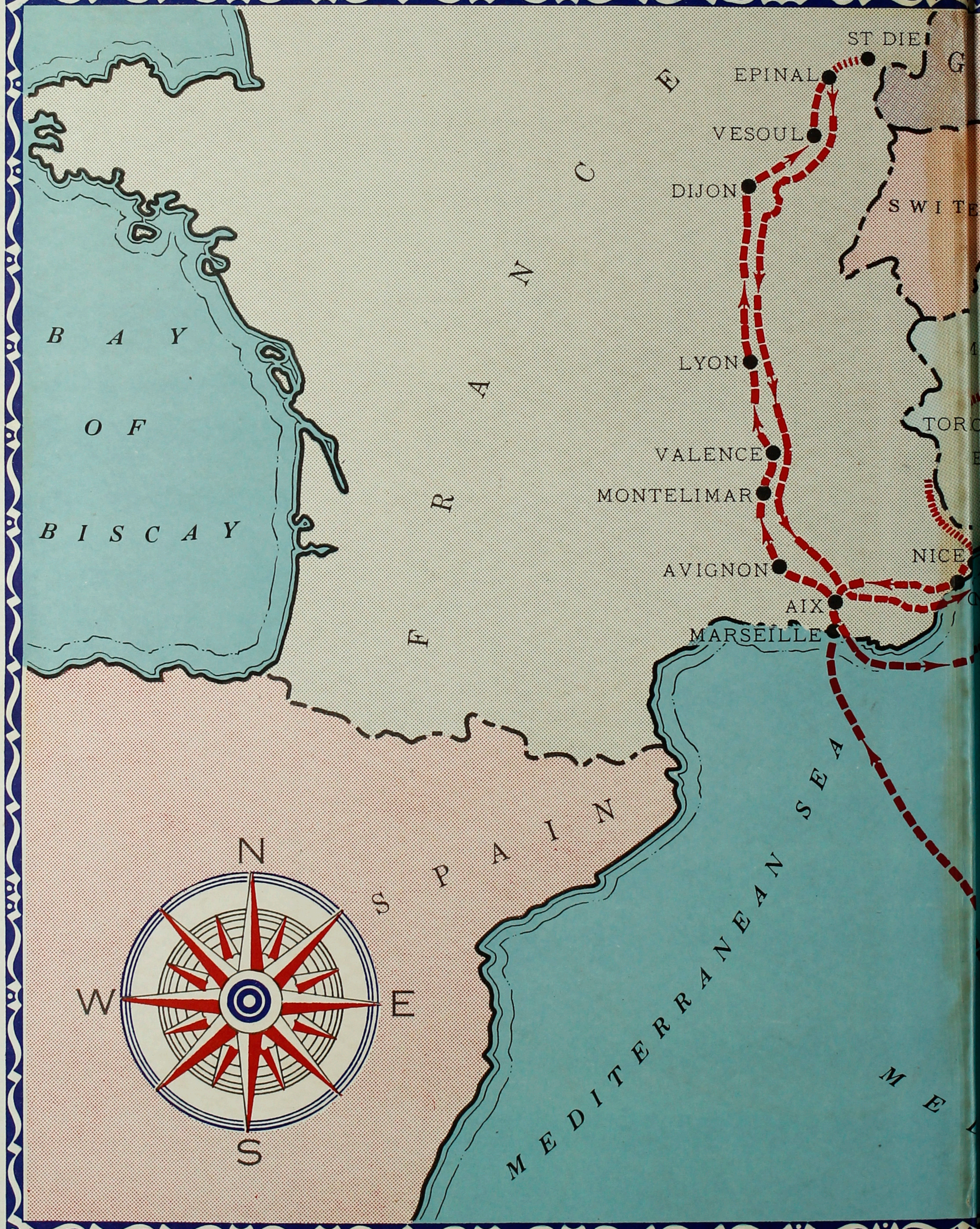
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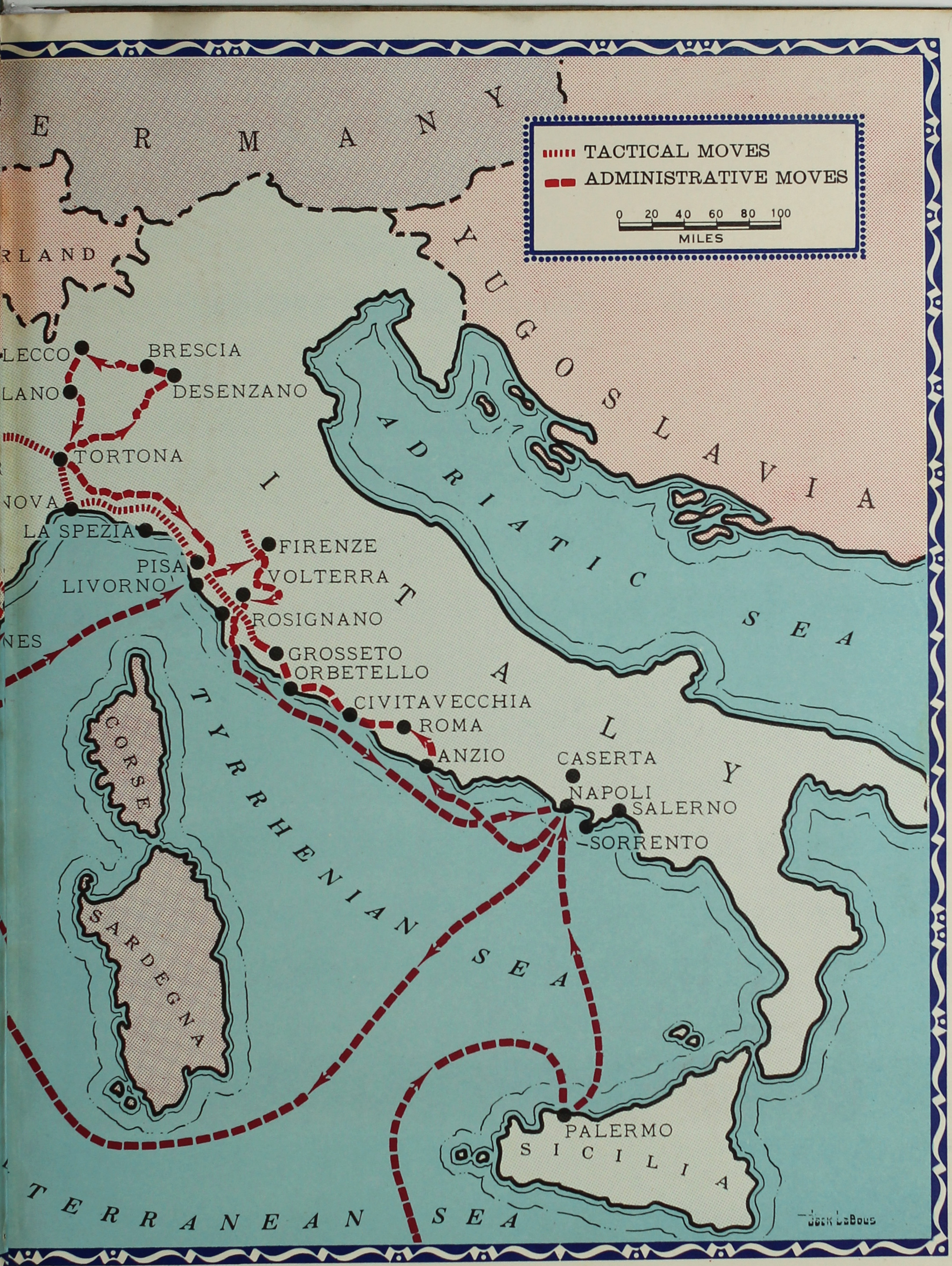
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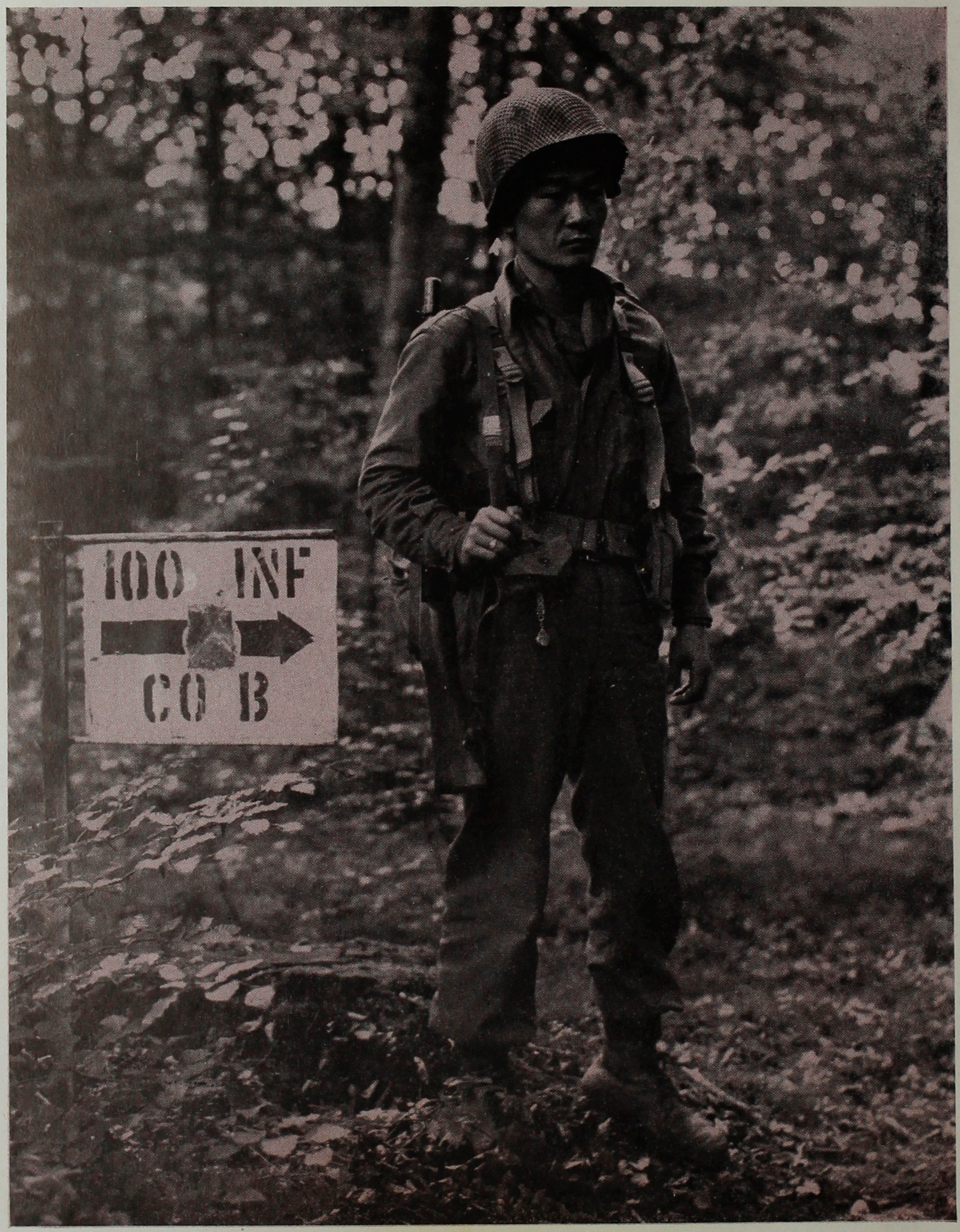
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AMERICANS

The Story of The 442d Combat Team

By

ORVILLE C. SHIREY

WASHINGTON
INFANTRY JOURNAL PRESS

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TO THE NISEI, WHO HAVE ASKED ONLY FOR THE RIGHT
TO BE CALLED AMERICANS, NOT JAPANESE-AMERICANS
THIS STORY IS DEDICATED

THEY HAVE RICHLY EARNED THE RIGHT

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INTRODUCTION

THIS is the story of the 442d Regimental Combat Team. We have taken up the activation of the unit, its training, and finally its participation in combat. We have dwelt briefly on the motives behind its activation and on some of the problems these Japanese-Americans were forced to face in their effort to prove themselves worthy of being called simply "Americans." In the truest sense of the word, this is not a history. We have not sufficient perspective in time to evaluate carefully and fully the contribution of the 442d Combat Team to victory over the German armies and to the general welfare of Japanese-American citizens. Neither have we sufficient written data to insure the absolute accuracy of many minute details in the battle reports which make up a large part of this volume. In the heat of battle, especially among small units, almost nothing is written down. As a result, many of the stories of outstanding actions of individuals and small units come from memory, capricious at best and often made more so by the din and confusion of infantry combat. Records have been lost and destroyed by explosion and fire; units and individuals have been transferred. Being a small unit, we have never been able to afford the luxury of a full-time historian or photographer. The foregoing, however, is explanation rather than apology. The record of these men speaks for itself. The Nisei, as individuals and as a unit, rank with the greatest soldiers who ever served their country in time of war. They had faults, as every soldier has, but no single voice was ever raised to question their ability or gallantry on the field of battle.

Material for this volume has come from a wide variety of sources. We have taken data from the regimental journal and operations log. Members of the staff have gone to the battalions and companies of the Combat Team to collect detailed information on some of the outstanding engagements in which the unit participated. Many of the anecdotes come from the diaries and personal recollections of the men. Our source material on citations and decorations is culled from the general orders awarding the official citations. We also quote from commendations given to the unit by the Division and Army commanders under whom it served.

Most of this book deals with the combat operations of the 442d Combat Team. We have gone through the training period briefly, certainly not in proportion to its importance and the emphasis it deserves. We have also dealt briefly with the intricacies and confusion of overseas movement. But, since all of this was only a prelude to the final mission of every infantry unit, we feel justified in reserving the larger part of our space for the battle activities of the Regiment.

The units that went to make up the 442d Combat Team were the 442d Infantry Regiment, the 522d Field Artillery Battalion, the 232d Combat Engineer Company, and the 206th Army Ground Forces Band. We regret that we have been unable to present a complete picture of the magnificent contributions which the artillery and engineers made to the victories of the Combat Team. However, it is the job of both of these branches to support the advance of the infantry or to back up its defense. To show either of them as functioning apart from the basic infantry regiment would be a gross distortion of the true picture. Therefore as we traced the advance of the 442d Infantry Regiment we have endeavored to show the artillery, the engineers, and at times the band, not in a subordinate, but in a supporting role, thereby giving the reader the correct perspective of a combat team in action.

O.C.S.

AMERICANS

THE STORY OF THE 442d COMBAT TEAM

CHAPTER 1

ACTIVATION AND BASIC TRAINING

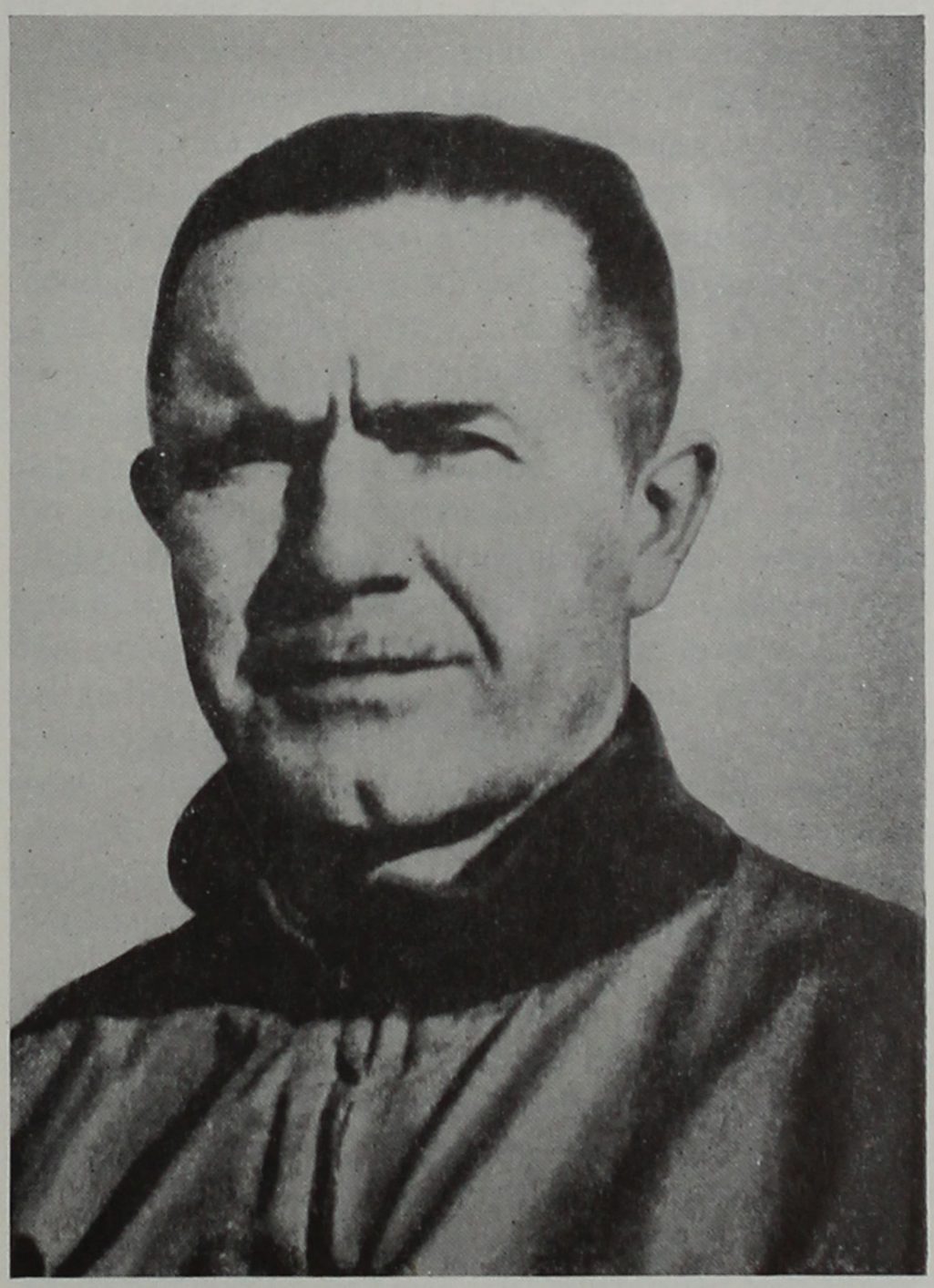
THE story of the 442d Combat Team begins in the early days of January 1943. At that time considerable agitation was taking place to permit loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry to bear arms in the service of their country. There were still Japanese-Americans in the Army, holdovers from the early draft, but with the outbreak of war they had been relegated to post exchange counters and other service command installations. They had been denied further training as combat troops and the right to bear arms. However, on January 22, 1943, the War Department directed by letter that a Japanese-American Combat Team should be activated on February 1, and should be composed of the 442d Infantry Regiment, the 522d Field Artillery Battalion and the 232d Engineer Combat Company.

Of this step Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States, said:

> The proposal of the War Department to organize a combat team consisting of loyal American citizens of Japanese descent has my full approval. No loyal citizen of the United States should be denied the democratic right to exercise the responsibilities of his citizenship, regardless of his ancestry. The principle on which this country was founded and by which it has always been governed is that Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart; Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry. A good American is one who is loyal to this country and to our creed of liberty and democracy. Every loyal American citizen should be given an opportunity to serve this country wherever his skills will make the greatest contribution—whether it be in the ranks of our armed forces, war production, agriculture, government service, or other work essential to the war effort.

In accordance with these orders the 442d Combat Team was activated February 1, 1943, by General Orders, Headquarters Third Army. Colonel Charles W. Pence took command, with Lieutenant Colonel Merritt B. Booth as executive officer. Lieutenant Colonel Keith K. Tatom commanded the 1st Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel James M. Hanley the 2d Battalion, and Lieutenant Colonel Sherwood Dixon the 3d Battalion. Lieutenant Colonel Baya M. Harrison commanded the 522d Field Artillery, and Captain Pershing Nakada commanded the 232d Engineers.

From the 1st to the 15th of February the cadre, both officer and enlisted, arrived from every conceivable part of the United States. The men took one look at the section of Camp Shelby, Mississippi, they were to occupy, and set up a howl that rattled the windows in the Pentagon Building. The area was one of those temporary constructions that had been built at Shelby to house the overflow from one of the many divisions that had been there in 1942. To the unhappy eyes of the men who were to live there, the buildings looked like one huge draft sur-



Colonel Charles W. Pence, Combat Team Commander

Men spent most of their time huddled around hutment stoves

rounded by a few boards. The roofs leaked, doors hung on one hinge. In the kitchens the weight of long-unused stoves caused the flooors to sag until they looked more like washboards than floors. When the rains came the ground took on the general consistency of glue and part of the area reverted to the swamp from which it had originally been reclaimed.

The cadre pitched in to work, spending part of its time on instruction and part on reconstruction of the area. Under the supervision of the officers the noncoms relearned the function and uses of infantry weapons, studied small-unit tactics, marched, ran compass courses through the dark forests at night, and brushed up on the thousand and one things that a recruit must know before he becomes a soldier. When training was over for the day they became carpenters, mechanics, chimney sweeps, ditch diggers, plumbers, and landscape gardeners. They worked hard to make the area presentable for the new men who were even then volunteering and being sworn in in Hawaii and relocation centers in the United States.

This work went on until April 13, when 2,686 brand new enlisted men from the Territory of Hawaii, cream of almost 10,000 men who had volunteered for service there, arrived at Camp Shelby to learn to fight for their country. They arrived at their new home on trucks, convoy after convoy of khaki-clad youngsters, shivering in one of the unseasonable cold snaps that infest Mississippi in April.

During the days it took to process their records and assign them to companies and batteries, the new GIs spent most of their time sitting around their hutment stoves. They wrapped themselves in overcoats, blankets, and the warmest clothes they had, and wondered what on earth was going to happen next. When the cold finally broke, what a change! The area was jammed with brown, grinning little men running happily around in the warm sun and very little else. Nobody was wearing shoes, and very few of the men were wearing anything but a pair of rolled-up khaki shorts.

When the men arrived, they were loaded with money, most of which had been earned on construction jobs while the country was bolstering its Pearl Harbor defenses. When their officers found out about the staggering sums some of the men carried, they urged them to bank it or invest it in War Bonds. And invest it they did, to the tune of $101,500. Meanwhile, additional new men were arriving in small groups from different parts of the United States, some coming in before basic training started on May 10.

Basic training was hectic for these new soldiers, as it is for every new soldier. Heads buzzed with military courtesy and discipline, close-order drill, manual of arms, and the nomenclature and functioning of all the weapons that make the present-day infantryman a walking arsenal. Slowly they learned to hit the ground, to take advantage of every fold in the earth and every bush for cover and concealment, to work as squads and sections. Muscles hardened, backs straightened, and civilians became men who lived war and thought war. Relations with civilians and other soldiers were not always easy. Most of the men on the post and the inhabitants of nearby towns accepted the Nisei for what they were and for the job they had undertaken without a second thought. But there were the inevitable few who screamed to the high heavens about the "damned Japs." As surely as one of them opened his mouth he found a hard brown fist in it, for the one thing these men would not tolerate was to be called "Japs." They lived as Americans, thought as Americans; they had traveled thousands of miles to learn to fight for their country, and now they asked only to be treated as equals.

Next door to the infantry, the 522d Field Artillery and the 232d Engineers were learning the same things, the fundamentals of soldiering. But they were learning, too, to ply their trades. The redlegs

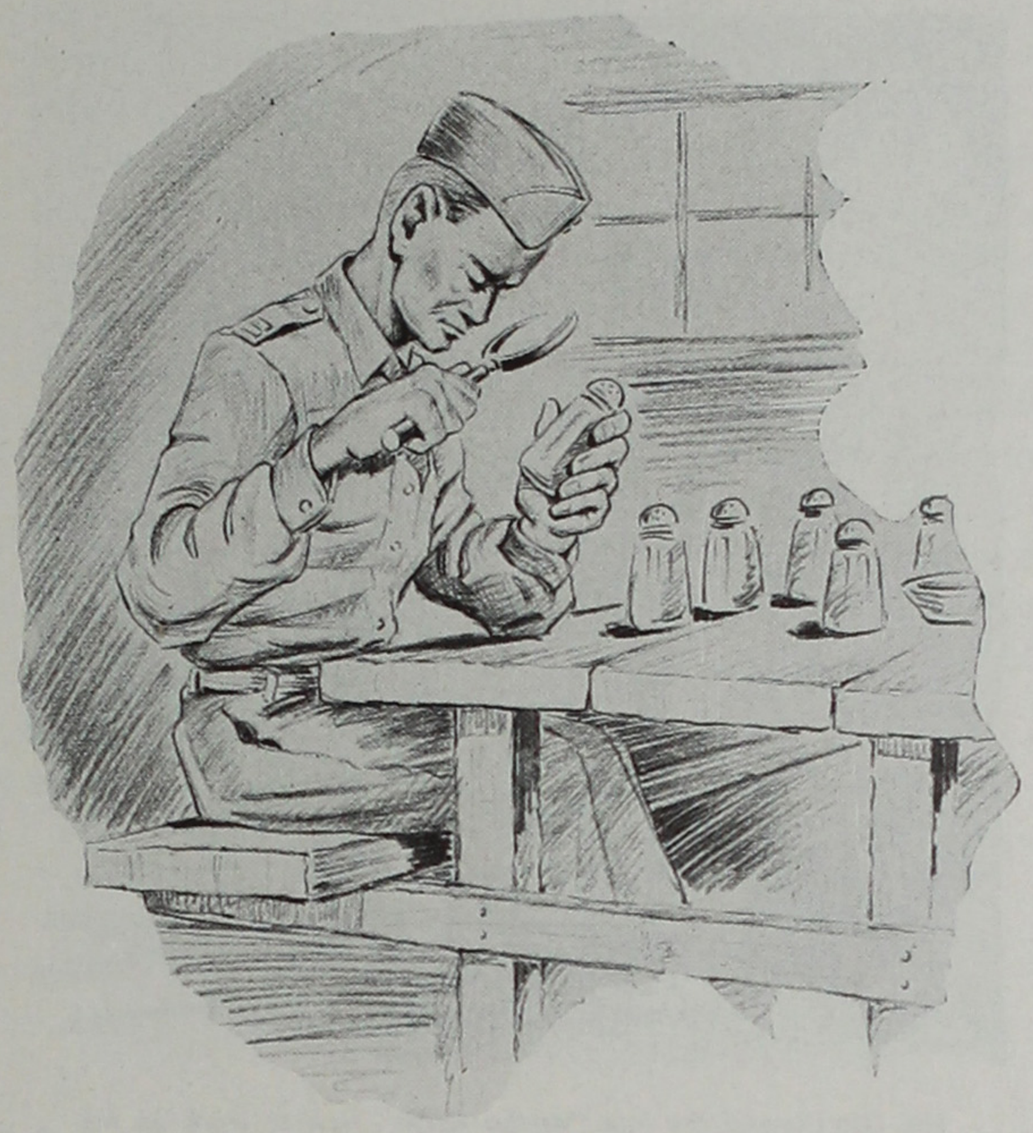
spent long, weary hours with their 105mm howitzers going into action and out of action till they were blue in the face; learning to serve the piece; learning the fundamentals of fuze and trajectory, observation and range. The engineers played dangerous games with high explosives, building bridges and blowing them up, building roads where there had been no roads before, operating their powerful machines.

Weather was not always kind to the Combat Team. During the days that qualification courses were being fired on the rifle ranges rain poured down in sheets, obscuring the targets and soaking men and guns so thoroughly as to impair the functioning of both. In spite of this the regiment qualified ninety-seven per cent of its men and officers on the small-arms ranges.

First of the high-ranking officers to inspect the fledgling Combat Team was Lieutenant General Ben Lear. General Lear was not pleased with what he saw. However, his inspection had come on June 1, some twenty days after the beginning of basic training, so no one was unduly alarmed, but the men and officers redoubled their efforts to whip the unit into shape. On the 20th of June, Lieutenant Colonel Booth departed for an assignment with the War Department and Lieutenant Colonel Virgil R. Miller was appointed executive officer.

On July 7 a new company was added to the Combat Team. Company S, as it was designated, was made up of Japanese-Americans from the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage, Minnesota. These young men had been brushing up on their Japanese, and had now joined the Combat Team to brush up on the fundamentals of warfare before they left for the Pacific to act as interrogators, translators, and interpreters in units fighting there.

August 23 saw the end of basic training for the majority of the Combat Team, although small groups of new men continued to come in from relocation centers. These men were assigned to companies but they took most of their training with a recruit detachment. This unit had been set up especially to bring late arrivals up to the proficiency of the rest of the unit by feeding them their basic in concentrated doses. Third Army testing teams worked from August 23 to 28 to determine the results of basic training in the Combat Team. After a strenuous week of speed marches and small-unit problems under a boiling sun, quizzes on everything from military courtesy to the nomenclature of the gas mask, and microscopic inspections of kitchens, barracks, and supply rooms, the unit rated "Excellent" in physical fitness and "Very Satisfactory" in all other departments.



Inspectors searched for thumbprints on salt shakers

One inspector, for reasons known only to himself, spent a great deal of time searching carefully for thumbprints on salt and pepper shakers. Another, in giving the men theoretical situations to meet, always asked them what they would do if they were commanding a squad and German paratroopers started landing on West Drill Field (about 800 yards from where the quiz was given). One soldier (who shall be nameless) snapped to rigid attention and replied, "Sir, I t'ink I lay off the stuff for awhile." This soldier was most unpopular with his company commander for some time thereafter.

There was still time for fun, and time for the men to make a great name for themselves in athletics. A regimental swimming team went to New Orleans the 24th of August and came home with enough gold medals and watches to last a lifetime, plus the Southern AAU team championship. A little later on the regimental baseball team took the Camp Shelby post championship against the best the 69th Division and a great many smaller units could offer. Some of the men created minor sensations on South-

The GIs showed the late "Afrika Korps" how to work an M1

ern sport pages by finishing well up among the leaders in more than one golf tournament, playing barefooted. They were also great hands at barefoot football, which either strengthens the toes or fractures them.

For those who confined their athletics to elbow exercises New Orleans was handy for three-day passes. After basic training the men took furloughs to New York, Chicago, Washington, Baltimore and points north, east, south, and west. Some of the Nisei headed west to try to settle family affairs which had become confused in the evacuation, but the results were disappointing.

No story of the 442d Combat Team would be complete without some mention of Earl Finch, self-appointed godfather of every man in the unit. Early in the war Mr. Finch began entertaining servicemen from Camp Shelby and the nearby Gulf ports on his cattle ranch near Hattiesburg, Mississippi. When the Combat Team first arrived at Camp Shelby, he met two or three of the men and casually invited them to have dinner with him. From that beginning grew a deep and abiding friendship. The men liked Earl Finch and he liked them. He entertained hundreds of Nisei soldiers on his ranch. He arranged dances and entertainment for them, gave them parties at the best hotels in New Orleans. He helped them arrange for furloughs in all parts of the United States. When the 442d Combat Team went overseas and the wounded began coming back, Earl Finch traveled thousands of miles to different hospitals to see them; when they were out on convalescent furloughs, he got groups of them together for parties. As the Relocation Centers closed, Mr. Finch helped many of the former members of the Combat Team to get their families settled. He has given unsparingly of himself, his time and his money to Japanese-American soldiers everywhere and they are deeply grateful.

Just as the regiment started into unit training, some of the lessons bought and paid for in men and equipment in North Africa were being translated into changes in Tables of Organization in the States. A Cannon Company made up of six light, truck-drawn, 105mm howitzers was activated. These stubby, powerful little guns gave the regimental commander his own artillery which he could use when the 522d was firing another mission or needed additional support. It could also shoot through the 522d's Fire Direction Center as an extra firing battery. Captain Edwin R. Shorey took command of the company and began to train it.

Meanwhile orders had come in for the Regiment to furnish guards for 500 Germans, late of the *Afrika Korps,* who were going to harvest the Ala-

Gun crews learned dexterity that paid off in Italy and France

bama peanut crop. Some men wondered audibly whether the Combat Team had been activated just so some Krauts could go to Alabama and pick peanuts. However, it turned out to be a necessary and not wholly undesirable job. The oils were vitally needed in the war effort, and the men had a chance to break the monotony of the training routine. They learned a little about soldiering from watching the prisoners, too, for these Jerries had been Hitler's pride and joy, the best of the spit-and-polish soldiers.

But they were still *Wehrmacht;* you couldn't convince them that one of these days their buddies weren't going to come swinging in and turn them loose from their wire cages.

By the middle of October the job was done, the men had said goodbye to their new friends in Alabama and started home in long convoys of trucks piled high with men and equipment.

On October 21 Mr. John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, and Colonel William P. Scobey, his executive officer, both of whom had been instrumental in securing the activation of the Combat Team, made a tour of the area. Both men expressed great pleasure at the progress the men had made in training and predicted a great future for them in battle. This comment heartened the men immeasurably, for they had been hoping for some assurance that they would eventually have a chance to prove themselves somewhere other than in the "Battle of Hattiesburg."

CHAPTER 2

UNIT TRAINING

BASIC training was over; now began the even harder task of welding the combat team into a single fighting unit. The men knew their weapons; they knew how to take advantage of cover; they could find their way long distances on the blackest night; they had worked together as squads on small problems. It remained to make platoons out of squads, companies out of platoons, and battalions out of companies. During basic the GIs finished their training and came back to a hot shower, a hot meal, and a warm if not always comfortable bed. Unit training would wean them away from this, enable them to live in the field for long periods, to endure cold, rain, inadequate blankets, to keep going even if they missed a meal or a night's sleep.

Platoon and company training began about October 20 and ended a month later. During those weeks casual observers would have found small units of Nisei charging through the alternate sand hills and swamps of Mississippi in pursuit of an enemy represented by a few targets or some of their less fortunate comrades armed with blank ammunitions. The men learned the principle of fire and movement; one squad or one platoon laying down the fire to keep the enemy pinned to the ground while other elements circled to his exposed flank or rear to drive in and destroy him at his weakest point. They came in contact with the theory of economy of force: throw your greatest strength at the weakest point in the enemy line rather than hammer at his strong point. Always keenly interested in the "why" of things, the soldiers recognized these principles, among the oldest in warfare, as sound. They practiced them religiously, knowing that they might some day mean the difference between life and death on a battlefield.

Among other things the lads from Hawaii had never seen were snakes, in which the South abounds. Some adventuresome soul was forever throwing the bivouac into an uproar as he came wandering in with a snake of some description. The worst of these were the coral snakes, one of America's smallest, deadliest, and most beautifully colored snakes. When the men could catch and kill them they liked to preserve them in bottles of alcohol because they were so pretty.

By the middle of November the weather had turned wet and cold, which was especially hard on the Hawaiians, used to a very temperate climate the year round. By this time, however, they were hardy soldiers so they bundled up in everything they owned and went on with the job. At the moment the job was learning to operate with the heavy weapons and depend on them. Each rifle company learned to go as far as it could on its own considerable firepower and then call on the heavy mortars and machine guns to blast the enemy loose from his positions.

In the headquarters companies the wire men and radio men were learning their trade, keeping communications open under the worst possible conditions, laying wire as far forward as it would go and then relying on radio. Antitank Company and the battalion antitank platoons ranged far and wide as they defended the regiment's flanks from hordes of imaginary *Panzer* units. They found out that they couldn't always get to the best position on a truck, so they swore and manhandled the heavy 57s into positions they could defend. Service Company was getting acquainted with the problems of supplying a scattered regiment in the field, complicated by changes without notice coming every hour on the hour. Cannon Company, a late starter, was still learning the intricacies of baby howitzers.

While this was going on the 522d Field Artillery was on the field ranges day in and day out, rain or shine, perfecting techniques of fire. Both officers and enlisted men trained as forward observers, a practice which later paid big dividends when forward-observer casualties were heavy. The gun crews learned the dexterity which paid off in thousands of rounds which later blasted a path for the advance of the infantry in the hills of France and Italy. The battalion fire direction center learned to coordinate its three firing batteries, and tie in the battalion's fire with that of other artillery units.

On the completion of this phase of training Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, Chief of the vast Army Ground Forces machine, made an inspection of the Combat Team, arriving November 22. The following day, the infantry swung into battalion training, and on the 24th, the 522d Field Artillery, having exhausted the possibilities of Camp Shelby,

swung south to participate in the Louisiana maneuvers.

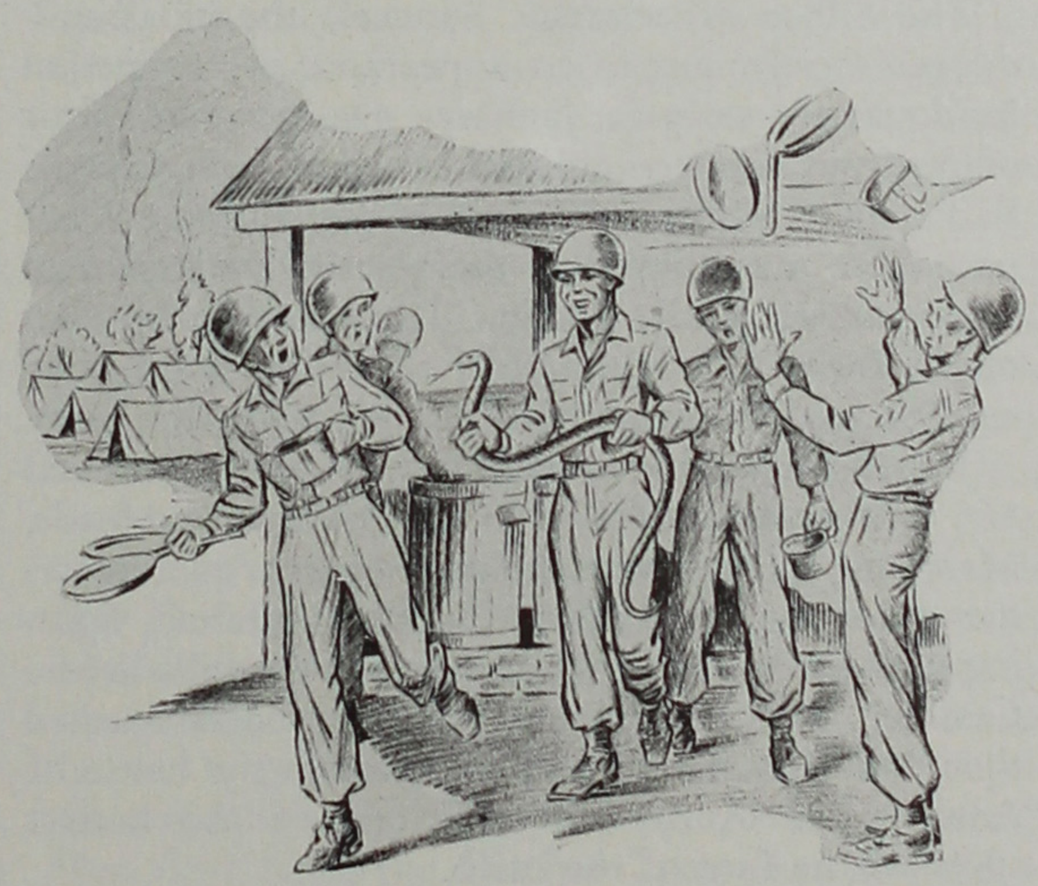
At about the same time, November 18, 1943, the War Department reclassified American citizens of Japanese ancestry for military service, restoring to them the rights and duties of citizenship which had been denied them shortly after Pearl Harbor. Then, in an unprecedented step, the War Department also permitted the induction of Japanese aliens into the United States Army, provided they volunteered and met certain other specifications. It was also announced that one of the chief reasons for the change in policy was the outstanding record in training and conduct made by the 442d Combat Team.

Thanksgiving Day came and went and the men had turkey and all the trimmings, but they ate it out of mess kits in the field. The chaplains conducted services, and the men knelt on the ground and prayed to God to give them courage and to protect their loved ones. The war was tough right then, and the men knew it was getting closer for them. Not all the Nisei are Christians, and those who were not prayed to the Deity of their own faith in their own way, because that was their right and their privilege.

The battalion commanders and their staffs were busy then, welding their battalions together. Simple problems came first: attacking an objective 2500 yards away with two companies abreast. That sounded easy because the only problem was to walk 2500 yards in a straight line, stopping at predesignated phase lines to reorganize. The problem was run solely to emphasize the difficulties of controlling a company of men in broken terrain when the men are moving forward a considerable distance apart. The officers and men learned something new that day: control is the most important and most difficult single factor in warfare. So the officers thereafter used their sergeants more to assist in keeping the attack organized. The problem had served its purpose.

After that came more difficult exercises. The men were stopped and pinned to the ground by simulated artillery fire as they advanced to meet the enemy. The battalion commander was forced to commit his reserve company after the company commanders had committed their support platoons and failed. This problem demonstrated that the time involved in getting messages back and getting a large group of men moving forward was much greater than was commonly supposed, for problems in training do not take so long to complete as the same operation in battle. Still other problems brought the heavy weapons company into play. Night attacks and night withdrawals to new positions gave the battalions insight into the difficulties of operating in darkness, when even the most familiar ground looks strangely different and it is almost impossible to move quietly. They learned that it was necessary to make elaborate plans, prepare for any eventuality, and make visual reconnaissance of every foot of ground before launching a night operation. Withdrawals had to be planned to the job of the very last man. In battle there was not always time to do these things, but the fundamentals were the same. Every man knew the how and the why, and as much preparation was made as time and the enemy permitted.

The regimental commander, Colonel Pence, took his regiment into the field as a unit for the first time on December 13, holding exercises that ran until the day before Christmas. Training was getting into higher levels now. Battalion staffs learned to work with the regimental staff. Battalions attacked or took defensive positions side by side, coordinating their fires, helping each other out of tough spots, keeping contact in heavily wooded terrain. Tactics were going into high levels, but the privates in the rear rank, the guys who carried the rifles and brought up the ammunition, still wanted to know why. Why did the regimental commander do this? Why did we withdraw to this position instead of another one?



Someone was always wandering in with a snake of some description

The officers and NCOs did their best to answer an avalanche of questions ranging from "How much artillery support do we have for this problem?" to the inevitable "What the hell happened to the chow last night?" Some of the GIs who kept the officers on their toes with questions were later officers themselves—platoon leaders and company commanders.

Christmas day saw the regiment back in Camp Shelby getting ready for Christmas dinner. Thanksgiving had been spent in the field, but the cooks and mess sergeants gave the companies a real Christmas feast. The men stuffed themselves until movement became an effort. Company parties that night shook the walls and rattled the windows for miles around as the men adjourned to the mess halls to drink beer and sing. The next day they took to the field again for more problems.

The final phase of training before maneuvers was combined training, which involved work with artillery support. Since the 522d was still on maneuvers it was impossible for the Combat Team to function as a unit; however, the problems went on with the aid of a "borrowed" artillery battalion. Part of the time was spent working with the 232d Engineers, who demonstrated their abilities in support of the infantry. Several times the regimental commander called on the engineers to execute demolitions and then dig in as infantry to defend them so as to delay an enemy advance. The rest of the time before maneuvers was devoted to cleaning up equipment after many weeks in the field and brushing up on small-unit problems and firing again.

The Office of Strategic Services, the cloak-and-dagger society, put in an appearance at regimental headquarters early in January. On the 14th, four officers and nineteen enlisted men left with Captain Parker of OSS for an unknown destination. What part these men played in the war is not known to the members of the Combat Team to this day, but most of the GIs felt that if the Nisei were good enough for OSS, they could play on anybody's team.

Just five days later, on January 19, ten officers and 165 men were transferred to Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. They were going overseas as replacements for the Nisei 100th Infantry Battalion, fighting with the veteran 34th Division in the hills before Cassino. This first group of replacements reached the 100th just in time to participate in the battle of Anzio when Anzio was still one of the hottest spots on the face of the earth.

"D" Series maneuvers began on January 28, 1944, in the DeSoto National Forest, Mississippi. They were conducted by the 69th Infantry Division, Major General Charles L. Bolte commanding. The 442d Infantry and the 232d Engineers were attached to the division for operations, working as a part of the division for the first three problems and being the "red" or enemy force for the last three. The men probably learned more as a unit of the division, but they had a lot more fun being the enemy.

Maneuvers being what they are, there were always a certain number of snafus. The umpires were the unhappiest people on the field no matter who won or lost the battle. There were not enough umpires to mark the simulated artillery and mortar fire properly. As a consequence when the shells, represented by some unhappy second lieutenant with a red and white flag, rained down on some command post, the bearer of the bad news was always subject to a long speech on his ancestry, manners, morals, and several other items. Neither were there always enough umpires to stop attacks on enemy positions short of physical contact. When this happened, the bayonet charge or encircling movement usually ended up in a grand and glorious brawl because the defenders were never convinced that the position was lost.

One memorable day the 2d Battalion was held up by an extensive minefield which the enemy had apparently conjured up out of thin air. Looking around, Lieutenant Colonel James M. Hanley, battalion C.O., spied a herd of cattle peacefully minding its own business and ordered it driven through the "minefield." After a heated discussion of the legality of this move, the battalion continued with the attack. The cattle took a very dim view of the proceedings.

Weather for the first three problems was all that anyone could have asked for; it was cold, but clear and dry. During the last three problems it rained continuously until everyone was thoroughly soaked and miserable.

The exercises gave the men stories to tell in months to come, but they also gave them a very real picture of what battle would be like: the vast problems of troop movement and supply, the confusion resulting from sudden breakthroughs. Unless a unit is well trained a sudden breakthrough of the enemy's defenses can be just as disastrous as if the enemy had pierced our lines. Everyone learned to travel with only what he needed and to conserve rations and water, because there were times when the foot soldiers had to push on with bridges blown behind them

so that supplies and food could not get up. The GIs in the rear rank found that they had to think and take initiative when key officers and noncoms became casualties. Their officers had been telling them for months that every man ought to know how to fill a position higher than the one he had, and now the men found out that the officers had been right. The 232d Engineers discovered just how tough it is to keep the roads and bridges open so supplies can get through, especially when minutes count.

Perhaps the problem in which the Combat Team performed best was the third of the series. The three battalions moved out on parallel roads to seek out the enemy defensive positions. The mission was to locate his flanks and keep up a steady pressure until the rest of the division could be brought up to attack. The 1st Battalion was on the left, the 2d in the center and the 3d on the right. All three battalions made contact with the Red force. The 1st Battalion located the enemy right flank but was unable to advance. The 2d Battalion, bucking the strongest part of the enemy line; was stopped temporarily. Lieutenant Colonel Sherwood Dixon, commanding the 3d Battalion, discovered that the enemy left was protected only by a series of some thirteen blown bridges. Colonel Dixon immediately launched an attack on the enemy defenses, striking with one company until it was stopped and then striking the strongpoint in the rear with a second company. He was greatly aided in this by the appearance of G Company, sent by the 2d Battalion commander to make a wide encirclement to the right.

As the enemy flank came unhinged, the 2d Battalion, by then in contact with the 3d, advanced, and the now disorganized enemy was squeezed between the two forces. One company surrendered intact, most of two others were wiped out. The battalion command post, kitchen train, and motor pool were taken intact by the 3d Battalion. The Combat Team had not only found the enemy defenses, but was also in a good position to destroy them completely by rolling up the flank when the director of maneuvers called a halt so that the other two regiments of the division could be called into play before the end of the problem. The accomplishment of the unit was especially noteworthy in that the major attack was made at night.

The 522d Field Artillery, fresh from six weeks of maneuvers in Louisiana, rejoined the Combat Team on February 7, in time to participate in the last three problems of the "D" Series exercises. The redlegs performed creditably in backing up the regiment, and some of their men came around to swap lies with the infantry Joes about their experiences.

After maneuvers the men came back to Shelby, scraped off the mud, and began again the endless task of cleaning up their equipment. The Combat Team was commended for proficiency by Major General Charles H. White, Commanding General of IX Corps, and Major General Charles L. Bolte, Commanding General of the 69th Division.

The entire Combat Team now began the business of brushing up on its small-unit tactics, reviewing and correcting the weaknesses that had turned up during the last hectic weeks in the field. Twenty officers and 210 men left for Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, for transshipment to Italy and the 100th Battalion.

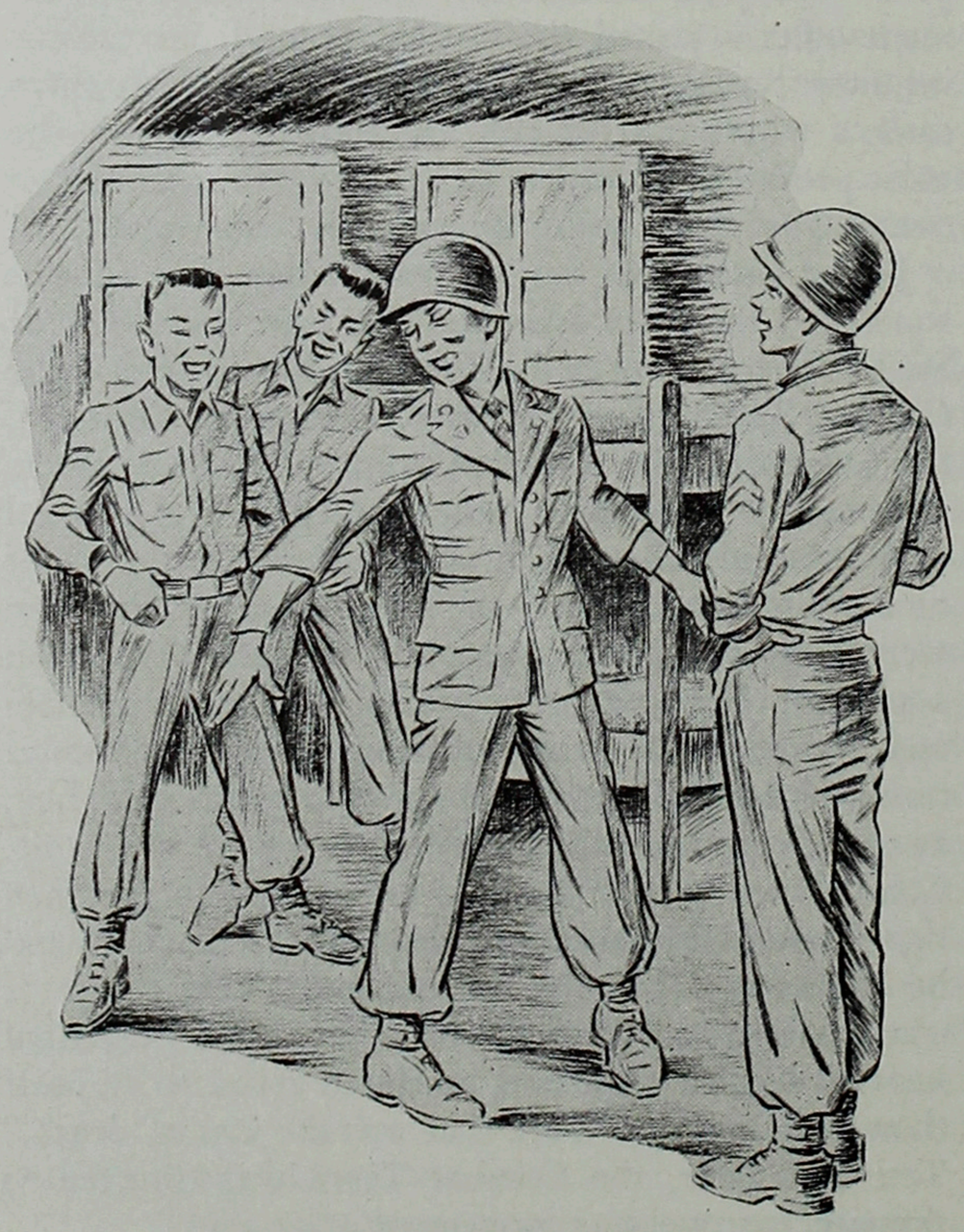
There was also a certain amount of combat firing and review work on marksmanship to be completed, as well as some of the fundamentals of soldiering that had by necessity been allowed to fall into the background during the months in the field. All was peace and quiet on February 21 when forty replacement officers joined the combat team from various infantry replacement training centers. With them came a whole host of new and exciting rumors, the most prevalent of which was that the unit would go overseas without going on extensive maneuvers.

No sooner had the officers gotten the rumors squelched than it was announced that the Chief of Staff, General George C. Marshall, would review the Combat Team. Early in the morning of March 4, the Combat Team was drawn up on parade, officers and men at ramrod attention, polished and pressed to within an inch of their young lives. As the Chief of Staff marched down the line, many of the men were surprised that he was very tall and every inch a soldier. His keen eyes probed and prodded here and there in the ranks, missing nothing. Several times he stopped and asked a man a question. Then, as quickly and briskly as he had come, he was gone. Colonel Pence returned and announced to the men that General Marshall had been pleased with what he had seen. The men relaxed and a tiny ripple of conversation ran through the ranks. One lieutenant heaved a great sigh and muttered more to himself than anyone else, "Well, that was the kiss of death." Ten days later, the Combat Team was directed to prepare for overseas movement.

CHAPTER 3

POM

"BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH" could certainly be applied in the case of the 442d Combat Team. March 15 saw officers and noncoms rushing around like so many mad hatters looking for all available regulations on "POM," preparation for overseas movement. First came the initial regulations, then the first clarification, then the clarification of the clarification. At this point the regimental and battalion staffs were considering the advantages of opium. Finally the Combat Team was furnished with a new set of instructions which rescinded all previous instructions, and everybody rushed down to the post utilities office to secure the grease, waterproof paper, crates, and the numerous other items which the regulations firmly stated were necessary to the packing and crating of supplies and equipment. However, post utilities laughed rather hysterically and said that there were several other units leaving right then with higher priorities, but that maybe they could furnish us with lumber to build our own crates. Later on, they would have the rest of the stuff.



One man got his blouse back à la Little Lord Fauntleroy

Lieutenant Charles I. Wanbaugh was designated regimental packing and crating officer. Gathering up a power saw and a crew, Lieutenant Wanbaugh set up a box factory in the regimental motor pool, put his crew on three eight-hour shifts, and went to work making crates of all sizes, some small enough for a watch and some big enough to house a couple of jeeps.

While this was going on the few men who had not completed their combat courses were taken out and qualified. Inspectors from the 69th Division lined the men up and inspected their clothing and equipment.

Clothing which was in any way defective or worn had to be turned in and new clothing drawn. However, the original clothing had been specially tailored to fit the men, many of whom wore extremely small or irregular sizes. The new issue was in normal sizes. The personnel officer scoured the regiment for tailors. Every man who had ever been a tailor or hoped to be one was hustled into the regimental supply building and put to work.

Some of the results were astonishing: one man got his blouse back à la Little Lord Fauntleroy, with elbow-length sleeves. Most of the stuff fitted pretty well, however, considering the speed with which it was made over.

It was also necessary to draw new rifles, machine guns, and mortars. The men to whom they were assigned took them out on the range, zeroed them in, and made sure that they functioned perfectly. Teams from the Inspector General's office came around checking on administrative files and supply records, deciding which records could be destroyed and which must be packed and taken with the Combat Team. Company, battalion, and regimental designations were obliterated from all equipment and the shipment number stenciled on in their places.

To top all this off, the Combat Team was directed to furnish ten more officers and 155 enlisted men as additional replacements for the 100th Infantry Battalion. The 442d CT was therefore ordered overseas with two rifle battalions, leaving a

skeleton 1st Battalion behind, in command of Major Sherman L. Watts. Enough officers and men were transferred to the 2d and 3d Battalions to bring them up to combat strength and the work went on. In the midst of the 3d Battalion's preparations, Lieutenant Colonel Sherwood Dixon, who had taken the men through all the trials and tribulations of training, was called to Washington to serve in the Office of the Chief of Staff. Major Emmet L. O'Connor took over the battalion and Captain Ivan F. Kovac was transferred in as Executive Officer.

Finally, all "non-TAT" equipment, the items the combat team would not see again until it reached the final port of destination, was loaded on boxcars. The vehicles were turned in, the property which belonged to Camp Shelby was inventoried and turned over to the post authorities, and the men were nervously waiting to go. When the last board had been nailed across the last latrine door on April 22, 1944, the Combat Team boarded trucks and rolled down to the mixed assortment of Pullmans and coaches waiting to take them to Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia. The trip was uneventful, except for large quantities of folding money which changed hands en route. Staggering wearily off the trains at the staging area, officers and men were greeted by a barrage of instructions from a loudspeaker mounted on the station platform. Quickly they formed ranks and marched to their assigned barracks.

When the men left Shelby they were told that all the things not available in the Post Exchange there could be bought in the staging area Post Exchange. Accordingly everyone made a beeline for the PX, only to be told that the stuff wasn't available there either; it was all being sent to the Post Exchanges overseas.

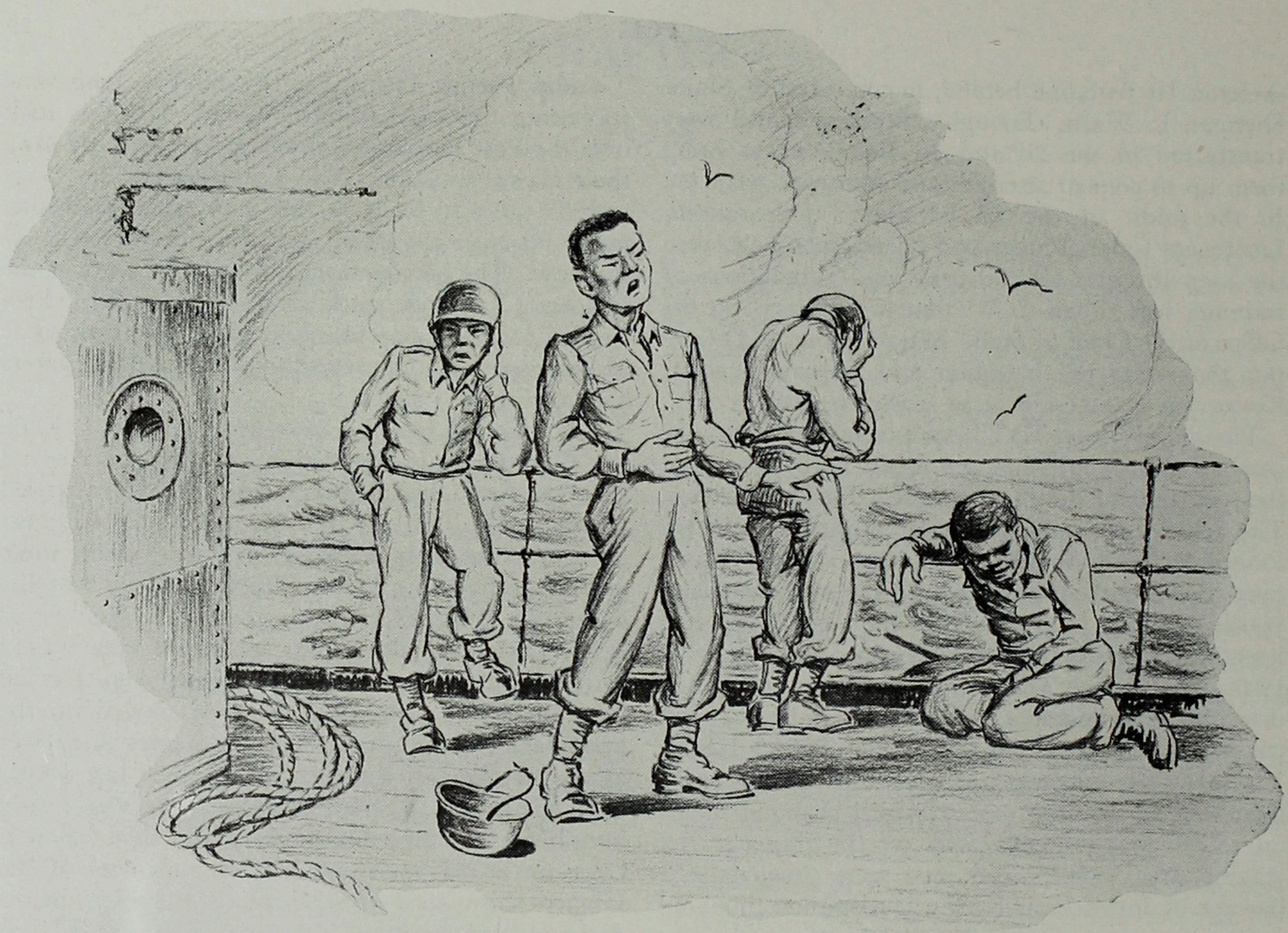
Processing at the staging area was in the nature of going through an assembly line. Men and officers stood in line for everything from final shots and a very brief physical checkup to shoe polish and razor blades. One of the greatest things the Army ever did for its men was the long-distance telephone service from the staging area to anywhere in the United States. There were no six-hour delays, even though you had to wait in line a while before you could put in your call. Once your call was placed with the clerks at the desk, it was usually only a matter of minutes until you were talking to the folks at home. And if you talked a little over your five minutes, the operators and the other GIs in the line were strangely patient with you.

Camp Patrick Henry was probably a long time forgetting the 442d Combat Team. The GIs took over the Post Exchanges, drank more beer, and sang their Hawaiian songs. This time though, the songs weren't quite so lively as they had been. Hawaiian music fits most any mood, and the mood was changing now. The officers went down and took over the Officers' Club, lock, stock, and barrel; some of them headed for the Camp Hospital and the nurses; some of them spent a good many long hours writing letters and staring into space.

Came time to head for the ships. On May 1, 1944, the Combat Team boarded a collection of coaches that most of the men felt had probably carried troops in the Civil War. The trains carried them straight to the piers at Hampton Roads, where there was a band playing "Over There" and some of the other old favorites from the last war. Red Cross ladies passed out doughnuts while the men waited to board ship. Finally, the long lines were formed in alphabetical order and the men moved up the gangplanks, singing out their first names in answer as the checker on the pier called their last names from his roster. The smaller men were very nearly invisible under their heavy packs and steel helmets. Once on board, merchant marine personnel of the Liberty ships took over, leading the men below decks to the compartments where they would live for the next twenty-eight days in bunks stacked five high.

The night of May 1 and all the next day the ships rode at anchor inside the harbor, slipping out into the Chesapeake Bay to join the convoy the night of May 2. Little destroyer-escort vessels flashed here and there in the long lanes of ships, shepherding each one to its place as it arrived. Others patrolled the perimeter, for submarines had been known to strike at convoys within sight of American shores. Finally the ships weighed anchor and slipped silently off in one of the largest convoys ever to leave Hampton Roads.

Once at sea, sealed orders were opened. Before long everyone had contrived to find out that the eventual destination was Italy. Although no one would say so in so many words, it was also fairly conclusive that the ships would dock at Naples, since the Liberties were not making the Anzio run with troops at that time. Inevitably, many of the men and many of the officers were seasick, even though the weather was nearly perfect during the entire crossing. One company commander, Captain Ralph J.



Inevitably, many men were seasick

Graham, was stretched out on his bunk talking to one of his lieutenants between periods of wondering whether he was going to live or die when a terrific explosion shook the ship, followed by a series of smaller shocks and the rattle of 20mm-gun fire. The lieutenant rushed on deck and discovered that the ship had only dropped out of convoy for gunnery practice. When he came back, however, he reported to his captain that the explosion had been a torpedo hit and that the ship's guns were even then fighting off an enemy sub. The captain rolled over with his face to the wall and muttered, "Good, I hope they sink the damned tub."

After a few days nearly everyone had gotten used to the motion of the ship and the officers went to work organizing what little exercise was possible in the cramped quarters. Calisthenics before breakfast and boxing bouts now and then were about all that could be done. Almost all of the deck space aft of the superstructure on most of the ships was taken up by trucks and bulldozers on their way to war. Consequently the men spent long lazy days on deck, sunbathing, leaning over the rail staring at nothing, or occasionally watching a school of porpoises chase each other through the ranks of ships. There were work details, but not nearly enough to keep everyone busy.

Perhaps some of the men thought about it; most of them certainly did not, but from now on they were essentially men without a country, men on the move. War does that to a man. It takes him everywhere and it takes him nowhere. Perhaps it stops him for awhile in a city or a town or a quiet country village washed over by the tide of battle. He makes a few friends, sees some famous places as a casual tourist, and moves on again. There is no place he can call home, although there are many places he might like to stay. He no longer has a will of his own; he has been caught up in the machine; he goes where it takes him; he does its bidding, even though he knows it may cost him his life. If he believes that he is fighting for a great cause, that makes

it easier. But whether he fights for his beliefs or because he has been taken thousands of miles to an alien battleground and must kill or be killed there, he is part of the machine, win, lose, or draw.

Finally the convoy passed through the Straits of Gibraltar and the men became tourists with a lot of time on their hands. As they were carried past the rocky cliffs of the North African coast they saw some of the places that had made headlines in 1943: Tunis, Bizerte, Oran, Algiers. Very shortly now they would be living those headlines instead of reading them.

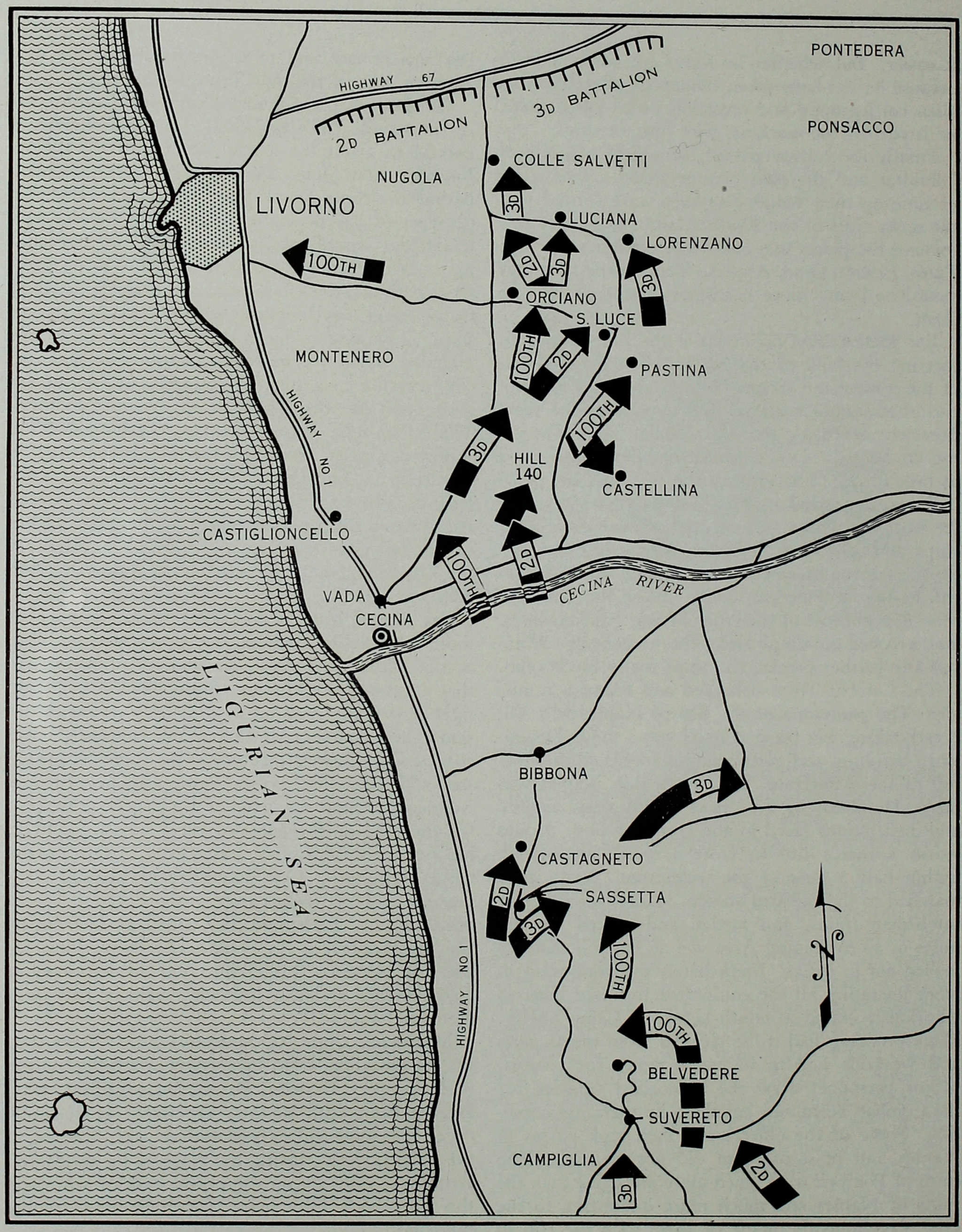
For some reason unknown at the time, the ships carrying the bulk of the 2d Battalion dropped out of the convoy and steamed into Oran. This incident furnished rumor material for two days, the most prevalent one being that the Combat Team was going to be split into separate battalions and used as task forces. The explanation was that the ships had merely stopped at Oran to discharge cargo. The 2d Battalion would very shortly be loaded on other ships and sent on to Naples. Meanwhile the rest of the convoy steamed on, stopping for a day in the harbor at Palermo, Sicily. Here the men got their first glimpse of the fruits of war: sunken ships, and wrecked buildings along the waterfront. Without any further breaks, the ships made for Naples.

The Combat Team debarked and found a ruined city. The panorama of the Bay of Naples was still breath-taking, but the port itself was a shell. Demolished buildings and gutted interiors were all that was left of the waterfront. Yet for all this, Naples was busy. Hundreds of GI trucks of all sizes, shapes, and descriptions raced to and from the port. It was worth a man's life to cross a street intersection within half a mile of the waterfront. Some units marched to the railroad station, loaded aboard little interurban trains, and rattled and rocked the ten miles or so to Staging Area #4 at Bagnoli. Others moved out in trucks. Immediately everyone went to work uncrating all the equipment that had been so laboriously crated a month before at Camp Shelby. Waterproofing had to be cleaned from metal parts and weapons had to be made ready for combat. Motor personnel drew the authorized vehicles for the Combat Team and got them in operating condition. Some of the officers and men took passes to Naples, but most of them did not go back. The ruins of Pompeii were much more attractive than the ruins of Naples and much more interesting to the GIs. Consequently, many of them took the trip to the ancient city and to the cathedral of the new Pompeii, one of the most beautiful in Italy.

On June 6 the Combat Team left Naples for Anzio aboard LSTs and LCIs, leaving Company E behind to await the arrival of the rest of the 2d Battalion from Oran. The small fleet put into Anzio harbor the morning of June 7, but not before 75 per cent of the personnel aboard had become violently ill. Ground swells were heavy and the landing craft displaced about as much water as an oversized bathtub; the effect produced was about equal to the effect a cyclone would have had on a larger ship. Debarking in the rubble of Anzio the troops marched about five miles to a bivouac outside the city, arriving in a state of collapse. Weeks at sea had gotten the men into terrible physical condition. The same night, June 7, German planes raided the supply dumps at Anzio and the men had a ringside seat to one of the biggest displays of aerial fireworks most of them had ever seen. Long red tracer streaks criss-crossed the sky, punctuated by the quick flashes of flak bursts as the gunners followed the flight of the German planes. No one in the Combat Team area was injured.

On June 9 the Combat Team began one of its most memorable convoys, better known as "The Second Battle of Rome." Moving out of Anzio late that afternoon the first march unit hit Rome in daylight and made it through with only minor deviations from course. All that night, however, serial commanders looked frantically for their reconnaissance officers and vice versa. Long columns of trucks wandered around the walls of Vatican City, looking for the road north. Most of them finally found it, but not before the officers and drivers were on the verge of hysteria. One befuddled march unit commander and his troops tried three different routes out of Rome. Each time they ended up in front of the great dome of St. Peter's. At 0330, June 11, the last elements pulled into the bivouac area at Civitavecchia and the last stray vehicle had been accounted for.

Meanwhile, June 10, the 442d Combat Team, less the 1st Battalion, 442d Infantry, was attached to the 34th Infantry Division per General Orders #44, Headquarters 34th Infantry Division. By the same order the 100th Infantry Battalion was attached to the 442d Infantry, taking the place of the absent 1st Battalion. Now began the urgent task of whipping the men back into shape for their first combat mission.



ITALY: Grossetto to the Arno River

CHAPTER 4

THE ROME-ARNO CAMPAIGN

FROM the 11th to the 21st of June the Combat Team brushed up on marksmanship and small-unit tactics in addition to an arduous physical conditioning program which included long marches over the mountainous terrain. There had been hills in Mississippi, but never hills like these. It seemed to the men that all of Italy was either straight up or straight down. Neither were there heavy forests. Most of the growth was stunted scrubby stuff that eked out a precarious existence from the rocky soil of the hillsides. Other than this growth the hills were bare and there were unlimited opportunities for observation. The air was clear and from the tops of some of the peaks a man could see for miles.

The 2d Battalion rejoined the rest of the Combat Team on June 17, having come from Oran to Naples and gone through the same processing as the other units.

Events moved swiftly now. The 36th Division had been driving the enemy north at a fast clip and the front was now many miles from the 34th Division bivouac area. Consequently the Combat Team was ordered into a new bivouac area near Grossetto, closing in before dawn of June 22. A certain amount of training continued, but considerable time was devoted to hashing over some last-minute advice to the men before battle. On the 24th the Combat Team moved to another bivouac near Gravasanno, stayed overnight, and on the following day marched thirteen miles to its final assembly area behind the lines. The 34th Division was relieving the 36th Division, which, although the rank and file had no idea of it at the time, would then move south to prepare for the invasion of Southern France.

The 442d Combat Team moved into the lines before dawn of June 26. The 3d Battalion relieved the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment, the 2d Battalion relieved elements of the 142d Infantry Regiment, and the 100th Battalion remained in reserve initially. The 2d Battalion crossed the line of departure at 0630 and made contact with the enemy about 0830. The 3d Battalion, attacking on the left of the 2d, pushed off at 0900 hours. By 1100 hours both battalions were stopped. The 2d Battalion had met fierce enemy resistance after driving forward about 1500 yards. Companies E, F and G were now on line and were hard-pressed to beat off enemy counterattacks supported by fire from artillery and tanks. One gun in particular was causing a great many casualties in Company F with direct fire. The men sought cover as best they could, and the company commander ordered his mortars into action. However, the terrain made it impossible to set up the weapon in a covered position. The squad leader was about to abandon the attempt to open fire when Private First Class Kiyoshi K. Muranaga, the gunner, volunteered to man the mortar alone in an attempt to neutralize the fire of the enemy 88mm gun. Going into action, Muranaga opened fire. His third round landed directly in front of the enemy gun position. Before he could fire again the German gun crew had located his mortar and scored a direct hit on the position, killing him instantly. Because of the accuracy of his previous fire, however, the Germans decided not to risk further exposure and withdrew the gun. Muranaga's courageous performance undoubtedly saved his company many casualties. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross posthumously.

The 3d Battalion, although it was not counterattacked, was unable to advance beyond the town of Suvereto in the face of enemy automatic-weapons fire from high ground to the north.

It now became evident to the regimental commander, Colonel Pence, that there was a gap in the enemy defenses. At 1130 he sent the veteran 100th

Elements of the 100th Battalion moving up

Nakano fired, scoring a direct hit and blowing up the tank

Battalion driving into that gap to seize the high ground around the town of Belvedere and break the stalemate. Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Singles, commanding the 100th Battalion, quickly drew up a plan from his maps and at 1200 the 100th Battalion pushed off in column of companies: B, A, and C. Companies B and A advanced east of Belvedere by a covered route and reached a high point northeast of the town which the enemy had neglected to cover. From here, observers sighted a large infantry and artillery force. Quickly, Captain Takahashi, commanding Company B, sent his 1st Platoon to attack the town of Belvedere while the 2d Platoon cut the road running northwest from Belvedere to prevent the escape of the enemy. The 3d Platoon headed southwest to cut the road leading into the town to catch any troops who might withdraw in that direction from the enemy main line of resistance.

Company A swung to the right (north) of Company B and began sweeping north along the main road from Belvedere to Sassetta. Company C remained close behind in reserve.

The 2d Platoon of Company B cut the Suvereto-Sassetta road shortly after the jumpoff, overran and captured a battery of self-propelled guns and proceeded to mop up the remaining resistance on the west side of the highway. Meanwhile, the 1st Platoon swarmed into Belvedere and took control of the town after some sharp house-to-house fighting.

The 3d Platoon, covering the secondary road running northwest, located enemy movement in a house to its immediate front. The platoon leader attacked the house with a squad, capturing two halftracks, a truck, and eleven "Jerry jeeps." The house had been a company command post. No sooner had the platoon begun to consolidate its gain when a Mark IV

tank began to lay down heavy fire on the position from a nearby olive grove. A bazooka team, made up of Staff Sergeant Grover N. Nagaji, Private First Class Taneyoshi Nakano, and Private First Class Henry Y. Nakamura worked its way forward to within thirty yards of the tank under cover of fire from Private First Class Nakamura's BAR. Private First Class Nakano took careful aim with his launcher and fired, scoring a direct hit. Almost instantly the tank blew up, killing all the occupants. The force of the explosion was so great that it also killed Sergeant Nagaji and stunned the gunner, Nakano.

By 1700 Company A had broken the enemy defenses to the north and occupied the neighboring village of Michelino, taking a battalion command post and motor pool intact. Both companies now set up defensive positions covering the Suvereto-Sassetta road and waited. They had very little time to wait, for the 2d and 3d Battalions, advancing slowly behind a curtain of mortar fire, were even then driving the remaining enemy back into the waiting arms of the 100th. As the retreating German formations appeared on the road the heavy machine guns of Company D opened up, killing many and scattering the rest into the hills.

Total enemy casualties for the day had been 178 killed, 20 known wounded, 86 captured. They had lost 8 trucks, 19 jeeps, 13 motorcycles, 2 antitank guns, 3 self-propelled guns, 2 tanks, 2 command cars, 2 halftracks, 1 81mm mortar, and 1 battalion and company command post, complete.

The 2d Battalion reverted to reserve and the 100th and 3d Battalions made plans to take Sassetta, about ten kilometers north of Belvedere. At 1200 of the 27th the 100th Battalion made a frontal attack on the town, supported by massed machine guns and mortars firing from the hills overlooking Sassetta from the south. The 3d Battalion made a wide flanking movement around the west side of the town and seized the high ground to the north. Two enemy tanks were knocked out by the combined fire of Antitank Company and Cannon Company. Forward observers of the 522d Field Artillery also spotted a large enemy concentration north of Sassetta and blasted away with battalion concentrations of time fire (air burst), breaking up the formation and causing heavy casualties.

The 3d Battalion was directed to push northwest and seize Castagnetto while the 100th drove north along the main road to take and block the principal junction north of Sassetta. In the confusion of darkness and broken terrain, elements of the 3d Battalion headed northeast by mistake and came under fire from the roadblock which was the 100th Battalion's objective. The enemy, equally confused, believed themselves to be outflanked, and hastily withdrew on a halftrack, leaving considerable equipment, including two 81mm mortars, behind them.

The following morning, June 28, the 2d Battalion pushed through the 3d, which was reorganizing and gathering up its scattered units. After several skirmishes with enemy strongpoints, the 2d Battalion cleared Castagnetto and pushed about three kilometers north before being held up by direct fire from self-propelled guns. The 100th Battalion cleared the road junction north of Sassetta without opposition and pushed on abreast of the 2d Battalion. The 3d Battalion followed in reserve.

The 522d Field Artillery Battalion had given the assault battalions effective support. The infantry was learning that its job could be made easier by the fast-firing gunners and the observer parties with the leading platoons. The Infantry-Artillery team, one of the great achievements of World War II, was beginning to click for the Combat Team.

At this point the Division commander decided to give the Combat Team time to catch its breath. At

One man discovered 15,000 gallons of wine

0830, June 29, the 135th Infantry passed through the 442d Infantry and resumed the attack. The 100th and 2d Battalions passed into division reserve in the vicinity of Bibbona. The 3d Battalion entrucked the morning of the 29th and moved to Monteverdi, the extreme right flank of the division, to guard against a possible counterattack that never came. The 3d Battalion did suffer one of the great disappointments of the war in Monteverdi, however. After they had occupied the town for a day and a half, one of the men discovered a cache of 15,000 gallons of wine which had been very carefully hidden from the Germans. Thirty minutes after the discovery, the battalion was ordered to pull out and rejoin the regiment. The men were several days recovering from the disappointment.

On July 1 the regiment marched from Bibbona to an assembly area immediately south of the Cecina River, at that time of the year hardly more than a trickle of water, easily fordable in most places. By 0400 the next morning the 100th and 2d Battalions were across the river and waiting for dawn to jump off.

Resistance, while not heavy, was stiffening, indicating that the enemy would make some sort of a stand on the high ground north of the Cecina River. Prisoners taken during the day were from the 35th *SS* Regiment and the 48th *Jaeger* Regiment, both good units. For the first time in several weeks the enemy also had air support. Several planes came over during the night of July 2 to lay antipersonnel bombs and strafe the roads leading to our forward positions. Elements of the 522d Field Artillery were caught in the strafing, but suffered no damage.

The following day, July 3, enemy artillery fire became increasingly heavy. Both leading battalions had advanced to positions about eight kilometers north of the Cecina River. The 2d Battalion, attacking on the right, had taken Molino a Ventoabbto and the two hills to the north and had then run head-on into the enemy main line of resistance, located on Hill 140. The enemy now held two key observation posts, Hill 140 and the town of Rosignano Marittimo near the coast. From these key points the German observers directed a rain of shells into both forward battalions all during the day. By 1200 of the 4th of July the 3d Battalion had relieved the 100th Battalion in position. The relief, carried out in daylight, brought on a storm of enemy self-propelled and artillery fire, causing heavy casualties in both battalions. One machine-gun squad of Company L was wiped out completely by a single shellburst.

On the right the 2d Battalion, led by Company G and Company E, had jumped off against Hill 140. Reaching the forward slope of the hill directly to the south of the objective, both companies immediately came under heavy small-arms and artillery fire from a force estimated to be an enemy battalion well supported by all types of artillery. All of the Company G officers except the company commander became casualties. Captain William Aull, commanding the company, left a small security detachment to hold the position while he withdrew the remainder to a covered position to effect a reorganization. Company E, still moving forward in its zone, gained the base of Hill 140 and dug in around it. During the day's fighting three men of Company G exhibited exceptional heroism and were later awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Private First Class Frank H. Ono, when his squad became disorganized in the initial attack, opened fire with a BAR and silenced a machine gun three hundred yards away. Continuing to advance, he killed a sniper before his own gun was torn from his hands by a burst of fire. Seeing this, the enemy tried to close in on him but he drove them back with hand grenades, killing several. When the rest of his platoon moved forward to join him, he took up a wounded comrade's rifle and joined the assault until his platoon leader and another man were hit. He gave them first aid under heavy fire. When his platoon, in danger of being encircled, was ordered to withdraw he volunteered to cover the movement. Making himself the target of enemy fire he engaged a machine gun and riflemen on the next ridge until his platoon was safe, and then withdrew himself, firing as he pulled back.

Private First Class William K. Nakamura, in the initial attack crawled to within fifteen yards of an enemy machine gun that had pinned down his platoon, silenced the gun, and killed the crew with hand grenades. Later, when the platoon was being pulled back for reorganization, it was again pinned down by fire from concealed machine guns. Private First Class Nakamura crawled to a point from which he could observe the guns and fired clip after clip of ammunition with his rifle, keeping the enemy gunners down until his platoon had reached cover. As a result of his heroic stand, Private First Class Nakamura was killed.

At the same time, Staff Sergeant George S. Iida,

a platoon sergeant, successfully neutralized one machine-gun position himself and directed the fire of a BAR gunner in knocking out another. Twice, after his platoon leader had been wounded and he had taken command of the platoon, he advanced alone to within a few yards of hostile emplacements and destroyed them with hand grenades.

On the left of the 2d Battalion, the 3d Battalion had taken a five-hour enemy artillery barrage. Lieutenant Colonel Virgil R. Miller, the regimental executive officer, assumed command of the battalion, reorganized it, and initiated a limited attack late in the afternoon. The battalion was able to gain very little ground, but managed to improve its position somewhat.

Furious firefights raged all through the 5th of July as both sides sparred for an advantage. Resistance was skillful and determined. All along the 34th Division front the Germans held more doggedly than at any time since the breakthrough at Cassino and Anzio. Both battalions of the 442d were now taking prisoners from the 36th *SS* Regiment in addition to the two regiments which had started the battle. The prisoners said that "they had been ordered to hold until the defenses at Pisa were completed." Late in the day conditions improved somewhat as the 135th Infantry, attacking on the left, battered the town of Rosignano Marittimo to pieces with heavy artillery and engaged the Germans in house-to-house fighting. Artillery fire against the 3d Battalion eased off noticeably.

At 2200, July 5, the 2d Battalion, Companies G and F leading, made a night infiltration onto the high ground east of Hill 140, where they dug in at the first approach of daylight. As soon as the Germans discovered the troops on their flank they fought back fiercely. Artillery and mortar fire fell all along the 2d Battalion's line, but the troops hung on and fought back. Company H's mortar platoon fired over 1,200 rounds of 81mm shells into the enemy positions, breaking up one counterattack after another. Perhaps the greatest single exploit of the day was that of Staff Sergeant Kazuo Masuda of Company F. Sergeant Masuda, manning a company observation post, crawled 200 yards through heavy fire, secured a 60mm mortar tube and ammunition, and returned to his post. Using his helmet as a baseplate for the mortar tube, Sergeant Masuda remained at his position and fired the piece single-handed for twelve hours, throwing back two counterattacks with his fire alone, never leaving his firing point except for more ammunition. Sergeant Masuda was later killed on patrol along the Arno River when he deliberately sacrificed himself so that the men with him could return with valuable information. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

At 1915, July 6, Lieutenant Colonel James M. Hanley, 2d Battalion commander, moved his third company, E, on line with F and G. Following a 45-minute artillery preparation, all three companies jumped off against Hill 140 and the ridge to the north. By midnight the last of the enemy had been driven off and the objective, the eastern half of Hill 140, was secure. At 0500, July 7, the 2d Battalion was relieved by the 100th Battalion and the attack went on.

On the left the 3d Battalion had been working its way up the western slopes of Hill 140, in reality a long ridge which ran west from the summit of the hill toward the sea. This ridge was honeycombed with caves which made excellent defensive positions for the Germans. With Company K bearing the brunt of the attack, the men measured their advance in yards through the day of the 6th while they protected the left flank of the 2d Battalion. On the 7th of July, the last German resistance was battered into submission and the assault companies were able to push on more rapidly. Lieutenant Colonel Alfred A. Pursall took command of the battalion July 8.

In the battle to wrest the western slopes of Hill 140 from the Germans, Technical Sergeant Ted T. Tanouye, then a platoon leader of Company K, played a great part in the success of the attack. In the course of the action Sergeant Tanouye noticed an enemy machine gun going into position on his left. He opened fire, killed three of the enemy and drove the others back. Almost at once, another German with a machine pistol opened fire on him, but he returned the fire, and either killed or wounded three more Germans. The defending troops then began throwing hand grenades at Sergeant Tanouye. His left arm was hit and paralyzed temporarily by a fragment. In spite of his wound he kept going, and raked an enemy trench with fire from his submachine gun. He then crawled twenty yards to his left to obtain more ammunition from one of his platoon. From this position he sighted a machine-pistol position, silenced it with a hand grenade, and then engaged a machine-gun position with fire from his tommy gun, also knocking it out. When he drew fire from several enemy located above him, he

opened fire on them and wounded three more. Then, with the other men of his platoon, he seized the objective and organized a defensive position before he would permit himself to be evacuated. Sergeant Tanouye was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. He later died of wounds received in action along the Arno River.

The objective for the 100th Battalion in its attack of July 7 was the town of Castellina. The 3d Battalion, advancing abreast, was directed to cut the road from Castellina west to the town of Rosignano Marittimo, for which the 135th Infantry was still fighting. The 100th Battalion attacked before dawn of July 7 to seize the high ground northwest of Castellina and force the enemy out of the town. Companies B and C made the attack, Company C being ordered to secure the high ground so that Company B could make the assault on Castellina. The 2d Platoon of Company C bore the brunt of the attack, and they were able to take the enemy by surprise in an assault just after dawn and seize the dominating ground. During the engagement Private First Class Kaoru Moto, acting as first scout, observed a machine-gun nest firing on his platoon. Making his way to within ten yards of the position, he killed the gunner with his rifle. The assistant gunner immediately opened up on Private First Class Moto, who promptly crawled to the rear of the position and surprised the German into surrendering. Taking his prisoner, Moto took a position a few yards from a house to deny the enemy the use of it as an observation post. While he was watching the house he observed an enemy machine-gun squad going into position not far away. He forced these men to disperse by firing at them until he was wounded by a sniper in another house. He then changed position to elude the sniper, dressed his own wound, and continued to deny the enemy the use of the house until he was relieved by the arrival of a squad. Making his way to the aid station for treatment, he spotted another enemy machine gun, crawled to a better position and forced the Germans to surrender. Private First Class Moto was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

After the objective had been reached, Lieutenant Takeichi T. Miyashiro, the platoon leader, organized defensive positions and took a squad to the right flank of the position to eliminate a machine-gun nest in a house. He led his men in taking the house, killing one German and taking one prisoner. The enemy launched the inevitable counterattack to retake the position, but Lieutenant Miyashiro, waiting until the attackers had approached within ten yards, directed the fire of his men in breaking up the counterattack. Lieutenant Miyashiro then established an observation post, holding it against another counterattack. A third assault, supported by direct fire from 88mm guns, failed to dislodge the handful of defenders, but when 170mm fire began falling in the area Lieutenant Miyashiro ordered his men to the rear and remained in observation himself to obtain information. When the barrage lifted he opened fire on the charging enemy with his rifle and, aided by a machine gun on the left flank, succeeded in taking such a heavy toll that the attack was again beaten off. Lieutenant Miyashiro was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Meanwhile, Company B, advancing astride the road north into Castellina, was counterattacked by a company of infantry supported by a platoon of tanks. Private First Class Richard M. Okazaki destroyed the lead tank with a bazooka. Accurate rifle fire and a heavy artillery barrage laid down by the 522d Field Artillery drove off the remaining tanks and infantry. By 1800 hours, Company B had cleared Castellina of all resistance and the entire battalion dug in.

The regimental objective was now a road which ran west from the town of Pomaja toward the sea. The seizure of this road would greatly cut down the enemy's lateral movement across the division front, and the enemy fiercely resisted its capture. As night fell on the 8th, neither the 100th nor the 3d Battalion had reached its objective.

Both battalions attacked the following morning. Companies A and B were in assault for the 100th Battalion; Companies I and L formed the 3d Battalion's striking force. Resistance was still heavy, but showed signs of breaking except in Company A's sector, on the extreme right of the regimental front. There the attacking troops were held up by fire from the vicinity of Pomaja. The initial resistance came from a patch of woods. Private First Class Kiichi Koda of Company A took four men with him, led a foray into the woods, and routed the small enemy force. Koda then rejoined his platoon, which had been ordered to flank and guard an ancient castle, the objective of Company B. The enemy in the structure opened fire with machine guns in an attempt to eliminate the threat to their flank. Private First Class Koda then requested permission to capture the castle. As his men covered

him, he crept to within five yards of an open window and threw in a hand grenade. He then circled the building and repeated the performance at every window he came to. Returning to his starting point, he led his men into the castle to wipe out the remaining opposition. Koda was killed in the fight, but his squad went on to take the objective, capturing 3 men, killing 10, and seizing 5 machine guns.

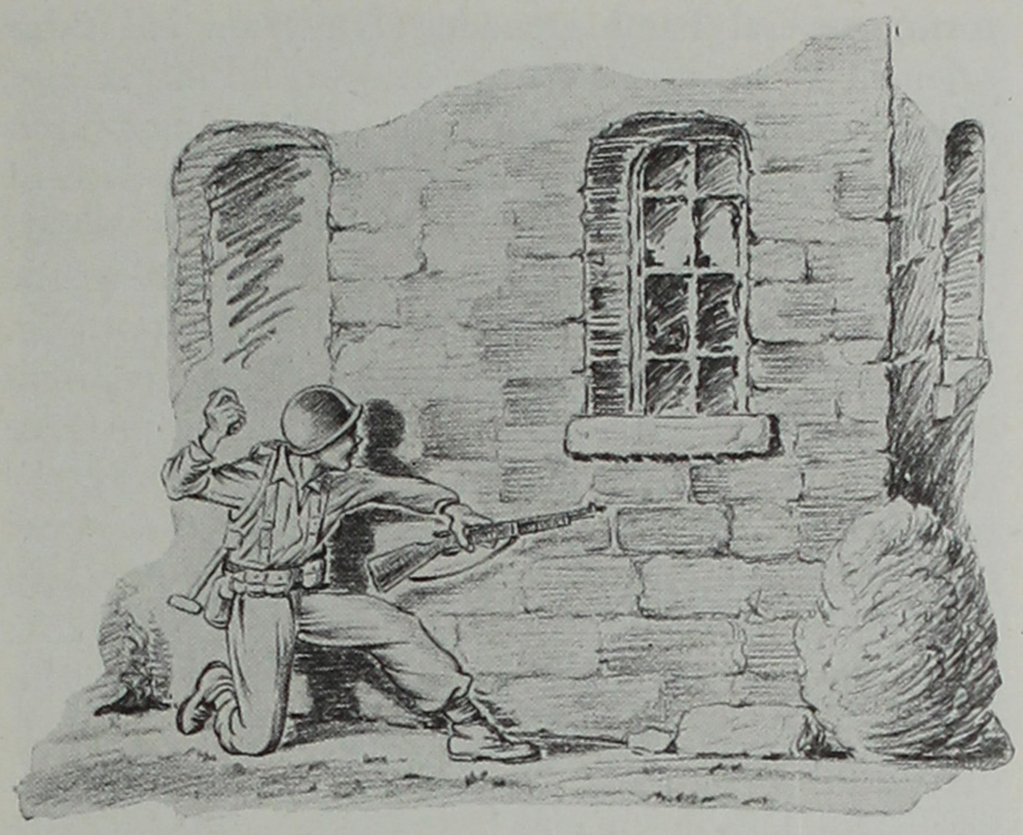
With this opposition at Pomaja out of the way, the 100th Battalion was able to reach its objective. Companies I and L of the 3d Battalion also fought their way across the road. During the night the 3d Battalion was relieved in these positions by the 2d Battalion, which had had a certain amount of rest.

The following day, July 10, both battalions were able to advance about 1000 yards against small enemy forces which were obviously rearguards. It was evident that the enemy had made one of his limited withdrawals and was now waiting for the Combat Team on the next ridge line. During the night of July 10 and 11, both the 100th and 2d Battalions made gains of about 700 yards, moving cautiously over the open terrain, even though darkness cloaked their movements. Dawn found the troops in exposed positions on rolling, open ground. Both battalions were immediately subjected to intense shelling. The 100th Battalion on the right was drawing the bulk of the fire from the town of Pastina, in the hills on the right flank of the regiment. The shells falling in the 2d Battalion area were coming from due north, the ridge line to the front. Documents taken from a dead German indicated that these positions were well planned and constructed.

Consequently the 100th Battalion struck sharply to the right to drive the Germans out of Pastina, while the 2d Battalion dug in and took it, holding on to the ground already gained while casualties went up and up. German patrols probed all along the 2d Battalion's line looking for a weak spot. They were met by our own patrols, often at point-blank range in the dark.

The 100th was able to gain little ground before night fell on the 10th. The leading companies took up the attack again on the 11th, driving the enemy outposts back into the town of Pastina.

The morning of July 12 saw the 100th Battalion begin the final assault on Pastina while the 2d Battalion made painful progress toward the ridge to



Koda circled the building, throwing grenades in the windows

their immediate front. Companies A and B of the 100th reached the outskirts of Pastina by 1200 and were stopped by heavy fire coming from the town itself. Calling on the 522d Field Artillery for some pinpoint shooting at suspected strongpoints, the men moved carefully from point to point, taking one house before tackling another, sometimes moving as close as fifty yards behind the thundering volleys of supporting artillery and mortar fire. By the time darkness fell the enemy force decided it had had enough and withdrew from the town, leaving the 100th Battalion in complete control of the high ground.

The 2d Battalion had secured its objective somewhat earlier in the day, partly through the heroism of Sergeant Togo S. Sugiyama, leader of a Company H machine-gun squad. In order to support the attack of the rifle companies, Sergeant Sugiyama put his gun in action in a saddle between two hills so that he could cover the forward slope of both hills with fire. He then crawled along the crest of the ridge to a point from which he could see to direct the fire of his gunner. Locating an enemy machine gun and snipers on the left flank, he retreated to the rear slope of the hill, moved to a point directly opposite the enemy position, crawled back to the forward slope of the hill and killed the two snipers with rifle fire, forcing the machine gunners to withdraw.

Sergeant Sugiyama then returned to his observation post from where he saw a dugout which two enemy riflemen were using as a firing position. Se-

curing several hand grenades, Sugiyama led three riflemen in an attack on the dugout, killing one of the occupants and capturing the other. Later, after he had reported to nearby riflemen the presence of enemy troops in a concrete house, Sugiyama observed two German machine-gun squads approaching the forward slope of the hill to the left of his position. Crawling to a point where he had better observation and exposing himself to enemy fire, he fired three rifle grenades at the enemy, killing five instantly and forcing the rest to withdraw. As he started to crawl back to his squad, Sugiyama was fired on by a hidden machine gun. As he rose to return the fire, another burst caught him and killed him instantly. For his heroism, which played a great part in the capture of the 2d Battalion's objective, Sergeant Sugiyama was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The enemy, badly mauled, pulled out again during the night of July 12-13. The same night, the 3d Battalion stumbled and groped its way over the mountains to Pastina where it relieved the 100th Battalion before dawn of the 13th. Both leading battalions, the 3d on the right and 2d on the left, made excellent progress during the day, meeting light resistance. The 3d Battalion overran San Luce behind a barrage by the 522d Field Artillery which knocked out a self-propelled gun. The 2d Battalion swept the hills to the west.

The rapid advance continued through the morning of July 14 as the 2d Battalion liberated the town of Pieve di San Luce, which the enemy had left extensively mined and boobytrapped. During the afternoon as the troops advanced, artillery fire became heavier, and the 3d Battalion ran into a violent firefight on the outskirts of Lorenzano. The sector of the Combat Team was now swinging northwest as the 34th Division prepared to cut off the great port of Leghorn from the north if it became necessary. Accordingly, the 168th Infantry relieved the 3d Battalion of the 442d Infantry in position during the night of July 14 and assumed control of the Lorenzano sector.

At the same time, the 100th Battalion passed to Division control. Company A was committed to a roadblock on the left of the regimental sector, four miles west of Pastina. The remainder of the battalion was ordered into the town of Orciano and held there temporarily. On the morning of July 15 Company C was ordered to establish another block four miles northwest of Orciano, in the direction of Leghorn, to guard against a possible threat to the Division left. Moving into position, the company ran into enemy rearguards. A barrage laid down by the 522d Field Artillery took the fight out of the enemy force and Company C gathered fifteen prisoners, in addition to a large number of enemy dead and wounded. Companies A and B then arrived and the battalion set up a triangular defensive position until relieved the night of July 15 by elements of the 363d Infantry, 91st Division, who were pushing through to take on the job of attacking the port of Leghorn itself.

The 2d Battalion was able to seize two more hills on the 15th, with the aid of some heavy firing by the 1st and 2d Platoons of the Regimental Cannon Company, whose gunners put out some 350 rounds. One of the great instances of individual heroism in the regiment occurred during the day. When a platoon of Company G, led by Staff Sergeant Kazuo Otani, was pinned down on exposed, open ground by grazing machine-gun fire, Sergeant Otani first shot a sniper who was causing casualties among his men. He then raced across the open field toward the foot of a cliff. From there he directed his men to crawl to the cover of the cliff. When the movement of the men drew more fire, he ran along the cliff toward the left flank of the platoon, exposing himself and firing his tommy gun to attract the enemy's attention to himself. Part of the men reached cover while the enemy fired at Sergeant Otani. These men he organized against a counterattack, and then raced back across the open field, yelling instructions to the remainder of his men as he went. He reached the rear of the platoon position, gained partial cover, and directed his own fire at the enemy so that the rest of his platoon could reach safety. Seeing one of them fall wounded, Sergeant Otani left his own position of comparative safety, crawled to the wounded soldier, and dragged him to the cover of a shallow ditch. While he was dressing the soldier's wounds, he was mortally wounded by machine-gun fire. For gallantry at the cost of his life, Sergeant Otani was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The 3d Battalion had relieved the 2d Battalion before daylight of the 16th. The objective for the attack was the little hilltop town of Luciana. As Luciana and the surrounding hills went, so would go the port of Leghorn. It was now evident that the enemy was abandoning the port and moving to his Arno River defenses, but so long as he held this high ground to the northeast of the city, our own

troops could not occupy Leghorn. As the 3d Battalion launched its attack, the storm of fire made it very clear that the Germans were determined to sell their ownership of this patch of ground dearly. The enemy forces were supported by a platoon of tanks, several self-propelled guns, and an abundance of automatic weapons. Lieutenant Colonel Pursall sent Company L down a long ridge which overlooked Luciana from the east. The company was unable to cross a deep, exposed gully at the end of the ridge and attack the town from the rear however. Every time a man showed signs of starting across the barrier the Germans filled it with such heavy machine-gun and mortar fire that movement through it would have been suicidal. Company K made a frontal attack on Luciana itself. As night fell on July 16, advance elements of the company, literally blasting their way with bazookas, 60mm mortars, and heavy mortar fire from Company M, had gained a toehold in perhaps one-fourth of the town. All that night patrols from both sides probed cautiously at each other's positions. The night silence was constantly ripped apart as the blast of a tommy gun found an answering echo in the quicker rattle of a machine pistol when two patrols met head-on.

During the day, the Division commander ordered a battery of 8-inch howitzers to make a long move forward so that they could support the attack when a breakthrough was achieved, and also harass the enemy routes of withdrawal. They went into position just behind the area where Cannon Company's baby howitzers were emplaced, and just behind the regimental command post. During the night the big guns opened fire. The resulting muzzle blast shook half the ceiling down on the unsuspecting regimental staff and scared most of them out of a year's growth. Cannon Company, trying to fire, gave it up as a bad job when they found the ground shaking under their pieces so violently that it was impossible to fire accurately.

The following morning, Company K and the *SS* defenders were at it again, hammer and tongs. The 2d Battalion was committed on the left of the 3d Battalion to attack and seize Hill 108, which had been a prominent artillery observation post for the enemy. The 232d Engineers were called up to remove the tremendous quantities of mines which the enemy had laid to cover all the approaches to Luciana, approaches which were now vital as supply routes to keep Company K going. There were mines in the roads, mines festooned through the grape

Lucy, found by 3d Battalion medics in Luciana

arbors, antipersonnel mines in the open fields. Working furiously, the engineers' mine experts, the Pioneer Platoons of the 2d and 3d Battalions, and some reinforcements from the Division's 109th Engineer Battalion cleared enough of the mines so that elements of the 2d Battalion could advance and supplies could get up to Company K. They worked exposed to sniper fire and artillery, but they finished the job.

Inside Luciana, Company K was making room-to-room, house-to-house progress, assisted by the 522d Field Artillery's Lieutenant Edwin C. Wood. Company K dearly loved Lieutenant Wood, partly because he was always up with the leading riflemen and partly because he had a genius for adjusting artillery fire to within a few feet of where he wanted it, instead of 25 to 50 yards.

At this point all artillery fire had to be stopped. One platoon had made an attack on a house, and had then been forced back by enemy troops on the flank, leaving one squad cut off. With that squad was Private First Class Harry F. Madokoro. Early in the attack he had held his ground and provided covering fire for his squad when it was forced to fall back in the face of a withering mortar barrage. Now, as the enemy tried to destroy his squad, he provided flank protection against the attack. When enemy soldiers got into a nearby draw and attacked him

Madokoro crawled to the lip of the draw and tossed in a grenade of his own

with hand grenades, Madokoro crawled to the lip of the draw and tossed a grenade of his own into the midst of the enemy. Later, he again left his position to knock out a machine-gun nest with another grenade. Somewhat later in the course of the battle, after his squad had rejoined the platoon and was again attacking, he approached a machine-gun position and, deliberately exposing himself to enemy fire, silenced the gun with a burst from his BAR. Private First Class Madokoro was later killed in action. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Luciana now resembled something a man might imagine in one of his worst nightmares. The noise was ear-splitting; steel fragments, jagged chunks of rock, pieces of wood, and machine-gun slugs whistled through the air with terrifying screeches. Above everything else, the noise of exploding shells and rockets punctuated the whine of the fragments. By midafternoon Company K had used up several basic loads of all types of ammunition, particularly hand grenades, rifle grenades and 60mm mortar shells. Battalion supply personnel rushed ammunition to the edges of town by jeep even though the jeeps were constantly under mortar fire as they moved along the exposed road. Late in the afternoon the Commanding General turned all of the 34th Division Artillery and all of Corps artillery that he controlled at the moment over to the 3d Battalion. For fifteen minutes hundreds of rounds poured into the north end of Luciana. Following the barrage Company K made a last effort as the artillery continued to harass the roads leading north out of town. By dusk the last resistance had been cleared out. The net result was some fifty prisoners and large quantities of small arms and automatic weapons. Civilians stated that the Germans had taken "a great many" dead and wounded with them as they left.

The next morning, July 18, Leghorn fell to elements of the 363d and 135th Infantry regiments. The 2d and 3d Battalions of the 442d Infantry continued to drive north, meeting only scattered small-arms fire from the enemy's disorganized rearguard. The 3d Battalion seized Colle Salvetti, situated on the last high ground before the Arno River. The 2d Battalion moved up abreast on the left of the 3d. On July 19 both battalions set up defensive positions and sent patrols probing to the front to find out how far the enemy had withdrawn. From their observation posts the men could see the Leaning Tower of Pisa in the distance. Of more immediate importance, however, they could watch the occasional enemy activity in the flats in front of Pisa and direct artillery fire at it.

The same day the 100th Battalion moved into Leghorn under the control of the Fifth Army Intel-

ligence Collecting Unit. Here they were deployed around the city to protect key installations and keep order as the citizens of Leghorn slowly straggled back into their city from hiding places in the hills where they had taken refuge when attack seemed imminent.

Invariably, when a situation becomes somewhat stabilized, a number of rumors take form and begin circulating. This time, there were "unconfirmed reports" that the Germans were evacuating Pisa and pulling back across the Arno. The Division Commander wanted to find out if there were truth or fiction behind the report. Consequently, the 442d Infantry was called upon to furnish three patrols, each patrol to probe as far north as the Arno River if possible. Two 20-man patrols from Company G, led by Lieutenant Arthur M. Boyd and Lieutenant Francis R. Bianco, set out at 2100, July 20. At 2300 the same night a 12-man patrol from Company L, led by Lieutenant Edward E. Androvette and Lieutenant Norman F. Gilbert, took off for the same objective with a partisan guide and additional orders to make contact with the partisan leader in Pisa and bring back information that he had.

The two patrols from the 2d Battalion returned at midnight, July 21, having penetrated as far as the Pisa airfield south of the city. They reported that the area south of the Arno was still defended by the Germans, but not heavily. The Company L patrol was almost given up for lost, but it finally came wearily in about noon of July 22, having entered the southern part of the city of Pisa. The patrol had contacted the partisan leader and returned with a sketch of the entire enemy dispositions, including major minefields and river crossings which the Germans were using at the time. The patrol had had some bad moments, having spent most of the 21st hidden in the attic of a partisan's house while a German patrol wandered around downstairs.

On July 21 the Combat Team pushed out as far as Highway 67, the main east-west road between Leghorn and Florence, set up defensive positions there, and moved an outpost line some distance beyond the highway. The same night all elements were relieved by troops of the 133d and 135th Infantry regiments, and pulled back to a bivouac near Colle Salvetti. The following day the Combat Team less the 100th Battalion moved back to a rest area around Vada, where the 100th rejoined the unit on the 25th, having been relieved of the security of Leghorn.

Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, then Commanding General of the Fifth Army, arrived in the Combat Team Area July 27. In an impressive ceremony he decorated the colors and guidons of the 100th Battalion with the blue streamer which represents the Distinguished Unit Citation, awarded for outstanding accomplishment in combat in the Battle of Belvedere. General Clark also commended the other units of the Combat Team for their great accomplishments in the recent fighting for the port of Leghorn.

The following day elements of the 2d Battalion formed part of the Guard of Honor for His Majesty, King George VI of England, in a ceremony at Cecina.

During the week since they had been relieved the men had devoted most of their time to bathing, cleaning their equipment, relaxing, and unwinding themselves back to normal. The general consensus was that if this was the glory of war somebody else could have it. Some of the men remembered seeing some of the headlines of the North African campaign like the famous "Yanks Surge on to Gafsa." The papers at home had been dishing out the same old stuff the last few weeks. "Fifth Army Drives For Leghorn" had been one of the bigger headlines.

100th Battalion soldier patrolling in Leghorn

Top, King George VI of England and Lt.Gen. Mark W. Clark review 2d Battalion honor guard. Bottom, Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal and Lt.Gen. Mark W. Clark review 100th Battalion honor guard.

There was no longer a man in the Combat Team who didn't know now that you don't "surge" or "drive" over 200 yards of well-defended ground. The men remembered what those 200 yards had cost, 200 yards multiplied until they stretched into forty miles of hills that the Germans hadn't wanted to give up. The bill was paid now—paid in men mending slowly in hospitals, other men buried under neat white crosses in geometrically-arranged military cemeteries. The Joes who had been through the mill and come out were veterans now. They weren't ready to go back again; no man who has heard the screech of a shell just before it hits is ever ready to go back. They did go on, however, no longer in a spirit of high adventure, but with the dogged determination of men with a job to finish.

The men had parties and bull sessions in the evenings, and there was always something to laugh about when they looked back over the campaign. One of the best stories had to do with a day when the 2d Battalion had been in reserve. Staff Sergeant Kazuo Masuda, wandering through a nearby vegetable patch, spotted a German soldier cautiously approaching the adjacent farmhouse. He waited till the German was close enough and then took a shot at him. The startled Jerry took off closely followed by 25 of his buddies who streamed out of the house, believing they had been ambushed, and headed north as fast as their legs would carry them. Masuda was so surprised he forgot to shoot at them.

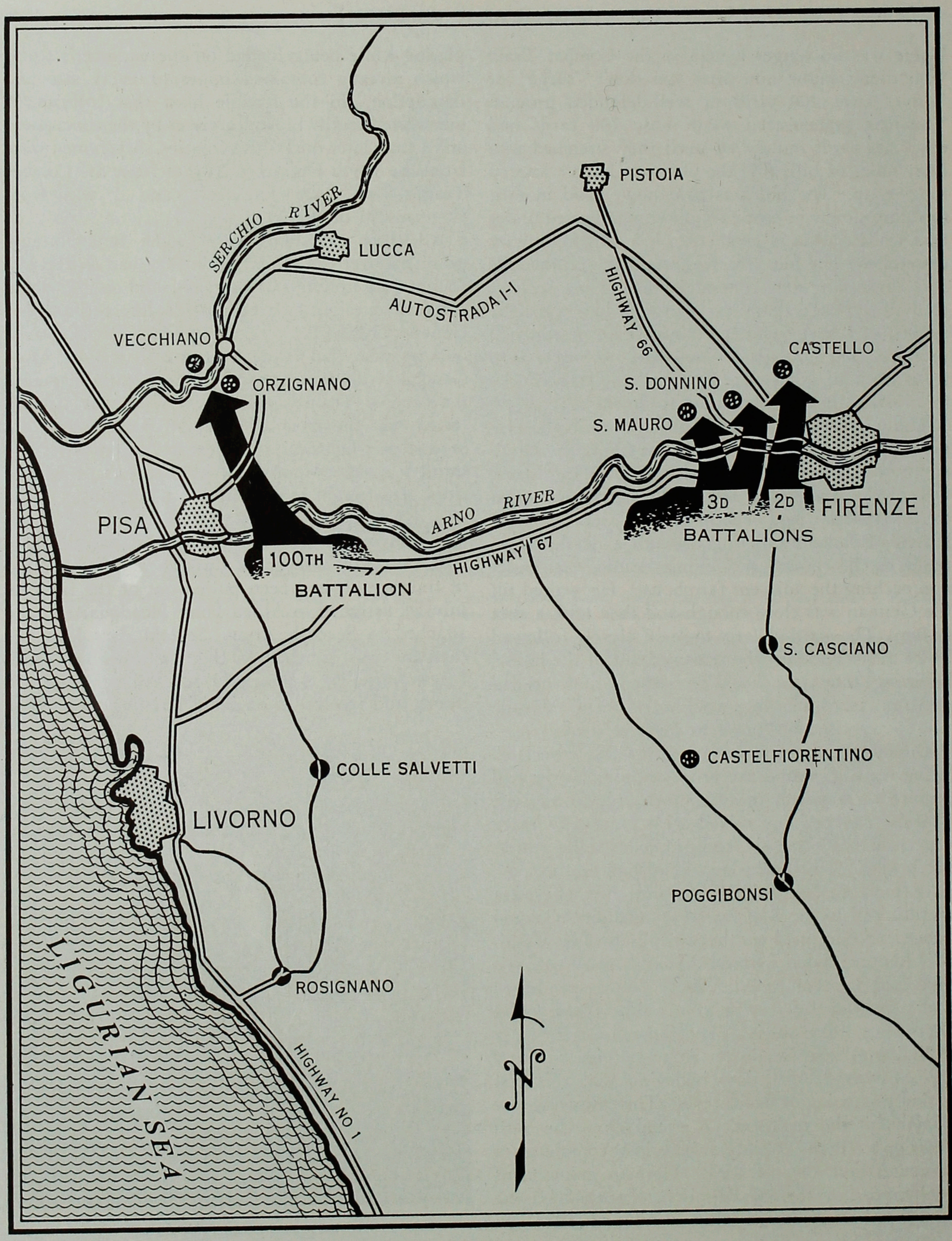
On another occasion Private First Class Francis T. Sakai, the Regimental executive officer's orderly, had acquired a goose, by means known only to himself. This he chopped up, mixed with practically every vegetable native to Italy, and proceeded to fix a mess of "hekka." Two hours later he dished up the stew, gave some to Colonel Miller, and then offered a messkit full to the Regimental commander, Colonel Pence, who declined on the grounds that he wasn't very hungry. Sakai favored the "old man" with his best cold stare and said, "Sir, I didn't spend two hours cooking this stuff so you could tell me you're not hungry. You eat it." The Colonel ate it.

Training began again on August 1, inasmuch as no one was deluded into believing that this rest period was going to last forever. The following day tragedy hit the regiment. A squad from the 34th Division's 109th Engineers had just completed a demonstration of the latest German mines and boobytraps for the 3d Battalion. Fortunately, the battalion had dispersed when a crate of TNT exploded while being loaded on the engineer's truck, which already contained mines of every size and description. In the terrible blast that followed 9 men were literally blown to pieces by the concussion, and 1 man later died of his injuries. Seven men were from the 109th Engineers, 2 were from the Combat Team's own 232d Engineers, and 1 was from Company M of the 442d.

All three battalions spent some time running problems over the same terrain they had so recently fought for, ironing out mistakes, and seeing where a maneuver might have been made differently. Major General Charles L. Bolte, former 69th Division commander who had taken over the Red Bulls when General Ryder was transferred, frequently inspected the Combat Team's training exercises. He also directed that the men be given all possible training in mountain fighting. So far the 442d Combat Team, trained in the swamps and pine forests of Mississippi, had fought in nothing but mountains.

In a bivouac area near Rome the Regimental Antitank Company was going through a different kind of training. It had been pulled out of the lines on July 14, assigned to Allied Force Headquarters, and attached to Seventh Army. Several days later the company was attached to the First Airborne Task Force. Initially, the men bivouacked near Lido di Roma, and received their initial briefing there. The

BAR man firing at field targets



ITALY: Arno River, Florence Area

mission was to provide antitank protection to the 1st ABTF in the invasion of Southern France. The company then moved to Marcigliana Airfield on July 28, borrowing 6-pounder cannon from the British because their own 57mm guns were too large and unwieldy for airborne operations.

Classes for the men consisted of loading, lashing, and unloading until every man was letter-perfect in his job. On the 2d and 3d of August all the platoons completed their two required tactical flights. The unit then moved to another bivouac area south of Rome where they went through the entire operation with the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment on terrain that was as much like the objective in France as possible. The various platoons left their trucks, guns, and baggage in charge of a sea detail which would bring them to France sometime after D-day, and moved to their dispersal area to wait.

On August 10 the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) was redesignated as the 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry, and the entire Combat Team was reorganized according to new tables of organization.

The next move came as a surprise to everyone. The 442d Regimental Combat Team was detached from the 34th Division, effective August 15. The 100th Battalion was attached to IV Corps and the remainder of the unit was attached to II Corps and the 85th Division. The following day the Combat Team loaded on trucks, bag and baggage, and moved east to Castelfiorentino. No sooner had the unit arrived than it was detached from the 85th Division and attached to the 88th Division, effective August 17. By this time no one knew what to expect next and cared less. The men began to feel slightly like the eggs in a juggling act. Having packed and unpacked three times in three days, the kitchen crews were apt to hit anyone who complained about the chow over the head with an iron pot. Orders were orders, however, so the men packed up again and moved to another assembly area at Giogoli on the 19th. There they found that they were to move again the next night, this time to relieve elements of the British XIII Corps along the Arno River just west of Florence.

One of the bright spots in all the confusion was the record of the Combat Team swimmers in Rome. Under the coaching of Captain Katsumi Kometani, the 442d team representing the Fifth Army won the Mediterranean Theater title against competition which included former Olympic and national champions from all the Allied armed forces in the theater.

Private First Class Charles Oda took three firsts and Private Halo Hirose took one. The other members of the team were: Private First Class Yujiro Takahashi, Private John Tsukano, Private Kenneth Oshima, Technician Fifth Grade Itsuhi Oshita, Technician Fifth Grade Thomas Tanaka, Private Mike Mizuki, Private First Class Robert Iwamoto, Private Joseph Yasuda, and Private First Class Asami Higuchi.

On the left of the sector the 100th Battalion moved from Vada August 16 to the Arno River line near Pisa, relieving a motley collection of American and British antiaircraft units which had been filling in as infantry. The relief was effected by 0300 hours August 17. The three rifle companies were disposed abreast, Company B on the left at the town of Oratio; Company C in the center near Badia; Company A on the right flank in the vicinity of San Lorenzo.

On August 19 the enemy, suspecting that the line might be weakly held, launched a probing attack at Company A's positions, preceded by a mortar and artillery barrage. Private Masao Nakae, holding an outpost position, had his tommy gun damaged by a shell fragment during the first stages of the attack. He picked up a wounded man's M-1 rifle and fired rifle grenades at the advancing German infantry. When this failed to stop the attack Nakae threw six hand grenades into the enemy force and drove it back temporarily. In the next barrage Nakae was wounded by a mortar fragment. Despite his injury he continued to fire his rifle at the enemy, now attacking again, and inflicted such severe casualties that the attack was broken up. Private Nakae was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for exceptional heroism.

What was happening now all along the front became fairly obvious from the disposition of troops. The bulk of the Fifth Army was being regrouped south of Florence for the impending strike at Futa Pass and Bologna while the British Eighth Army was swinging further east. The problem was to keep this from becoming equally obvious to the Germans. Accordingly the 442d Combat Team was directed to make a considerable show of strength, patrolling aggressively all along its front to keep the enemy off balance and worried about where the next strike would come from.

The 2d and 3d Battalions moved into the line on the night of August 20-21, relieving elements of the

German and American medics mix under the Geneva flag

1st British Division on a six-mile front. The 3d Battalion held the left sector, with the 2d Battalion on the right across the Greve River. The 232d Engineers were temporarily constituted as a rifle company in case a mobile reserve should be needed.

Patrols were very active on both sides, and the peculiar terrain made patrolling extremely dangerous. The ground was as level as a tabletop, but was so crisscrossed with hedges and vineyards that visibility from ground level was never more than a hundred yards at the maximum, usually less.

Almost immediately it was discovered that the Germans were maintaining a patrol base in San Columbano on the south side of the Arno and on the left flank of the 3d Battalion. Captain Robert L. Hempstead, commanding officer of Company M, volunteered to lead a combined Company M and L patrol to wipe out the enemy nest. The patrol went out August 23, taking along a forward observer from Cannon Company. Aided by fire from Cannon Company the patrol cleared out one enemy strongpoint, killing eight Germans and wounding several others. As the patrol worked its way beyond San Columbano it was ambushed near a canal and caught in a crossfire from two enemy machine guns, supported by mortars.

Captain Hempstead, seeing the patrol was trapped, left his covered position and opened fire with a tommy gun, drawing the enemy's attention to him. He was instantly killed by a burst of machine-gun fire, but by creating a diversion, he enabled his remaining men to withdraw to better positions and call down artillery fire on the enemy. Captain Hempstead was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for gallantry at the cost of his life.

Aid men and litter bearers were called up to evacuate the three men who had been wounded in the encounter. These men lay in full view of the enemy. The aid men led by Staff Sergeant James Kanaye calmly took their lives in their hands. They raised their red cross flag and walked out in full view of the enemy, a procedure which was highly dangerous at best inasmuch as German troops had shot our aid men several times during the campaign in direct violation of the Geneva Convention. This time the Germans held their fire. When the wounded had been treated, a German medic raised his red cross flag and joined Sergeant Kanaye between the lines, where he gave him some information on the condition of Lieutenant Ralph Potter, who had been wounded in the action and taken prisoner by the Germans. The medics withdrew with their patients and the war was on again. The following day, Chaplain Masao Yamada went to the same spot to remove the bodies of the dead. He also met a German party under the Geneva flag, who assisted him and his group in evacuating the bodies.

Patrols from both battalions had gotten across the

Arno, but had been unable to capture prisoners. Our II Corps desperately needed prisoners to find out what the enemy knew or suspected about our prospective plans, and also to learn the German troop dispositions. In the 100th Battalion's zone, near Pisa, prisoners taken had come from the 65th Division, *Luftwaffe* Ground Forces, and Corps was also anxious to find out if the opposition near Florence was made up of similar second-rate troops.

A patrol from Company K of the 3d Battalion was the first to have any luck. Innumerable patrols had gone out through past nights; men had been hit by artillery and small arms; other men had been killed or had feet blown off by one of the thousands of mines the Germans had laid along the river banks. No one had come back with prisoners. This patrol had run into a firefight on the river bank and was headed back to the company CP, a little sorry they had not been able to take prisoners but more than thankful there had been no casualties. About 150 yards from the CP there was a sudden halt and a challenge came from the squad leader as he peered into a dark irrigation ditch which ran under a culvert. Quickly the men surrounded the culvert and one man fired a warning shot into the ditch. This was immediately followed by cries of "Kamerad," and four very unhappy Germans emerged. They, too, had been sent to get prisoners. Corps had its PWs, who turned out to be grade "A" troops of the 71st *Panzergrenadier* Regiment, and everybody was happy. The following night, August 29, a combined patrol from Companies E and G took five more prisoners from the same unit.

For the next two days and nights there was considerable evidence of a general enemy withdrawal to the well-prepared Gothic Line. Outposts heard demolitions, and air observation confirmed that the Germans were blowing bridges a considerable distance north of the Arno. Accordingly, all battalions made elaborate plans to cross the river and establish a secure bridgehead on the north side.

The 232d Engineers reconnoitered crossings over the Arno so that vehicles could follow up the foot troops. Reconnaissance showed that it would be necessary for them to remove hundreds of mines and mark or tape off hundreds more before the crossing could be made.

Fifth Army gave the go-ahead order on August 31. The following day a strong patrol from the 2d and 3d Battalions established a bridgehead across the river. At 1900 Company F, supported by tanks and assisted by engineers, crossed the river and occupied the town of Peretola. Two hours later Company K crossed the river on the left of the regimental sector and, guided through the minefields by partisans, occupied San Mauro.

In the Pisa sector Company C of the 100th Battalion crossed the Arno at 1200 September 1, followed by Company A some three hours later. This bridgehead was held until engineers could construct a bridge to get tanks and supporting artillery across. On September 3 the battalion, all three companies abreast, moved north as far as the Serchio River, where the men encountered enemy defensive positions in considerable strength.

Patrols from the 2d and 3d Battalions sent out on September 2, probed north six kilometers before running into enemy patrols. That night the 349th Infantry of the 88th Division passed through our lines and drove on to the north. Company F withdrew south of the river, but Company K remained in position until September 5 as insurance that the enemy would not molest the Arno Crossing which the engineers had so laboriously constructed. Beginning September 6 the Combat Team was detached from the 88th Division and moved south to the coast at Castiglioncello, where the 100th Battalion rejoined the rest of the unit after it was relieved along the Serchio River the night of September 6.

For several days prior to the relief there had been considerable argument going on in the stratospheric levels of command as to whether the 442d Combat Team should continue with the attack of the Fifth Army or join the Seventh Army in France. The men wanted to go to France. The Seventh Army had been going up the Rhone Valley hell bent for election. General Patton's Third Army had not yet stalled in its drive toward Germany. Everybody was expecting the war to end any day now, and most of the GIs wanted to get to France and get in on some of the blitz before it was too late. They were tired of walking up and down an endless succession of hills. Unfortunately the Combat Team's crystal ball was out of order at the time. What the men expected and what they got were as far apart as the poles.

The final decision was to send the Combat Team to the Seventh Army in France. Accordingly, the unit moved from its bivouac area to the port at Piombino on September 10, embarking on Liberty ships for Naples the same day. On arrival at Naples around midnight of September 11 the unit was

detached from Fifth Army and assigned to Seventh Army.

After the quartering parties had done some frantic scurrying around the various sections of the 2d Replacement Depot in the dead of night, most of the Combat Team finally got its pup tents pitched in a group of olive groves several kilometers outside of Naples, which was something of a blessing. Naples was even dirtier and more crowded than most of the men last remembered it.

For the first few days in the area the men washed, cleaned their equipment, loafed, or took passes to Pompeii and Naples. The rest period came to an abrupt end on the 18th of September when 672 replacements, mostly young Nisei from the continental United States, joined the Combat Team and were assigned to companies. These men had to be trained and integrated into their companies while there was still time to do the job. There would be no opportunity for orientation after the Combat Team went back in the lines—then it would be sink or swim.

From the Replacement Depot the Combat Team moved to Staging Area Number 1 in what had once been the University of Naples. Equipment and vehicles were immediately trucked to the port and loaded aboard ship under the supervision of our own advance parties and Coast Guard crews. Finally, on September 26 and 27 the troops boarded light assault boats which shuttled them out to the waiting Navy transports. Precisely at 1200 September 27 the unit, aboard the transports *Thurston, Dickman, Chase,* and *Henrico,* sailed for Marseille. Ahead lay the bitterest fighting the men were ever to see.

CHAPTER 5

BATTLE OF BRUYERES

AS THE 442d Combat Team landed in France the Seventh Army had reached the end of its rope. The advance which had swept up the 500-mile Rhone Valley in a matter of weeks was grinding to a halt. German resistance had stiffened and the assault divisions had run into the incredibly bad terrain in the Vosges Mountains. Added to that, supply lines were stretched to the breaking point. Fifty per cent of the cargo that was put ashore in Marseille never touched the ground. It went from the ships into trucks, and the trucks took off for the front. The railroad system was operating, but there were not enough cars, locomotives, or track to operate it efficiently.

The troops went ashore on September 30. By the following morning most of the unit had moved about ten miles by train to a staging area in the vicinity of Septemes, just outside Marseille. At this time the staging area consisted of several open fields on top of a hill. Living conditions for the first two or three days weren't especially bad, although the wind blew constantly. All companies drew new machine guns, mortars, and bazookas and proceeded to test them on whatever suitable ground could be found.

Then the rains came. Whoever was arranging the weather in Marseille at the time managed it very nicely. First the wind rose to gale proportions and blew down all the tents. As soon as the camp area was completely wrecked it began to rain. Most of the men's equipment and clothing was completely soaked; some of it didn't have a chance to dry thoroughly for three months.

Meanwhile Seventh Army Headquarters was moving heaven and earth to get the Combat Team into the lines. Delta Base Section had no transportation it could spare. Matters stood there for a day or so, until Colonel Pence was notified that a QM Truck Company was on its way from Epinal, five hundred miles away, to pick up the unit and take it to the front. The trucks drifted in by twos and threes all through October 8. When all transportation arrived that was coming in and the officer in charge had counted noses, he found that about twenty-five per cent of the trucks had broken down en route.

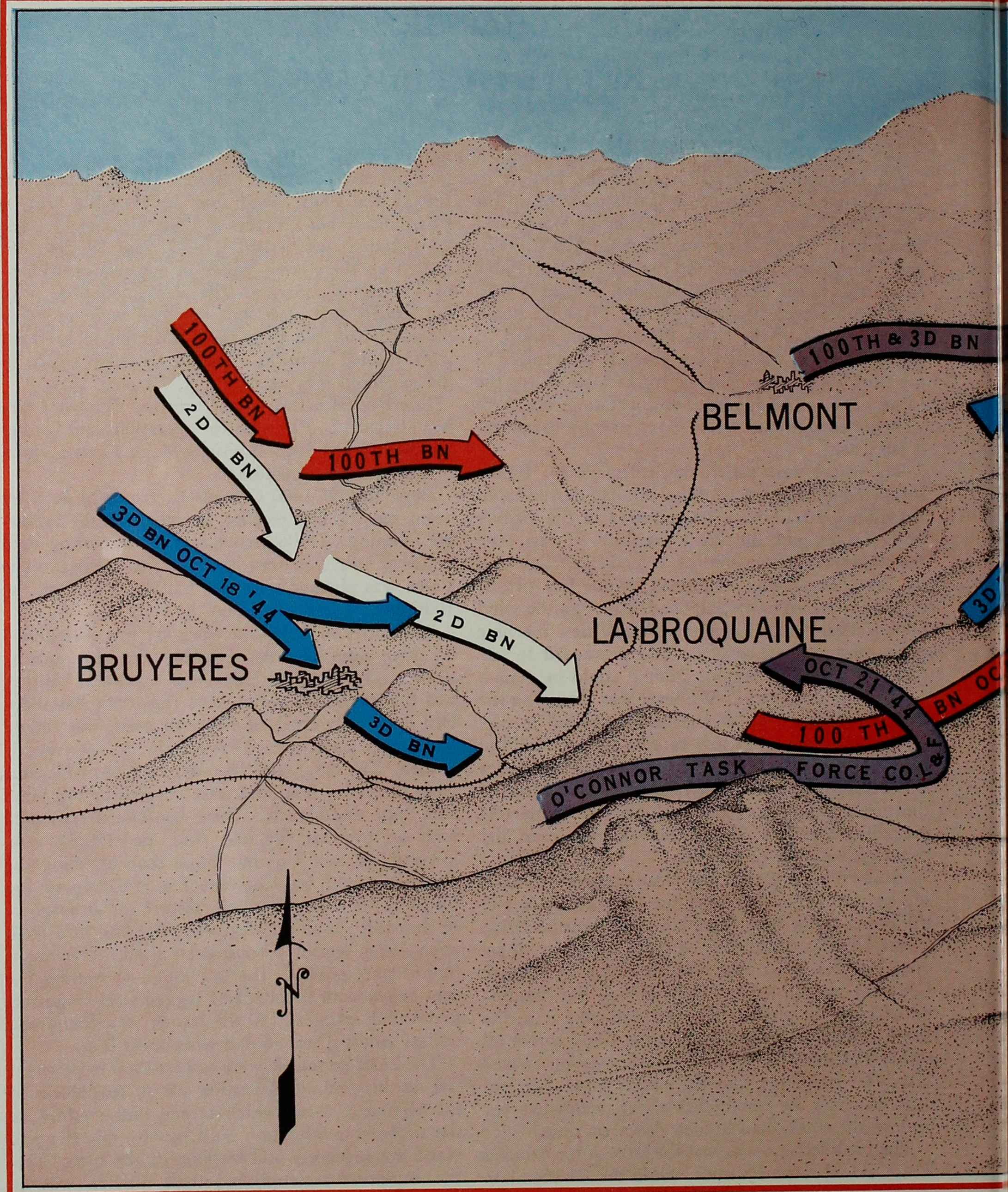
The final decision was that the bulk of the Combat Team would move by truck, while the 3d Battalion moved by rail. After three days of traveling in the rain and bivouacking in pastures, all elements except the 3d Battalion closed into an assembly area at Charmois-devant-Bruyeres at 1230, October 11. The 3d Battalion which had left by train on the 10th rattled up the Rhone Valley in a weird assortment of "40 and 8" boxcars. The accommodations were not exactly first class, but the men were probably more comfortable than their unfortunate brethren who traveled in trucks. The 3d Battalion closed in the assembly area at midnight, October 13.

Effective on arrival in the area the Combat Team was attached to VI Corps for operations and further attached to the 36th Division, Major General John E. Dahlquist commanding.

Beginning at 1400 October 14 the 442d Infantry began moving into position for an attack the following morning. The objective was the important road center of Bruyeres, four kilometers to the east. The attack was planned with two battalions abreast, the 100th on the left, the 2d on the right.

The valley in which the town lay was surrounded on three sides by hills. For the sake of simplicity these were designated Hills A, B, C, and D. Hill A was the immediate objective of the 100th Battalion; Hill B, directly north of Bruyeres itself, was the 2d Battalion's objective. The terrain was incredibly broken. The mountains rose several hundred meters from the valley floor and were covered by tall pines and thick underbrush. These conditions combined with an overcast sky and cold, penetrating rain, lowered the men's morale more than anything the Germans could do. Sometimes a low-hanging fog rolled in to lend the whole picture an atmosphere of unreality, as if the men were fighting in a cold, alien dream world. Almost every shell the Germans lobbed over burst in the tall pines, showering the men below with hundreds of jagged steel fragments and wood splinters. A slit trench was completely useless unless it was roofed with heavy logs.

The 232d Engineers were to face their most severe test on this ground. Extensive use of roadblocks by the Germans, roads which turned into swamps on the slightest provocation, and heavily mined areas, taxed the ingenuity and stamina of the men. That the engineers accomplished their mission was at-


100TH & 3D BN
BELMONT
100TH BN
2D BN
3D BN OCT 18 '44
2D BN
LA BROQUAINE
BRUYERES
OCT 21 '44
100 TH
3D BN
O'CONNOR TASK FORCE CO L&F
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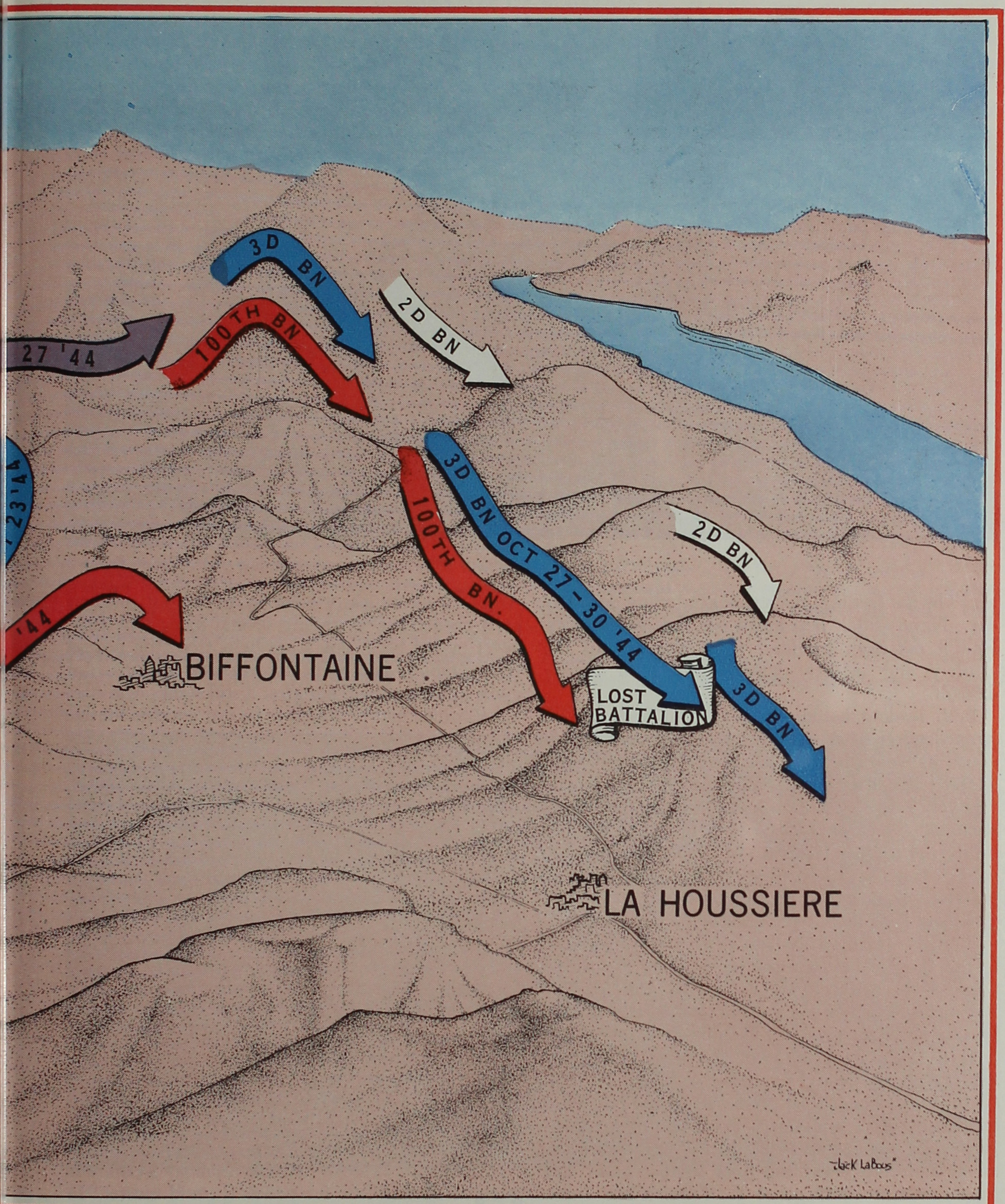
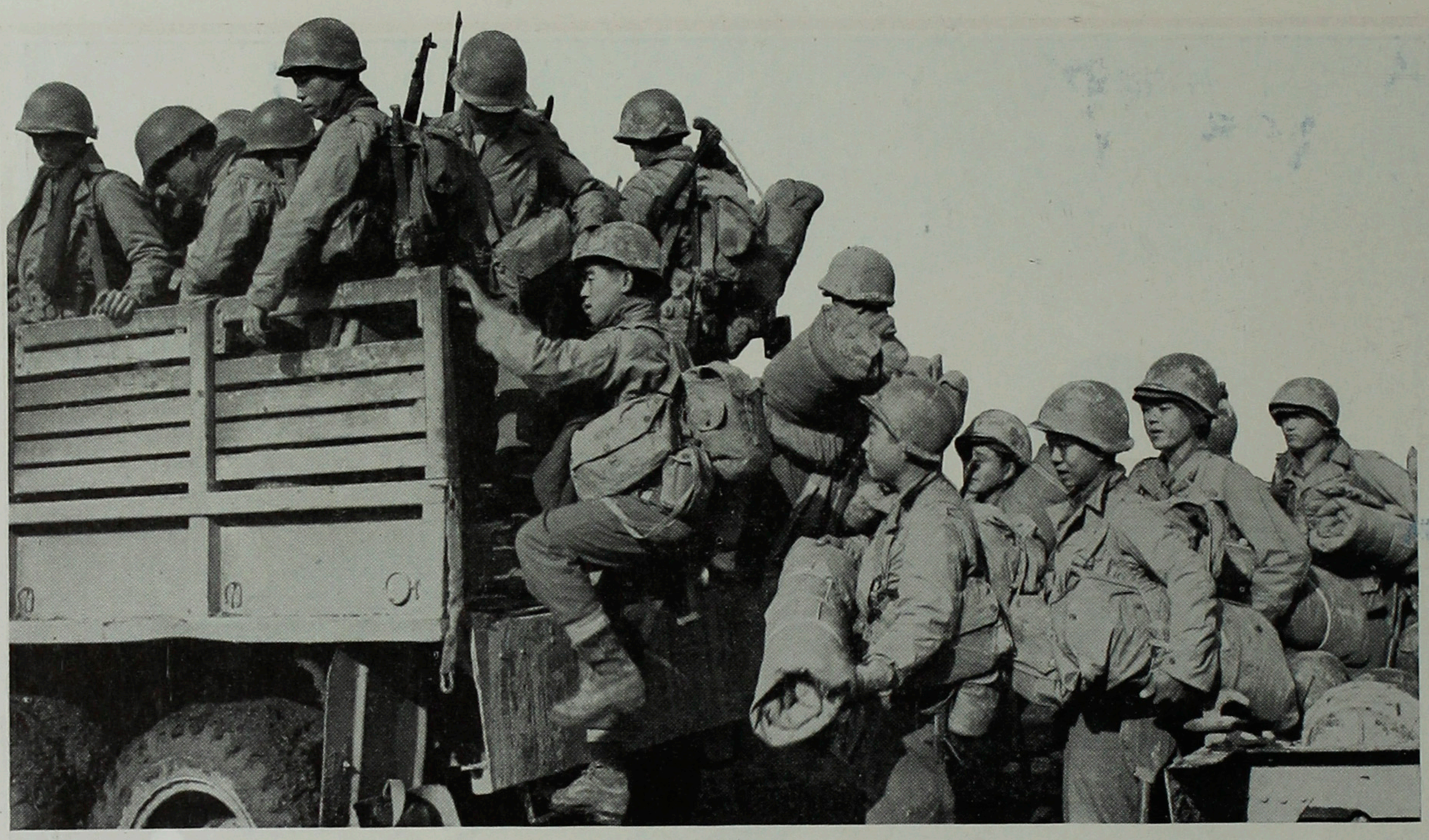


FRANCE: Vosges Mountains, Epinal to St. Die



Faces of men on their way to battle

tested by the fact that the attack kept going day after day. Never did it bog down for lack of supplies. Had it not been for their work, the task of the artillery and infantry would have been doubly difficult.

Both leading battalions, the 100th and the 2d, jumped off at 0800 October 15, moving out in columns of companies. The battalion commanders adopted this formation principally because no one was very sure where the Germans were or in what strength. Moving cautiously in the dense underbrush, the leading elements had covered about 300 yards when the first resistance developed at 0915. By 1000 Company B of the 100th Battalion and Company F of the 2d Battalion were both involved in firefights with strong enemy forces. Companies C and E were then committed, but the opposition was too well dug-in to be knocked out quickly. The Regiment was able to gain about 500 yards and take twenty prisoners in a day-long battle.

Early in the fight the 100th Battalion had passed and supposedly cleared an enemy roadblock of felled trees which extended for 400 yards on the only road in the Combat Team sector. A platoon of the 232d Engineer Company was called up to neutralize the mines and clear away the trees so that tanks and supply vehicles could get to the forward battalions. As the engineer party went to work four machine guns opened up, wounding several men. The engineers pulled back, got some help from the nearest rifle company and went to work on the machine guns, knocking them out after a stiff fight. The road block, which had promised to be just another routine job, was finally cleared at 0800 the following morning.

The 100th Battalion's reserve unit, Company A, took the worst pounding of the day, although it was never committed to action. As the men were digging in an enemy mortar barrage burst in the trees overhead, killing 1 man and wounding 19 others. There was no way the men could get away from the deadly tree-bursts.

Prisoners were from the 19th *SS* Police Regiment and the 223d *Grenadier* Regiment. They talked freely about what they knew, mostly information on their company installations. They had very little knowledge of the German strength or defenses as a whole, however. This tendency continued to show up all through the campaign. The average German soldier was very poorly informed. The Germans were quite certain of only one thing. Every unit had been ordered to hold to the last man.

It was very evident that the Combat Team was going to need all the fire-power it could muster. In

addition to the 522d Field Artillery and the Engineers, there were several other attachments: Company B of the 752d Tank Battalion; Company C of the 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion; Company D of the 83d Chemical Mortar Battalion (4.2-inch mortars); the 36th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop; and the 886th Medical Collecting Company.

Both battalions jumped off at the same time the morning of October 16 and again met heavy resistance. On the right of the Regimental sector Companies E and F occupied Hill 555, northwest of Bruyeres, by 1100. As the troops came down off the hill and attempted to cross the open valley to attack Hill "B," they were pinned to the ground by a tremendous volley of fire from their objective. On the left the 100th Battalion found itself in the same predicament. Companies A and C had cleared their sector of Hill 555, but they were unable to cross the narrow, open valley to get at Hill "A."

To make matters worse, the enemy mounted a counterattack in battalion strength just as dusk and an evening mist began to cloak the little valley. The full force of the attack fell on the 2d Battalion, although enough fire was directed at the 100th to keep it from being of much assistance. The enemy infantry had fire support from artillery, mortars, self-propelled guns, and a platoon of tanks. Forward observers with the 2d Battalion called down hundreds of rounds of fire from the 522d Field Artillery and the 4.2 mortars. Undoubtedly this broke the back of the enemy assault, but the GIs in the slit trenches still had to fight for an hour in the eerie half-light before the last of the enemy infantry had been driven off. In fact Companies E and F dug several Germans out of their defense perimeters the following morning after it was light enough to see.

No sooner had that been done than the enemy was at it again. At 0730, just after dawn, two companies of German infantry made another attack against Companies E and F on Hill 555. At the same time two more companies hit the 100th Battalion on the left. After an hour of bitter close-in fighting the Germans pulled back to the forward slopes of Hill "A" and Hill "B." At 0930 the Krauts re-formed and tried it again, supported by artillery and a platoon of tanks which hit the 2d Battalion's positions. Unable to maneuver antitank guns through the heavy forest, the battalion formed six bazooka teams and finally succeeded in beating off the armor.

The second counterattack hit the forward platoons of the 100th just as they were jumping off on an attack of their own. Some of the enemy troops managed to break into the positions, and for some time there was a strong possibility that the counterattack might succeed. Germans and Nisei were fighting individual actions at point-blank range. Gradually the situation came under control; squads re-formed and the assaulting troops were beaten back with heavy losses.

Elements of 3d Battalion moving up in regimental reserve

Immediately the 100th and 2d Battalions resumed the offensive, hoping that the enemy was sufficiently disorganized to permit a breakthrough. As soon as the leading troops of the assault companies appeared in the valley, however, they again came under heavy fire from Hills "A" and "B." In addition the Germans had now fortified the houses at the foot of both hills and emplaced machine guns in them. The first problem was to reduce these houses. They were strongly built and resisted artillery fire, so the only thing left to do was to go in and dig the machine gunners out.

Company G was committed around the regimental right flank late in the afternoon. It succeeded in clearing out some of the buildings at the base of Hill 555, but was unable to advance on Hill "B" because of the heavy fire. On the 100th Battalion front Companies B and C also ran into fire from an estimated fifteen machine guns and two light antitank guns. The C Company commander then sent Lieutenant Masanao Otake with a patrol to try to cross the valley and determine the enemy strength in the houses at the foot of Hill "A." The patrol crossed safely under cover of a low-hanging fog and entered the first house without opposition. Lieutenant Otake left his patrol and checked the next farm alone. While he was inside, the enemy discovered him and attacked the house. Lieutenant Otake fought gallantly, aided by fire from the other members of his patrol. He was able to take a heavy toll of the enemy force before he was killed by a burst of machine-pistol fire. His gallant stand enabled the rest of the patrol to return with information that was vital to the success of the attack the following day. Lieutenant Otake was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Prisoners taken during the last two days indicated that additional German units were being thrown into the battle. Interrogation established that the 736th *Grenadier* Regiment was holding Bruyeres. Several of the prisoners taken were from Fortress Machine Gun Battalion 49. These machine-gun battalions were not ordinarily used by the Germans except on what they intended to be permanent defensive positions.

Just before dawn on October 18 the 3d Battalion moved into position on the right of the 2d, poised for a drive straight at Bruyeres. Companies I and L reached the line of departure without being observed, which was extremely fortunate. Otherwise the men would have had to cross hundreds of yards of open ground which the enemy could have raked with fire. The attack was preceded by a thirty-minute artillery barrage on Hills A and B as well as Bruyeres itself. Five battalions of artillery, sixty guns firing as fast as the pieces could be loaded, literally blanketed the objective with shell fragments. On the heels of the barrage eight companies of the 442d Infantry attacked. At the same time one battalion of the 143d Infantry on the right attacked Bruyeres from the south.

The attack went off at 1000, but the Germans were ready. In spite of the fact that the barrage must have taken a tremendous toll in dead and wounded, the resistance was fierce. By 1100 Company B had reduced the machine-gun nests in the houses at the foot of Hill A and was starting into the forest. Company A had initially swung to the left and covered Company B's left flank. As soon as the valley had been safely passed, it swung back into reserve and followed Company B up the hill, mopping up enemy stragglers. Company C attacked on the battalion right. After four and a half hours of violent fighting, Hill "A" was taken and all three rifle companies of the 100th dug in against a possible counterattack.

Two hours after the initial attack Companies F and G were still fighting in the open area between their line of departure and Hill "B." The key machine gun in the enemy defensive line was finally knocked out by 60mm mortar fire and both companies were able to get a toehold on Hill "B." On the right of Company G elements of Company I had gone around the base of the hill and were fighting their way up the southern slopes. Faced with the threat to their flank the Germans were unable to give all their attention to the 2d Battalion's frontal attack and their defenses finally cracked after six and a half hours of fighting. As soon as the hill was taken Company L pushed into Bruyeres from the north end and began to comb the town house by house. An advance patrol from Company L made contact with Company C of the 143d Infantry at 1830. When the contact was made the town had fallen, to all intents and purposes, although a group of Germans barricaded themselves in the city square and held out for several hours.

The enemy had thrown all he had into the defense of Bruyeres and lost. The regiment had captured 134 prisoners during the day's fighting, and German losses in killed and wounded had been at least that great. In addition to the units the Combat Team

522d Field Artillery gun crew firing in support of the attack on Bruyeres

had already been facing, prisoners also came from the 736th *Grenadier* Regiment, the 198th *Fusilier* Battalion, and the 192d *Panzer Grenadier* Regiment. There were also a few men from various "Battle Groups," hastily formed from remnants of other units and named for the officers who commanded them.

The enemy had constructed two massive concrete road blocks inside Bruyeres. The 232d Engineers blew one of these the same night the city fell and reduced the other the following morning. The blasts very efficiently took care of any windows in the city that the artillery barrage had left unbroken.

The next objective for the regiment was Hill "D," east of Bruyeres. While the 100th Battalion remained in reserve on Hill "A," the 2d and 3d Battalions attacked to the east at 1000, October 19. Hill "D" was taken by noon, and the leading companies quickly reorganized for an attack on the railroad embankment east of Bruyeres on the edge of the Forêt de Belmont. By 1800 the leading companies were dug in on the west side of embankment, about a hundred yards from a strong German force dug in on the opposite side. Companies I and K found that their positions were in the middle of an enemy minefield, but they had no choice but to stay where they were. Inasmuch as the regiments on the flanks had not advanced, the 2d and 3d Battalions formed a salient of 2,000 yards into enemy territory. To the left rear of the regiment Hill "C" remained strongly held by an enemy force. Although this group was cut off it showed no disposition to surrender.

Consequently the Division Commander ordered the 100th Battalion to assault and seize the positions by 1200 October 20. Colonel Singles launched his attack with his full strength, three companies abreast. The troops were on the objective by noon, but the speed of the advance left a number of enemy pockets in the battalion's rear which required about three more hours of sharp fighting to clean out.

The situation was further confused by the fact that a strong German force had infiltrated back to Hill "D" during the night. Estimated at almost a

hundred men, these troops were raising merry hell with the rear elements of the 2d and 3d Battalions, as well as engineers who were trying to sweep the road east from Bruyeres. Company F, the 2d Battalion's reserve, was ordered to attack the positions. One platoon of Company H and a platoon of Company L from the 3d Battalion supported the attack from the right flank.

The enemy launched a strong counterattack on the regimental front at 1030, supported by tanks and artillery fire. Two of these tanks, followed by infantry, hit the Company G sector. The platoon in which Staff Sergeant Yoshimi R. Fujiwara was a squad leader was already in a firefight and found itself further menaced by fire from the two tanks and their supporting riflemen. Sergeant Fujiwara climbed a slight knoll in the area and attempted to stop the tanks with antitank grenades. Finding that his fire was ineffective, he got a bazooka from one of his men and returned to the knoll. Even though he knew that the flash from the rocket would reveal his position, he fired and scored a partial hit on the lead tank. The tank was damaged but continued to advance, raking Fujiwara's position with machine-gun fire. He continued to expose himself until he finally succeeded in knocking out the vehicle with his fifth rocket. On seeing this the crew of the second tank withdrew, followed by the supporting infantry. Sergeant Fujiwara's gallantry at the risk of his life prevented a possible breakthrough of Company G's line by the enemy infantry and armor. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Meanwhile progress on Hill "D" had been extremely slow. The enemy had gotten a firm hold on the terrain and had no intention of being driven off a second time. The battle was still deadlocked when a soldier from the 2d platoon of Company F was wounded. Technical Sergeant Abraham Ohama went to his aid, and he was also hit. This was within the rules of war since Sergeant Ohama was not an aidman and was not wearing the Geneva Cross. Litter bearers then came up to remove the wounded men. Sergeant Ohama had been put on the stretcher and was being carried away when the enemy opened fire again, killing him where he lay. That was the mistake that finished the Germans. Without a word or a command the entire unit came to its feet and charged the enemy positions, closing in to point-blank range. In the battle that followed fifty Germans were killed and seven saved themselves only by hiding until evening and then surrendering.

Early on the morning of October 20 the same enemy group on Hill "D" had attacked a carrying party. In the fight to extricate this group Staff Sergeant Robert H. Kuroda of Company H had led a squad in an attack on a machine-gun nest and some enemy riflemen. Spotting the gun Kuroda made his way to within ten yards of it and then killed the crew with hand grenades. With the gun out of the way he engaged in a pitched battle with enemy riflemen, killing three. He then noticed that an officer had been hit. Running to help him, Kuroda found that the lieutenant had been killed. He picked up the tommy gun the officer had been carrying, and knocked out another machine-gun emplacement. As he turned to fire on its supporting riflemen, he was instantly killed by a sniper. His gallantry was partly responsible for the rescue of the carrying party, and he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

During the afternoon of the 20th observers spotted an enemy armored column moving down the road from Belmont toward the regimental left flank. Colonel Pence sent Task Force Felber out on the Bruyeres-Belmont road to meet this threat. Task Force Felber was a highly mobile unit made up of tanks, tank destroyers, engineers, and a platoon of Company A, 442d Infantry. Before the two armored units could clash four Thunderbolt fighters got into the air and bombed and strafed the column. They reported seven direct hits.

At 1710 the 2d and 3d Battalions attacked again behind a twenty-minute preparation by four battalions of artillery. They were able to cross the railroad embankment, but fields of S mines and dug-in enemy positions stopped the attack on the edge of the Bois de Belmont. In the fighting a BAR man from Company K killed a German *Oberleutnant,* adjutant to the commander of the sector. Later examination showed that the officer was carrying plans for the defense of the entire sector. These were immediately sent to G-2 at division headquarters.

Using the information contained in the captured papers, the Division Commander and the Combat Team Commander worked out a plan to crack the enemy defenses. During the night the reserve companies of the 2d and 3d Battalions, F and L, quietly pulled out of their positions and assembled near Bruyeres. Major Emmet L. O'Connor, 3d Battalion executive officer, took command of this task force, and added wire and radio crews and a mine-sweeping squad. The mission of the task force was to move

Squad of 3d Battalion Pioneer Platoon moves up to clear minefield beyond Bruyeres

to a point opposite the south end of Hill 505, the ridge which the Germans held, under cover of darkness. At dawn the unit was to move to the top of the ridge, and attack the enemy left flank at 0900. At the same time the 2d and 3d Battalions would resume their frontal attack on Hill 505.

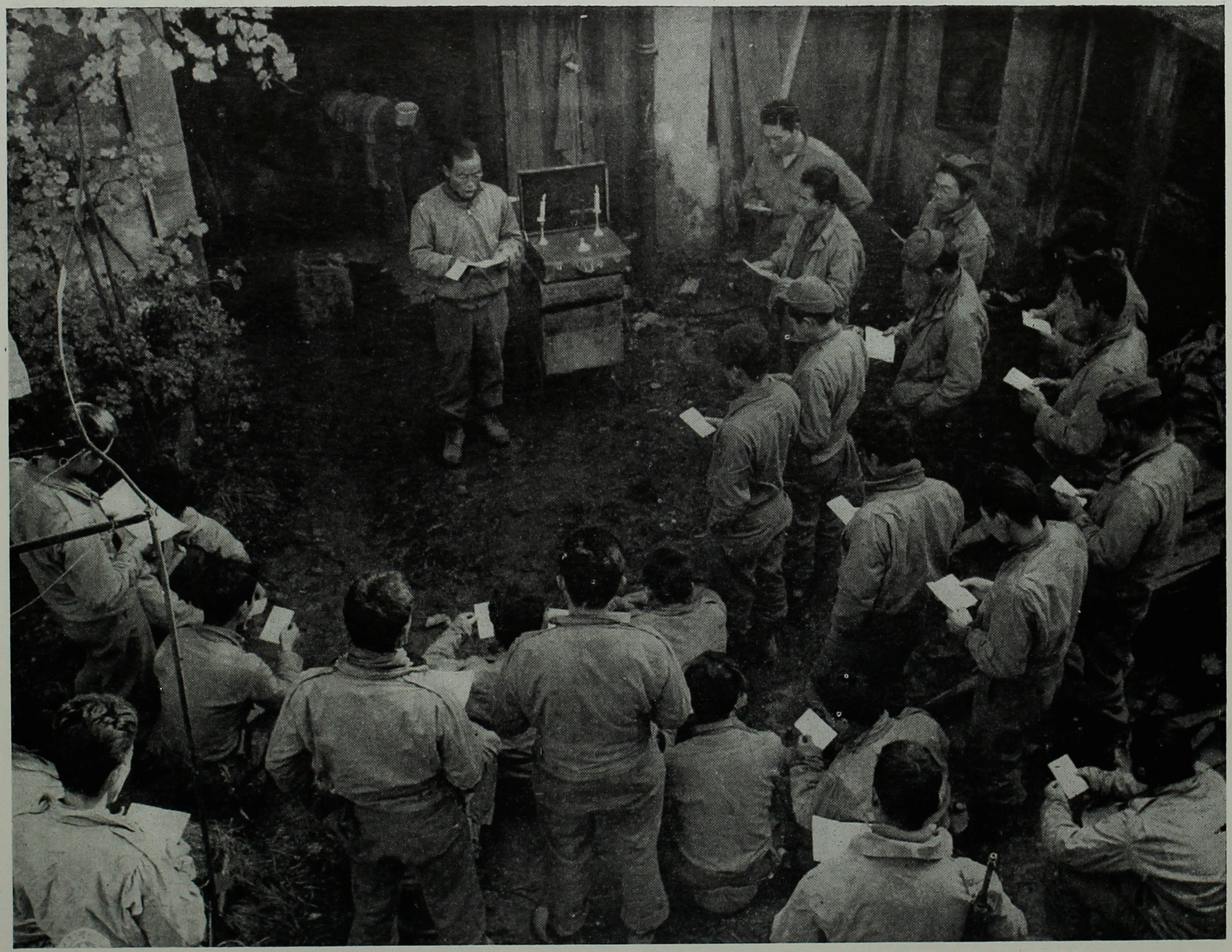
The plan worked perfectly. Twenty-five minutes after Task Force O'Connor jumped off it reported reaching open ground at the base of the hill, behind the enemy lines. Colonel Pence ordered the task force to turn left and strike the enemy rear. With the unit was an observer from the 522d Field Artillery, Lieutenant Binotti. As the unit swung left Lieutenant Binotti brought battalion concentrations of fire down on enemy groups he observed in the forest. His excellent work was very largely responsible for the eighty dead Germans found in the woods after the attack had passed on.

The frontal attack had met stiff resistance initially. When the enemy found his positions attacked from both sides, however, he started to pull out. At 1030 October 21 the resistance began to crack. By noon Companies I and K had occupied Hill 505 and were pressing on to contact the task force. The 2d Battalion was held up by tanks until around noon, but artillery fire from the 522d dispersed the armor, and the battalion was soon able to advance.

Task Force O'Connor made contact with the attacking battalions in the middle of the afternoon at La Broquaime, a small group of houses on the Bruyeres-Belmont road. It was here that the task force had broken the last enemy resistance, dislodging a tank from cover and driving the scattered enemy infantry up the valley toward Belmont. As soon as the two groups met, Companies F and L reverted to control of their battalions. In addition to the 80 enemy dead, the operation had yielded 54 prisoners, 3 ammunition carriers, 1 antitank gun, and large quantities of small arms. All units which had made up Task Force O'Connor were later awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation.

The 100th Battalion had come up from reserve, following the same route the task force had taken. Where the task force had turned north, the 100th continued northeast, following the ridge line. The battalion objective was the high ground around Biffontaine. The seizure of these hills would effectively cut the Belmont-Biffontaine road. With the road cut the remaining enemy forces in Belmont would either be forced to surrender or retreat to the north into the waiting arms of the 3d Division's 7th Infantry, advancing on the left of the 442d Combat Team.

The 100th was moving in column of companies,



Chaplain Higuchi conducting services for men of 2d Battalion

Company B furnishing rear security. Twice strong German combat patrols engaged in skirmishes with the rearguard, but there was no organized enemy resistance to the battalion's forward movement. The enemy had been hit hard and he was dazed momentarily. By 1500 the companies had reached their immediate objective and were digging in.

The general direction of attack for the Combat Team was now northeast. The 100th Battalion was defending to the east and the 2d Battalion pulled back into regimental reserve during the night of October 21. The 3d Battalion had the mission of continuing the attack to the northeast to clear out the enemy pocket between Belmont and the 100th Battalion.

At 0830 October 22 the 3d Battalion moved out with all three rifle companies abreast, slowly flushing the remaining Germans from cover. The terrain was extremely rough and the troops were under artillery fire from the front, left front, and right flank. Meanwhile the 100th Battalion had disposed its companies so that they held a semicircular defensive position overlooking Biffontaine from three sides. The enemy, seeing the move, launched a counterattack supported by artillery, "screaming meemies," and flak gunfire. Firefights were soon raging on three sides of the battalion, but the enemy had not sufficient strength to make good his attack. The 100th was still in a critical position, however. The troops had almost exhausted their ammunition supply in beating off the attack; there was a critical shortage of water, and evacuation facilities for the wounded were very inadequate.

To combat the supply problem five light tanks from Task Force Felber took off from Belmont with a platoon of Company A riding outside. They carried ammunition and water and were attempting to break through to the 100th by way of the Belmont-Biffontaine road. No sooner had the tanks gotten into the hills when they were ambushed by an enemy force of fifty men defending the road. The infantry platoon was practically defenseless. The first burst of fire killed three men and wounded several others. The heroism of one of the wounded, Staff Sergeant Itsumu Sasaoka, was the only thing that saved the others. Manning a machine gun on the rear tank Sasaoka was badly hit in the first burst of enemy fire. In spite of his wound he clung to his gun and kept a steady stream of fire on the enemy positions alongside the road, until all of the tanks had passed the enemy positions. Then weakened by his wound and unable to hang on any longer, he fell from the lurching tank. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, although missing in action. The tanks did not complete their mission, being unable to negotiate the steep terrain. The infantry and some of the tank crews tried to make contact on foot, but they were unable to locate the battalion.

In the meantime another bitter fight was in progress in the right rear of the 100th. The 2d Battalion had been pulled from reserve to protect that flank, and none too soon. An enemy force of a hundred men attacked Companies E and F on Hill 703, Col de Arnelle. After considerable fighting at close quarters, the two companies beat off the attack and took six prisoners. The prisoners were bicycle troops who had moved down the Biffontaine valley during the night and had been sent to Hill 703 to cut off the 100th Battalion.

It was still vital to get ammunition to the 100th. Lieutenant Milton Brenner took a platoon of Company L and set off over a narrow mountain trail which had possibilities of leading in the right direction. Maps were of very little use for this sort of work. The trails shown on the maps no longer existed in nine cases out of ten. When the maps were accurate, the Germans had worn so many new trails during their occupation of the area that it was impossible to tell which one of five or six was the one shown on the map. Lieutenant Brenner was finally successful in reaching rear elements of the 100th. He and his men had not been attacked on the way, so Colonel Pence decided to try getting supplies over the same route. At 1530 a carrying party started out, protected by G Company. Some two hours later they reached the 100th, making the situation slightly less critical.

The Division commander ordered that Biffontaine be taken on October 23. At 1000 Company G descended on the town supported by fire from Company A. The speed of the attack caught the enemy off guard, and Company C riflemen were able to capture a number of houses before the enemy could collect himself. One of the prizes was a major of the German Signal Corps who later proved extremely valuable to Division Intelligence. As Company B hit Biffontaine from the opposite flank, the enemy hit back. Three hours later, after a house-to-house, room-to-room fight, Company C was in control of most of the village. Twenty-three prisoners had been taken, and a large number of Germans were shot up by Company D's machine gunners as they tried

to escape down the road. The 100th also captured a plentiful supply of German small arms and ammunition which was immediately distributed to the men as their own supply was running dangerously low again.

The enemy re-formed outside of Biffontaine and tried to recoup his losses. Tanks approached to within fifty yards of Company C's houses and began shelling at point-blank range. The defenders took to the cellars as the buildings caved in, but they managed to come up in time to throw back the infantry assault that followed the barrage. In one of the houses the captured German major was busily advising the defenders to surrender to his troops. The advice was very poorly taken.

Before the counterattack the 100th had attempted to evacuate some of the wounded who needed immediate care. The litter train was made up of 100th and 3d Battalion medics, plus some prisoners of war on the way to the rear. Lieutenant James Kanaye was in command. The litter bearers had gone only a short distance when the entire party was surrounded by an enemy combat patrol prowling along the 100th Battalion's supply route. One patient, Captain Young O. Kim, winner of the Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star, managed to get off his litter and escape into the woods in spite of painful arm and head wounds. Technician Fourth Grade Richard Chinen, a medic, made the break with him. The rest of the party was captured. Most of these men were freed from Prisoner of War camps after the fall of Germany.

Another carrying party reached the battalion late in the afternoon with food, water, ammunition and medical supplies. All of these were necessary as the Germans repeatedly counterattacked during the night. The last attack ended up in a fanatical infantry charge that broke against the 100th's first line of defense. When that failed the enemy gave way, beaten.

During the day the 232d and 111th Engineers had been trying to clear the Belmont-Biffontaine road for vehicles. The same enemy group which had shot up the Combat Team's tank-infantry force the previous day prevented the engineers from making any headway. Finally, a mortar observer from the 3d Battalion worked his way forward and bracketed the group with several rounds of 81mm fire. The enemy very meekly came out of the positions and surrendered to the astonished engineers without any further persuasion.

The 2d Battalion closed into regimental reserve in Belmont during the day. The following day, October 24, the 100th and 3d Battalions were relieved by the 141st and 143d Infantry Regiments and pulled back to Belmont. One platoon of Company L remained in position for security until the next morning.

Rest, dry clothes, hot food, and hot baths occupied the next two days, and the men desperately needed all of them. The fighting for the last eight days had been something most of the Combat Team had never seen before. In Italy, the enemy had held hard for a day or two and then pulled a planned withdrawal. During the day the fighting had been rough, but the weather had been pleasant and the nights were fairly quiet. Men had been able to take turns getting a little sleep now and then.

Here in this God-forsaken country there was no let-up. The enemy fought bitterly, fought until he was killed or driven back, fought with the terrible desperation of a man with his back to the wall. By our standards the German troops were poor specimens of "the master race," but any man can sit in a foxhole and shoot a gun so long as someone tells him where to sit. And there was the rub. The enemy officers were smart and well trained; they planned their defensive positions carefully and well, made our infantry come in and dig them out the hard way.

They had artillery—artillery and plenty of ammunition. Day or night the guns were never silent. Shells crashed in the tall pines by the hundreds and thousands. Our men had no houses to protect them from the fire and keep off the rain which poured down steadily night after night. Some of the GIs risked death in the open rather than spend a night in a hole half-filled with freezing water. The strain was beginning to tell. In the early days of the campaign casual observers would have sworn that the Nisei were men without nerves and without fear, but now a few were going back to the rear suffering from combat fatigue, the "shell shock" of the last war. This was no reflection on the courage of any man. Their nervous systems were simply not equipped to stand the terrible pounding and sudden shocks of this unceasing battle. That, coupled with the fact that many of them had not slept for eight days.

The rest areas in the town of Belmont were not immune to shellfire. The main road junction in the village was a natural target. To make matters worse a battery of 8-inch howitzers was doing business not

Riflemen moving through shelled area as attack to relieve "lost battalion" jumps off

far from the junction. Several men in the regiment were hit as they went about the routine jobs that took them out of the shelter of the houses.

Word came into the Regimental Command Post on October 25 that the 141st Infantry was being counterattacked and needed reinforcements. The 2d Battalion, which had had all of two days' rest, was alerted for battle the following morning. The battalion wearily moved out at 0300, October 26, stumbling through the pitch-black night to relieve the 3d Battalion of the 141st Infantry on the extreme left flank of the division. The relief had been completed and the troops had advanced two hundred yards at the most when they encountered violent opposition from the front and both flanks where the enemy had emplaced mortars and machine guns. Unable to advance, the battalion dug in for the night.

For the past two days the 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry, had been driving southeast down a heavily-wooded ridge. The ridge began near Biffontaine and ended in a finger-like projection which poked into the valley between Gerardmer and the historic city of St. Die. Moving fast, the battalion had overreached its support. The enemy had stopped its forward drive and then filtered in behind it, trapping the unfortunate men three miles from the nearest friendly unit. The "lost battalion" was ordered to fight its way back, but could not do so. The 2d and 3d Battalions of the regiment had been ordered to break through to their comrades. They were thrown back each time they attacked. The 100th and 3d Battalions of the 442d Infantry had their rest abruptly ended during the afternoon of October 26, when they were ordered to go into the lines the following morning and fight through to the surrounded men.

Both battalions moved out at 0400. There was no light at all. The men were marching in column, and each man was forced to hold on to the pack of the man in front of him, because they could not see each other. Both battalions were given as much fire power as possible. The 3d Battalion had Company D of the 752d Tank Battalion and Company C of the 3d Chemical Weapons Battalion (4.2 mortars) attached. Company B of the 752d Tank Battalion, Company D of the 83d Chemical Weapons Battalion, and Company C of the 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion supported the 100th Battalion. The fire of the 522d Field Artillery was reinforced by that of the 133d Field Artillery.

By 1400 of October 27 all three battalions of the 442d Infantry were in line abreast, although there was a considerable gap between the 3d Battalion in the center and the 2d Battalion on the left. The attack moved very slowly, meeting heavy resistance from enemy infantry and incessant mortar concentrations. At 1530 Companies I and K, leading the 3d Battalion's advance, were counterattacked. The attack was led by a tank and a half-track, followed by enemy infantry. The bulk of the attack, including the armor, fell against Company K's positions on the left flank. The fighting was severe, and the enemy tank threatened to be the deciding factor as it rolled to within seventy-five yards of the company positions and began spraying the area with direct fire. At this point, Private First Class Matsuichi Yogi, disregarding the exploding shells and small-arms fire, took his bazooka and worked his way to within twenty-five yards of the tank. Deliberately exposing himself, he fired, scoring a direct hit with his rocket and knocking out the tank. Spotting two German bazooka gunners, he killed one with a shot from his own rocket launcher and drove the other back with accurate rifle fire. Yogi was later killed in action. He was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Cannon Company crew fires in support of attack

Deprived of their supporting fire, the enemy infantrymen pulled back and the attack was broken in the early twilight. The 3d Battalion made no attempt to follow up the withdrawal since it was impossible to maintain control in the pitch darkness.

All units resumed the attack the following morning. Resistance was as fierce as ever. In the 100th Battalion sector the enemy slowly began to fall back across a draw and on to the next hill to the east. He was pulling one of his "sucker" plays. As the riflemen of Companies B and C started through the draw to follow the Germans, it became a death trap. Several hundred rounds of artillery and mortar poured in, in an hour-long barrage, killing or wounding at least twenty men and breaking up the attack.

Meanwhile the 3d Battalion had run into the first of a series of manned German roadblocks. These blocks, primarily antitank barriers, were usually manned by a company of infantry with a plentiful supply of automatic weapons. Company K's advance was stopped by enemy fire from several machine guns, riflemen, and grenadiers. Staff Sergeant Gordon Yamashiro, commanding one of the leading squads, advanced alone to locate the enemy positions. When he had located the probable source of the enemy fire, he advanced another hundred yards, killed a sniper who had fired at him and missed, and then knocked out one machine gun by killing all three of the gunners with his automatic rifle. A second machine gun took him under fire, but he also killed the crew of this gun. As he was laying down a screen of fire to cover the advance of his squad, he was killed by a sniper. He had, however, succeeded in opening a gap in the enemy's defenses. After a barrage by the 522d Field Artillery and the regimental Cannon Company, Company K was able to widen the gap and destroy the enemy positions. Sergeant Yamashiro was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The 100th and 3d Battalions had made perhaps five hundred yards and captured seventy prisoners before darkness forced them to abandon the advance until the following day.

On the left flank the 2d Battalion was setting the

stage for the capture of Hill 617. Company G, attacking from the west on a wide front from its positions at the base of the hill, gave the enemy the impression that the entire battalion was deployed there. Companies E and F moved along the road from Grebefosse north through Halley, in the 7th Infantry's sector. They then swung east for a short distance and cut back to the south again, passing across Hill 585, occupied by the 7th Infantry. By nightfall, the two companies were deployed along the ridge running north from Hill 617. In their approach, the companies neutralized several isolated pockets at the base of the hill. Twenty prisoners were taken including the CO of the 202d Mountain Battalion, newly arrived in the sector.

The units opposing the 100th and 3d Battalions had been conclusively identified as the 933d Regiment, 338th Infantry Division, and the 198th *Fusilier* Battalion. Neither of these units had been encountered before and were apparently fresh troops.

The plight of the "lost battalion" was now becoming desperate. Planes had been able to drop some food and ammunition in, and Division Artillery had shot in emergency rations, but they were terribly short on water and medical supplies. Their wounded needed attention and there was no way they could be evacuated. General Dahlquist, the Division Commander, personally ordered the 442d Infantry to push through at any cost.

The 100th and 3d Battalions attacked at dawn, and had advanced some distance before they were stopped cold by an extremely strong defensive position, the approaches to which were heavily mined. The ridge down which the battalions were advancing was extremely narrow here, and the slopes on either flank were almost precipitous. There was room on the ridge for just about two companies to attack. The 100th Battalion, to the right and slightly to the rear of the 3d, elected to attempt to go around the minefield on the right and come back up the slope on the flank of the enemy positions. For the 3d Battalion there was no such alternative. Artillery fire was heavy and casualties were very high. Lieutenant Colonel Pursall, commanding the 3d Battalion, first decided to try to flank the defenders from the left. The terrain on the left flank was steep and well defended. The enemy threw back Company K's attack with heavy losses. Because of the tall trees and the conformation of the ground, it was impossible to adjust artillery properly; every round either sailed over the enemy positions or crashed into our own lines. Colonel Pursall then called on the tanks for direct fire. With this support Companies I and K were able to advance slightly but the leading elements were pinned down again. Every German machine gun had interlocking fire with another machine gun. Mortars and grenadiers covered the gaps.

Just what set off the third and last attack, no one knew. Perhaps it simply started of its own accord. But by ones and twos, men in Companies I and K got to their feet and started for the enemy positions on top of the hill. Artillery and mortar shells fell in the ranks; machine-gun fire cut men down as they ran; reflemen took a heavy toll. Nothing the enemy could do was enough; the attack moved slowly on from tree to tree and from cover to cover. Men fired from the hip as they advanced, and then rushed to close quarters with hand grenades. Some of them died in the advance, but they had a lot of Germans for company. Something had to give, and the enemy finally broke. The remnants of the force of a hundred men which had so confidently held the position a short half hour before fled in disorder. A few fired parting shots as they withdrew, but these did no damage. The harm had already been done. Company I had lost 5 killed and 40 wounded. Company K's losses had been correspondingly heavy and included all of the company officers. For once the enemy did not counterattack, but the artillery still poured in.

Of all the men who had performed heroically in the attack, three stood out above the others. Private Barney F. Hajiro, a BAR man in Company I, may have been the man who started the assault. In any case he was one of the leaders. Carrying his BAR at the sling, Hajiro walked forward steadily, firing as he moved. Machine guns and riflemen were shooting at him as he moved, but he met fire with fire and destroyed two machine-gun nests single-handed, killing the gunners. Two snipers fired at him; he located both of them and killed them. Finally he led his men as they overran the enemy objective.

When Company K was stopped early in the action, Staff Sergeant Fujio Miyamoto worked his way forward to locate the machine gun that was firing on his men. As he moved up he was hit in the forearm by an enemy rifleman. He disregarded his wound and continued to advance until he located the machine gun. Then he deliberately exposed himself and destroyed the gun and its crew with a burst

3d Battalion litter squads wait in the aid station for the last attack that relieved the "lost battalion." Minutes later these men were moving up to evacuate casualties.

from his tommy gun. In the two hour battle that followed, Sergeant Miyamoto killed five more of the enemy and refused medical treatment until the objective had been overrun.

Private First Class Jim Y. Tazoi was a radioman with the Company K command group. As his company charged the enemy defensive positions he joined the attacking elements, although he was hampered and made an easy target by his heavy radio. Spotting an enemy machine-gun nest, he opened fire on it in spite of his own exposed position so that the men with him could close to grenade range and assault the position. Later, Tazoi saw that two of his men had been trapped by two German grenadiers. As he moved up to help them, he was hit by a sniper's bullet, but he continued to advance. He killed the two grenadiers but he was hit again by grenade fragments and had to be evacuated.

All three of these men were presented with the Distinguished Service Cross.

While the 100th and 3d Battalions were cracking these defenses, the 2d Battalion was handing the enemy a terrible defeat at Hill 617, on the regimental left flank. Two platoons of Company G, making a frontal attack, started up the hill, but were able to advance only a short distance. Caught in a mortar barrage, they pulled back to their original positions. Their attack had served its purpose, however. While the enemy's attention was centered on throwing back the thrust, Companies E and F had gained the crest of the hill from the north. Circling behind the German positions, both units stormed down on the panic-stricken defenders, killing an even hundred and capturing forty-one. At 1530, Company E moved down the eastern slopes to meet Company G coming up. Between them, they cleaned out the last pockets of resistance.

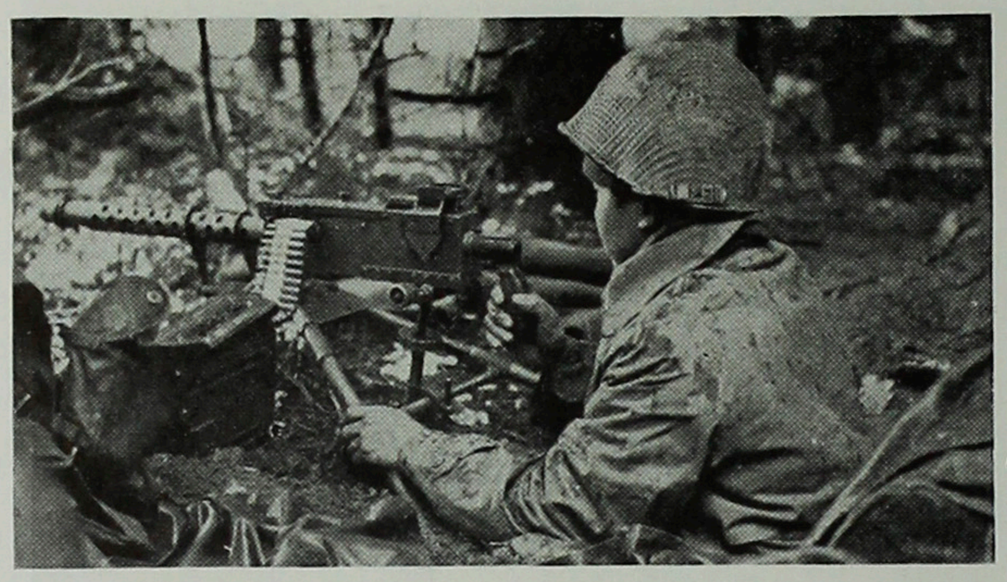
One of the leaders of Company E's attack was Staff Sergeant Tsuneo Takemoto. In the early phases of the action his platoon was temporarily stopped by an enemy group armed with machine pistols. Takemoto jumped to his feet and ran thirty yards into the enemy fire, raking the positions with his tommy gun and shouting as he ran. Inspired by his courage, his men charged after him and destroyed the strongpoint. Later, his platoon was counter-attacked by twelve Germans. He organized his men and checked the initial rush. He then sent out a small flank group whose fire temporarily confused the Germans. As the enemy's attention wavered, he led another charge, again running thirty yards into

Capt. Joseph Hill, Company F, planning the next attack with one of his platoon leaders

the hostile fire to give his men a chance to close with the enemy. His platoon completely routed the Germans and continued the advance, capturing thirty-four prisoners before the end of the action. Sergeant Takemoto was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

As nearly as anyone could calculate, the leading battalions were now no more than 700 yards from the "lost battalion" of the 141st Infantry. The process of making the actual relief would probably not be too difficult in spite of the fact that the 442d Infantry was now down to half its fighting strength. The Germans had suffered terrible losses on October 29; at least 350 men had been killed, wounded or captured.

All the artillery and 4.2 mortar fire the Combat Team could muster was laid down on the ridge separating the 100th and 3d Battalions from the "lost battalion." On the heels of the barrage the leading companies took off. Resistance was not heavy, although harassing artillery fire caused some casualties. After advancing a considerable distance Company I ran into a mined roadblock defended by some fifty Germans. After an artillery barrage, Company I, with some assistance from K, drove the defenders out and reduced the block. At about 1400, October 30, a Company I patrol, led by Technical Sergeant Takeo Senzaki, reached the outer defenses of the beseiged unit. A few minutes later, a platoon of



Machine gunner mans defensive position

Company B broke through from the right flank and also made contact. By 1600, both battalions had dug in in a circular defensive position around the hilltop where the relief had been made. When the first elements of the 442d Infantry broke through, there were tears in a good many eyes, but there wasn't a great deal of cheering or jubilation. Everybody was too tired. The 100th and 3d Battalions later received the Distinguished Unit Citation for heroic achievement in effecting the relief.

The 3d Battalion was ordered to push on to the end of the long ridge which had been the objective of the "lost battalion." The 100th Battalion was ordered to shift to the south to protect the regimental right flank and line of supply. The 2d Battalion meanwhile garrisoned Hill 617, protecting the left flank of the 36th Division and the right flank of the 3d Division.

Both battalions attacked at 1100, October 31. Patrols from the 3d Battalion located a group of enemy building a roadblock in the route of advance. The patrol returned to the main body of the battalion and called down artillery fire on the blockbuilders. Following the barrage, Company I attacked and took eight prisoners in a short action. Because there were many enemy tanks and flakwagons on the flanks, the block was left intact and garrisoned by a company of the 100th Battalion. This was the last organized resistance. Both battalions reached their objectives by dark, and Company I returned to take over the roadblock temporarily.

For the next three days, all units remained substantially where they were, holding defensive positions and patrolling to find out what the enemy's dispositions were. On November 3 the enemy attempted to break through the 3d Battalion's thinly-held line, but Companies I and L caught the attackers in a crossfire and drove them off. However, the regimental commander decided to attach a platoon of Company E to the 3d Battalion as a reserve.

Lieutenant George R. Stairs was dispatched down the road to Company E to pick up the platoon and lead it back to the battalion sector. By the time he had gathered up his men and started to leave the company area the pitch darkness blanketed every landmark. After he and the platoon had stumbled through the woods for about fifteen minutes, Lieutenant Stairs began to think he would never find the road. Just then he tripped over what he thought was a sleeping soldier. Gently, he nudged the dark form with his toe: "Hey, soldier where's the road?" No answer. "Hey," shaking him a little, "wake up!" No answer. "What the hell's the matter, you deaf?" Complete silence. Finally, disdaining blackout discipline, Lieutenant Stairs whipped out his flashlight and discovered he had been trying to wake up a very dead German. Somewhat the worse for wear, the men staggered into the battalion CP area about three quarters of an hour later. Happily, the platoon was never used.

The Commanding General now decided that it was necessary for the 442d Infantry to clear the ridge down to the valley floor. Once that objective was achieved the Germans in St. Die would be cut off from the Germans in Gerardmer, for the Corcieux Valley was narrow at this point. However, the enemy had other ideas. While the 3d Battalion had remained on the defensive, German infantry had dug in on the slopes of the hill in a semicircular position. As the 3d Battalion attacked toward the valley, it met fire grazing up the hill.

The regiment attacked at 0800 November 5 to clear the zone of the enemy and secure positions along the railroad track running around the base of the hill. As the attack began the companies were formed in a semicircle, curving from northeast to southwest. Company F was the northern end of the arc with the 3d Battalion rifle companies, L, K, and I forming a bow facing east. Company G, attached to the 3d Battalion, faced south. The 100th Battalion was defending to the southwest to be sure that an enemy attack did not come up from the flank and cut the regiment's single slender supply line.

The attacking companies ran into heavy resistance as soon as the men came out of their holes. The defenders were well supported by artillery and mor-

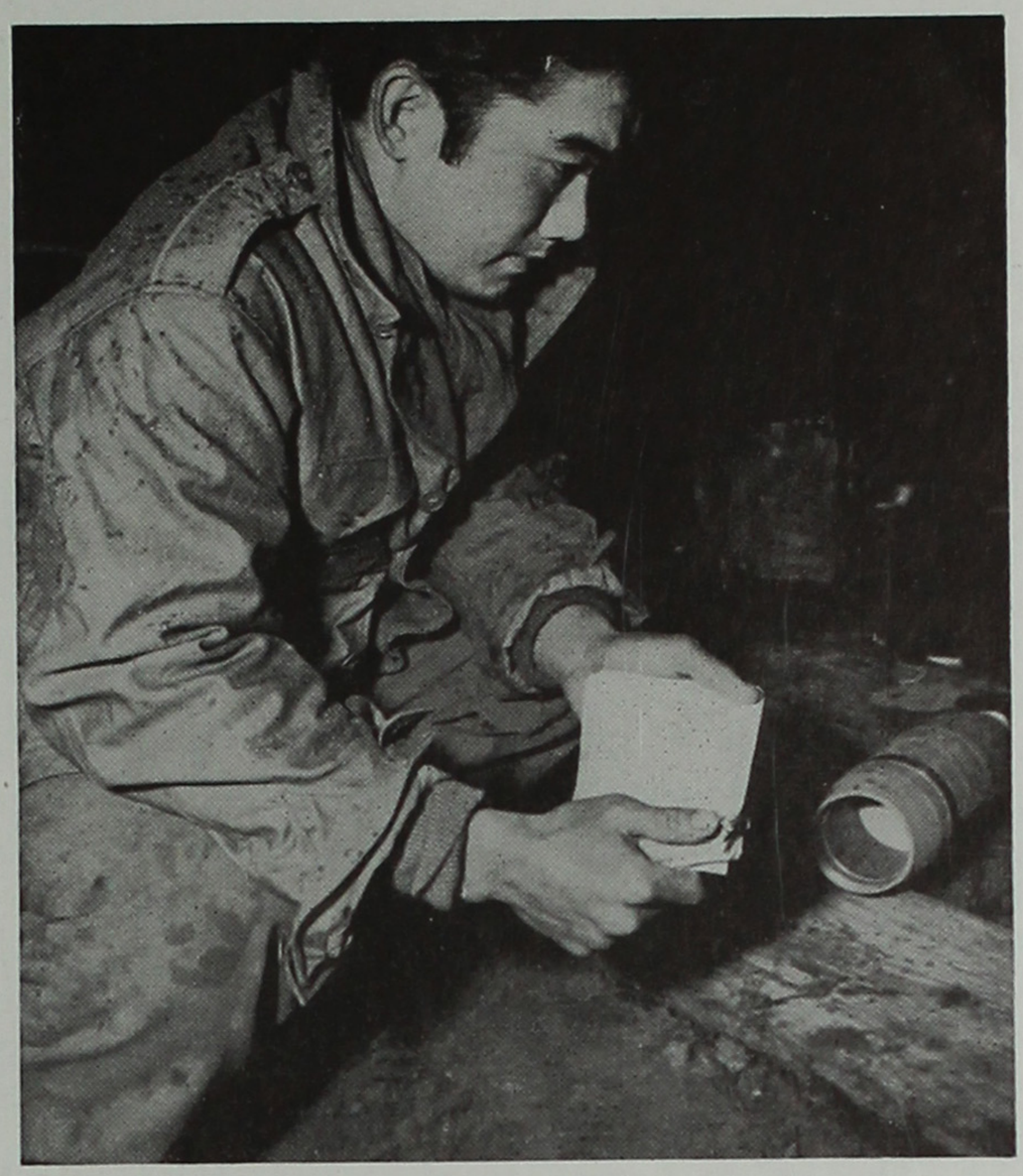
tars, a factor which had not made itself felt so greatly in the last four days. There had been harassing barrages every so often, just enough to keep the men from getting careless. Now that the regiment had mounted another attack, the stuff came pouring in, a barrage every few minutes from dawn to dark. Artillery and mortars were well mixed. An artillery shell comes in with a screech; the first round usually gives a man warning, like a rattlesnake about to strike. Mortar shells give off only a faint whispering sound just before they hit. When the artillery stopped and the Germans figured the men were out of cover and moving again, in came the mortars, heavy 120mm stuff.

All companies suffered heavy casualties and advanced two hundred yards at the most. As night fell and the objective was nowhere in sight, the company commanders pulled their men back to the cover of their former positions, preferring not to risk additional lives for such a small gain.

The following day, November 6, additional pressure fell on the Germans. Company E passed through Company L, which then swung to the right to close some of the gaps in the line. In spite of the additional force, the enemy held. Company G on the right was further hampered by a most unusual minefield. A thin wire ran from each mine to the hole of one of the enemy. As soon as one of the Nisei got close enough, the German pulled the wire, detonating the mine. One of the tanks supporting Company G was hit by an enemy bazooka shell and disabled. The enemy started to make a pillbox out of it, but before they could complete their work the tankers ran up another tank and set the first one blazing with three rounds from their 75.

These men of the 752d Tank Battalion were far and away the best the Nisei had ever worked with. The terrain was impossible for tanks, but if they were ordered to support an attack they never complained about the difficulties confronting them. Usually they asked one question: "Will the infantry be with us?" That was all they needed to be told. They'd climb into their tanks and tell you they'd take 'em as far as they'd go. And they always did; sometimes a little farther. The Nisei have a soft spot in their hearts for that tank battalion, wherever it is now.

All through the campaign to relieve the "lost battalion" the 232d Engineers had worked day after day to keep open the one trail that was usable for vehicles. As more and more vehicles ploughed over it



522d FA crewman prepares shell for firing propaganda leaflets

and more and more rain came down, the job became increasingly difficult. In some places even the sturdy jeeps became hopelessly mired. The 232d, together with the division's 111th Engineer Battalion, had laid over a mile of corduroy and plank road under harassing artillery and sniper fire to cover the worst mudholes.

On November 6 the engineers had relieved the 100th Battalion in defensive positions, inasmuch as the threat from the right flank was no longer so dangerous. They sent patrols out to keep contact with the 3d Battalion.

The following morning the 3d Battalion, with Company G still attached, made a final effort to drive the enemy off the hill. The attack came off at 0930. It was preceded by a barrage from the Company M mortar platoon that had begun the previous afternoon, lasted until dark, and started again at dawn. During the period, the gunners pumped over a thousand rounds into the enemy positions in a steady stream. A prisoner later testified that the fire was effective. He said that casualties in the German positions had been heavy and that the men not hit had been driven almost crazy by the steady pounding.

Lt.Col. James M. Hanley, CO, 2d Battalion, and Lt.Col. V. R. Miller, Acting CT Commander, at 2d Battalion Armistice Day memorial ceremony

Company G was able to gain over eight hundred yards and seize some houses in the valley at the base of the hill. By dark, the companies were in echelon formation from the bottom of the hill to the top, G, I, K, L. The next step would be to sweep around the hill much as a gate swings, with Company L on the hilltop being the hinge.

One of the leaders of Company G's attack was Private First Class Joe M. Nishimoto, an acting squad leader. Leading his men, he crawled through a heavily mined and booby-trapped area to reach a machine gun that was holding up the advance. Spotting it, he threw a hand grenade which destroyed the emplacement. Then he circled to the rear of another gun which had been supporting the fire of the first and killed the crew with a burst from his tommy gun. He then began stalking two riflemen; he was able to kill one, but the other fled. Seeing that he had the enemy on the run, Nishimoto continued his assault and drove another machine-gun crew from its emplacement. With this gap torn in their defenses, the Germans were forced to withdraw. Nishimoto was later killed in action, but his heroic action in breaking a three-day stalemate earned him the Distinguished Service Cross.

It is a tribute to the courage of the men that they were able to move at all. Most of the companies had been whittled down to less than thirty men on the line, and the men who stayed and took it were sick. Some had trench foot so badly they could hardly walk, and most of the others were beginning to come down with flu from the constant exposure to rain and cold. As the attack progressed enemy artillery and mortar fire became heavier and heavier. On the 7th and 8th of November, some two thousand rounds of heavy shells poured into the 2d and 3d Battalion sectors in a steady stream.

Having driven a wedge into the German positions, the companies spent most of November 8 cleaning off the hillside. Company F and two platoons of AT Company, which had been protecting the left flank, also attacked northeast to meet the 142d Infantry driving southwest down the Rouges Eaux River valley. They met very little infantry resistance, but artillery fire was heavy.

The 232d Engineers were still desperately needed to keep the road net open. They were relieved by elements of Company H and returned to control of the 111th Engineers. For the next three days the men worked under fire laying corduroy road and repairing fills that had been laid once and then torn up by tanks grinding through. The 111th Engineer Battalion and the 232d Engineer Company were later awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for heroic achievement in keeping open the supply lines of the 36th Division in spite of tremendous natural obstacles and heavy enemy fire.

By the night of November 9 almost all elements of the 442d Infantry Regiment had been relieved and pulled back to rest areas. The enemy line was completely shattered and the attacking elements of the 36th Division had begun a push that eventually took them into the promised land, the Valley of the Rhine. As a fighting unit, the 442d was temporarily impotent. In the 3d Battalion, where casualties had been heaviest, company strengths were fantastically low: Company I had four riflemen and a light machine-gun section left on the line. Company K had seventeen riflemen and part of a weapons platoon. It was commanded by a buck sergeant, Sergeant Tsutomu Yoshida, who was later commissioned. The strength of the other battalions was correspondingly low.

The 522d Field Artillery remained in position, supporting the Division's attack, but the regiment was billeted in rest areas wherever there were towns and buildings. The 100th Battalion had been detached from the regiment and was now in the Army rest center at Bains-les-Bains. The 2d Battalion was assembled at Faye, and the 3d Battalion was resting at Lepanges. All the men got hot showers, clean clothes, and a chance to catch up on a good many days of lost sleep. In every battalion, the chaplains held services in memory of the 140 men who had died in the last 25 days in action. The string had run out for them, but there were 1800 others mending in hospitals all over France. Some of them would never be entirely well. Others would return to fight again.

The 2d Battalion moved back into the lines on the morning of November 13, relieving the 2d Battalion, 142d Infantry in defensive positions. The 3d Battalion followed during the afternoon and took up positions behind the 2d in regimental reserve. The mission of the regiment was to maintain a defensive line in the forest it had cleared in the previous fighting, the Forest Dominiale du Champ. The 36th Division would attack on the right and the 103d Division, which had recently joined the Seventh Army, would attack on the left. The 442d was there as insurance that the enemy would not counterattack between the two divisions and split the Corps front.

Regimental colors at decoration ceremony, November 12, 1944

The regiment remained in the lines until November 17, both the 2d and 3d Battalions patrolling constantly to the front and flanks. Cannon Company gave the 2d Battalion direct support, firing several thousand rounds at suspected enemy locations reported by patrols.

The tip-off that the Germans were making a long withdrawal came during the night of the 15th. Observers reported tremendous fires in St. Die and Corcieux, about a mile from the front lines. The Germans were putting the torch to everything that could possibly be of any use to the advancing American armies. In St. Die, one of the oldest cities in France, this was especially tragic as many historical monuments crumbled in the flames. When the advancing troops reached both towns, only smoking heaps of rubble remained.

On November 17, the 442d Combat Team was relieved from attachment to the 36th Division and ordered to proceed without delay to Nice, on the French Riviera, reporting to the commanding general of the 44th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade on arrival.

Before the unit pulled out, the CO received the following letter from Major General John E. Dahlquist, the 36th Division commander:

(1) The 36th Division regrets that the 442d Combat Team must be detached and sent on other duties. The period during which you have served, October 14 to November 18, 1944, was one of hard, intense fighting through terrain as difficult as any army has ever encountered.

(2) The courage, steadfastness, and willingness of your officers and men were equal to any ever displayed by United States Troops.

(3) Every officer and man of the Division joins me in sending our best personal regards and good wishes to every member of your command, and we hope that we may be honored again by having you as a member of our Division.

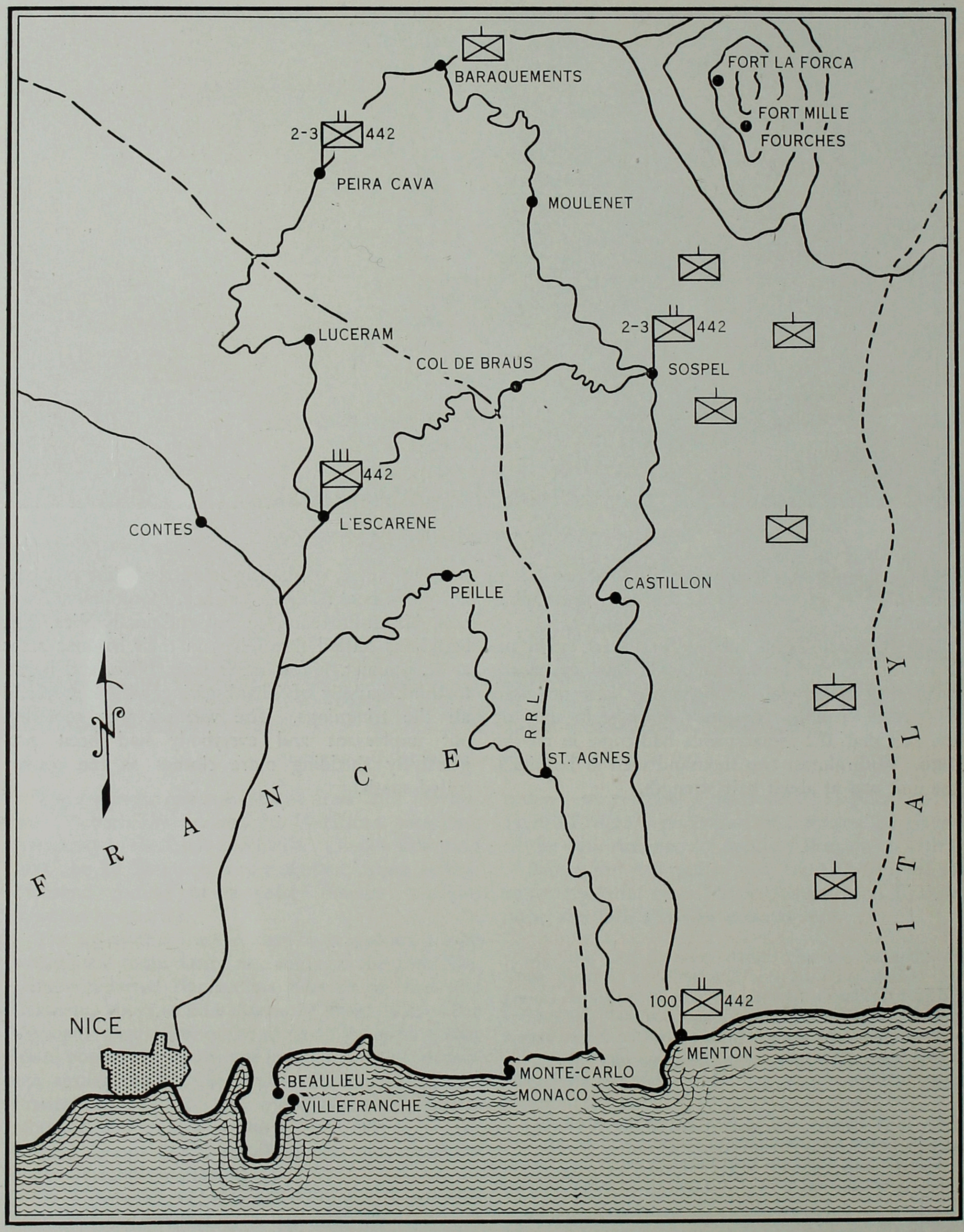
The men were pleased by the tribute, but most of

Time for a break on the long road south to the Maritime Alps

them, remembering twenty-five days of suffering, were glad to get away from the cold, forbidding mountains.

The Combat Team loaded on trucks again on November 19 and headed back over the long, weary miles they had traveled a little over a month ago. This time there was no truck shortage in spite of the fact that 382 replacements had come in on the 18th. With almost two thousand men in hospitals, the unit was at about half strength.

The itinerary of the trip south reads like a Baedeker guide book: Dijon, Valence, Montelimar, Avignon, Aix-en-Provence, Cannes, and finally Nice. The battalions settled themselves in their bivouac areas at St. Jeannet, a few miles from Nice, and began to think happily of Thanksgiving with turkey and all the trimmings. The weather was cool but not unpleasant and everybody had been progressively shedding more clothes as the convoy rolled south.



FRANCE: Maritime Alps, Franco-Italian Border

CHAPTER 6

THE CHAMPAGNE CAMPAIGN

THE 100th Battalion had already been in the lines for several days when the rest of the unit arrived. It was spread over several miles of front high in the mountains north of St. Martin Vesubie where the winter snows had already set in.

The 3d Battalion now had its dreams of a quiet Thanksgiving Day shattered when orders came through directing that the relief of the 19th Armored Infantry Battalion be effected at once. Armored infantry was badly needed for the battle of Strasbourg. Accordingly the battalion moved into the little Franco-Italian border town of Sospel on November 23. From there the men headed for the mountains. Where there were border forts on the peaks, they rode in trucks. Otherwise, they climbed the 4000-foot peaks, trailing their mules and equipment behind them.

November 28 saw Company G move into the lines on the right of the 3d Battalion, relieving parts of the 1st Special Service Force. At the same time, the 100th Battalion came down out of the snow country and relieved the remainder of the 1st SSF on the coastal sector, taking up positions just east of the coast resort of Menton. The remainder of the 2d Battalion moved from St. Jeannet to L'Escarene, where it trained and formed a mobile reserve.

The mission of the Combat Team was to protect the right flank of the 6th Army Group and guard against a possible enemy breakthrough down the southern coast of France. Although such a move on the part of the enemy was improbable, it was not impossible. Had he attacked in sufficient strength, there was nothing between the 442d Combat Team and Marseille to stop him. However, the German 34th Division, across the border, did not seem disposed to go anywhere. A few patrols poked here and there and artillery fire fell from time to time, but never was there any indication of a concerted drive. Our own troops had orders not to cross the line into Italy except for patrols.

One of the most important jobs the regiment had was the eternal spy-hunt that went on in the Riviera area. This was one of the favorite places for Germans and Italians to cross into France for sabotage and espionage. Conversely, it was almost impossible to walk around the block without encountering a secret agent from one of the United Nations. These men spent quite a bit of their time interrogating line-crossers the infantry Joes picked up. Among them they found a few enemy agents, always enough to make the continual vigilance worthwhile.

Combat and reconnaissance patrols roamed back and forth between the lines, sometimes making enemy contacts and sometimes not. There was an extensive use of mines in the sector to cover the wide gaps between strongpoints. One drawback to that was that the battalions had very little record of what fields had been laid by units which had previously

Readying a mule train for the trail

Manning an observation post in the Maritime Alps

Pfc. George Marihiro, Company I, at Christmas party with child from St. Joseph's Orphanage, L'Escarene, France

held the sector. As a result, many men were wounded by our own mines.

The 2d Battalion relieved the 68th Armored Infantry Battalion in the lines near Peira Cava on December 1. This put all three battalions on line with the 2d Battalion on the north flank and the 100th Battalion on the south flank. The regiment was spread over a front of some eighteen miles.

On December 19, just for the sake of variety, Antitank Company captured a submarine off Menton. An observation post had spotted the baby one-man sub making for shore in the bay of Menton. AT Company's outpost covered the craft with a 57mm gun and dispatched a squad with a BAR and a couple of can-openers to pry the operator loose. The German corporal who was manning the sub had thought he was coming into the bay at Ventimiglia, on the German side, but had become confused and put into the wrong harbor.

The submarine was of miniature size, with a plexiglass turret and facilities for firing one torpedo. The operator was equipped with an oxygen mask. The 232d Engineers pulled the tiny craft ashore and turned it over to the Navy with some regrets. It would have made a wonderful souvenir.

On December 21 the 2d Battalion, which had been relieved by the 65th Infantry on the 14th, relieved the 3d Battalion in the vicinity of Sospel. The 3d Battalion moved back to L'Escarene in regimental reserve in time for Christmas. The companies got together and staged a Christmas party for the children in the vicinity.

The same pattern was maintained during the rest of the Combat Team's stay in the Maritime Alps. The 100th Battalion remained in the coastal sector, while the 2d and 3d Battalions either alternated in the Sospel area or held positions on the line at the same time when the Peira Cava area was again included in the regiment's zone of action. The only exception to this policy was during late December and early January when von Rundstedt's push in the Ardennes seemed to have repercussions along the

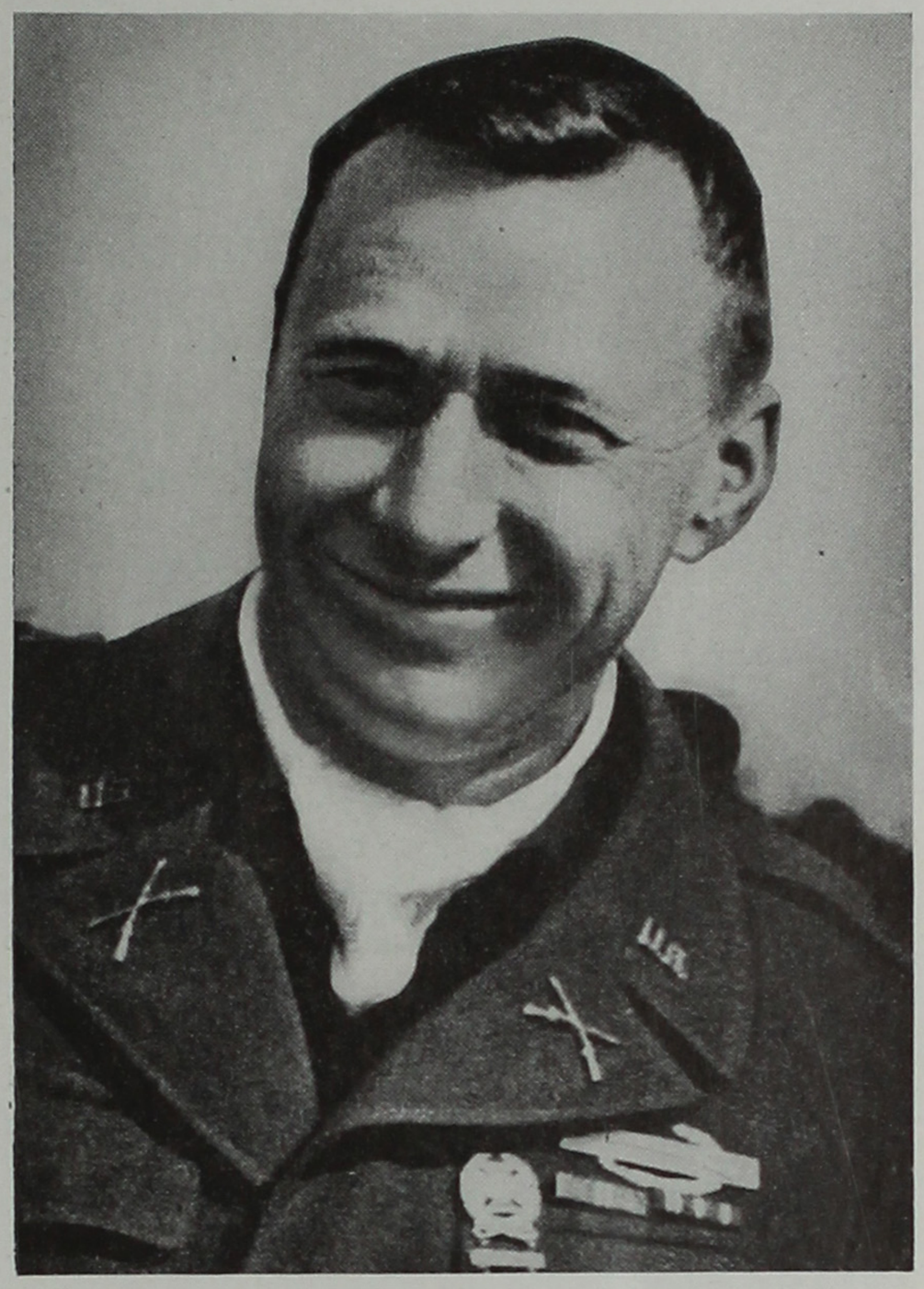
entire front. At this time the 3d Battalion moved from mobile reserve and took up positions along a regimental reserve line behind the 100th and 2d Battalions. In this way, the Combat Team could have made stiff resistance to any breakthrough that the Germans might have made.

The Combat Team stayed in the Maritime Alps until the middle of March, 1945. It wasn't all fun; the patrols had to go out, and the Germans still tossed in artillery just to let us know they were still there. Once in a while a man would run afoul of a mine. Even so, four months on the French Riviera was still one of the best deals a combat soldier ever had. Although the weather and the mines were not conducive to lolling on the beaches, there was plenty of entertainment to be had. Night spots were open all along the coast. There was music and light and dancing. GI rest centers opened in Nice and Cannes. For those who didn't get to those, one-day passes to Nice were available. Almost every company managed to acquire some place to hold dances in its own area, usually featuring the Combat Team's own 206th AGF Band and the belles of the surrounding towns.

A great many of the Nisei made lasting friendships there and a few acquired fiancees. The rest just had fun when they could and sometimes wondered what was going to happen next, on the principle that winters on the Riviera do not last forever, especially for combat infantry. They soon found out.

In the middle of March, word got around that the outfit was moving out. Inasmuch as the destination was labeled "Top Secret," the rumors flew. CBI? Italy? Back to the States? After a great deal of speculation the 1st French Motorized Infantry Division took over the Combat Team's sector as of March 16, 1945. Here the Combat Team as such came to a parting of the ways. The 522d Field Artillery was ordered back north to help with the Seventh Army's jump across the Rhine. The Infantry Joes regretted the loss, for they had come to depend on the shooting of their mates and the ability and gallantry of the forward observer parties.

Colonel Charles W. Pence, who had commanded the Combat Team since the day it was activated, was still suffering from an injury he had received in the fighting in the Vosges Mountains. He was sent to less strenuous duties and replaced by his Executive, Colonel (then Lieutenant Colonel) Virgil R. Miller. Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Singles, veteran CO of the 100th Battalion, was also transferred to a new command in the Seventh Army. Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Jack E. Conley took command of the 100th Battalion. Lieutenant Colonel James M. Hanley was appointed regimental Executive Officer, and Major Robert A. Gopel took command of the 2d Battalion. Major Ivan F. Kovac took over as regimental S-3 and Captain Orville C. Shirey became S-2.



Col. Virgil R. Miller assumed command of the Combat Team

Under the new management the 442d Infantry and the 232d Engineers arrived at the brand-new Marseille staging area in relays, March 17, 18, and 19. For some reason, as yet obscure to the men, there seemed to be a great urgency in getting the Combat Team to wherever it was going. In three days all equipment except the men's individual gear was turned in, and the first unit boarded LSTs on March 20. The remaining two shipments pulled out of the harbor on the 21st and 22d. Destination: Italy.

CHAPTER 7

PO VALLEY CAMPAIGN

THE 442d Infantry and the 232d Engineers closed into the Peninsular Base Section Staging Area at Pisa at 1600, March 25. Both units were assigned to Fifth Army, attached to IV Corps, and placed under the operational control of the 92d Infantry Division, Major General E. M. Almond commanding.

The regimental supply section immediately got busy drawing new organizational equipment. Vehicles, radios, crew-served weapons, and many other necessary items rolled into the area in a steady stream.

The men were not permitted to leave the staging area, inasmuch as the presence of the 442d Infantry in Italy was a closely-kept secret. Together with elements of the 92d Division, the regiment was to crack the western anchor of the Gothic Line. The center of these fortifications had been pierced during the Fifth Army's fall offensive but no one had yet been able to pry the Germans loose from the western end.

March 28 saw the regiment leave the staging area and move to a bivouac at San Martino, near the walled city of Lucca. The move was made in absolute secrecy, under cover of darkness. All units utilized their time for training. Makeshift ranges were set up, and the men spent hours adjusting their new weapons to the greatest possible accuracy. New replacements who had seen little or no combat practiced small-unit problems with their squads and platoons far into the night.

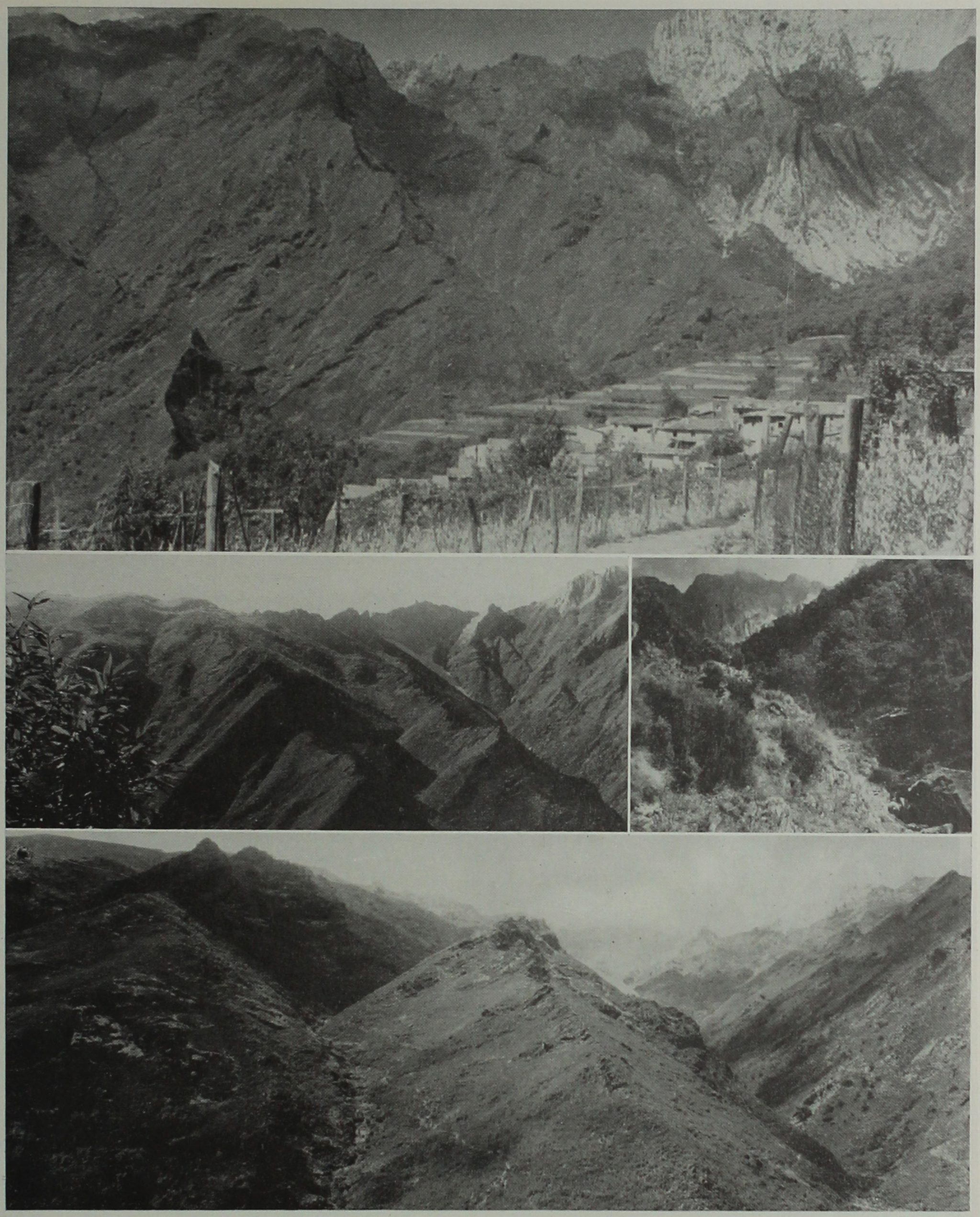
Training and command inspections by the staff of the 92d Division occupied the regiment's time until April 2d. The next day General Mark W. Clark, now the Commanding General of the 15th Army Group, visited the regiment and briefly inspected the 100th Battalion.

The regimental commander, with the battalion commanders and their staffs, had been going over possible plans of attack since the regiment's arrival in Italy. The enemy's elaborate system of fortifications, hewn out of solid rock and reinforced with concrete, formed the western anchor of the Gothic line. These positions were so constructed as to give interlocking fires and all-around protection to the defenders. They also afforded observation for the enemy's mobile field guns as well as his batteries of long-range coastal rifles located on Punta Bianca, a peninsula jutting out from La Spezia. They were dug into mountain peaks rising almost sheer from the coastal plain and leading up to Mt. Folgorito (2800 ft.) and Mt. Carchio (3000 ft.), which gave the enemy unlimited observation of the Ligurian Coast and Highway 1. So long as the enemy held out here the route north to Genoa was untenable. These marble masses were bare of vegetation save for scanty scrub growth. Their surfaces were steep and in places precipitous. The enemy forces, which the enemy had been upgrading for three weeks prior to the attack, were veteran troops of the 281st Regiment, 148th Division, later reinforced by five crack infantry battalions which had initially been in reserve.

Colonel Miller, the regimental commander, was faced with the necessity of making a difficult decision: whether to throw two battalions against these formidable positions in a frontal assault or to attempt an encircling movement which would send one battalion into a 2500-foot climb up the slopes of Mt. Folgorito in total darkness, to be followed by a dawn attack over unknown terrain. Colonel Miller discussed the situation with his 3d Battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Alfred A. Pursall. Colonel Pursall decided that his battalion could make the gamble work, and the die was cast.

Beginning at 1945 April 3d, the 3d and 100th Battalions moved to forward assembly areas under cover of darkness. The 100th Battalion moved into the vicinity of Vallecchia. The 3d Battalion marched to an assembly area in the small mountain town of Azzano on the Mt. Cavallo hill mass, separated by a narrow valley from Mt. Folgorito and under full observation of the enemy. The climb to the assembly area required five hours under full equipment, and a misstep meant a fall of anywhere from fifteen to 150 feet down the mountainside. All the following day both battalions remained hidden in houses and olive groves, since the success of the entire operation hinged on secrecy.

During the night of April 4 the 100th Battalion moved up to its line of departure on the "Florida" hill mass, effecting the relief of elements of the



These were the enemy's rock-ribbed defenses

TASK FORCE
FUKUDA
APR. 24, 45

AULLA

CO. B & F

M.
CARBOLO

2D BN. APR. 25

3D

M. NEBBIONE

APR 23

3 D

S. TERENZO

2D BN APR 23

M. GRUGOLA

M. PIZZA CULO

2D

100TH

BN APR

CASTELPOGGIO

LA SPEZIA

SARZANA

ORTONOVO

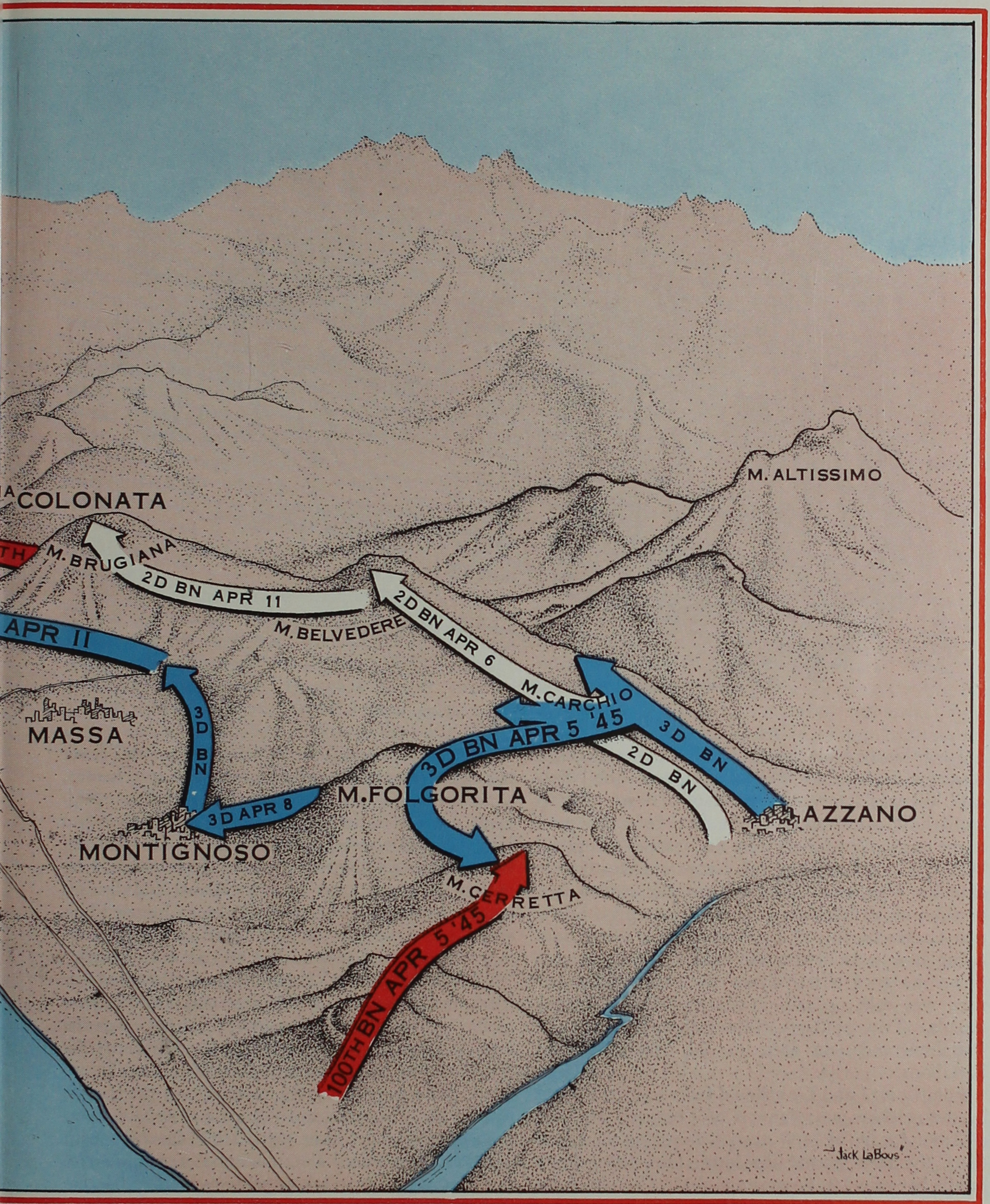
100TH APR 15

GRAG

CARRARA

3D

FRIGIDO RIVE



ITALY: North Apennines, Massa to Aulla

Men pulled themselves up by low-growing shrubs

371st Infantry. The enemy had not the slightest suspicion that a relief was taking place. The "Florida" hill was the southernmost of a series of sawtooth hills culminating in the Mt. Folgorito peak to the north. The others were designated "Georgia," "Ohio 1, 2, and 3," and Mt. Cerretta. At the same time the regimental Cannon Company moved into position at Vallecchia and tied into the Fire Direction Center of the 599th Field Artillery Battalion, acting as an extra battery. Antitank Company, unable to use its guns effectively in the mountainous terrain, was split up into carrying parties and litter squads. Two platoons were assigned to the 3d Battalion and one each to the 100th and 2d Battalions.

Companies I and L of the 3d Battalion, reinforced by the machine-gun platoons of Company M, took off from Azzano at 2200 April 4. Reaching the valley floor, the men started the long climb toward the saddle between Mt. Folgorito and Mt. Carchio, from where the attack was to be launched. The "trail" zigzagged constantly upward over the treacherous, shale-covered slope. The men, in full battle equipment, crawled for the most part on their hands and knees or pulled themselves up by a low-growing shrub or the rifle butt of the man above them. One man was hospitalized for concussion and bruises when a loosened boulder struck him and hurled him sixty feet down the slope. Many others suffered minor bruises and sprains, but no one turned back.

The attack on Mt. Folgorito was scheduled for 0500 April 5 without artillery preparation. Because of the eight-hour climb, the troops did not reach the Line of Departure until about 0530. However, the attack was in full swing by 0600, some time before dawn. Company L swung south along the saddle toward Mt. Folgorito and Company I sent one platoon north along a spur toward Mt. Carchio. Gun positions were seized almost without a struggle and the enemy killed or taken prisoner, and it became

evident that complete surprise had been achieved. The ridgeline was secure by 0730, but the enemy was now thoroughly aware of the threat to his rear. It was considered inadvisable to waste manpower trying to seize Mt. Carchio at this time, so the platoon of Company I contented itself with driving the enemy into the recesses of the peak and destroying two observation posts with artillery fire. Company L drove rapidly toward the peak of Mt. Folgorito, but the men were halted and forced to take cover about half way to their objective.

The enemy, desperately holding to his key observation post, let loose with a storm of small-arms, mortar, and artillery fire. Casualties were fairly heavy, but Company L drove off a sharp counterattack and reached the base of the peak. The enemy in the observation post on the summit now called down a ring of protective fire from field artillery and the Punta Bianca coastal guns. The attacking troops filtered through the fire by ones and twos and stormed the summit. In a fierce hand-to-hand action the enemy lost 6 dead and 4 captured while the remainder of the force fled down the west side of the peak.

The luck of the battalion held out until Company K and the mortar platoon of M left Azzano and started for Mt. Folgorito in daylight. Enemy observers picked up the column and laid in a barrage of 120mm mortar fire. Company K lost 3 killed and 20 wounded. Company M suffered twenty casualties as both units were caught in the bottom of a draw from which there was no escape.

The 100th Battalion had attacked to the north at 0500 April 5 behind a tremendous demonstration of power by the artillery. The 599th and 329th Field Artillery Battalions, the Regimental Cannon Company, Company B of the 895th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company B of the 84th Chemical Battalion (4.2 mortar), and the Assault Gun Platoon of the 758th Tank Battalion had all let fly a ten-minute concentration on the enemy positions.

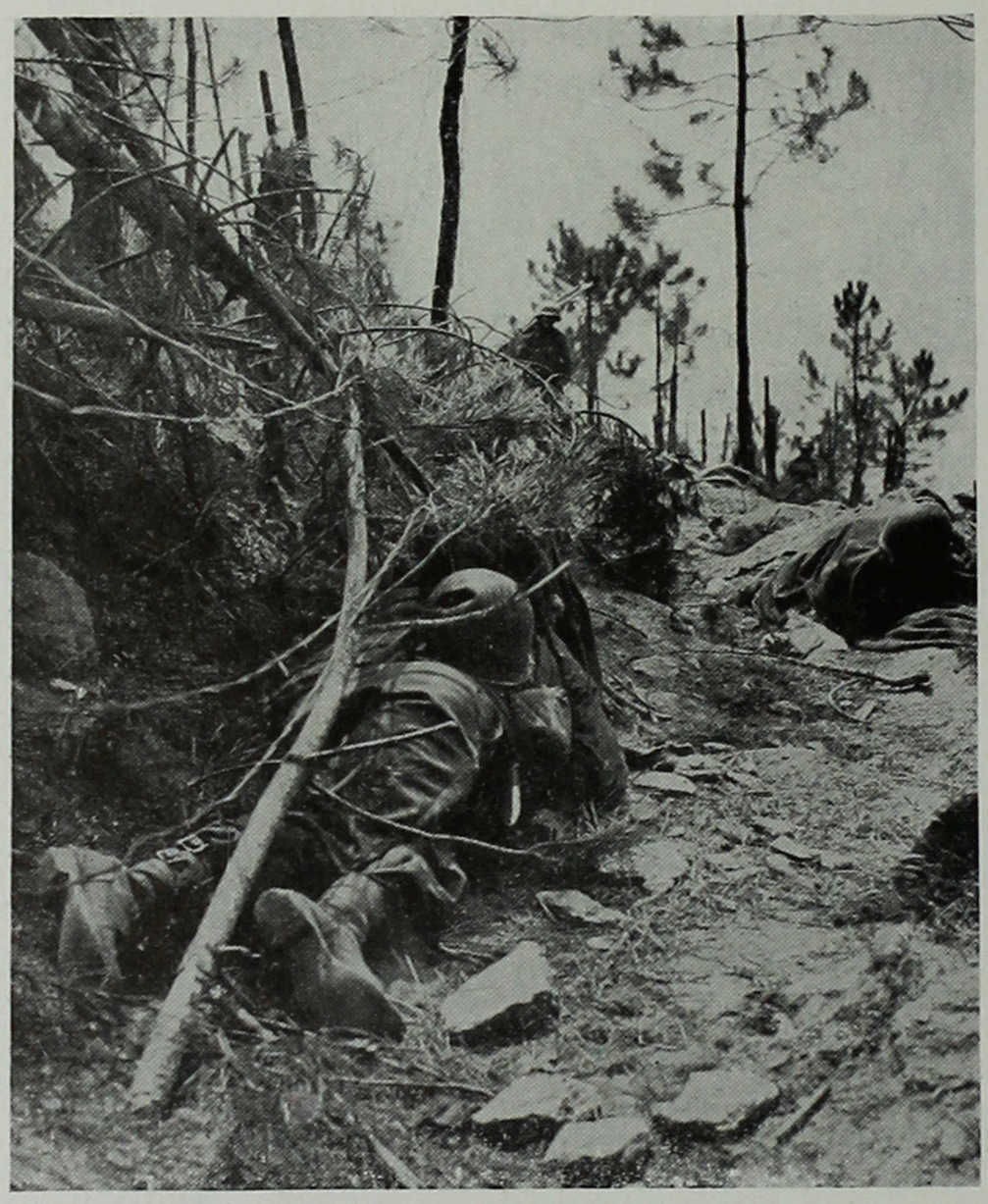
The battalion's first objective was the "Georgia" peak. This knob of solid rock contained at least fifteen emplacements manned by a company of the enemy. Although it had been shelled and attacked over a five-month period, it had never been reduced. The leading men had advanced about 150 yards toward their objective when someone tripped a mine. In the scramble for cover seven more mines went off, causing heavy casualties and bringing down grenades and machine-gun fire on the attackers. The attack faltered and stopped, inasmuch as many of the men in Company A were inexperienced replacements.

The commander of the leading platoon then committed his support squad to the flank. At the time the leading scout of the squad was Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class) Henry Y. Arao. Leading the attack, he crawled through the heavily mined approaches to a machine-gun emplacement. Just at this point a grenade burst wounded the squad leader, and the green troops faltered again. Quickly and efficiently Sergeant Arao administered first aid to his squad leader and reorganized the squad. As his men were pinned down by more grenade bursts, he crawled to one emplacement alone, tossed in a grenade and charged. He killed the gunner with his tommy gun and forced the assistant gunner to surrender. As another gun took him under fire he made his way toward the emplacement, tossed another grenade and killed the crew as they came out of the emplacement. Demoralized, the rest of the enemy fled toward a bomb-proof dugout. With the enemy driven off by Sergeant Arao's action, the platoon moved up and seized its objective.

In the same action under similar circumstances Private First Class Sadao S. Munemori, an assistant squad leader of Company A, also contributed immeasurably to the success of the attack. When his unit was pinned down by the enemy's grazing fire and his squad leader was wounded, command of the squad devolved on him. He made frontal, one-man attacks through direct fire and knocked out two machine guns with grenades. Withdrawing under murderous fire and showers of grenades from other enemy emplacements, he had nearly reached a shell crater occupied by two of his men when an unexploded grenade bounced from his helmet and rolled toward his helpless comrades. He rose into the withering fire, dived for the grenade, and smothered the blast with his own body. By his swift, supremely heroic action, Private First Class Munemori saved two of his men at the cost of his life and did much to clear the path for his company's advance.

By direction of the President Private First Class Munemori was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, his country's highest decoration.

By 0520 the 100th Battalion had gained the crest of the "Georgia" peak. It had taken the 442d Combat Team exactly thirty-two minutes to accomplish a mission that had resisted the best efforts of friendly troops for five months. Sergeant Arao, who had



The cost—these men died in a mortar barrage on the "Ohio" peaks

sparked the attack, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The enemy, although he had lost the first round, was not whipped. He threw heavy concentrations of mortar and artillery fire on the reverse slopes of "Georgia" as the troops started down to attack the first of the "Ohio" peaks. Enemy machine guns set in bunkers on the forward slopes of "Ohio 1" opened up, pinning the attackers to the ground. Still another company was stopped with heavy losses as it attempted to maneuver to the left flank of the leading elements. Mortar and such artillery fire as could be used at close quarters failed to dent the well-constructed emplacements. Finally the troops were forced to filter through the heavy fire and close to hand-grenade range. The battle raged furiously all through the 5th, inasmuch as the bunkers had to be approached and destroyed one by one, but the position was still not reduced. Then, at midnight, the enemy mounted a strong counterattack which caught no one napping. After an hour-long fire-fight at close quarters the enemy fell back.

The day's action had cost the Germans 30 dead, 12 bunkers destroyed or captured, 17 machine guns and three 75mm mountain howitzers captured, and several tons of ammunition and supplies taken intact. The price, however, was terribly high: 20 men killed and 123 wounded.

April 6 saw the 100th and 3d Battalions close the pincers on the enemy troops still holding the three "Ohio" peaks and Mt. Cerretta. The 2d Battalion was also committed to action. It had gained the Mt. Folgorito ridge during the night and was now poised for an attack on Mt. Carchio and Mt. Belvedere to the north, the peak that looked down on the city of Massa.

In the 100th Battalion sector, after a two-hour effort against the first of the "Ohio" peaks had yielded only slight gains, the regimental commander called for an air mission on the objective. As the planes arrived each made an initial pass for range. Ground observers with the 100th Battalion relayed corrections to officers at regimental headquarters who in turn relayed them to the pilots through air liaison personnel there. In this way the pilots were able to achieve pin-point bombing and strafing with devastating results. As the planes came in the Nisei, with complete disregard for the enemy, stood up and watched the show as if it were a three-ring circus. Then, behind a ten-minute artillery barrage, they went back to work. Although the enemy was battered and stunned small groups resisted desperately with machine guns, small arms, and grenades. The close coordination of their fire had been destroyed by the air and artillery attack, however, and they were no match for the determined attackers who closed rapidly with each group and wiped it out.

Meanwhile Company L of the 3d Battalion had been driving south for Mt. Cerretta. Intense mortar and artillery barrages together with a constantly lifting and falling fog made any progress slow and dangerous. The enemy group on Mt. Cerretta was determined to hold out, evidently suspecting that they were completely cut off from any help. The peak was taken only after a stiff battle that cost the company 2 killed and 11 wounded. The enemy lost 20 killed and 11 captured. At 1900 Company L and patrols from Company C made contact and the destruction of the Germans' main line of resistance was complete.

In the north Company F had reduced Mt. Carchio by noon while the rest of the 2d Battalion began working on the wide, rolling top of Mt. Belvedere. This, however, was slow going. The Germans had intrusted the defense of Belvedere to the crack Ma-

chine Gun Battalion Kesselring, veteran troops. The Nazi battalion gave ground grudgingly and battered the attackers with a steady stream of mortar fire and concentrations from the coastal rifles on Punta Bianca.

Still, the enemy lost heavily. The regiment took 106 prisoners, mostly from the 281st Regiment. This almost entirely eliminated the 1st Battalion of that regiment.

On the left flank of the regiment the 370th Infantry had made extremely limited gains against heavy enemy mortar barrages. As a result the left flank of the regiment was now exposed to a depth of about two and a half miles. The right flank was completely exposed, but was not so dangerous in that the terrain was extremely rough and the sector was garrisoned by low-grade Italian troops. Consequently the regiment devoted most of April 7 to consolidation and organization of the ground.

The 3d Battalion wiped out a force which had been infiltrating toward Mt. Folgorito from the Colle Piano spur, on the western flank of the Combat Team. Company K was assigned to get behind the enemy strong point and clean off the spur entirely. However, the company missed direction in the broken terrain and ended up capturing 20 Germans, 4 81mm mortars, and a large supply of ammunition near the town of Strinata, several thousand yards from where they were supposed to be.

The 100th Battalion cleaned out their area of some stray Germans and generally improved their positions. The men did what they could to help the stalled 370th Infantry on the left flank by fire, but to no avail.

While the rest of the Combat Team was cleaning up its back yard, the 2d Battalion was still slugging it out with the Machine Gun Battalion Kesselring on Mt. Belvedere. Company F finally broke the deadlock and cleared off most of the ground, although there were still pockets of the enemy scattered on the peak, most of whom surrendered later. A great deal of the credit for the defeat of the enemy went to Technical Sergeant Yukio Okutsu. Held up by a strongpoint of three machine guns, Okutsu crawled to within thirty yards of the first emplacement and killed the crew with two well-placed hand grenades. Running from cover to cover, he approached the second nest and tossed in a single grenade. Two of the crew were wounded and the other two surrendered. As he started to crawl toward the third gun, Sergeant Okutsu was momentarily stunned by a German slug which ricocheted off his helmet. Recovering, he charged several enemy riflemen, firing his tommy gun, and forced them to withdraw. He then rushed the machine-gun nest from the flank and captured the entire crew of four. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

On April 8 the 3d Battalion pushed down the Colle Piano ridgeline and occupied Montignoso, gathering up 16 prisoners on the way. With the fall of Montignoso, Highway 1 was open almost to Massa, cutting the regiment's supply and evacuation haul from sixteen hours to two.

While the occupation of Montignoso was taking place, Company G of the 2d Battalion was attacking Colle Tecchione. Colle Tecchione was another spur which ran west from Mt. Belvedere and ended on the eastern outskirts of Massa. Company G came under constant artillery and mortar fire. The leading men came under small-arms fire after they had advanced down the spur about two hundred yards. The ridge was defended by about two companies of Germans well dug in and supported by mortars and machine guns. After a three-hour firefight, 8 Germans were killed and 6 taken prisoner along with 3 machine guns and 4 mortars. Company G was unable to clear the ridge, however, and dug in for the night. From 2000 to 0200 the next morning, the positions were under constant mortar and small-arms fire, and at midnight the Germans counter-attacked, but were beaten back.

The other two companies of the battalion, E and F, moved down the northern slopes of Mt. Belvedere to attack the towns of Altagnana and Pariana. Company E on the right got into Altagnana without a great deal of opposition. The attack had been launched at 1800 and the town was under control by midnight. A patrol probing into Pariana drew violent opposition and withdrew.

On the left flank, the 370th Infantry still had not advanced and control of the coastal sector passed to the 473d Infantry at 1100, April 8. The 473d immediately launched a drive for Massa.

The following day a bitter battle developed for Pariana. The remnants of the Machine Gun Battalion Kesselring, about 150 Germans, were assembled in the town, supported by automatic weapons and mortars, a tank, a self-propelled gun, and an armored car. After an artillery preparation and a battle that lasted through the entire morning, the 2d Platoon of Company F, supported by Company H's machine guns, succeeded in occupying the edge of

the town at 1400. In doing so they captured 8 German mortars and 75 cases of ammunition intact and promptly turned them against the enemy. In the fighting that followed, 65 Germans were killed, 8 machine guns and 4 more mortars were captured and control of Pariana passed to Company F, although all pockets of resistance were not subdued until dark. In the last roundup, 62 prisoners were captured, including 3 German officers. That was the end of the Machine Gun Battalion Kesselring. There may have been a few stragglers not accounted for, but the battalion was finished as a fighting unit.

Meanwhile, on the left of the regimental sector, the 3d Battalion was driving for the Frigido River line. At 0830, Companies I and K started out to cross the Mt. Belvedere-Colle Tecchione ridge and found it, as well as Colle Tecchione itself, still full of Germans. Company K engaged the enemy forces while the mortar platoon of Company M fired for three hours. The terrible pounding drove the enemy into the open, where they were promptly hit by artillery. Company K took 50 prisoners, 7 machine guns, and 4 mortars on the hill. The battalion then passed through Company G on the ridge and reached the Frigido by nightfall.

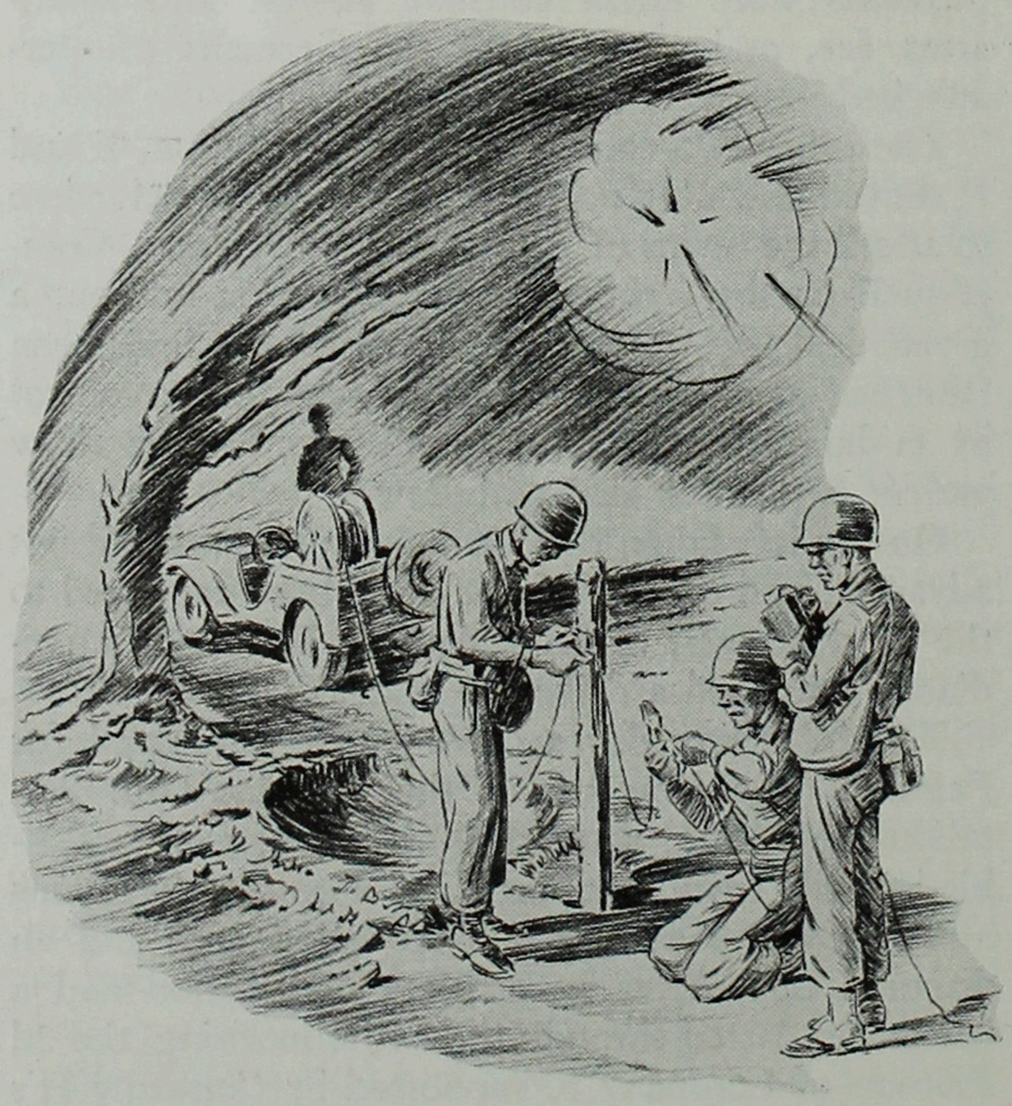
The 100th Battalion, which had been protecting the regimental right and rear on Mt. Folgorito, Mt. Carchio, and Mt. Belvedere, was in the process of being relieved by the 370th Infantry. When the relief was completed, the 100th assembled around Altagnana and Pariana as a regimental reserve.

The enemy's expected defense of the Frigido River never developed. The badly battered Germans had pulled back beyond Carrara, probably to a line of defense on the high ground to the northeast, between Carrara and Aulla. There was considerable evidence that the regiment had been successful in its chief mission: to draw off some of the enemy's scant central reserve from Bologna prior to the Fifth Army's all-out push in that sector. This evidence received further confirmation when the regiment hit the enemy's last line of defense and prisoners began to come in from units which had not been in the sector before the drive started.

On April 10 the 442d Infantry crossed the Frigido River and drove three thousand yards north to occupy the high ground before the marble-mining center of Carrara, a city of about fifty thousand people. While the 3d Battalion moved rapidly ahead through the foothills above the coastal plain, Company E of the 2d Battalion seized 3000-ft. Mt. Brugiana, which dominated the city itself. Elements of the 100th Battalion occupied Antona on the eastern flank of the regiment while Antitank Company blocked the roads leading into Massa from the east.

On the left flank, the 473d Infantry had taken Massa without a battle, but had still not advanced abreast of the leading companies of the 442d by some three thousand yards. As soon as Massa was occupied, the enemy cut loose with his Punta Bianca guns, keeping the city and Highway 1 under heavy fire for several days. Parts of the city were badly wrecked by the shelling and our lines of communication were constantly cut. Wire crews were forced to work day and night repairing lines to the rear.

Company L moved down on Carrara on April 11, and found the city in complete control of the partisans. The Germans had pulled out to the northeast. Company K by-passed the city and pushed north into the mountains again, taking Gragnana and Sorgnano without opposition. Other units of the battalion outposted the southern outskirts of Carrara until the 473d Infantry advanced far enough to cover the left flank. The 100th Battalion had made an eight-hour march over a mountain trail to seize Colonnata and outpost the regimental right flank.



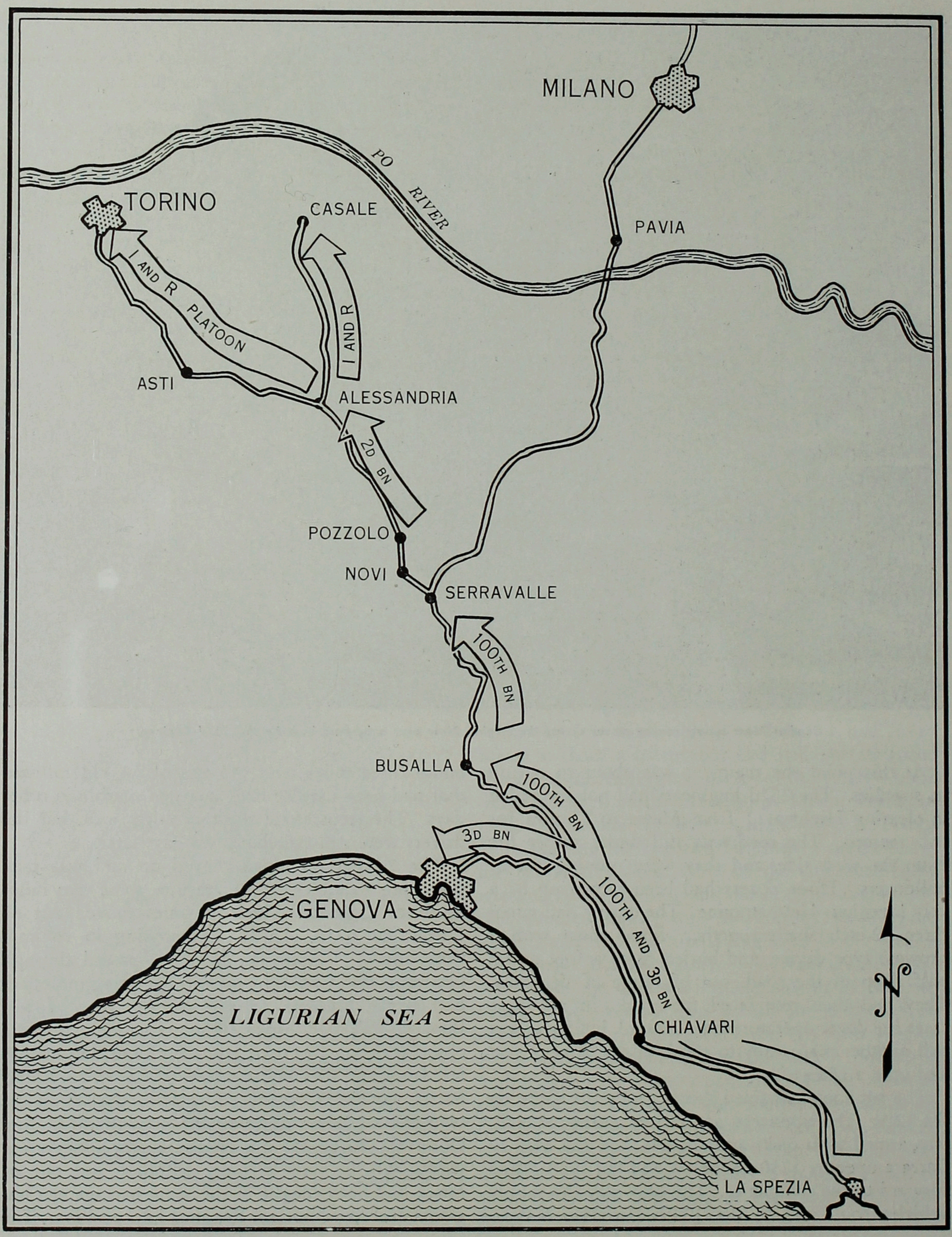
Wire crews worked day and night keeping the lines in

Combat Team supply convoy moves across the Frigido River over a by-pass built by the 232d Engineers

At this point the regiment was about to outrun its supplies. The 232d Engineers had not succeeded in clearing Highway 1 from Massa to Carrara for two reasons. The road was still under sniper fire from the west side, and they were running out of bulldozers. Three dozers had been blown up by a very ingenious German mine. The enemy had wired three 12-inch shells together, fused them with a pressure type device, and buried them a foot and a half deep in the road, out of range of detectors. They had then resurfaced the road. In all three cases the dozer operators were injured, but there was still another man ready to climb in the driver's seat and take a chance.

The situation remained substantially the same on the 12th. The engineers, assisted by a crew of civilians armed with picks and shovels, had the road to Carrara open by 1730. Supplies and hot food rolled forward to the companies. The only way the supply vehicles could get to the 100th Battalion was to bump three miles over the ties of an old railroad that had been used to haul quarried marble in other days. The jeeps stood the trip fairly well, but the drivers were still twitching two days later.

The 2d Battalion had moved up and was now preparing to attack Mt. Pizzacuto, some five miles north of Carrara. The companies moved out of Carrara at 0730, April 13, marching in column. Company G, leading the advance, passed through Gragnana and Castelpoggio without being molested, but as the leading elements hit the base of Mt. Pizzacuto all hell broke loose. The Germans had observation on the road from Fort Bastione to the left front and they began covering the road with air bursts. At the same time self-propelled guns on the objective cut loose at Company G with direct fire. Observers called for fire on the enemy observation posts, but the only artillery battalion not out of range had been caught in the same barrage at Gragnana and could not get the guns into position. The



ITALY: The Breakthrough, La Spezia to Torino

2d Battalion was forced to dig in for the night.

The 100th Battalion had also been assembled and was following the 2d at twenty-five hundred yards. As the troops moved into Gragnana, they were also caught in the barrage and forced to take cover in houses for the better part of six hours. The 3d Battalion, assembled in Carrara in reserve, and the regimental command post, also in Carrara, took an all-day pounding from the coastal guns on Punta Bianca. Two jeeps, a 2½-ton truck, and an ambulance were completely wrecked by heavy caliber fire which fell around the command post. Building walls dropped as if they had been made of cardboard. Probably the bravest people in town that day belonged to the Carrara Fire Department. Before the shells had stopped falling, they wheezed up in an ancient fire engine and determinedly proceeded to extinguish the fires in a blazing truck and jeep.

During the night of the 13th, Company B left Gragnana and marched to Castelpoggio to reinforce the 2d Battalion command group in the town. Castelpoggio was extremely vulnerable to attack from the left flank, in the direction of Fort Bastione. It was extremely fortunate that the precaution was taken. The Germans infiltrated to within fifty yards of the outskirts under cover of the predawn fog on the 14th. Just at daybreak, they launched their attack in battalion strength. Company B met the attack and fought until 0830, supported by Company H's mortars. When the smoke cleared, there were 16 dead Germans and 8 wounded in the area. Our own losses had been 5 killed and 5 wounded. The enemy battalion, identified as the 1st Battalion, 361st *Panzer Grenadier* Regiment, withdrew toward Fort Bastione.

Meanwhile, Company G had jumped off against Mt. Pizzacuto at 0800, meeting considerable resistance. However, the artillery and mortar support which was now available carried the attack to the objective by 1000. The men continued the advance down the west slope during the afternoon. By nightfall 12 Germans had been killed and 54 captured along with large quantities of equipment. Company G then deployed to assault Fort Bastione and Company F took over the garrison of Mt. Pizzacuto.

Early that morning, before any action had taken place, six new replacements from the Provisional Company had left Castelpoggio with water and rations for Company G. The men were loaded down and unarmed. As they made their way up the trail, they were ambushed and captured by a German patrol. The men were taken to Fort Bastione and questioned, but revealed nothing but the required name, rank, and serial number to their captors. The Germans stripped them of equipment and sent them to the rear. As they passed through Vallechia, they were caught in an American artillery barrage. One guard was killed and the prisoners managed to beat the other two to death. They then made their way back through the German lines, reaching the 100th Battalion Aid Station at Gragnana late in the afternoon. The men had very little information on German positions in the general vicinity, but they were able to give valuable assistance in describing the layout of Fort Bastione.

The attack on the fort was made on April 15, preceded by a bombing attack and an artillery preparation at 1005. Immediately afterward, Company G closed in and seized the fort at 1300. One platoon then continued northwest and took Mt. Grugola along with Company F, which had advanced from Mt. Pizzacuto. Opposition was not especially heavy and the peak was taken in about two hours.

In the meantime, heavy fighting had broken out to the left rear of the regiment on La Bandita Ridge, opposite Castelpoggio. The 232d Engineers had taken over the ridge from elements of the 3d Battalion. At the same time, Company C had attacked down the forward slope to help the 473d Infantry in its battle for Ortonovo. Strong resistance developed and at 1450 the Germans counterattacked, involving Company C and the engineers in a battle that lasted until dark. The enemy force, the 2d Battalion of the 286th Infantry, withdrew after Company M had dumped 400 rounds of mortar on their positions. The withdrawal was seen by the engineers' observation post and brought under fire. Company C had ten men wounded in the action. Captain Pershing Nakada, Commanding Officer of the 232d, was wounded along with several of his men.

During the night the Fifth Army offensive, for which the 92d Division and the 442d Infantry had been the decoys, jumped off against Bologna. The part the 442d Combat Team (less the 522d Field Artillery Battalion) had played in turning what had originally been intended as a diversion for the Fifth Army offensive into a full scale attack along the west coast of Italy had been a vital one. The 442d Infantry Regiment and the 232d Engineer (Combat) Company were later awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for the ten days of bitter action between April 5 and April 14.

April 16 found the battle for the southwestern tip of La Bandita ridge still going on. Company C moved down the ridge, silencing one machine-gun nest after another. Company B moved to Fort Bastione and then attacked southwest down that ridge in an effort to clear the area and facilitate the advance of the 473d Infantry.

Meanwhile the 3d Battalion had moved out of Carrara and relieved the 2d Battalion in position. Company K passed over Mt. Pizzacuto and seized Mt. Tomaggiora after a brief fight, taking prisoners from the 4th High Mountain Battalion, another new unit in the sector. Company L moved northwest of Mt. Grugola and ran into outposts from the same unit.

The following day Company L launched an attack on the town of Fosdinovo. The leading elements advanced about two hundred yards and found themselves stopped cold by fire from what was evidently a numerically superior force The enemy was defending Fosdinovo and Mt. Nebbione bitterly. This was the last dominant terrain before the vital road center of Aulla. If Aulla fell, the German forces in the La Spezia naval base and other garrisons up the coast would be hopelessly cut off from retreat to the Po Valley, as the partisans were reported to be gaining control of the route north from Genoa. The only other practical route was Highway 63, through Aulla and the Cisa Pass to Parma in the Po Valley and the 442d Infantry was threatening Aulla.

The hub of the enemy defenses was Mt. Nebbione. The 3d Battalion probed at the enemy defenses from every conceivable angle; elements of the 2d Battalion tried a wide encirclement to the south. All of these thrusts were beaten back. Perhaps the story would have been different if the men had been fresh, but most of them had been climbing up and down 3000-foot peaks for two weeks without much rest and they were dead on their feet.

In the coastal sector there was increasing evidence that the enemy was getting ready to pull out. On the 20th the coastal rifles on Punta Bianca suddenly fell silent, and partisans reported that the enemy had blown them up and abandoned the positions. There was no withdrawal in the regimental sector, however. If anything, the Germans had gathered in stragglers and remnants of other units to reinforce their positions.

The regiment had become somewhat scattered as a result of the various attempts which had been made to flank the enemy forces. On April 20, the battalions regrouped in the vicinity of Marciaso and prepared to attack north instead of northwest. The mission was to cut Highway 63 and 6320 and then strike at Aulla. The 100th Battalion attacked on the right, with the 2d Battalion in the center. The 3d Battalion remained in position on the left with the mission of continuing the attack on Mt. Nebbione.

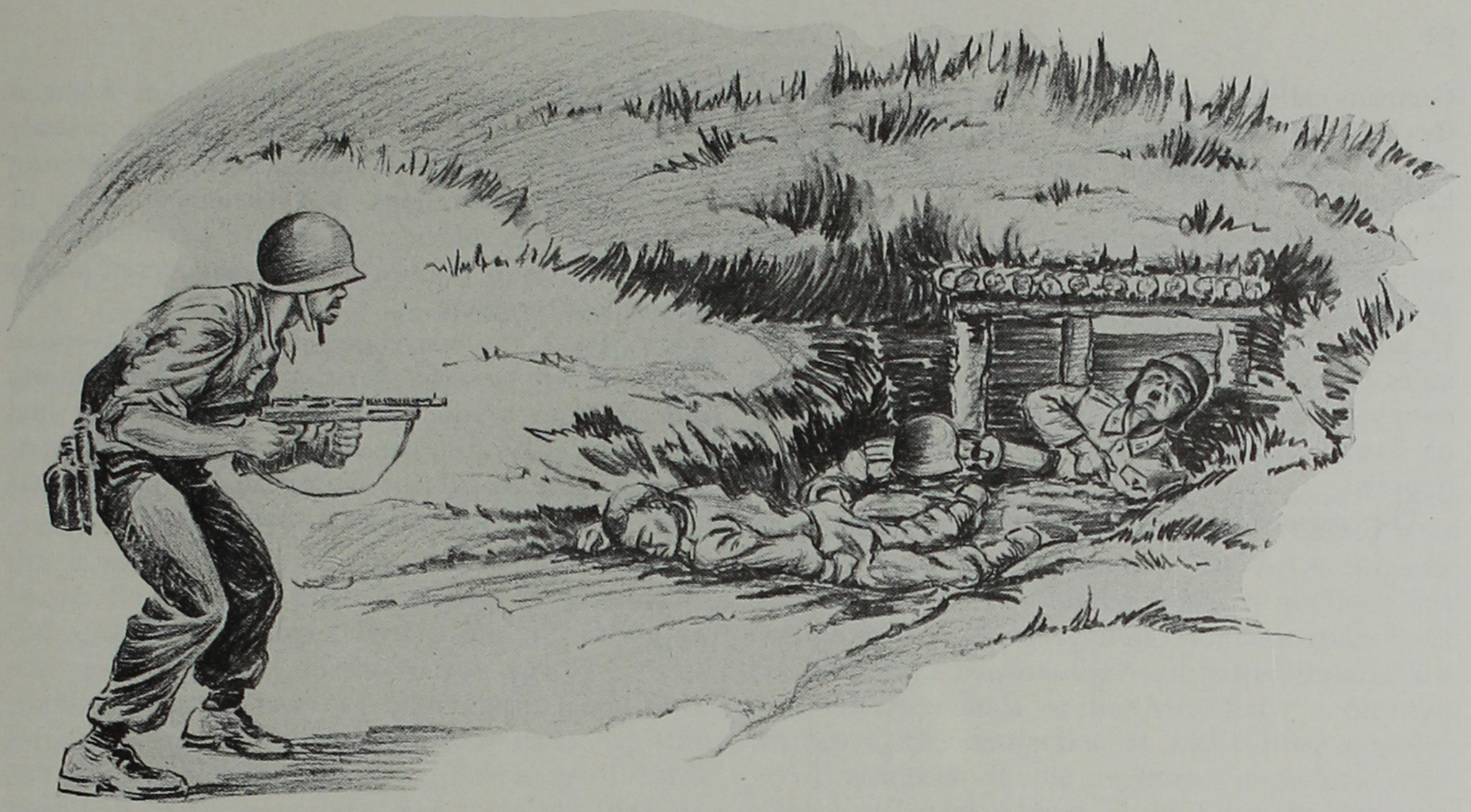
The following morning, both the 100th and 2d Battalions attacked at 0800, but progress was very slow. Contrary to the Division G-2 reports, the enemy had not yet begun to withdraw from the sector. Company E made a considerable dent in the enemy defenses when Colle Musatello fell in the early afternoon. The ridge was defended by the 3d Battalion of the crack 361st *Panzer Grenadier* Regiment, which had recently appeared in the sector from the Po Valley.

Leading the attack was First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant) Daniel K. Inouye. He first led his platoon in a rapid encirclement that resulted in the destruction of a German mortar observation post and brought the men to within forty yards of the main hostile force. The enemy, dug into bunkers and rock crevices, fought back fanatically, halting the advance with crossfire from three machine guns which swept an area devoid of cover and concealment. Lieutenant Inouye crawled up the slope to within five yards of the nearest gun and tossed two hand grenades into the nest. Before the enemy recovered, he stood up and raked the second gun with fire from his tommy gun, killing the crew. He was hit once, but he continued to fire at other emplacements until his arm was shattered by a grenade. In spite of his pain, he refused evacuation and directed the final assult which carried the ridge. In the attack, 25 Germans were killed and 8 others captured. Lieutenant Inouye received the Distinguished Service Cross.

The Germans counterattacked the positions late in the afternoon with two companies, but the attack was beaten off with terrible losses to the enemy.

Company K also found a chink in the enemy armor. One platoon struck the ridge between Posterla and Tendola to the north. With excellent mortar support, the enemy was driven off and Company K at least had a starting point for an attack on Tendola, held by about a company of Germans.

On the 22d, Company K hit Tendola with all three platoons, two from the north and one from the south. The resulting firefight lasted all day and on into the night. In the attack, Private Joe Hayashi,



Inouye raked the second gun with fire from his tommy gun, killing the crew

an acting squad leader, maneuvered his men up a steep terraced hill to within a hundred yards of the enemy. Then he advanced alone to a hostile machine-gun position and threw in a hand grenade, killing one man and forcing the other members of the crew to surrender. Seeing four more guns delivering fire on another squad of his platoon, he again exposed himself and fired a rifle grenade, destroying one nest. Then Hayashi crawled to the right flank of another gun and killed the entire crew of four. As the enemy troops supporting the gun fled, he got up to pursue them and was killed by a burst of fire from a machine pistol. He received the Distinguished Service Cross posthumously.

On April 23 the Germans pulled out, leaving only a covering shell as they attempted to beat the 34th Division in a race to get through Parma. Most of them stayed too long and were gathered in by the "Red Bull" Division. The covering force was easily overcome. Company L seized Mt. Nebbione and Company I pushed through and occupied Mt. Carbolo by 2000. On the right the 2d Battalion attacked San Terenzo, defended by Italian Bersaglieri troops whom the Germans had left holding the well-known sack. Company E made a direct assault in addition to flanking the town from the east. Simultaneously Company G assaulted the high ground to the west. When it was all over, 40 of the enemy were dead and 135 were prisoners. For this action, the battle of Pariana, and the massacre at Hill 617 in the Vosges Mountains in France, the 2d Battalion received the Distinguished Unit Citation.

Aulla fell to the regiment on the 25th as the 2d Battalion drove in from the east and a special task force made up of Companies B and F drove in from the northeast, having made a 10-mile forced march through the mountains.

From here on, the race began. The 473d Infantry entered Genoa on April 27 to find it pretty well under partisan control, the German general in command having surrendered his garrison. On the 28th, the 3d Battalion arrived in style after having alternately marched and ridden to the outskirts of the city. Here the men boarded street cars and rode to the western part of Genoa which they garrisoned, together with the high ground to the north and west. The same day the 100th Battalion reached Busalla, in the mountain pass which led from Genoa to the Po. The commanding officer outposted Isola del Cantone with tanks and infantry, after which the battalion halted and waited to see what would happen next.

The following day the 2d Battalion arrived on trucks, having begged, borrowed, and stolen enough gas to make the trip. The trucks rolled on to Alessandria in the Po Valley, where about one thousand

Germans called it quits without a struggle. Units of the battalion also "liberated" Asti, the champagne center. The liberation resulted in a colossal hangover.

April 30 saw the regimental Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, led by Lieutenant Robert I. Wakuya, and a machine-gun section from Company H, make a wild dash for Turin through seventy-five miles of country that might or might not have been enemy held. The platoon made a thorough survey of Turin, which was held by the partisans, and returned.

The regimental interrogation team, First Lieutenant Emil Janzen, AUS, and Lieutenant Romano Andreotti of the Royal Italian Army, was hopelessly swamped. Germans and Italians were surrendering by companies, battalions, and regiments. One or two guards was sufficient to capture a company, but what to do with it once it had surrendered was a tremendous problem.

On May 2, the war ended in Italy. The German armies which had fought so skillfully and bitterly from Salerno to the Po were finished. They had been hopelessly split and cut to pieces. The longest and bitterest of all the European campaigns was finished first, which was as it should be.

CHAPTER 8

OCCUPATION

THE German surrender in Italy had heralded the beginning of the end of the war in Europe, but complete victory in Europe came only when the unconditional surrender became official at 0001 May 9, 1945. The 442d Combat Team received word of VE-Day with very little in the way of demonstration. It was with more of a sigh that the regiment put its arms down—a very tired sigh of relief that it was all over in Europe and the long chase was ended. So many had died—along the River Arno, in the cold dismal Vosges Forests and the Maritime Alps in France, and on the rocky crags of the Apennines. Victory had not been cheap. The 442d Infantry Regiment had contributed to its buying with 650 dead and 3436 wounded. The scars of battle were still to fresh and the men too tired for boisterous festivities. And there was still the Pacific to think about.

The end of the war did not mean the end of contact with the remnants of Hitler's legions, for the veterans of the 442d were destined to corral the surrendering Wermacht from the peaks and flatlands of Italy. Upon the surrender in Italy on May 2, the 442d stopped its pursuit of the battered enemy and regrouped into bivouac at Novi Ligure. Shedding battle dress and donning a bit of civilian-like respectability with nicely-pressed uniforms and clean combat boots, the Nisei veterans began the transition from combat to garrison duty. After a life of shaveless and bathless weeks in combat, it was not surprising that many a survivor of the outfit's four major campaigns looked as awkwardly self-conscious as a Hawaiian beachcomber in dress shoes. Aside from the 2d Battalion which left on May 6 and 8 for Cuneo to set up roadblocks and conduct motorized patrols near the French border, the Combat Team remained in Novi Ligure.

On May 13 awards were presented to the members of the 442d who had distinguished themselves in battle in an impressive regimental parade and ceremony at the Italian airfield on the outskirts of Novi Ligure by Lieutenant General Lucian K. Truscott, Commanding General of the Fifth Army, and Major General E. M. Almond, Commanding General of the 92d Infantry Division.

The period of relative inactivity in the area was cut short by Operations Instructions #9, Headquarters 92d Infantry Division, dated 141200 May 1945, which detached the 442d Regimental Combat Team from the 92d and ordered movement to the 34th Infantry Division area for attachment to IV Corps. However, this was changed on May 16 by Secret Letter Headquarters IV Corps, which called for movement of the 442d to Ghedi Airfield near Brescia to be attached to the 71st AAA Brigade. The long ride of 125 miles from Novi to Ghedi was begun on May 16. Travelling by motor convoy via Piacenza and Cremona, the 442d passed through the luxuriant farmlands of northern Italy, a pleasant contrast to the destruction of war further south.

All elements of the regiment established tent bivouac at Ghedi Airport at the Fifth Army Enemy Concentration Area on May 17 and were given the mission of processing, searching, and guarding prisoners from the German 14th Army. Then began a life punctuated by DDT insecticide, ragged Wehrmacht specimens of soldiers and women auxiliaries, German loot from the Italian countryside varying from fortunes in horses and lire to women's silken unmentionables, and motley collections of Nazi slave laborers and Italian fascists. Processing teams, formed to search and disinfect the surrendering enemy personnel, processed approximately 85,000 PWs in eight days. During this time a guard of the Concentration Area was established and maintained. For the men not on duty, a schedule of garrison training was begun. One day passes to Milan and rest center passes to Alassio, Venice, and the 442d Combat Team Rest Center at San Pellegrino were instituted.

The homeward trek of the veterans of the 442d began on May 31, when thirty-eight men of the Combat Team possessing the highest Adjusted Service Rating scores left the regiment for home in accordance with the redeployment policies of the United States Army. To these Nisei veterans, this meant the culmination of four difficult campaigns in Italy and France. They had received their first baptism of fire in the Rome-Arno sector in Italy; they had gone on to France and suffered in the freezing cold and rugged winter battles in the thick forests of the Vosges and the Maritime Alps; they

Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Fifth Army commander, affixes the Distinguished Unit Citation streamer to the 3d Battalion guidon

had come back to Italy for the final curtain. And now they were going home. Their part in history was done.

Those who were remaining with the regiment honored these returning comrades with a colorful regimental parade and ceremony before their departure. Among those returning were: Private First Class Irving M. Akahoshi, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Technical Sergeant Kenso Suga, who received the Silver Star, and Bronze Star winners Corporal Kenneth K. Fujihara, Sergeant Edward Y. Ikuma, Technician Fourth Grade Seitoku Kaneshiro, Private First Class Kiichi Kohatsu, Technician Fifth Grade Charles M. Miyashiro, Private First Class Mitsugi Moto, Technician Fourth Grade Shigeru Oshita, Private First Class Herbert S. Saito, Technician Fifth Grade Wilfred S. Shobu, and Private First Class Harold S. Tamashiro. Others in the group were: Private First Class Takeo Fujimoto, Private First Class Ichiji Fujiwara, Staff Sergeant Patrick K. Hagiwara, Staff Sergeant Edward K. Harada, Sergeant Tadao Ishizu, Private First Class Tatsuo Kanoura, Technician Fifth Grade Yoshimasa Kawamoto, First Sergeant Takashi Kitaoka, Private First Class Harold M. Kobayashi, Technician Fourth Grade Masato Kodama, Technical Sergeant James J. Mitsuda, First Sergeant Takao Miyao, Private First Class Hideo Nakama, Staff Sergeant Edward H. Nishihara, Technical Sergeant Andrew M. Okamura, Staff Sergeant Ryo Okazaki, Private First Class Susumu Sato, Private First Class Wallace S. Shigetani, Private First Class Richard S. Takano, Technician Fifth Grade Richard R. Takara, Technician Fifth Grade Yukio P. Tanji, Private First Class Robert S. Toma, Sergeant Tatsuo Honda, Technical Sergeant Robert T. Inouye, Technician Fifth Grade Isao Ishii, and Staff Sergeant Tsukasa Yamada.

The Combat Team continued processing and guarding German prisoners at the Fifth Army Enemy Concentration Area until the middle of June. The 88th Infantry Division was designated as MTOUSA POW Command, effective June 7, 1945 (per letter Headquarters Fifth Army, AG 383.6-Y dated June 7, 1945); and the 442d Regimental Combat Team was attached to that division and detached from the 71st AAA Brigade.

June 1945 saw the elements of the Combat Team come to the parting of the ways. The 442d Infantry Regiment, 522d Field Artillery Battalion, 232d Engineer Combat Company, and 206th AGF Band, all

GIs guarding Headquarters, Enemy Concentration Area, at Ghedi Airfield

made up of young Nisei volunteers, had formed the 442d Regimental Combat Team that had trained in Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and had gone through the war together. The 522d had been left in France to participate in the eventual invasion of Germany. Now, the last two supporting elements of the 442d were sent to different assignments. The Nisei band was attached to IV Corps and closed out of Ghedi Airfield on June 9 for Milan, Italy. The Nisei Engineers who had fought alongside their infantry comrades both as engineers and as riflemen, left Ghedi for Florence, Italy.

After almost a month of processing the surrendering German Army in Italy which dribbled into the prisoner of war camp, the Combat Team again folded its tents and packed up for movement on June 14 for another assignment. Upon being relieved of guard duties at the Ghedi Airfield, the regiment journeyed on a truck convoy made up of American and confiscated German vehicles to Lecco, 61½ miles from Ghedi. The battalions made bivouac in Lecco, while the Regimental CP was established at Lecco Maggianico on Lago di Garlate in the vicinity of Lecco proper.

The 442d was designated as a Category I unit to be retained for continued service in the Mediterranean Theater and reverted to the control of Fifth

206th AGF Band holding a practice session

Army. An extensive army education and recreation program was proposed for personnel of the regiment, with opportunities to participate in unit schools, technical schools, army and foreign universities, and on-the-job-training courses. The men prepared for a pleasant stay in this beautiful lake country of northern Italy. Excursions to the famous resort of Como to enjoy the many lakes that abound in that section were begun. But on June 19, after only five days of anticipation of "a good deal," the bubble broke. The 442d Infantry Regiment was redesignated as a Category II unit to be transferred to the Pacific or Asiatic Theaters (per TWX, Hq 5th Army, dated June 19, 1945). The war came close to the unit again, and a full training program was instituted to prepare for operations against Japan. The men saw the beautiful countryside—by the numbers from company formation and through the rifles and steel helmets of the men hiking stolidly before each of them.

In the midst of a rigorous training routine, the inevitable order for movement came again. The regiment said goodbye to a wonderful countryside and a friendly Lecco populace and prepared for the long movement south. In the early morning darkness of July 7 the first group, composed of Cannon and Antitank Company, left on organic transportation and travelled approximately 270 miles to Coltano di Pisa, Italy. The remaining elements of the regiment followed in three other groups within the next three days on trucks and trains and established bivouac in the vicinity of Leghorn, Pisa, and Tombolo.

Upon arrival in the Pisa-Leghorn-Florence area, the 442d relieved the 473d Infantry. Effective July 25 the regiment took over the duties of the Pisa-Leghorn-Florence POW Sub-Command, relieving Division Artillery of the 88th Infantry Division. The Regimental CP was moved to Leghorn on July 24 and commenced operations. The regiment was scattered throughout the Pisa-Leghorn-Florence area guarding German Prisoner of War cages and military installations and supervising the utilization of POW work details. Elements of the 442d were dispersed in Leghorn, Pisa, Pistoia, Florence, and Montecatini to carry on these duties.

The army information and education programs and other recreational activities set up in the Mediterranean area were fully participated in by members of the outfit. The first group of students from the regiment went to the MTOUSA Army University Study Center in Florence for the initial July session. Three other groups attended the succeeding sessions until the closing of the university in November. On-the-job training was also made available to the unit. Swimmers of the 442d, entered as Fifth Army Troops, captured every blue ribbon except one in winning the championship of the Fifth Army Zone Swimming Finals. A light but fast Nisei football team participated in the Ivy League of the Leghorn area, placing third with two defeats. The fast, flashy play of the 442d gridders made them the favorites of the fans in every game. The squad played two post-season games against the 351st Infantry Regiment, undefeated, untied, and unscored on champions of the 88th Infantry Division. Playing in the Christmas Day feature at the Yankee Stadium in Leghorn, Italy, the Nisei footballers handed the 88th Division champions their first defeat by the score of 7-6. In a return New Years Day engagement, played at the 88th Division's own stamping grounds in the Trieste area near the Yugoslavian border, the two squads battled to a 13-13 tie.

Veterans of the 442d who fought with the outfit in the European Theater began volunteering for combat in the Pacific against the Japanese enemy as soon as victory against Germany had been achieved. Theirs was not only a patriotic gesture, but also a personal one. Born with an incriminating "racial armor" closely resembling the Pacific enemy, they had been dogged by a stigma of racial discrimination and suspicion, consciously or unconsciously engendered since the attack on Pearl Harbor. Now with the situation in Europe settled, they were able to request action in the theater they had hoped to serve in since the formation of the Combat Team. In compliance with their expressed wishes, four officers and 194 enlisted men with sufficient background in the Japanese language were given the opportunity to attend the MIS Language School in preparation for service as interpreters in the Pacific Theater and left the regiment during July and August.

On August 5, 1945 the 442d Infantry was relieved of attachment to MTOUSA POW Command for operations and detached from Fifth Army and was attached to Peninsular Base Section. While the major elements of the regiment remained dispersed in the Leghorn area, Company H and Antitank Platoon of Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, moved to Naples to perform the mission of guarding military installations. In connection with its assigned mission of guarding German PWs and military in-

stallations, the 442d was attached on August 20, 1945 to the Auxiliary Troops Command for operational control. The long assignment of the 442d to the American Fifth Army was ended upon the dissolution of the Fifth Army in August. The 442d Infantry Regiment, 232d Engineer Combat Company, and 206th Army Ground Forces Band were relieved from assignment to Fifth Army and were assigned to Peninsular Base Section on August 31.

The end of four years of war came on September 2, 1945 with the formal signing of the surrender papers in Tokyo Bay and the presidential proclamation of official VJ-Day. Participating in the celebration of this day, the 442d Infantry Regiment marched in the honor position in the VJ-Day parade through the city of Leghorn, leading more than 15,000 American, British, and Italian troops and auxiliaries.

Despite the end of hostilities, the 442d continued with its mission of guarding prisoners of war and military installations. However, redeployment of high point members of the regiment continued in earnest. Old combat buddies left the regiment throughout the months following the completion of the war, eventually to pick up the threads of life that were broken by the war. Many did not have their old homes to return to in California and the states on the West Coast. These gathered their families from the relocation centers and sought their fortunes in other sections of the country. Others returned to their old ways of life in Hawaii and in the states. No matter where they went, they took with them the pride and comradeship that can only come from facing death from day to day, together with men who were proud of the unit to which they belonged. War had brought strange bedfellows. It had brought Nisei from sunny Hawaii and the frozen settlements of Alaska; it had brought loyal Americans from the crude and dusty barracks of relocation camps and from snug homes in the East. The Nisei had come with backgrounds as diversified as America itself, but their loyalty was one. It was American.

All efforts were now directed by the army to secure the peace. A niche in the plans was found for the 442d Infantry. Effective October 26, 1945 the 442d Infantry Regiment was designated as a Category I outfit and committed to aid in the Allied occupation of Europe. The regiment remained in Italy and continued its assignment of guarding prisoners of war and military installations. The 206th Army Ground Forces Band was inactivated per General Order #275, Hq PBS, dated October 25, 1945 and all high pointers of the band were redeployed for eventual discharge.

The 442d Regimental Combat Team today is not the same outfit that sweated through basic in Mississippi and fought through France and Italy. The original "Go For Broke" men, who had made the embryonic idea of a combat team made up of Japanese-Americans blossom into reality, are now scattered all over the world. Many of them have now laid aside their uniforms to become civilians again. There are others who finished their job in Europe and went to the Pacific for another go at the enemy. Many have chosen to serve with the regiment in the Mediterranean Theater for a while longer before going home. And there are those who will never go home. The only testimony of their being is the little white crosses that dot the French and Italian landscape at Epinal, Sospel, Marzanello Nuovo, Carano, Nettuno, Tarquinia, Vada, Follonica, and Castelfiorentino, and the collective gratitude of a victorious nation. New faces had taken their empty places in the ranks after each battle, to become hardened veterans in their own right. With the redeployment of the original veterans after the end of the war, other young Nisei have joined the younger veterans of the later campaigns of the 442d. Today the 442d Regimental Combat Team is a veteran outfit with young faces. But the spirit is an old one. It is the same spirit that motivated the formation of the combat team. It is the same spirit that gave the ring of truth to President Roosevelt's conviction that "Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart" and not "a matter of race or ancestry."

CHAPTER 9

AWAY FROM THE COMBAT TEAM

ROVING ARTILLERY

As the 442d Infantry Regiment and the 232d Engineers headed back for the shores of Italy, the 522d Field Artillery Battalion began the long trek up the Rhone Valley again. After a 600-mile motor march, the battalion immediately went into position at Kleinbittersdorf, on the east bank of the Saar River. From March 12 to March 21 the 522d supported the assault of the 63d Division on the Siegfried Line defenses south of St. Ingbert.

After the fall of Saarbrucken and a penetration by Third Army armor to the north, the Siegfried Line collapsed in the Seventh Army sector. The 522d, now supporting the 45th Division, moved to within one thousand yards of the west bank of the Rhine and fired in direct support of infantry crossings. The night of March 26 the battalion came under control of the 44th Division, which was then driving for Mannheim. Guns and crews rolled across the Rhine before dawn of March 27 and moved on until Mannheim came within range. Following the fall of the city, the travel-weary GIs again supported the 63d Division during the Neckar River crossing just prior to the occupation of Heidelburg.

The 522d pulled up stakes on April 1 and travelled ninety miles due east into the 4th Division's sector. Here they were assigned to support the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop in a drive on Aub and Hemmersheim, where their fire forced the enemy to surrender and opened the way for the 4th Division's drive on Rothenburg.

April 26 saw the battalion in direct support of the 2d and 3d Battalions of the 12th Infantry in the Danube River crossing. Four days later an advance party on reconnaissance for new positions captured Morlbach without firing a shot, capturing fifty prisoners and liberating a number of French prisoners of war. From April 27 to April 30, the battalion displaced its guns fourteen times during the 4th Division's drive on Salzburg, Austria.

The last of well over 150,000 rounds the 522d Field Artillery fired in battle came out of the tubes on May 2. From that time, until the Battalion was returned to the United States in November 1945, the men were assigned to security missions around Donauworth, Austria. These missions consisted largely of setting up roadblocks and sentry posts for the apprehension of Nazis who were trying to disappear among the hordes of displaced persons wandering aimlessly about the country.

D-DAY, SOUTHERN FRANCE

AFTER weeks of preparation, Antitank Company took to the air at 1630, August 15, 1944. Two hours later the pilots of the tow planes cut the gliders loose at 3000 feet, and the pilots began circling to land. The landing zones were considerably smaller than originally anticipated and the landings were rough. The gliders were forced to come in from all directions to find space. Ten men were injured in glider crashes, six seriously. One jeep and a trailer were wrecked.

The company's mission was to take up defensive positions in a rough triangle near le Muy and les Arcs, in support of the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment. From these positions they could stop the enemy from reinforcing his troops on the coast in time to meet the invasion of the sea-borne troops.

All platoons were ready to begin operations within an hour after the landings. They were able to move into position without opposition, but the first and third platoons were under considerable small-arms and artillery fire until the night of D plus 2, when the assault elements of the 36th Division pushed through.

The First Airborne Task Force was then assigned the mission of driving east as far as the Franco-Italian border to protect the right flank of the Seventh Army. The 517th got underway the morning of August 18, one platoon of Antitank Company being assigned to each battalion of the regiment to protect the flanks, inasmuch as the troops were widely dispersed. The advance was extremely rapid, the only resistance being scattered and confused.

Antitank Company was able to pick up several prisoners, mostly small groups of Germans hiding in houses along the route of advance.

Captain Louis A. Ferris, the company commander, led a patrol to Puget Sheniers on August 28 to determine whether or not fifteen paratroopers reported holding out in the town since D-Day were still there. The patrol came under heavy small-arms and mortar fire. One vehicle was badly damaged, but the men escaped unhurt. No contact was made with the paratroopers.

By the end of August the 517th Parachute Infantry had almost reached the Italian border. It encountered heavy fighting as the Germans began defending the high mountain peaks of the Maritime Alps east of Nice. The paratroopers took Col de Braus, the pass which overlooked the border town of Sospel, only after they had suffered heavy casualties. Other elements of the regiment seized Piera Cava, a small ski resort high in the mountains. Opposite these positions were French border forts which the Germans had occupied and were defending. Antitank Company set up roadblocks at Col de Braus, Luceram, and Piera Cava. These blocks were all at principal road junctions or passes and received considerable enemy mortar and artillery fire. However, casualties were usually light, since the men were well dug into defensive positions.

No matter where they went, the men got a royal welcome. Allied troops were still few and far between on the French Riviera, so everyone made the most of his opportunities on passes to Nice.

On October 21, the company was relieved by the 552d Antitank Company (Separate). The platoons assembled and pulled back to Nice, where they stayed until the 24th. That afternoon, Antitank Company pulled out in convoy to rejoin the 442d Infantry in the Vosges Mountains.

AWARD LIST OF 442d REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, MAY 1, 1946

Individual Awards

	NUMBER
MEDAL OF HONOR	1
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS	47
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL	1
OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO SILVER STAR	12
SILVER STAR	342
LEGION OF MERIT	17
SOLDIER'S MEDAL	15
OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL	38
BRONZE STAR MEDAL	810
AIR MEDAL	1
OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO PURPLE HEART MEDAL	468*
PURPLE HEART MEDAL	2022*
ARMY COMMENDATION	36
DIVISION COMMENDATION	87
CROIX DE GUERRE (FRENCH)	12
PALM TO CROIX DE GUERRE (FRENCH)	2
CROCE AL MERITO DI GUERRA (ITALIAN)	2
MEDAGLIA DI BRONZO AL VALOR MILITARE (ITALIAN)	2
TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL AWARDS	3915

Unit Awards

	NUMBER
DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION	7
MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE	2
ARMY COMMENDATION	1
TOTAL NUMBER OF UNIT AWARDS	10

*Note: Does not include Purple Heart Medals awarded to members of this unit wounded in action, who were hospitalized and subsequently transferred to the Zone of the Interior. In some instances, copies of General Orders issued by the hospitals were forwarded to this headquarters; however, in a majority of the cases no orders were received. It is believed that the correct figure for the total number of Purple Heart awards should be approximately 3600, including approximately 500 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Purple Heart Medal. The figures 468 and 2022 indicate the actual number of awards for which orders are available at Headquarters, 442d CT.

End of the long road. Elements of the Combat Team march down Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C., to have the CT colors decorated by President Truman.

BATTLE HONORS

442d REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 34

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington 25, D.C.
10 April 1946

* * *

VII. BATTLE HONORS. As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), the following units are cited by the War Department under the provisions of section IV, WD Circular 333, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citations read as follows:

* * *

2. The *442d Regimental Combat Team* (less the 552d Field Artillery Battalion) composed of the following elements:

442d Infantry Regiment.

232d Combat Engineer Company.

is cited for outstanding accomplishment in combat for the period 5 to 14 April 1945 in the vicinity of Serravezza, Carrara, and Fosdinovo, Italy. When the 92d Infantry Division with the *442d Regimental Combat Team* attached was order to open the Fifth Army offensive by executing a diversionary attack on the Ligurian Coast of Italy, the combat team was ordered to make the main effort of the attack. It was done by executing a daring and skillful flanking attack on the positions which formed the western anchor of the formidable Gothic Line. In 4 days, the attack destroyed positions which had withstood the efforts of friendly troops for 5 months. This was accomplished in the face of skilled enemy forces nearly equal in strength to the attacking forces and who had at least 5 months in which to improve their position. The *442d Regimental Combat Team* drove forward, despite heavy casualties. Allowing the enemy no time for rest or reorganization, the combat team liberated the city of Carrara, seized the heights beyond, and opened the way for further advances on the way to the key road center and port of La Spezia and to Genoa. It accomplished the mission of creating a diversion along the Ligurian Coast, which served as a feint for the subsequent breakthrough of the Fifth Army forces into Bologna and the Po Valley. The successful accomplishment of this mission turned a diversionary action into a full scale and victorious offensive, which played an important part in the final destruction of the German armies in Italy. The gallantry and esprit de corps displayed by the officers and men of the *442d Regimental Combat Team* in bitter action against a formidable enemy exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States.

* * *

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL
Major General
The Adjutant General

APPENDIX

PERSONNEL, AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

On the following pages are listed the personnel, awards and decorations of the 442d Regimental Combat Team, comprising units of the 442d Infantry, 232d Engineer Company, and 522d Field Artillery Battalion. Exclusive of awards of the Medal of Honor, the closing date for awards and decorations listed herein is December 31, 1945. All information was furnished by the Personnel Section, 442d Combat Team.

Names of personnel killed in action or died of wounds are printed in *italic*. Names of men missing in action are preceded by an asterisk*.

Following is a key to symbols used for decorations and awards.

AM	Air Medal
BS	Bronze Star Medal
BSA	Bronze Service Arrowhead
CG	Croix de Guerre (France)
CIB	Combat Infantryman Badge
CMH	Congressional Medal of Honor
DSC	Distinguished Service Cross
DSM	Distinguished Service Medal
DUB	Distinguished Unit Badge
EIB	Expert Infantryman Badge
GB	Glider Badge
LM	Legion of Merit
MB	Combat Medical Badge
MVM	Medaglia al Valore Militare (Italy)
olc	Oak Leaf Cluster
PH	Purple Heart
SS	Silver Star

442d INFANTRY REGIMENT

Officers

Col Virgil Rasmuss Miller, SS, LM, BS, CIB, MVM (Italian)
Col Charles Wilbur Pence, DSM, PH, CIB, CG
LtCol Jack Edward Conley, SS, BS, DUB, CIB
LtCol James Martin Hanley, Jr., LM, BS, DUB, CIB, CG
LtCol Alfred Arthur Pursall, SS, BS, DUB, CIB, CG
LtCol Gordon Singles, BS, DUB, CIB, CG
LtCol Jack C. Smith
Maj Thomas William Akins, SS, DUB, CIB, CG
Maj Clarence Harold Buckley, BS, MB
Maj William Newell Colyer, DUB, CIB
Maj Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, SS, DUB, CIB
Maj Robert Arthur Gopel, BS olc, DUB, CIB
Maj Ralph Joseph Graham, PH, DUB, CIB
Maj George G. Green
Maj Oscar King, SS, BS
Maj Ivan Ferdinand Kovac, BS olc, CIB
Maj Harry L. Lyon
Maj Alex Earl McKenzie, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Maj Emmet Lawrence O'Connor, PH, DUB, CIB
Maj Claude Peyton White, BS, CIB
Capt (Ch) George Aki
Capt William Aull, BS olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Victor Joseph Bonin, DUB, CIB
Capt *Joseph Lawrence Byrne*, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Donald F. Cameron, Jr.
Capt Jack Certain
Capt Jack A. Coston, DUB, CIB
Capt Thomas E. Crowley, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt John J. Dahl, MB
Capt Frank Alex Demaiolo, BS, DUB, CIB
Capt *Ralph Burnell Ensminger*, PH, CIB
Capt Harry Burtis Farr, BS, CIB
Capt Marion Francis Felt, SS, DUB, CIB
Capt Louis Anthony Ferris, BSA, CIB
Capt Paul Edward Froning, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Gaylord Hellis Gilmore, LM, PH, CIB
Capt George Henry Grandstaff, SS, LM, PH 3 olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Eugene Davis Harrison, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Lee B. Hawkins, BS, CIB
Capt Shigeki Hayashi, PH, MB
Capt *Robert Lewis Hempstead*, SS, PH, CIB
Capt (Ch) Hiro Higuchi, LM
Capt Milton A. Hirsh, Jr.
Capt Joseph Wallace Hill, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Merle L. Hite
Capt LaVern Lee Hodges
Capt Wayland F. Hogan, MB
Capt Norman Howard, BS, CIB
Capt Walter F. Johnston, SS, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt John Abselom Jett, DUB, CIB
Capt William R. Jacobs
Capt Henry Masashi Kawano, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Wallace Shinobu Kawaoka, BS, MB
Capt Christopher R. Keegan, LM, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt John Harold Kilmore, DUB, CIB
Capt Young Oak Kim, DSC, SS, PH olc
Capt Katsumi Kometani, BS, MB
Capt John Richard Leonard, Jr., CIB
Capt Walter Lesinski, CIB
Capt Howard F. Luther
Capt Walter A. Mackey, BS, DUB, CIB
Capt St. Elmo Massengale, Jr., BS, CIB
Capt Roderick Matheson, Jr., CIB
Capt Robert J. McKelvy, DUB, CIB
Capt Robert Bothwell Meyer, BS, DUB, CIB
Capt Sterlin C. Moore
Capt Arthur William Munch, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt *Edward Joseph Nilges*, SS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Bert Noboru Nishimura, SS, DUB, CIB
Capt Hugo Shafter O'Konogi, MB
Capt Franklin G. Osberg
Capt Carl Patrick Piampiano, PH
Capt Thomas Plourde, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt William S. Pye, BS olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Harold Frederick Riebesell, BS, CIB
Capt Jack Woodrow Rodarme, SS, BS, DUB, CIB
Capt Charles Leonard Schettler, BSA, CIB
Capt Harry Irwin Schoenberg, BS, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Joseph Shapiro, MB
Capt Orville Cresap Shirey, LM, DUB, CIB, MVM (Italian)
Capt Edwin Robert Shorey, SS, CIB
Capt Robert Braxton Smith, DUB, CIB
Capt Joseph W. Stevenson, BS, PH, CIB
Capt George Shiyogo Takahashi, MB
Capt Saka Takahashi, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt California S. Ushiro, BS, MB
Capt Fletcher W. Vowell
Capt (Ch) Thomas Eugene West
Capt (Ch) Masao Yamada, LM, PH olc, DUB
Capt (Ch) Israel A. Yost, LM, PH o.c
1stLt Yaso Abe, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Albert Altesman, PH, CIB
1stLt Ralph T. Ambrose, SS, CIB
1stLt Edward E. Androvette, Jr., BS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Lewis Fred Arnold, PH, CIB
1stLt Sim Lincoln Asai, BS, CIB
1stLt Howard Nelson Babcock, Jr., PH, CIB
1stLt Joseph Robert Bertram, PH, CIB
1stLt *James Boodry*, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Arthur Marion Boyd, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Reginald D. Brady, CIB
1stLt Milton Louis Brenner, PH, CIB
1stLt Harold M. Brown, SS, BS, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Sydney Steward Bruce, Jr., BS, PH, CIB
1stLt Robert M. Bryan, SS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt George Arthur Buirkle, BS, CIB
1stLt Byron Eugene Burns, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt *Howard Vernon Burt*, PH, CIB
1stLt John T. Burke
1stLt James Otis Bushyeager, DUB, CIB
1stLt Kyne R. Catton
1stLt Herbert Wayne Chipman, BSA, PH, CIB
1stLt Samuel M. Clawser, Jr.
1stLt Jesse Holland Conner, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Michael Cooper, CIB
1stLt Hathwell W. Corbiere, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Paul Edmund Corbin, SS, BS, DUB, CIB
1stLt Kenneth Irvin Coy, CIB
1stLt Letcher Crawford
1stLt E. J. Davee, Jr.
1stLt Arthur Douglas Dean, Jr., PH, CIB
1stLt Howard Carl Dehoney, CIB
1stLt Anthony DeLuca, DUB, CIB
1stLt Harry Fay Dickenson, PH, CIB
1stLt Eugene Thomas Doyon, Jr., DUB, CIB
1stLt Raymond Drebin, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt James Bowers Dunn, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Jack G. Earp, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt *Charles Oliver Farnum, Jr.*, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt James Keith Finnell, PH, CIB
1stLt Lester Newton Fitzhugh, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Robert H. Foote, BS, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Ivan Harold Frazier, BS, DUB, CIB
1stLt Roy Kiyoshi Futamata, MB
1stLt Charles W. Ganster, DUB, CIB
1stLt Samuel Rufus Gay, Jr., CIB
1stLt Roy Gerkovich, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Norman Robert Gilbert, BS, CIB
1stLt Edgar Harold Graham, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Elden Lyle Good, PH olc, CIB
1stLt Gerald A. Gustafson, BS, PH, CIB
1stLt Robert Allen Guthrie, Jr., CIB
1stLt George Edmund Halpin, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Richard N. Hamasaki, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Victor C. Handley, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Adam C. Hart
1stLt Victor C. Handley, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Edward W. Hehemann, DUB, CIB
1stLt Takao Hedani, BS, DUB, CIB
1stLt Harlan T. Hermann
1stLt Charles A. Hines, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Kazuma Hisanaga, SS, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLtWilliam Frederick Holmes, DUB, CIB
1stLt Lerno Ihara, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Gregory Hiroto Ikeda, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Satoru Inomoto, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Daniel K. Inouye, DSC, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Kenneth Kameki Kaneko, PH olc, DUB, CIB

1stLt Francis R. Kane
1stLt Shigeto Kanemoto, BS olc, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Fred Seiichi Kanemura, SS, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Kanemi Kanazawa, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Sadami Katahara, BS, DUB, CIB
1stLt Etsuo Katano, BS, DUB, CIB
1stLt Masayuki Kawasaki, BS, DUB, CIB
1stLt Peter Kirsch
1stLt Kiyoshi Kitagawa, DUB, CIB
1stLt Joseph Y. Kiyonaga, DUB, CIB
1stLt Willie Kiyoshi Kiyota, BS, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Thomas Masao Kobayashi, BS olc, CIB
1stLt Francis K. Kodama, DUB, CIB
1stLt Masao Koga, DUB, CIB
1stLt Shoichi Koizumi, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Frank George Kondler, DUB, CIB
1stLt Mike Kreskowsky, PH, CIB
1stLt Sadaichi Kubota, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Norman Frank Kurlan, BSA, CIB
1stLt Sylva M. Landress, DUB, CIB
1stLt Ernest Weldon Lee, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt William B. Lingley, BS, DUB, CIB
1stLt James W. Low
1stLt Russell J. Lowell, SS, DUB, CIB
1stLt Harold W. Luke, Jr.
1stLt Samuel Lubitz, DUB. CIB
1stLt Arthur MacColl, DUB, CIB
1stLt *Saburo Maehara*, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt George Gabriel Martin, SS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Kenneth T. Masamitsu, DUB, CIB
1stLt Angelo A. Mastrella, MB
1stLt William C. McGill, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Alvin Joseph Meier, BSA, CIB
1stLt James L. Metcalf
1stLt Russell Ennis Mildner, BSA, CIB
1stLt Edward Stephen Mitchell, PH, DUB, CIB
*1stLt Takeichi Miyashiro, SS, PH, DUB. CIB
1stLt Norman Charles Morrisey, DUB, CIB
1stLt Charles W. Morrison, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt *David Leander Moseley*, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Mickey Yasuo Nakahara, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt George Sloan Norman, Jr., DUB, CIB
1stLt David Novack, SS olc, BS olc, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Edward Irwin Nowiak, DUB, CIB
1stLt John Joseph O'Connor, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt William Sadayuki Oda, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Allan Masaharu Ohata, DSC, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Frank Shizuto Okusako, SS, PH olc, DUB CIB
1stLt Henry Chiyei Oyasato, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
1stLt Marion Bryson Paddock, DUB, CIB
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1stLt Calvin T. Roush, DUB, CIB
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1stLt Joseph C. Ryan, BS, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
*1stLt Samuel M. Sakamoto, SS, PH, DUB, CIB
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1stLt John Morrison Scotland, Jr., BSA, PH, DUB, CIB
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1stLt Horace Franklin Smith, SS, BS olc, PH olc, DUB, CIB
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1stLt Michio Takata, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
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1stLt Pasquale T. Valenti, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt George H. Vogt
1stLt Robert Itaru Wakuya, CIB
1stLt Charles Irwin Wanbaugh, BS olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Roy O. Warren, DUB, CIB
1stLt Keith Allen Welch, DUB, CIB
1stLt Julian White Wells, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
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1stLt Albert W. White, CIB
1stLt *Floyd Earl White, Jr.*, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Maurice E. Williams, DUB. CIB
1stLt Edward R. Williams, DUB, CIB
1stLt Herbert Yamamoto, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Keichiro Yamato, SS, PH olc, DUB. CIB
1stLt Masami E. Yoshimasu, PH olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt Masami S. Yoshinari, SS olc, PH 2 olc, DUB, CIB
1stLt William Michael Young, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Kazuto Jimmy Adachi, PH 2 olc, DUB,
2ndLt Kaoru Akamatsu, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt George Stephen Allen, CIB
2ndLt Emory J. Barber
2ndLt Francis R. Bianco, BS, PH, CIB
2ndLt Wilbur Harold Blanchard, PH, CIB
2ndLt Merrill F. Butler, Jr.
2ndLt Albert Byron Chipman, Jr., PH, CIB
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2ndLt *Walter Maurice Crone*, PH, CIB
2ndLt Leonard C. Davy, CIB
2ndLt Edward T. Davis, SS, BS, PH, CIB
2ndLt William Davenport, SS, BS, CIB
2ndLt Carlo Joseph Dileo, CIB
2ndLt William B. Doss
2ndLt Jack Gail Earp, PH, CIB
2ndLt Richard J. Fontaneila, PH, CIB
2ndLt *Fred H. Fritzmeier*, PH CIB
2ndLt *Ross K. Fujitani*, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt *Roland Joseph Gagnon*, PH, CIB
*2ndLt Sol Harold Gleicher, DUB. CIB
2ndLt Alfred Lawrence Glover, PH. CIB
2ndLt David Goldstein, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Harry K. Habata
2ndLt Robert L. Haines, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Masato Harada,
2ndLt Richard K. Hayashi, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt John E. Hillock, PH olc, CIB
2ndLt Kenji Hino, PH, DUB. CIB
2ndLt Dick Naotsugu Hirano, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt John G. Hunter
2ndLt Eli Willard Huseby, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Harry Inouye, BSA, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Robert Bernard Jones, CIB
2ndLt Hideo Kaichi, SS, DUB, CIB
*2ndLt Jimmie Kanaya, SS, BS, MB
2ndLt Samuel T. Katsumoto, BS, CIB
2ndLt Takeji Kinoshita
2ndLt Joseph Y. Kiyonaga, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Yeiki Kobayashigawa, DSC, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt John H. Koby
2ndLt Lewis Kovacs
2ndLt George M. Komachi
2ndLt Toshi Kuge, BS olc, MB
2ndLt *Minoru Kurata*, PH, CIB
2ndLt Masato Kutaka, BS olc, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Carl Leland Lang, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt *Clarence E. Lang*, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt John Lewis Mapes, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Manfred Lloyd Minzer, Jr., CIB
2ndLt Jimmie T. Nakayama, BS, PH, MB
2ndLt Matsuhei H. Nishimura, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Yoshinaru Nishida, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Mitsuo Nitta
2ndLt Ichiro Okada, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Tsugio D. Okumura, DUB, CIB
*2ndLt Harry Eugene Oliver, DUB, CIB
2ndLt William C. Oshiro, BS, PH, DUB. CIB
2ndLt *Masanao Otake*, DSC, SS, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt John Stewart Paton, PH, CIB
2ndLt Elbert Pennebaker, CIB
2ndLt Bernard Leon Perlsweig, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
*2ndLt Ralph Jay Potter, Jr., CIB
2ndLt Robert J. Regan, BS, PH, CIB
2ndLt Arthur LaVerne Rizer
2ndLt Edward W. Roll
2ndLt Bernard Rosen, PH
2ndLt Toratsugu Ryusaki, BS, DUB, CIB
2ndLt William Crosby Shaw, Jr., DUB, CIB

2ndLt George S. Shepherd PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Charles W. Shrinski, Jr.
2ndLt Arthur Delos Sloan, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt James C. Secord
2ndLt Colonel Verdell Sober, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Toshimo Sodetani, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Alfred John Stefnagle, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt *Kei Tanahashi*, SS, PH, CIB
2ndLt Nobuo F. Tanigawa, CIB
2ndLt Shigeo George Teraji, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Mitsuo Tsuruda, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Unkei Uchima
2ndLt Joseph B. Williams, BS
2ndLt Harold L. Wheeler
2ndLt Susumu Yamada, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Yoshio Yanagawa, BS, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Yutaka Yoshida, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
2ndLt *Hitoshi Yonemura*, SS olc, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Francis D. Murray
2ndLt Tsutomu Yoshida, PH olc, DUB, CIB
2ndLt Edward Zukowski, PH, CIB
2ndLt Michael Paul Zupkas
CWO Albert Atsushi Koby, CIB
CWO Thomas Nishitani, CIB
WOJG Phillip N. Ichino, CIB
WOJG Joe Iwaoka, BS, CIB
WOJG Hideo Kajikawa, CIB
WOJG James N. Yamamoto, CIB
Capt John Gallagher Craig
Capt John Moliema
Capt Oral E. Stanton
1stLt Charles H. Tinsley, Jr.
2ndLt Malcolm E. Aldrich
2ndLt Howard W. Arnold
2ndLt John T. Duffy
2ndLt Nagao Fujita
2ndLt Harmon W. Jordan
2ndLt Joseph B. Kazlauskas
2ndLt Yale Laitin

Enlisted Men

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

M/Sgt Kazuo W. Hinatsu, BS, CIB
M/Sgt Kazuo Kimura, CIB
M/Sgt Stanley T. Taguchi, PH, CIB
M/Sgt Jun Yamamoto
1stSgt Yoshimi R. Hiraoka, CIB
1stSgt Bill K. Ishida, PH
1stSgt Sunao Morisato, BS, CIB
T/Sgt Sammy K. Arashiro, CIB
T/Sgt Yoshiyuki Fujimura, BS, CIB
T/Sgt *Uetaro Sammonji*, PH
T/Sgt Hideto H. Tomita, BS, CIB
T/Sgt Koji K. Yoshimoto, BS, CIB
S/Sgt Frank T. Hatanaka, CIB
S/Sgt Walter K. Holokai
S/Sgt Shigekichi Kiyabu, CIB
S/Sgt Harry H. Matsunaka, CIB
S/Sgt Hideo Noyama, PH, CIB
S/Sgt Shaw Sakamoto, CIB
S/Sgt Jiro Sato, CIB
S/Sgt Hero Shiosaki, CIB
S/Sgt Hideo Takenaka, BS, CIB
Sgt Norima Horimoto, DUB olc, CIB
Sgt Noble Kanow, PH
Sgt Yoshikatsu Maruo, CIB
Sgt Milton M. Matsumoto, CIB
Sgt Yoshimi Yoshida PH, CIB
Tec/4 Kajiro Gotanda, CIB
Tec/4 Frank Y. Hayami, PH
Tec/4 Charles S. Higa, CIB
Tec/4 Yasuo Higa, CIB
Tec/4 Kay Ishibashi, CIB
Tec/4 James E. Jingu, PH, CIB
Tec/4 Gilbert T. Kawamae, PH, CIB
Tec/4 Jimmy H. Morita
Tec/4 Robert T. Miyashiro
Tec/4 Isamu H. Nabeshima
Tec/4 Robert S. Nakamura, CIB
Tec/4 Sam M. Nakamura, BS, PH, CIB
Tec/4 Francis L. Rathburn, CIB
Tec/4 Howard S. Sakura
Tec/4 Shigeru Sato, CIB
Tec/4 Mike M. Shiosaki, CIB
Tec/4 Ekiji S. Shiotsuka, BS, CIB
Tec/4 Power B. Sogo, CIB
Tec/4 Hiroshi Sumida, BS, CIB
Tec/4 Tatsumi Tajima
Tec/4 Reginald N. Taniguchi
Tec/4 George M. Tsukahara, CIB
Tec/4 Kiyoto Yokoyama, CIB
Tec/4 Kenneth K. Yoshida
Cpl Kaz Honjio, DUB, CIB
Cpl Makota M. Koda
Cpl Fred T. Matsuo, CIB
Cpl Thomas O. Mita, CIB
Cpl Hideo Takenaka, BS, CIB
Cpl Wataru Uemura, BS, DUB CIB
Tec/5 Yoshio Adachi
Tec/5 Sadamichi H. Chinna, CIB
Tec/5 Kayo Endo, PH, DUB, CIB
Tec/5 Shigeru T. Fujiki, PH, CIB
Tec/5 Yoshiyuki J. Fujita, BS, CIB
Tec/5 Konao Hakoda, BS, CIB
Tec/5 Minoru Harada, CIB
Tec/5 Itsuo Hashiro, BS. CIB
Tec/5 Hideo Higa, BS, PH, CIB
Tec/5 Masaki Higa, CIB
Tec/5 Hiroyuki Hiramoto, CIB
Tec/5 Saburo Imai, CIB
Tec/5 Robert Y. Iwamoto, CIB
Tec/5 Himeo Iwata
Tec/5 Soichi Kano, CIB
Tec/5 Satoshi Kida
Tec/5 Takashi Kimoto, CIB
Tec/5 George K. Kimura
Tec/5 Ted T. Kimura
Tec/5 Buster I. Kiyono, CIB
Tec/5 Joe S. Koga, CIB
Tec/5 Robert H. Koreyasu, CIB
Tec/5 Kenneth N. Miyamoto, CIB
Tec/5 Toshio Morita, CIB
Tec/5 Howard M. Murakami, CIB
Tec/5 Tokuichi Nakano, BS, CIB
Tec/5 Robert S. Nakamura, CIB
Tec/5 John Y. I. Ogura
Tec/5 James Y. Omatsu, CIB
Tec/5 Tsutomu Saito, CIB
Tec/5 Chester Y. Sakura
Tec/5 Mizuno Sekijima
Tec/5 Satoshi Samura, CIB
Tec/5 Jiro Sumida, CIB
Tec/5 Sam T. Takara, CIB
Tec/5 Richard R. Takara, CIB
Tec/5 Takeshi S. Teraoka
Tec/5 Jimmy K. Uyehana, CIB
Tec/5 James S. Wakumoto, CIB
Tec/5 Sam H. Yoshihara, PH, DUB, CIB
Pfc George Akiyama
Pfc Satomi Amimoto, DUB, CIB
Pfc Minoru Arakaki, CIB
Pfc Teiichi Arakaki, CIB
Pfc Tsunenobu Doi, BS, CIB
Pfc Kazuo Emura
Pfc Katsumi Fujii, DUB olc, CIB
Pfc Minoru Fujisaki
Pfc Mitsuyuki Fujita, PH, CIB
Pfc Muneharu Furuken
Pfc Shigeyuki Hashimoto, CIB
Pfc Hiroyuki Hiramoto
Pfc Shinichi Hirati
Pfc Masaru Hokushin
Pfc Tamotsu Hori, CIB
Pfc Ryuzo Horie, CIB
Pfc Thomas K. Horikami, CIB
Pfc Sagasuke Horishige, CIB
Pfc Kenichi Ige, BS, CIB
Pfc Katsumi Imamoto, CIB
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Pfc Takeru Izawa
Pfc Masaru Kajikawa
Pfc George S. Kajiwara
Pfc Edward K. Kane
Pfc Yukio Kaneda, CIB
Pfc Tatsuo Kanoura, PH, DUB, CIB
Pfc Tokio Kasai
Pfc Yoshito Kawakami, CIB
Pfc Masao Kawamoto, CIB
Pfc Midori Kimura, PH, CIB
Pfc Kiyoe Kina
Pfc Takashi A. Kobata, CIB
Pfc Archer F. Kodama, PH, DUB, CIB
Pfc Eugene G. Kodani
Pfc Horace S. Koga, CIB

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Pfc Takeshi Kudo, BS, CIB
Pfc Toshio Kumabe, PH, CIB
Pfc Susumi Kunishige, DUB, CIB
Pfc George H. Masaki
Pfc George Masaoka, CIB
Pfc Tadashi T. Masaoka, PH, CIB
Pfc Fred R. Matsuno, BS, PH olc, CIB
Pfc Tsutomu K. Matsuno
Pfc Hajime Matsuura, CIB
Pfc Kiyoshi Matsuura, CIB
Pfc Takayoshi Miyahira
Pfc Yachi Miyake
Pfc Shozo Mayeda, CIB
Pfc Kiyoshi Miura, BS, DUB, CIB
Pfc Joichi Mizumoto, CIB
Pfc Tadashi Morimoto, BS, CIB
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Pfc Hideo Nakama, PH, DUB, CIB
Pfc Takashi B. Nakamura, CIB
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Pfc Shigeo Taketa
Pfc James T. Takemoto, PH, CIB
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Pvt Kosaku Furuno
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Pvt Masao Haji, CIB
Pvt Takeshi Harada
Pvt Makio Hide
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Pvt Shigeo Higa
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Pvt Harry Hirano
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Pvt Lawrence T. Iwamoto
Pvt Jiro Iwata
Pvt Tom M. Iwata
Pvt Arthur M. Izumizaki
Pvt Reuben T. Kakimoto
Pvt Takashi Kanekiyo
Pvt Patrick K. Kaneshiro
Pvt Shoichi Kano, BS, CIB
Pvt Gilbert T. Kawamae
Pvt Ralph Y. Kawawaki
Pvt Sylvester K. Keliiaa
Pvt Kazuo Kimura, CIB
Pvt Robert H. Koreyasu
Pvt Noboru P. Kumabe, CIB
Pvt George Maeda
Pvt Joseph I. Malandish
Pvt James T. Masatsugu, CIB
Pvt Seichi Matsu, CIB
Pvt Irvin S. Matsuda
Pvt Kazushi J. Matsuda, PH, DUB, CIB
Pvt Takeo Matsumoto
Pvt Kazuo Matsushima
Pvt George T. Mita
Pvt Richard K. Mitsunaga
Pvt Jimmy H. Morita
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Pvt Yatsuji Nakagawa
Pvt Paul T. Nakamura
Pvt Robert S. Nakamura
Pvt Akio A. Nakano
Pvt Sumio Nakashima
Pvt Hiroshi H. Nakada
Pvt Harry I. Nii
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Pvt Mack K. Takara
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Pvt Paul A. Takushi
Pvt Stephen K. Tamura
Pvt Hiromu Tanaka
Pvt Taro Taniguchi
Pvt Tokio Taniguchi
Pvt Satomi Tanimoto
Pvt Wataru Teruya
Pvt Koichi Tokushige
Pvt Richard Tomita
Pvt Mitsuo Tsukano
Pvt Kiichi Tsuya
Pvt Clarence K. Uaiwa
Pvt Saburo Uchima
Pvt Daniel S. Uekawa
Pvt Robert G. Uemura
Pvt Umeo Urago
Pvt George Uyetani
Pvt Hikonori Watanabe, CIB
Pvt Saburo Watanabe
Pvt James T. Yamada
Pvt Mamoru Yokoyama
Pvt James N. Yamamoto
Pvt Shiro Yamamoto, EIB
Pvt Sanford Y. Yanagi
Pvt Hideki Yasuhara
Pvt Masao C. Yokotake, EIB
Pvt Takeo Yoshioka

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1stSgt Hisaji B. Hamamoto. BSA, CIB, GB
T/Sgt Masato Doi, BSA, CIB, GB
T/Sgt Hidetaka P. Kato, BSA, CIB, GB
T/Sgt Dave T. Kawagoye, BSA, PH, CIB
T/Sgt Mutsuo Kawamura, BSA, DUB, CIB, GB
T/Sgt David K. Ogawa, BSA, CIB, GB
T/Sgt George Ono, BSA, DUB, CIB, GB
T/Sgt Richard Y. Takeuchi, DUB, CIB, EIB
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Tec/5 Edward Y. Kawano, MB
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Tec/5 Takato T. Maeda, MB
Tec/5 Genkichi Masumotoya, BS olc, MB
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Tec/5 Robert Y. Miyamoto, PH, DUB
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Tec/5 Tadao Murakami, PH, MB
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Pvt Sanai Kageta, PH, MB
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Pvt Kazuo Kiritani, PH, MB
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Pfc Shigeo Takimoto, CIB
Pfc Takeo Takumi, BS, CIB
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Pfc Paul S. Tamashiro
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Pfc Mitsugi Tomosada
Pfc Kazuo R. Uyematsu
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Pvt Philip H. Hashimoto, EIB
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Pvt Teichiro Hirata
Pvt Saichi B. Imura
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Pvt Takashi Kajihara
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Pvt Ryo Uchida
Pvt John S. Uyesu
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Pvt Henry Y. Yamaura

100th Battalion

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1stSgt Karl Koyama, CIB
1stSgt Clarence S. Osaki, EIB
1stSgt Kunito Sadaoka, CIB, GB, BSA
1stSgt Choichi Shimabukuro, LM, DUB olc, CIB
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T/Sgt Tetsuo Hayashi, PH, DUB olc, CIB
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Tec/4 George I. Teruya
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Tec/4 Tate S. Yoshida, BS, DUB olc, CIB
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Cpl Roy K. Funakoshi, DUB, CIB
Cpl Hiroshi Hirozawa
Cpl Tatsuo Honda, BS, DUB olc, CIB
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Cpl Shigeyuki Jofuku
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Cpl Hideo Ueno, DUB olc, CIB
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Tec/5 Wataru Anzai, DUB olc, CIB
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Tec/5 Hiroshi Fukawa
Tec/5 Donald K. Hamda, PH, DUB, CIB
Tec/5 Albert M. Hashimoto
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Tec/5 Noboru Inada
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Tec/5 Seiji H. Kimura, PH, DUB olc, CIB
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Tec/5 Charles M. Miyashiro, BS, DUB olc, CIB
Tec/5 Shogo Nakamoto
Tec/5 Hiroshi Nakasato
Tec/5 Tadao Okazaki
Tec/5 Paul T. Sakamoto, DUB olc, CIB
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Pfc Salvador S. Veloz
Pfc Lloyd H. Wright
Pfc George Yamada, PH, DUB
Pfc Frank I. Yamamoto
Pfc Kosuke Yamashiro, DUB
Pfc Rodney T. Yamashiro, DUB
Pfc Sunao Yashimori
Pfc George H. Yasumatsu
Pfc Seichi Yokoyama, PH, DUB
Pfc Douglas Y. Yomono, DUB
Pfc Lewis M. Zettlemoyer, CIB
Pvt Saburo Akiyama
Pvt Henry S. Asato
Pvt George S. Asuka, DUB
Pvt William E. Butler
Pvt John P. Byczkowski, CIB
Pvt Felix B. Chavez
Pvt William Cohn
Pvt Harold F. Crispen
Pvt Earl Frink, PH
Pvt Yoshimi Fujii, PH, DUB
Pvt Shigemi T. Fujioka, PH, DUB
Pvt Willie L. Guy, PH, DUB, CIB
Pvt Mitsuru Hayashi
Pvt Takeshi Hirata, BS, DUB
Pvt Masaru Hokushin, DUB
Pvt Yutaka Ibara, DUB
Pvt Mario Ichimura, PH, DUB
Pvt Tom T. Ichiyama, BS, PH, CIB
Pvt Masao Iha
Pvt Hitoshi Inouye, PH, DUB
Pvt George S. Ishida
Pvt Seishi Isoda
Pvt Yuso Iwane, DUB
Pvt Edward K. Kamikawa
Pvt Fred T. Kanai, DUB
Pvt Toshiro H. Kanbara, PH, DUB
Pvt Harold K. Kaneshiro
Pvt Sam S. Kawakami
Pvt Jack T. Kawano
Pvt Toshimi Kato, PH, DUB
Pvt Manabu A. Kikukawa, PH, DUB
Pvt Kazuo Kiyomura, BS, PH, DUB
Pvt Edward J. Lazowski, DUB
Pvt Haruo Mikasa
Pvt Takaharu Mizukami, PH, DUB
Pvt Alan M. Nagawa
Pvt Kenji Nakano
Pvt Eddie T. Nakasone, PH, DUB
Pvt Toru Nozawa
Pvt Ford Okada, DUB
Pvt Harry H. Okada
Pvt Seiichi Okada
Pvt Esami I. Okamoto
Pvt Noel Y. Okamoto, PH, DUB
Pvt Jou Okitsu
Pvt Robert C. Owan
Pvt Jack Philpot
Pvt George E. Porter, Jr.
Pvt Nicholas Preggon, PH, CIB
Pvt Juan E. Quintana
Pvt Thomas F. Root
Pvt Charles E. Safley
Pvt Takaki Saito
Pvt Kay K. Shirane, DUB
Pvt James N. Stubblefield, CIB
Pvt James Sugiura, PH, DUB
Pvt Willie H. Tahara, PH, DUB
Pvt Shunji Takemoto
Pvt Itsuo Teramoto
Pvt Alfred G. Tomita, DUB
Pvt Jack M. Tomita
Pvt Jim Y. Tozoi
Pvt Salvator J. Vitale
Pvt Lawrance Wallace
Pvt Paul S. Watanabe, PH olc, DUB
Pvt *Takeo Yamamoto*, PH
Pvt William K. Yamamoto
Pvt Larry N. Yamuchi, PH, DUB

522d FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

Officers

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

LtCol Baya M. Harrison, Jr., BS
Major Ralph G. Moye, BS
Major William P. Wright, Jr.
Capt Jack Andrews, BS
Capt Hollis E. Button, BS, AM
Capt Charles B. Feibleman, BS
Capt Moyer D. Harris, BS
Capt Ernest E. Keusch
Capt John G. Machemer
Capt Albert F. Ritter
Capt Billy T. Taylor, BS
1stLt Lawrence R. Haubein, AM 4 olc

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

Capt Joseph H. James
1stLt Arthur L. Bacon, BS
1stLt Herbert Baskin, AM
1stLt Richard M. Clayton
1stLt John A. Cooley, AM 4 olc
1stLt Paul E. Erickson, BS, PH
1stLt Victor J. Gehrig, AM 2 olc
1stLt Joseph C. Polancic, AM 3 olc
2dLt Arata Kimura, AM 2 olc
2dLt Shuichi Sakamoto
WOJG Frederick O. Jinbo

BATTERY A

Capt William R. Donigan, BS
1stLt Albert E. Binotti. SS
1stLt Forrest R. Blackburn, BS, PH
1stLt Robert N. Buckley
1stLt Maurice C. Finley, BS
1stLt Chester L. Girard, BS
1stLt Raymond K. Straw, Jr., BS
1stLt Edwin C. Wood. SS, BS, PH
2dLt Robert A. Bacon, PH
2dLt Everett L. Booe, Jr.
2dLt James H. Kurata, BS

BATTERY B

Capt Ivan C. Johnson, BS
1stLt Daniel G. Brew, PH
1stLt Paul D. Cook
1stLt John C. Echols
1stLt George S. Meany, PH
1stLt Bert M. Wydysh, SS
2dLt James L. Bertrand
2dLt James Y. Mizuno, SS, PH

BATTERY C

Capt William E. Ratcliffe, BS
1stLt Doyle S. Briner, BS
1stLt Roger C. Eyerly
1stLt William F. Wilson, BS, PH
2dLt William C. Clark
2dLt James A. Craig
2dLt Toru Hirano, BS
2dLt Susumu Ito, BS

SERVICE BATTERY

Capt Robert J. Barnhill
1stLt Joseph W. DeWees
1stLt Edgar Langsdorf
1stLt Melvin F. Mansbach
1stLt William A. Woolner
WOJG Minoru Tsubota, PH

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

Capt Arthur L. Coriale
Capt Sheldon L. Hunt
Capt Jiro Kimura

Enlisted Men

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

M/Sgt Kozo Kuroda, BS
1st/Sgt Charles Ishii, BS
T/Sgt Yuki Akaki
T/Sgt Frank S. Honda
T/Sgt Thomas Jeo, BS
S/Sgt Toshizo Iwata, BS
S/Sgt Herbert T. Kumabe
S/Sgt Carl K. Morita, BS
S/Sgt Masahe S. Nakanishi
S/Sgt Karoku G. Nakashima
S/Sgt William S. Sadataki
S/Sgt Harry K. Uno
Tec/3 Gladyes M. Nagai
Sgt Shozo Kajioka, BS
Sgt Sadao Kodama
Sgt Paul T. Nishimura, PH
Sgt Kayo J. Otaguro, BS
Tec/4 Yasuo Arakaki
Tec/4 Haruo Esaki
Tec/4 Masaru Fujimoto
Tec/4 Kay Ihara, SS, BS, PH
Tec/4 James H. Imada
Tec/4 Tadashi Kaba
Tec/4 Shoso Kagawa
Tec/4 George S. Kent
Tec/4 Bert Y. Kojiro
Tec/4 Hayato Morikado
Tec/4 Howard M. Sakuoka
Tec/4 Earl I. Tanaka, BS
Tec/4 Harold T. Ueoka
Tec/4 Shigenari Usui
Tec/4 Fred H. Yamaguchi, PH
Cpl Teruo Anzai, BS
Cpl Seichi J. Fujii
Cpl Seishin Hanashiro
Cpl William M. Kajikawa
Cpl Albert A. Kimura
Cpl Kazuto Moriwake
Cpl Raymond N. Nishimoto, BS
Cpl Paul M. Oishi
Cpl Hisashi Okamoto
Cpl Kenzo Okubo, BS
Cpl Henry K. Sakaguchi
Cpl Walter Sakamoto, BS
Tec/5 Thomas N. Goto
Tec/5 Guy T. Hatago
Tec/5 Masayuki Higa, SS
Tec/5 William T. Hirata
Tec/5 Harry Y. Ishibashi, BS
Tec/5 James K. Kamiya
Tec/5 Raymond K. Kataoka
Tec/5 Richard S. Kuba
Tec/5 Haruo Murata, BS
Tec/5 Seigo Nagao

Tec/5 Tadao Nagasawa, BS
Tec/5 Barton H. Nagata
Tec/5 James M. Noguchi
Tec/5 Kenneth K. Oda, BS
Tec/5 Takesaburo Oshiro
Tec/5 Masa H. Oyama
Tec/5 David S. Sugimoto
Tec/5 Nobuo Takamori
Tec/5 Benjamin M. Takamoto
Tec/5 Daniel M. Tanaka
Tec/5 Keiichi Tsutsumi
Tec/5 Masakichi Uyehara
Tec/5 Virgil Westdale
Pfc Shigeo Hara
Pfc Harry H. Harada
Pfc Haruyoshi T. Hashimoto
Pfc Masami H. Higuchi
Pfc Yoshimatsu Hirayama
Pfc Sazao Hironaka
Pfc James I. Hoshi
Pfc John Y. Izumi
Pfc Michinori Kitagawa
Pfc Iro Komoto
Pfc Haruo T. Kubota
Pfc Charles K. Matsumoto
Pfc Yoshito Miyamoto
Pfc Sam S. Miyata
Pfc Nobuo Nagareda
Pfc Isamu Naka
Pfc Toshiyuki Nakagawa
Pfc Masaru Nakakura
Pfc Shigeru Nakamura
Pfc George K. Nishikawa
Pfc Joseph H. Obayashi
Pfc Akira Oda
Pfc Toshio G. Ohara
Pfc George K. Oide
Pfc Kiyoshi Okano
Pfc George S. Oku
Pfc Shizuo Oyama
Pfc Kiyoshi Ozaki
Pfc Kaoru Sakima
Pfc Soko Shimabukuro
Pfc Yoshiwo Shimabukuro
Pfc Fred J. Shimomura
Pfc Tadashi Takiguchi
Pfc Seitoku Tamashiro
Pfc Milton M. Uchigakiuchi
Pfc Yoshiyuki H. Urada
Pfc Thomas M. Yamanuha
Pfc Yoshio Yoshida
Pfc Robert T. Yutaka, SM
Pvt Echio Andow
Pvt Tom T. Arai
Pvt Masato Itozaki, BS
Pvt Shigeo A. Mekaru
Pvt Allen I. Nakamura
Pvt Morio Nunokawa
S/Sgt Paul S. Ishizawa
S/Sgt Satoshi D. Shimazu, BS
Tec/4 Raymond C. Nishida
Tec/4 Tadashi Tojo, SM, BS, DUB
Cpl Yukio Hibino, PH
Cpl Susumu Ishimoto, BS
Tec/5 *Hideo Fujiki*
Tec/5 Robert S. Fujimoto, PH olc
Tec/5 Harold Y. Sakamoto, PH
Pfc Saburo Aburano
Pfc Yukio Arai
Pfc Tamotsu T. Fukuoka
Pfc Norman M. Funamura
Pfc Robert M. Ikeda
Pfc Hisashi H. Inukai
Pfc Takuji Ito
Pfc Douglas J. Iwamoto
Pfc Yukio P. Kawasaki
Pfc Kenneth K. Kawate
Pfc Clarence S. Matsumura
Pfc Bryan H. Matsuo
Pfc Hideo Noda
Pfc Shunro Nomura, SM
Pfc Yukio Ogawa
Pfc Tamotsu F. Saito
Pfc Clinton I. Shiraishi, PH
Pfc Mitsuo Tabuchi
Pfc Canan K. Takaoka
Pfc Frank K. Takeuchi
Pfc Tatsumi Tanaka
Pfc Thomas T. Toguchi
Pfc Jimmy K. Umamoto
Pfc Jiro Yamada
Pvt Richard N. Holokahi
Pvt Shigeru Kawahara
Pvt Kohei Sakuma
Pvt Harry Tanouye

BATTERY A

1st/Sgt Fred S. Nomiya, BS
S/Sgt Taneji R. Kumashiro
S/Sgt Teruhisa Nishiyama
S/Sgt Nabo Okazaki
S/Sgt Leo S. Shigemi
Sgt Teruo Anzai
Sgt Yoshio Fujita, BS
Sgt Royce E. Higa
Sgt Kay Kagami
Sgt Thomas K. Kono
Sgt Gilbert K. Takamori
Tec/4 Joseph Ichiuji
Tec/4 Mac M Motonaga, SS, BS
Tec/4 Oscar K. Sakamoto, BS, PH
Tec/4 Tetsuo Tomita
Cpl Richard S. Furuta
Cpl George E. Goto
Cpl Shigeyoshi Kawafuchi
Cpl Terry M. Kurimura
Cpl Thomas Mayeda
Cpl Tomomi Namba
Cpl John S. Ogishima
Cpl Henry K. Ohka
Cpl Toshinori Ota
Cpl Mark H. Tanouye
Cpl James S. Tomita
Cpl Fred M. Yasukochi
Tec/5 Masa Chinen, BS
Tec/5 Taichi Imada
Tec/5 Wataru Kamiya
Tec/5 Harold H. Matsumura
Tec/5 James M. Mayeda
Tec/5 Robert Y. Mikami
Tec/5 Suguru Mizukami
Tec/5 Minoru Okabe
Tec/5 Robert M. Sugai, BS
Tec/5 Hiroshi Ukita
Tec/5 Mitsuru M. Yamamoto
Pfc Hideo Enomoto
Pfc Saburo Fujii
Pfc Kam K. Hamai
Pfc Joseph O. Hattori
Pfc Teddy Higashi
Pfc Osamu Hirata
Pfc Masao Imada
Pfc Akira D. Kobayashi, BS
Pfc Koji Konishi
Pfc Mitsugi Kudo
Pfc Tadashi Marushige
Pfc Henry K. Matsuoko
Pfc Isami Miyabara
Pfc Kunio F. Miyamoto
Pfc John Nakaishi
Pfc Fumio Nakamura
Pfc Toshio Nakamura
Pfc Sadashi Ohara
Pfc Shigeru Oshiro, BS
Pfc Albert Y. Ouchi, PH
Pfc Abraham S. Sakamoto
Pfc Archie S. Soken
Pfc Manabu Sorakubo
Pfc Tamio T. Suyama
Pfc Seijin Taba
Pfc Tokio Taniguchi
Pfc Kiyoshi Ushiro, BS
Pfc George Utsunomiya
Pfc Tom Uyeda, BS
Pfc Tsuneyoshi Yamada
Pfc Toshimi Yamasaki, BS
Pfc Shuichi Yamashita
Pfc Hiroshi S. Yokoyama
Pvt Shigeru Chibana
Pvt Kuichi Fujikawa
Pvt Noboru Fushikoshi
Pvt Fredrick T. Kawaminami
Pvt George J. Kuwamoto, PH
Pvt Takao Matsuoka
Pvt Larry T. Miyashiro
Pvt Tamotsu Ono
Pvt George T. Seki
Pvt Henry T. Shikuma
Pvt Kaoru Tatsumi, BS
Pvt Alfred T. Yamaguchi
S/Sgt Lawrence Y. Mori
Sgt Ernest T. Miwa
Sgt Frank H. Noda
Sgt Miles Z. Shimabukuro, BS
Tec/4 Isei Anami
Tec/4 Yukio Honda
Cpl *Nobuo Mine*
Cpl Yoshio Taguma
Tec/5 Kazumi Kawafuchi
Tec/5 Raymond H. Mitsushima
Pfc Henry S. Hamataka
Pfc Shizuma H. Hatakeda
Pfc James K. Kasai

Pfc Shigeo Kawa, Jr.
Pfc John M. Kawata
Pfc Muneaki, Konishi
Pfc Hiroshi Kubochi
Pfc George K. Odagawa
Pfc Kenzo J. Okazaki
Pfc George G. Ozaki
Pfc Akira B. Saito
Pfc Koichi H. Tokushige
Pfc Tom M. Tomita
Pfc Yutaka Watanabe
Pfc Sutemi Yamamoto
Pfc Mitsuki Yanagida
Pfc Tetsuo Yasunaga
Pvt George S. G. Mark
Pvt Stanwood M. Nakata
Pvt Hiroshi Okura
Pvt Lawrence G. Shimabukuro
Pvt Howard R. Uyenoyama
Pvt Masaru D. Yagami
Pvt Arthur T. Yoshimura

BATTERY B

1st Sgt Satoru S. Ikeda
S/Sgt George Abe, SS
S/Sgt Roychi Adachi
S/Sgt Tahei Niiro
Sgt Hiyoshi Imoto
Sgt Yuzuru Morita, BS
Sgt Akira Naguwa
Sgt Edward H. Nakamura
Sgt Massey Onishi
Sgt Katsumi Tsujimoto
Tec/4 Tadao T. Hamamura
Tec/4 Toshio Nishizawa
Tec/4 Kenichi Shimatsu
Tec/4 Yoshio Tada, BS
Tec/4 Isao Yanagida
Cpl Koyu Afuso
Cpl George Eda
Cpl Mamoru Fujio
Cpl Tetsuo Kawasaki
Cpl Fred F. Kondo
Cpl Tom K. Maekawa
Cpl Yoshio L. Nakahara
Cpl David S. Oka
Cpl Yoshimasa F. Suzuki
Cpl Yoneo Takamoto, SS, PH
Cpl Dunn Yamauchi, BS
Tec/5 Henry M. Hirokawa
Tec/5 William Y. Horie
Tec/5 Ted T. Ikari
Tec/5 Shiro Iwana
Tec/5 George Muramaru
Tec/5 Richard H. Ogata
Tec/5 Chosei Oshiro
Tec/5 George Shiozawa, BS, PH
Tec/5 Joe M. Takahashi
Tec/5 Hideaki R. Yamamoto
Pfc Yodoji Akagi
Pfc Shosei Arakawa
Pfc Henry N. Azeka
Pfc Isao F. Fujishige
Pfc Nobuo Fukushima
Pfc William W. Ihashi
Pfc Haruto W. Iwamasa
Pfc Seikichi P. Kaneshiro
Pfc Isamu Kato
Pfc Lester T. Kato
Pfc Richard K. Kino
Pfc Matsusuke Kobashigawa
Pfc James J. Maeda
Pfc George J. Maeyama
Pfc Masaaki Maruichi
Pfc Yoshiharu Matsuura, PH
Pfc Katsugo Miho
Pfc Tadashi Miyashita
Pfc Hideo Nakamine
Pfc Zenkichi Nakanishi
Pfc Mitsuo Nakano
Pfc John Y. Nishimura
Pfc Robert M. Nobori
Pfc Masahide Ojima
Pfc Roy S. Okubo
Pfc Tadao Ono
Pfc Iwao Sugawa
Pfc Charles T. Takase
Pfc William H. Tanaka
Pfc Teiji Uehara
Pfc Tetsuji Umetsu
Pfc Yoshio Wada
Pfc Frank S. Watanabe
Pfc Hisao Yoshimura
Pfc Yoshinobu G. Yamato
Pfc Suehiko Yoshiko
Pfc Hisao, Yoshimura
Pvt Edgar K. Arimoto
Pvt Sadao Baba
Pvt Ichiro J. Furukawa
Pvt Masaru Kimura, SM
Pvt Ken Kuzuhara
Pvt Edward M. Matsuura
Pvt Sam O. Ogawa
Pvt James S. Ohye
Pvt Tsuneo Shiroma
Pfc Albert A. Kotomori
S/Sgt Hisao Nishi
Sgt Roy T. Iwanaga
Cpl Harold M. Watanabe
Tec/5 Shoichi Takechi
Tec/5 Rufus Tojo
Pfc Roy H. Fujii
Pfc Edwin H. Honda
Pfc Robert M. Imura
Pfc George H. Ishihara
Pfc Muneharu M. Okuda
Pfc George Sakaguchi, SS
Pfc Masami F. Takata
Pfc Tadashi Tanita
Pfc Yukiyasu Uyeoka
Pfc James I. Watanabe
Pfc Ted T. Watanabe
Pfc Eugene M. Yamane
Pfc Mamoru Yonashiro
Pfc Ben Kamikawa
Pfc Takashi K. Miyamoto
Pfc Toshiro Nakamura
Pfc Knox H. Nomura
Pfc Kiyoshi Ono
S/Sgt Edward K. Ikegami
Tec/4 Wataru Inouye, BS
Cpl Shigeru Ishii, BS, PH
Cpl Henry K. Togami, SS, PH
Tec/5 Kimio Furutani
Pfc Kiyoshi R. Rokuta
*Pfc Nobuaki Tomita, SS, PH
Pvt Richard K. Higa
Pvt George Tsuchiyama

BATTERY C

1st/Sgt Yukimori H. Okimoto
S/Sgt Mamoru J. Masuda, BS
S/Sgt George T. Matsuura
S/Sgt George Oiye, BS
S/Sgt George G. Tanaka, BS
Sgt Mamoru Araki
Sgt Takashi Baba
Sgt Masafumi Koba
Sgt Mitsuo Munemura
Sgt Fred Y. Oshima, BS
Sgt George K. Thompson
Tec/4 Tomoichi Goto
Tec/4 Masami Hara
Tec/4 Takeo Hirashima
Tec/4 Roy T. Kobayashi, BS
Tec/4 Yuki Minaga, SS
Tec/4 Tahae Sugita
Cpl Nelson T. Akagi
Cpl Tsutomu M. Akamine
Cpl Shiyo Doiwchi
Cpl Naoyoshi Kato
Cpl Robert S. Kikawa, PH
Cpl Raymond D. Kunimura
Cpl Samuel K. Morikawa
Cpl George Morishita
Cpl Mac M Nishimoto
Cpl John T. Nishimura, BS
Cpl Thomas T. Shimaoka
Cpl Steven H. Takeuchi
Cpl Warren W. Tanaka, BS, PH
Tec/5 Hideo Hirata
Tec/5 Tsuneichi Honda
Tec/5 Shigeo R. Inouye
Tec/5 Joseph K. Itamura
Tec/5 George Y. Kashiwagi
Tec/5 Hiroshi Kohagura
Tec/5 George T. Miyake
Tec/5 Yoshiharu G. Morishima
Tec/5 Ricardo T. Murakami, PH
Tec/5 Toshio Orita
Tec/5 James T. Shigeta
Tec/5 Shiro Takeshita
Pfc Lyman Domoto
Pfc Tsutomu Fujimoto

Pfc Tadashi Gibu
Pfc Louis T. Hashizume
Pfc Sadaichi Higa
Pfc Yoshio Hiranaka
Pfc Manabi Hirasaki
Pfc Masato Hirata
Pfc Yokichi Hokama
Pfc Edward H. Ichiyama, PH
Pfc Tsukasa H. Ishii
Pfc Satoru Iwamoto
Pfc Herbert S. Iwasaki
Pfc David Y. Izumi
Pfc Isamu S. Kawamura
Pfc Yoshigo S. Kawaguchi
Pfc Kunio Kawatani
Pfc Yoshiaki Kobatake
Pfc Rudy T. Kobayashi
Pfc Tetsuo Kobayashi
Pfc Richard Y. Kurohara, PH
Pfc Tsuneshi Maruo
Pfc Kameo S. Miyamoto
Pfc Benedict I. Nakamura
Pfc Masao Nakamura
Pfc Gilbert J. Nishimi, PH
Pfc Torao Nitta, SM
Pfc Masahiko Ogawa
Pfc Kiyoshi C. Okada
Pfc Fumio J. Okamuro
Pfc Toll Okazaki
Pfc Hiroshi Okura
Pfc Yoshinori Oyama
Pfc Stanley K. Sakai
Pfc Mitsuo Sakamoto
Pfc Haruki Sakata
Pfc Hideo Sato
Pfc Tamotsu Shigemoto
Pfc Kaoru Shimizu
Pfc Thomas T. Shiratsuki
Pfc George S. Suenaga
Pfc Roy M. Susuki, PH
Pfc Sam M. Takahashi
Pfc Thomas H. Takano
Pfc Kiyoshi J. Takasaki, PH
Pfc Taiji Takayoshi
Pfc Kuichi Takei
Pfc Thomas Y. Tamai
Pfc Tadashi Tokuda
Pfc Jiro Tsukamoto
Pfc Francis I. Tsuzuki
Pfc Herbert S. Uyeda
Pfc Norimasa N. Yamahiro
Pfc Robert K. Yamanoha
Pfc Isamu Yamao
Pfc Hiroshi Yamasaki
Pfc Frank A. Yasuda
Pfc Yeji Yokoyama
Pfc Masayoshi Yoneda
Pfc Tsuneo Yoshikawa
Pvt Keichi Igarashi
Pvt Herbert K. Itagaki
Pvt Tsutomu P. Ogata
Pvt Herbert T. Ota
Pfc Makoto Amano
Pfc Haruo Arai
Pfc George Higa
Pfc George S. Kodama
Pfc Roy T. Nagai
Pfc Frank S. Nakatani

Pfc Joe Toi

SERVICE BATTERY

1st/Sgt Takeo Susuki
M/Sgt Seiji G. Takayanagi, BS
T/Sgt George Y. Nishimura
S/Sgt Haruo Okamoto
S/Sgt Tokushi Tanaka
S/Sgt Kadzuo Yamaguchi
S/Sgt Anthony T. Yamamoto
Sgt Tautomu Fujioka
Sgt Seiji Ishihara
Sgt Tadashi Takahama
Sgt Thomas H. Yomen
Tec/4 John R. Devlin
Tec/4 Kenneth B. Fukui
Tec/4 Mitsuru Kunihiro
Tec/4 Edward K. Nakagawa
Tec/4 Jimmy K. Shikashio
Cpl Morio Hamamoto
Cpl Tad T. Iwata
Cpl Takeo Kanase
Cpl Hiroshi Kato
Cpl Kiyoshi Sadanaga
Tec/5 Henry T. Anzai
Tec/5 Billy T. Furumasu
Tec/5 Hutao Hinokawa
Tec/5 Henry S. Ishida
Tec/5 Shoso Kanemoto
Tec/5 Kazuma Kubo
Tec/5 Haruo Kumata
Tec/5 Katsusuke Minagawa
Tec/5 Masao Yamauchi
Pfc Katsuto Arashiro
Pfc Kunio S. Fujii
Pfc Michio Fujikawa
Pfc Peter Fukasawa
Pfc Fred T. Furumizo
Pfc Ernest K. Hatanaka
Pfc Jusei Higa
Pfc Robert S. Hirata
Pfc Stanley M. Hirohama
Pfc Minoru Hirozawa
Pfc Kiyoguma Horikami
Pfc Iwao Kashima
Pfc Isamu S. Kawanishi, PH
Pfc Goro Kinoshita
Pfc Fred T. Matsumoto
Pfc Tadashi Matsumoto
Pfc Tsutae Morisaki
Pfc George Y. Nagano
Pfc Tanji Nakagama
Pfc Dick R. Nakamura
Pfc Masaichi Nakano
Pfc Noboru Okamoto
Pfc Richard T. Sugiyama
Pfc Masanobu Tamayose
Pfc Toraso Terawaki
Pfc Takashi Uyehara
Pfc Shigeo Warashina
Pfc Fukuichi Watanabe
Pfc Robert S. Yamane
Pfc Ben M. Yanaga
Pfc Peter O. Yano
Pfc Yoshio Fukuda
Pvt Magumi Goto
Pvt Ted A. Murata
Pvt Kenji K. Nishiyama
Pvt Tokuji Watanabe
T/Sgt Masao Mori, BS
S/Sgt James I. Takaki
Tec/4 Yutaka Ojiri
Cpl James Kono, BS
Tec 5 Hiromi Fujiwara
Tec/5 Stanley K. Kaneshiro
Tec/5 Yozo Kobayashi
Tec/5 Mitsunori Komore
Pfc Hisashi G. Higashi
Pfc Yasuo Narita
Pfc Shigto Otani
Pfc Raymond S. Yonemura
Pfc Francis R. Yoshimura
Pvt Masanobu Honda

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

S/Sgt Toshiaki Mitome
Tec/3 Sam I. Miyata
Tec/4 Iichiro Imamura
Tec/4 Albert S. Nomura
Cpl Charles J. Tanaka
Tec/5 George T. Kobayashi
Tec/5 Samuel M. Tsuchiya
Pfc Isamu G. Ikinaga
Pfc Masao R. Uyeno
Pfc Kaiso Uyeoka
Pfc Katsuyuki Yokohama
Pvt Yoshiaki Y. Arai

Pvt Toby C. Sasaki

B A Y

O F

B I S C A Y

F R A N C E

S P A I N

ST DIE

EPINAL

VESOUL

DIJON

LYON

VALENCE

MONTELIMAR

AVIGNON

AIX

MARSEILLE

SEA

M E D I T E R R A N E A N

N

W

E

S

E R M A N Y

RLAND

AUSTRIA

TACTICAL MOVES

ADMINISTRATIVE MOVES

0 20 40 60 80 100

MILES

LECCO

BRESCIA

ILANO

DESENZANO

TORTONA

ENOVA

LA SPEZIA

FIRENZE

PISA

VOLTERRA

LIVORNO

ROSIGNANO

NES

GROSSETO

ORBETELLO

CIVITAVECCHIA

ROMA

ANZIO

CASERTA

NAPOLI

SALERNO

SORRENTO

PALERMO

SICILIA

GOSLAVIA

ADRIATIC SEA

ITALY

TYRRHENIAN SEA

CORSE

SARDEGNA

TERRANEAN SEA

Jack LaBous