

# The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne

A poem by Sgt. Edward S. Olsen

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The 705th TD Battalion, with self-propelled guns,  
Quick as a Hell-Cat when seeking the Huns;  
Rugged men of high spirits, but not anxious to be-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

A week before Christmas we're ordered to Bastogne,  
From a nice place in Germany, not far from Cologne;  
Fought our way in, and remained there to be-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Joined an Airborne Division, the 101st,  
A blood thirsty outfit, the Germans had cursed;  
Tenth Armored came in, and we are were to be-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Surrounded we were, that's putting it mild,  
The Jerries were coming, and shouting like wild;  
Bound to annihilate us, but otherwise thought we-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Stopped dead in their tracks, just a few miles from town,  
Piled up like cordwood, and still going down;  
Unable to take us. though outnumbered were we-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Holding our own, with supplies running low,  
Fighting and shooting, was a heck of a show;  
Planes dropped supplies, needed badly by all-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Medics kept busy, both day and night  
Caring for wounded that were hurt in the fight;  
Evacuation impossible, sick and wounded stayed with-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Ten long, weary days we lived through this hell,  
Of terrific shelling, bombings, and things I can't tell;  
Take it we must, for what else could we do-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Christmas with snow, but no turkey this year,  
K-rations instead, as that's all there were here;  
Eat them and like it, ordinary soldiers were we-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Relief finally came when the 4th armored broke through  
A day to remember, for we could start anew;  
The Germans had failed, attribute some credit to-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

Perhaps you may wonder how we acquired such a name,  
Was a German broadcast, engulfing us in shame;  
Announcing us as dead, and referring to us as-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne..

They say it is history, yes, it may be to some,  
A Gettysburg of '44 to be studied in years to come;  
But I'm glad it is over, and so are they all-  
The Besieged Bastards of Bastogne...