph W. Tetzlaff\* Capt. Joseph J. Thomas 1stLt. Frank A Thompson\* Pfc. Lewis O. Tomlinson Sgt. Charles A. Trimbo Pfc. Daniel Varchol Capt. Lloyd M. Walls Sgt. Thomas L. Weir Capt. Mitchel R. Weissbuch T/4 David N. Whitaker T/5 Own A. Wibstad T/4 Harold R. Wiles Capt. Earl H. Wood Pfc. Walter A. Wood S/Sgt. Rollo O. Woods 1st Sgt. Stanley J. Zaorski

Note: Each \* indicates an Oak-Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star.

#### **BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS**

2nd Lt. John E. Beck 2nd Lt. Edward E. Buntain 2nd Lt. Jack W. Cherry 2nd Lt. Joseph A. Kiefer

### PURPLE HEART

1st Sgt. John Abraham Sgt. Vincent S. Alonzo Pvt. John F. Barina 2nd Lt. John E. Beck \* Sgt. Martin Becker Cpl. George W. Binion, Jr. Cpl. Rex Bradshaw Cpl. Walter J. Brent Pvt. James W. Brough T/5 Robert C Bullock T/5 Everett T. Cagle Capt. Chauncy C. Call S/Sgt. Donald C. Callahan Capt. Vern Clayson Cpl. Edward J Carragee T/5 Fernand C. Chassagne Pvt. william A. Conerty Cpl. Archie Crisp Capt. Charles M. Decker III Pfc. David C. Dempster 2nd Lt. James R. Dennis, Jr. T/5 Virgil L. Edwards 1st Lt. Edward R. Efaw Cpl. James J. Ertz 1st Lt. Don D. Everett T/5 Kenneth A. Garner T/Sgt. Oliver C. Roby Pvt. Charles A. Smail T/5 Alexander Stepanick S/Sgt. Louis J. Stevens Sgt. Laurence R. Standiford T/4 Clifford A. Talbott 1st Lt. Frank A. Thompson Pvt. Nicholas Tonkovich Pvt. John H. Goode Pfc. Ramron N. Gonzales Pfc. James M. Grady r1st Lt. Birdell F. Grossman Pfc. Bernard Greenthal

T/4 Odis T. Herndon, Jr. T/5 Jim Holloway Cpl. Harvey Jeff T/5 James H. King Pfc. Edward P. Kochanski Pvt. Roy W. Lashley 2nd Lt. David Lee Pfc. Herman L. Latham S/Sgt. Steve J. Liberski S/Sgt. Raymond L. Marcum T/4 Eric L Medlin T/5 Walter J. Minucci Capt Joseph Mindlin T/5 Joseph Niegowski Pfc. Herbert L. Parker T/5 John A. Patterson Cpl. Joseph Petruska Cpl. Jerry M. Pickup Cpl. Donald G. Raker 1st Lt. Edward R. Ritenhaugh\* Pfc. Victor G. Rivas 1st Sgt. Marion O. Slape T/5 Victoria D. Spell Cpl. Kenneth S. Stephens S/Sgt. James E. Stokes Pfc. Stanislaz J. Suchomel Pfc. Alfred F. Tenbush Cpl. Albert S. Torres Sgt. Charles A. Trimbo S/Sgt. Joe E Trinka Capt. Lloyd M. Walls Capt. Mitchel R. Weissbuch T/5 James H. Whitaker Pfc. Walter A. Wood Pfc. Gilbert G. Vasquez Sgt. Thomas L .Weir T/4 David N. Whitaker Cpl. John M. Wilber, Jr. T/4 Leonard. B. Zink

Note: Each \* indicates an Oak-leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart.

# FOREIGN AWARDS

CROIX DE GUERRE WITH PALM CROIX DE GUERRE with Silver Star CROIX DE GUERRE with Bronze Star Lt. Col. Frank W. Norris 1st Lt. Edward R. Flaw (posthumous) T/Sgt. Paul Mowry

# CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS, DATES AND POSITIONS

25 March 1942 The 90th Infantry Division was reactivated at Camp Berkeley, Texas. Major General Henry Terrell, Jr. was the Division Commander and Brigadier General John A. Lewis commanded the Division Artillery. Lt. Colonel Milo B. Barragan was the commander of the 345th F. A. Battalion.

7 July 1942 Col. George Shea becomes The Division Artillery Commander.

14 October 1942 Major FrankW.Norris assumes the command of the 345th F.A. Battalion. 26 January 1943 the 90th Division left Camp Barkeley for the Louisiana Maneuvers.

2 April 1943 The Division returned to Camp Barkeley from the Louisiana Maneuvers.

10 September 1943 The Division left Camp Barkeley for the Arizona – California Desert

### Maneuvers.

25 September Brig. General John M. Devine becomes the Divisien Artillery commander.

2 January 1944 the Division arrived at Fort Dix, New Jersey, from the Desert Maneuvers.

16 March Left Fort Dix for Camp Kilmer.

22 March lst Comp Kilmer, New York.

23 March Sailed for England from New York Harbor. How long will it be before we take another look at the States?

6 April Arrived in England. What a relief to get off that boat. Moved into Camp Davenport.

14 May at Camp Heath, Wales. Getting ready for the big show.

3 June Oh that hot walk that took us to the boat. All our worldly possessions that were hung and tied on us didn't exactly make the stroll a pleasure. Boarded ship. Is this another dry run?

4 June Aboard the SS Charles C. Jones and the SS Charles D Poston. What suspense.

8 June Disembarked. Moved to position near Ste. Mere Eglise, France. What a soaking we got. So this is France.

9 June Fired our first round, "B" Battery does the honors.

11 June Bombed by enemy aircraft..

17 June Moved to Amfreville. Fired a lot of interdiction.

18 June In positional Orglandes.

19 June In position at St. Sauveur Le Vicomte.

20 June "C" Battery moves to near Besneville to prevent Germans from escaping over a bridge.

22 June Nine enemy planes gave us a slight scare.

29 June Moved to Beuzeville La Bastille. Doesn't this rain never stop.

30 June Shelled by enemy artillery for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

3 July Still raining. And Noah thought he had troubles.

4 July Everyone celebrated Independence Day by firing everything at noon. Some of the celebrants' small arms fire made things a bit hot.

6 July Moved to St. Jores.

14 July Shelled by enemy artillery. Moved to Le Plessis.

16 July Took another shelling. A very small dose of our own medicine.

19 July Moved to Gorges and Durauville. Enemy artillery made this position a hot one. A few enemy planes flew over us.

28 July Moved to St. Michel De La Pierre. No rounds were fired.

2 August Moved to La Boulouze. Moved again to Le Bourget.

3 August Enemy planes drop flares near us. So much light made us feel somewhat insecure.

4 August Planes overhead. Service Battery captured 1 German officer and 4 men complete with

payroll.

6 August Moved to Commers. Truck column strafed.

7 August Moved to St. Suzzane. Fired at tanks holding up a task force. Moved again to St. Symophorien.

8 August Moved to Bernay during the morning. Fired on trapped enemy forces. Moved to Chauffeur Notre Dame at night.

9 August Moved to north edge of Le Mans. No rounds fired.

10 August "A" Battery captures 2 German soldiers. Service Battery traveled 32 hours covering 280 miles for 300 rounds of ammunition.

11 August Moved to Courcemont in the morning. To Rene in afternoon.

12 August Moved to Alencon. Enemy planes overhead at night dropped flares and bombs much too close for comfort.

13 August Moved to Colombiers.

14 August Moved to Cuissai. No rounds fired.

15 August Moved to Nonant Le Pin. Fired interdiction on enemy vehicles.

17 August Moved to another position near Nonant Le Pin. Fired 2961 rounds on vehicles and troops attempting to escape from the Falaise Pocket.

18 August Ammunition train making 3 trips per day with 19 trucks. Cannoneers, making many, many trips to guns with powder and projectiles.

19 August Fired on German convoy. Many Krauts went west to a hotter place.

22 August Moved to another position near Nonant Le Pin.

26 August Moved to assembly area near Fontainbleau. Travelled 170 miles in 12 hours.

27 August Moved to Chateaubleau.

28 August Moved to Pontoise. No rounds fired. What a welcome the French were giving! We nearly drowned in wine.

29 August Moved to rendezvous near Charmel. Moved on to Venteloy.

30 August Moved to Cormicy. No shootin' just chasin'.

1 Sept. Moved to Boult-Sur-Suippe. Still Chasin'!

5 Sept. Moved to Eton. Traveled 116 miles. Saw some famous World War I battle sites. Start shooting again. Urged some Krauts out of town.

7 Sept. Moved to Anoux, NW of Briey. Made our presence known.

10 Sept. Moved to Mancieulles. Moved again to Lommerange.

11 Sept. Moved to Neufchef. Fired on Marspich. Col. Earnest A. Bixby becomes Division Artillery Commander.

12 Sept. Moved to Marspich. Fired on Guenange and Barth Range.

14 Sept. Moved to Montois. "C" Battery at Veymerange, attached to the 344th F. A. Battalion.

15 Sept. Moved to Verneville. Hired on Forts Jeanne D'Arc. Lorraine and Driant.

27 Sept. "C" Battery moved to Malancourt. "A" and "B" Batteries at Ne Montois. Fired on Maizieres, St. Remy, Bertrange, and Blettange.

10 Oct. American Red Cross Clubmobile visited us. It had been a long time since we had seen American girls.

The firing batteries spent October at Malancourt. Headquarters and Service Batteries were at Montois. In holding positions reinforcing fires of the 343rd F. A. Battalion. Formed and used a "D" Battery of three 10.5 cm German guns.

25 Oct. "B" Battery moved to Rombas.

1 Nov. Moved to Avillers. Service and "C" Batteries moved to Haucourt La Regal. Intermission.

6 Nov. Moved to Boust. Service at Volmerange. Everything was secret. Supported Infantry crossing of the Moselle. Reducing Fort Koenigsmaker.

12 Nov. Moved to Garche. Headquarters and Service stayed at Boust.

14 Nov. Crossed Moselle River on a pontoon bridge. Went into position at Koenigsmaker. Headquarters Battery took 2 German prisoners.

17 Nov. Moved to Valmestroff. Fired on Metzeresche and Homburg.

18 Nov. Moved Iv Metzervisse. Then to Alstroff and finally to Vigy.

19 Nov. Moved to Laneauville. Only fired registration. Metz surrounded.

20 Nov. "C" Battery takes 11 prisoners. "B" Battery takes 10 prisoners including 1 captain.

23 Nor,. More rain and more mud.

25 Nov. Moved to Grindorff. Harassed and interdicted enemy artillery.

28 Nov. Fired 70 rounds on distraction mission to cover noises of building bridges across an antitank ditch.

29 Nov. Moved to Oberesch, Germany. Shelled again. Headquarters got a close one. Entered The Fatherland.

3 Dec. Moved to Gerlfange. Fired on targets across the Saar River.

4 Dec. Moved to Guisingen. No firing; observed secrecy.

6 Dec. Supported Infantry Crossing of the Saar River. We did our part in wrecking Dillingen.

22 Dec. Moved to Betting, France; went into a holding position.

25 Dec. Our dreams of a White Christmas came true. But this one was in France instead of America. May it be the last one away from home.

6 Jan. Left Betting, France and started that cold night march to the Ardennes Campaign.

7 Jan. Early in the morning we arrived at Tontelange, Belgium; did a bit of resting. In the afternoon we continued traveling to Bonnal, Luxembourg.

The trip had covered 77 miles of icy roads. The tractors had come in a separate column. They had skidded up.

12 Jan. Moved to Bavigne, Luxembourg, fired on Bras, Grummelscheid, and Bohey.

13 Jan. Moved to Tarchamps, Luxembourg, Headquarters at Harlange; Service at Rambrouch.

16 Jan. Moved to Wardin, Belgium. Fired interdiction and on counterattacks.

21 Jan. Moved to Neiderwampach, Luxembourg. Fired on self propelled guns.

22 Jan. Moved to Hamiville, Luxembourg, moved again to Stockem.

25 Jan. Moved to Binsfeld. Fired on nebelwerfers, mortars and towns.

28 Jan. Moved to Weiswampach. Interdiction fires.

31 Jan. Moved to Bracht, Belgium.

5 Feb. At 0115 the 50,000th 155 mm. round was fired by the first section, "C" Battery on an interdiction mission. Moved to Winterscheid, Germany.

10 Feb. Moved to Bleialf. Fired on tanks and infantry.

11 Feb. Moved to Brandscheid. Fired on enemy OP's and horsedrawn vehicles.

19 Feb. Moved to Habscheid. Preparation fires.

22 Feb. Moved to Nieder Uttfeld. Had 2 direct hits on enemy tanks and destroyed many vehicles.

25 Feb. Moved to Eigelscheid to a bivouac area. Cleaned equipment and had a physical (a parade for the doc). Corps reserve.

3 March Moved to a position near Eilscheid. Service at Pronsfeld.

4 March Moved to Wetteldorf and then on to Seiwerath.

6 March Moved to Eigelbach. Moved to Hinterhausen.

7 March Moved to Gees.

9 March Moved to Gelenberg.

10 March Moved to Kurrenberg.

12 March Moved to Bassenheim. Moved again to Gierschnach.

14 March Moved to Metternich.

15 March Moved to Hatzenport.

16 March Moved to Mermuth.

17 March Moved to Norath. Supported a cavalry group.

19 Marsh Moved to Bichtelbach. Moved again to Zotzenheim.

20 March Movpd to Worstadt. Moved again to Udenheim.

21 March Moved to Klein Winternheim. Fired on ferry, and tugboats on the Rhine River.

22 March Moved to Drais.

23 March Moved to Dienheim. Across the Rhine River on a pontoon bridge. Sweated out enemy planes, ack-ack fire and artillery. Want a relief to leave this position.

25 March Moved 3 times. To Wolfskehlen to Weiterstadt and finally to Erzhausen.

26 March Again we moved 3 times. To Egelsbach, Gotzenhain, and Heusenstamm. Knocked out 2 AA guns, destroyed 2 artillery pieces and set fire to a flak tower.

27 March Moved to Lammerspiel. Fired in support of the Main River crossing operation.

28 March Moved to Mittelbuchen. No firing done.

29 March Moved to Heldenbergen. No firing done.

30 March Moved to Enzheim, Bergheim and finally to Merkenfritz helping guard the division right flank.

31 March Moved to Shlitz (just the name made us homesick for a taste of an American beverage of the same name). Moved on to Queck.

2 April Moved to Neukircken. Convoy was strafed. Moved again to Eromannrode and finally to Ausbach.

3 April Moved to Unterbreizbach. The 537 AA A gets on enemy plane as it flies over the battalion area.

4 April Moved to Dorndorf. "B" Battery convoy shelled. Moved to Leimbach and finally to Allendorf.

5 April Moved to Bad Liebenstein.

6 April Moved to Bernbach.

7 April Moved to Zella Mehlis. Helped repel a counterattack.

8 April Moved to Heidersbach.

9 April Moved to Gehlberg. The battalion gets shelled heavily. "B" Battery displays heroism and several earned Bronze Stars. Several had Purple Hearts forced on them.

10 April Moved to Stutzerbach. Fired on Ilmenau, Gehren, and Roda.

11 April Moved to Gehren.

12 April Moved to Mankenbach. Then over the mountains to Volkmansdorf.

13 April Moved to Schlaga. Moved again to Burglemnitz.

14 April Moved to Ebersdorf.

15 April Moved to Frossen.

16 April Moved to Gefell and then on to Krebes.

17 April First shot fired into Czechoslovakia.

18 April Moved to Haidt and to Doberlitz.

19 April Moved to Kuhschwitz, Pilgramsreuth, and Schonwald.

20 April Moved to Ober Weissenbach. Moved again to Thiersheim.

21 April Moved to Brand and Hoflas.

22 April Moved to Grossen Sterz. Snow.

23 April Moved to Schonbrunn. Rain. Fired on fortified towns.

24 April Moved to Pleystein. Snow. Fired on enemy machine guns.

25 April Moved to Eslarn and Hannesried. Fair weather; the impossible had happened.

26 April Moved to Schmitzdorf, Zifling and to Runding.

27 April Fired on Beckendorf, Arndorf. Moved to Gehstorf, Niederndorf and Grub.

28 April Moved to Madersdorf. "B" Battery takes 10 prisoners. "C" Battery engages in a fire fight with some Krauts. It fires direct fire into a woods filled with Germans at the range of 600 to 800 yards. 1 SS Officer Kaput. Takes 198 prisoners.

29 April "A" Battery to Neukirchen. Returns to Madersdorf during the day. "B" Battery took 6 prisoners.

30 April Snow. 311 prisoners of War had been taken by or surrendered to the battalion during the month.

1 May Snow Fired on Seugnhof and Neu Aign, Germany.

2 May Moved to Schafberg. Snow. Fired on enemy strong points.

4 May Rain Fired on enemy vehicles, self propelled guns, tanks and artillery.

5 May Moved to assembly areas. "A" Battery at Traidersdorf, "B" and "C" Batteries at Barndorf; Headquarters at Wolkersdorf, Service at Hofern. Then moved to Paseko, Czechoslovakia. Traveled 71 miles.

6 May Moved to Kasperske Hory. Fired on Seckerberg.

7 May Moved to Draznovice (Drazowitz). At 0930 authentic information received that Germany had unconditionally surrendered to the Allies at 0241. Surrender to become official at 090001.

10 May Moved to Resanice. In a defensive position.

11 May Col. Charles A. Pyle takes command of The 90th Division Artillery.

14 May Moved to Neunburg, Germany and Occupation area. Traveled 88 miles.

18 May Moved into garrison. Start cleaning equipment, resting and being a part of the army of occupation.

8 July Many of our old buddies and 88 pointers leave us for demobilization units. Many new friends step into their places.