

## PATTON

After crossing the Saar leaving Dillingen behind, another story started to unfold which has left an unseen scar. All units were trying to rebuild in armor and man-power. On directions of Capt Williams, (C.O., 'A' Company) Lt Reck was instructed to proceed to a near-by Ord. Co. to rush repair of several M-10's. I, as the C.O.'s driver, was chosen to drive and assist him. The roads were packed with vehicles of all kinds going in both directions and the roads had some snow but lots of ice spots. We were passing a convoy of troop carrying 2 1/2 ton trucks. The truck just in front stopped on a dry spot just after passing a ice spot. I slammed into it's rear and a 2 1/2 ton slammed into my rear. Lt Reck suffered compound fracture of his jaw and leg. My left knee was cut by dash. I remember the troops jumping out of their truck to assist us. We literally tore apart my Jeep to free Lt Reck. By this time, some medics stopped, gave first-aid to Reck and then took him to near-by aid-station. At this time, I was unaware of my injury. As soon as I was asked about my condition, my leg gave way and I hit the road. Now, enter Patton. While laying in hospital among many wounded and injured, Gen Patton makes a hospital inspection and visit to his brave and proud troops. All of us were scared and in awe of this man. He stops at foot of bed on my left and asks that soldier (what's wrong with you?) The soldier answered - hit in the gut Sir. Patton's words

## ALONE

TWO Tanks crossed the Moselle river along with my jeep (C.O.'s vehicle). The cable holding ferry snapped and the ferry went wild. One TD was on it and it fell into the fast deep running water, trapping it's crew of four. Cpt Williams, Co "A", my CO set up his CP not a hundred yards away from the river. We talked with the two TD's all night (the only support the Inf had). They would call for artillery fire and we would relay the request. Next morning, more tanks and TD's got across. We found out the next morning that Germany Inf had stayed in the next building from us. (WE DID NOT KNOW EACH OTHER WERE THERE).

## DIVISION IN WORLD WAR II

received that no time could be lost if royed. Early in the morning of November 10 and struck hard. In Regimental self-propelled artillery, they smashed the village of Petite Hertrange, aiming cutting the bridgehead in two. The outarmed, fell back before the initial rely encircled, contemptuously re-ught on. A hybrid company commanders personnel, security platoon, rads east of Petite Hertrange. Across sted the enemy approaches to Petite he 24th Panzer Grenadier Division

ink destroyers succeeded in crossing directly into battle. Troops of the friendly armor for the past three A bazooka man offered battle only soldier who had fortunately recognized vehicle. The football tackle just in e destroyers. The TDs entered the If-propelled guns, and immobilized

nguard of the stream of armor for e Moselle, as if in a final gesture of e bridge, snapped it once more and ream. Nevertheless, in spite of the and the rain, despite innumerable One battalion launched a flanking emy regiment and driving it back by utterly fatigued troops who had yard for hazards.

ad been installed and a new bridge The armor and artillery began rolled punch needed to continue the nd the Division, though six of its only 50% strength, aimed its next ith the 5th Division.

made in the face of stiff resistance. s finally supplied with several lux- customized in the preceding days of of blankets, overcoats, clean socks

## HELL

attack in an attempt to retreat of the 358th were positioned. the armored attack succeeded son. Accurate artillery fire an ers to be moved from their po

Over toward the east the the most intense enemy artillery village of Budling. It was deting from the Hackenberg fo troys attempted to blast th elanced off the concrete and s howitzers tried their hand at continued to halt the forward high velocity self-propelled Lc at a range of 2,000 yards the murderous fire. Subsequent cover had been blown to shre mounts, and all personnel killed rive fire of the Long Toms and

Evidence was gathered th prominent closing of the trap, w 90th sent its troops racing sou Division to close the jaws of th highways leading out of the c convoys, desperately attemptin, gamut, were met by concentra Now there was no stopping th Division smashed forward, brus assurance born of success.

On November 19th the 90 on the Division's right, establish Infantry Division. The operat ceded. The men of the 90th h They had waged battle with t hunger. They had violated the reduced the guns at Hackenberg defeated on its own terms the r Said the Army Commander, the war!"

The 90th unted its casual ment.

## OBERWAMPACH

Two TD's sat waiting for German Tanks. Four Mark 4's attempted to enter the town, four German Tanks were destroyed. But what brings this town to mind is something which happened on the second night. One Inf squad along with a crew from one TD were in a cellar of a house eating and trying to get some rest. One long Germany Tiger Tank managed to get into town without anyone's knowledge. The cellar window was ground level. The Tiger poked it's long barrel into the window and fired. All were killed and the tank got away. The next morning, German Inf attacked along with tanks and all were slaughtered. It was a lesson we learned the hard way - (never relax).

### OF THE 90TH DIVISION IN WORLD WAR II

on artillery concentration, Niederwampach fell at a very docile fashion. January 16th the 90th held a line facing east from the area. Convoys of vehicles stretched endlessly out of the Rundstedt "bulge." But skies which had been cast now cleared and yielded to Allied control of German retreating columns were mercilessly pounded, artillery joined in the holocaust of fire, inflicting ir- ( ) the German machine . . . the same machine which I one month before that Paris was its objective. ng day, the 17th, the enemy counterattacked the erwampach. Elements of the 2nd Panzer Division ' to re-enter the city, SS troops screamed at the top frenzy of fanaticism as they stormed the town from Artillery concentrations plus the effective work of alion inflicted costly casualties and smeared the as- Three such attacks were repulsed on the first day. another night and day of ceaseless, but futile coun- the enemy that the 90th had no intention of giving

Luxembourg



ground no matter what pressure Tank Battalion accounted for were knocked out by the TDs' belt.

In all, the Germans launched armor. Snow and wind blanketed of casualties could be obtained the battle raged, the 344th Field ammunition. When at last the mission and attempted to make tions boxed off their avenues of enemy lines. What had begun as ments of the 90th, ended in a d sion of Oberwampach.

Thereafter, the Division mopped plodding through deep drifts snow and ice and wind of winter objectives fell, and obstacles were

On the morning of January having just occupied the town counterattack supported by over

Harlan



"A" was in support of the 358th Inf Regiment which had the assignment of freeing our Allied soldiers from this compound. When we finally did reach this compound all resistance had ceased. I was one of the first people to ~~approach~~ approach the gate. It was a heart warming experience, helping to release these British soldiers. But one thing was wrong. I noticed fear on their faces, these people were scared. After talking with many of them I realized it was not fear but bewilderment, their minds after suffering such torture could not cope with this new freedom. The unit commander did not want to rush them. He had his kitchen prepare a hot meal, he had his mess Sgt heat water so they could wash. He was thoughtful and tried to put them at ease. I took seven of them to a beer hall in the area. The local people were in ~~hiding~~ hiding in their cellars. The town was not torn up ~~so~~ like so many other towns we took therefore the people did not know real fear. The owner was arrogant and would not supply drinks to these British troops who he so despised. The British were use to obeying German orders so they would not press the issue. But I had not been a prisnor and after looking down my carbine barrel, he consented. A few drinks gave the British their courage ~~back~~ and self-confidence back and then they wanted to tear up the place. I managed to get them out without causing too much damage.

All bridges across the Kyll enemy. This wooded hills ed all approach to the Kyll, through the rain and mist. The cap to the enemy as well as to soon were flooded and rendered Late in the evening of the River, meeting scattered small the following day other units continued their advance. Gerolstein (As an added historical note the 90th's occupational duty stein was the location of the same regiment which was delayed, to recapture the city.)

By this time the rout of tions. Everywhere the German eager to surrender to the victor thoughly confused, the enemy the disaster which had overtaken had been broken in a thousand the irresistible might of A The 4th Armored Division in its epic breakthrough, and mission of passing through through the Eiffel Hills to the Kyll had been expanded to a board for an armored thrust.

And still the doughboys destroyers, they rode rough resistance. The 359th encountered konigen, and here, for a chance The fight developed into a h of the night, and ended with The 90th Reconnaissance as Kelberg, capturing prisoners ease. Following in the wake swept all within its zone. W PW's clogged the roads, they taken. Villages and towns fle



to seize a crossing over the Kyll ed, the enemy was digging in 6th Armored was accomplished ng morning the Division began Prum and Kyll rivers, the 4th alry Group on the right. zone, the 90th's advance might in was one which favored the Army front, however, sent the of the Kyll. Rearguard action obstacles, and intermittent rains o Task Force Kelly and Dye, and fire fights. Towns, villages, g troops. Enemy tanks which royed or put to flight. Moving ive through France, the Divi-

### A SMALL GERMAN VILLAGE

Co 'A' was in support of The 357th Inf. The time is night, everything is quiet. Out-posts are manned and the unit rests. T-5 Hands, another and myself want fresh eggs. We walk down this small dirt road pass the last out-post - we are going to find eggs. We talk to this Inf out-post. (You can't know what a troop will do to find fresh eggs.) We walk about two miles into the un-known and find this small house. This very scared woman came to the door, and after my asking in very broken German, she took us into the kitchen and pointed to this large box. (It was full of eggs.) We each took six eggs, thanked her and started up our little dirt road. The out-post personnel had changed and were not told about us. We were passing a bottle of wine back and fro and singing (Yankee Doodle Dandy) when we were challenged. The out-post was loaded and unlocked and were on orders to fire upon anything moving - Yankee Doodle Dandy saved us. We enjoyed the eggs.

THE END

By the time the 90th Inf entered Czechoslovakia, my Bn. had to it's credit, 102  
firmed enemy tank kills and 122 unconfirmed. Each Inf Div had in it's support  
one TD Bn, one Tank Bn and the usual Eng Bn, AntiAirCraft Bn, Etc, Etc. My TD Bn,  
the 773rd TD Bn had the highest rate of kills - something to be proud of.

We were many miles into Czechoslovakia when word came of cease-fire - it's all over.  
One platoon of Co "A", one armored car (which I commanded) and one or more jeeps  
stopped on a side of a hill, it had been raining and two of the TD's sank in the  
mud and were stuck but good. Another TD lost it's track and could not move. That left  
one TD's gun good and the one without a track could be used if needed. But who cared,  
the war was over. Then over the radio via a piper cub came the news of a German SS  
unit (approx 50 men) sitting in the valley below us. They would not surrender. For  
two day's we sweated it out, not knowing if they would attack. We manned our guns for  
24hrs - waiting. After two day's, word came that they gave up.

We pulled back to a border town, our mission was not to let German units cross the  
Check-I border into Germany, we were to turn them back to surrender to the Russians.  
None showed up but thousands of DP's attempted to cross (and we did let many cross)  
(WHO WANTS TO BE IN THE HANDS OF THE RUSSIANS). Some of us were drunk with joy and  
could give a dam about anything so we smuggled people from near by town's into Germany.  
Chec guards would throw there guns into our faces and refuse us exit from their towns,  
(we in turn aimed our weapons at them - they backed down). We never ran into any  
Russian soldiers and I often have wondered, what would have happened if we had. Would  
another war have started. On the way home.



gold deposit

LD WAR II  
7 May 1945 under  
B 9 May 1945."  
Infantry Division,  
and wound through  
ers and forests half  
with the T-O patch  
Czechoslovakia.

CO  
CH  
THERE is little to add to  
taneous arrival of Amer  
peace aroused a frenzy o  
host to the Americans w  
can spring from gratitude.

Each city and village was  
ties and street festivals were t  
colorful native costumes, wh  
hours of dawn.

Soldiers of the Red Army,  
made contact, exchanged gre  
with the American troops wh  
meet them in a strange land.

There was some difficulty  
to the idea of peace. For mo  
and the threat of instant dea  
year there had been assaults and  
There had been untold sufferi  
was finished. Once more it wa

The 90th had done its wo  
talk of valiant men in the fut  
ceive their praise. The world c  
flowed at the Foret de Mont C  
tamable Moselle. There are vol  
the Siegfried Line, not once but  
and mud and sliced their way  
enemy in two.

The accomplishments of th  
total of 83,437 prisoners of w  
combat, the equivalent of mo  
tanks, 195 self-propelled guns  
destroyed.

Victory, however, was not  
e have and more. Of 1

A LUCKY GUY

This man, Sgt Harold Land was hit twice and lived to tell about it. Co "A", 773rd TD Bn. In the Palaise Gap in a small village while leading his TD on foot to find a better firing position, he was shot through the nose at eye level while peeking around a corner of a building. He returned two months later from the hospital with no apparent damage. Later in Dillingen, a mortar shell exploded next to him taking his right hand off (or so we thought). Years later, in Life Magazine, a seven page spread showed the successful operation. He had use of his hand.

ANOTHER LUCKY GUY

A mechanic in our company (name forgotten) was in one jeep with two other people following another jeep on a small dirt trail attempting to reach another platoon. The first jeep ran over a Teller mine not exploding same, the second jeep did explode it killing two people and not hurting this man at all. He then got onto the front bumper of the first jeep and was directing the driver backwards when it ran over a mine killing the three original people. Again he was not hurt. One man was blown fifty feet into a tree. Five dead and one not scratched.

1944	*KIA		*DOW		*DOI		*SWA	
	O	EM	O	EM	O	EM	O	EM
June	34	351	1	22	0	0	59	1,001
July	68	909	12	146	1	3	54	1,002
Aug.	25	251	7	84	0	1	22	38
Sept.	9	147	2	44	0	1	27	35
Oct.	8	80	2	18	0	0	10	14
Nov.	22	287	1	36	6	2	22	32
Dec.	9	194	1	35	0	0	15	21
1945								
Jan.	12	258	2	49	0	0	18	41
Feb.	16	245	1	28	0	1	13	25
Mar.	9	236	1	25	0	0	14	1
April	7	121	1	12	0	0	9	
May	0	45	0	1	0	1	0	
Total	216	3,124	31	500	7	11	263	4,600

\*KIA - - - Killed in Action  
DOW - - - Died of Wounds  
DOI - - - Died of Injuries  
SWA - - - Seriously Wounded in Action

C

6 June

CASUAL

8 June 1

TOTAL BY ALL

NON-BATTLE INJURIES

976

M DISEA

RESPIRATORY

2046

MINES AND SMALL SHELL AND BAYC BOOBY TRAPS ARMS MORTAR

131 3121 8060 1

can hope to describe adequately  
to fought in the T-O Division's  
cribe their deeds, } no words to

UNIT'S LAST DEATH

The next day, day after surrender, a good friend of mine killed himself by ident. On top of TD, a round mont is fixed so a thirty cal. MG can be fired from any direction. He crawled up side of TD, grabbed end of MG barrel to pull himself up. The trigger caught on something and sent a bullet crashing into his side. Laying on the ground, he said weakly, no, war's over.

It was months before during a rest period in Germany that he and I went hunting for deer. We jumped a Boer, he charged my friend who brought him down with five shots from a carbine. We found the last shot had hit the Boer's heart. After airing the Boer for two day's, the company had a fine meal.

IN APPRECIATION

To First Lieutenant Joe I. Abrams, Field Artiller brief history of the 90th Infantry Division. It was th efforts that the necessary research was made and this in narrative form, was so skillfully written for the e lightenment of all former and present members of the

To First Lieutenant William P. Flynn Jr., who took Lieutenant Abrams, worked long hours on the assem of necessary pictures, arranging the history in final fi the necessary ground work for its sale.

To the Veteran Members of Division Headquarte lery, 357th, 358th, 359th Infantry Regiments and S reviewed the contents of this history.

To all active members of the Division, and to the m Infantry Division Association, for their many helpf active assistance.

ENLISTED MEN	TOTAL
952	967
1217	1250
15732	16092
1820	1846
3741	3742
2604	2644
6741	6754
4060	4088
2964	3015
13219	13579
14443	14942
14018	14518
81511	83437

TROYED OR CAPTURED

501
195
1228
5572
82
134
3
32
1
2
1
1
1

s artillery ammunition, all calibers of aerial bombs.