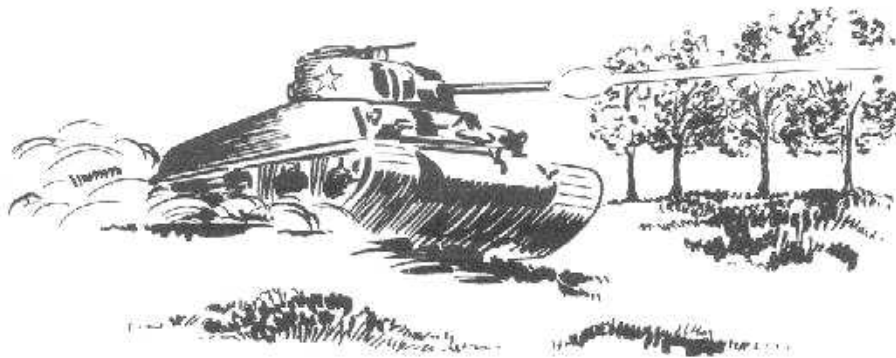


XII CORPS

SPEARHEAD OF PATTON'S THIRD ARMY



[14 March 1945 to 9 May 1945]

by

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Introduction

1. Background: the XII Corps History Association

During the summer of 1945 headquarters of XII U.S. Army Corps was situated at Regensburg, on the Danube River, in the southeastern most territories of Germany. Still a part of the Third US Army, as it had been all through combat in Europe, the corps was then dispersed over a large area in occupation of two provinces of the "land" of Bavaria. The corps headquarters and its other component units were resting on the considerable laurels won during the recent fighting on the Continent, and sentiment became widespread that a history of the XII Corps should be undertaken to record its accomplishments in permanent form.

To this end there was established, in accordance with Army regulations and the common custom for such undertakings, the XII Corps History Association. This was the designed as a non-profit organization, under a set of by-laws drawn up by the XII Corps Judge Advocate General, with consultation of the Corps Inspector General and Finance officer. The by-laws provided for active control by an Executive Committee with the dual duty of supervising the work of preparing the history, and making sure that funds contributed by subscribers should be properly expended to produce and distribute the best possible volume as a memorial to the exploits of the corps and its members, both unit and individual. The association was designed solely for the accomplishment of this end, and for that reason was made a temporary agency. It was to go out of existence automatically on 7 August 1947, by which time it was assumed the history, however elaborate it might prove, could be produced and distributed to the subscribers. The interest in the project was such that while the volume was in preparation over 7,000 former members of the corps and a number of other persons subscribed for one or more copies.

At an organization meeting in the Command Post War Room on 10 August 45, the association came into existence, and the following XII Corps officers agreed to serve on the Executive Committee and otherwise as indicated:

Brig. Gen. Ralph J. Canine, Chairman
Col. Paul M. Martin, Deputy Chairman
Col. Frank R. Veale
Col. John H. Claybrook
Col. Jack H. Griffith
Col. Ernest C. Norman
Col. Asa W. K. Billings
Col. Clyde E. Dougherty
Col. Alfred H. Anderson
Col. A. J. DeLorimier
Col. Rodney C. Gott
Maj. George Dyer, Historian
Capt. C. L. Dyer, Treasure
Lt. L. D. Gilbertson, Secretary

Major General S. LeRoy Irwin, then Commanding General of the corps, was present at the initial meetings and continued his interest and support to the very end of the project. Others who served as subsequently on the Executive Committee were Major General Manton S. Eddy, Brigadier General John M. Lentz, and Colonel Albert C. Lieber, Jr.

2. General Policy and Form of the Writing

It was decided from the earliest gatherings of the Executive Committee that an attempt must be made to have the volume when completed a definitive history of XII Corps as a whole in World War II. Although production had to be centralized and administered in the XII Corps Headquarters, the final product should not be solely a "headquarters book." The historian was to make clear the indispensable parts played by the great Corps divisions, the cavalry group, the artillery and engineer groups and battalions, and all those other specialized organizations which joined forces to make up the overwhelming might of a modern American Army Corps. If the headquarters is mentioned more often throughout the narrative than other Corps units this is for two principal reasons. As the command group for the corps it links all of the Corps units and often is used to represent the others in matters of general experience. And since the narrative follows the simplest chronological plan, running without interruption or reversal of flow from the activation of the corps on 29 August 42 to its inactivation on 15 December 45, there were times, as on the trip across the Atlantic, when the headquarters was all the XII Corps there was. Thus it happens that the only units for which a relatively complete story is told of those "organic" to the XII Corps Headquarters. Nevertheless, though it has been impossible within the scope of a single volume like this, to tell all the story of other units in a fighting force of such size and complexity, it is hoped that the reader who was not in the XII Corps Headquarters and Headquarters Company, or XII Corps Artillery Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, the signal battalion, or other organic unit, will still not consider this an "headquarters book." He should find his unit, if it was a large one, well represented in these pages. And if his was a smaller outfit, it should still be mentioned more than once, and certainly be found in the station lists and unit rosters at the end of the volume. Such references, together with the connecting thread of the headquarters experience, the photographs, and illustrations like the end paper Battle Route and fold-out Zone or Advance maps, should give the reader who served with any XII Corps unit at the very least, an approximation of his own experience during the War in Europe.

It was also decided early to rewrite or otherwise change as little as possible material taken from the sources on which the history is based. Whatever may be gained in uniformity by such rewriting, there is almost sure to be a final loss in color and vigor, and in the sense of authenticity conveyed by the words of the original document or interview. The question of annotation was discussed at length in meetings by the Executive Committee, and it was decided not to clutter up the narrative with complete references to sources. This was chiefly because the supporting documents for a work of this character are so extremely limited in type that they may be usually cited in text preceding the quotation without undue clumsiness and yet with sufficient fullness to enable any researcher to trace back a desired quotation without difficulty. In nine cases out of ten they are derived from official documents to be found on file in the Historical Records Division of The Adjutant General's Office of the War Department; in all but a negligible remainder they are from published material available in public libraries. For this reason it seemed almost unnecessary to use up space needed for matters of more general interest on an elaborate bibliography. Complete annotation and a bibliography were conscientiously kept as a matter of discipline to the stage of final review of the draft typescript. But in the copy sent to the publisher footnotes were held to a minimum in the interest of smooth-flowing story.

They appear principally when they often could not resist including some matter of peculiar but limited interest.

It was decided that, since the book is scarcely intended for readers with no military associations, a very appreciable saving in space could be accomplished by using throughout abbreviations well-known to persons in the Army. If the style called for spelling out Lieutenant General Doe's title, then certainly the same treatment should be accorded Technician Fifth Class Roe. Equally, the Umpteenth Fumigation and Bath Company would take up more room in a line than the 5th Infantry Division, and to what purpose? The more informal usage has been employed, therefore, (save in rare cases where a distinguished personage is being brought into the narrative for the first time); a list of common military abbreviations as applied in Appendix "D" to assist memories grown a little rusty with the passing years.

All photographs, except where otherwise noted on the same page, were taken by US Army Signal Corps photographers, most of them by personnel of that fine company of combat photographers which accompanied Third Army and the XII Corps all the way through the fighting, "from the Beach to Bavaria." In almost all cases the captions have been taken directly from the back of the prints used. It proved only rarely possible to cross-check these captions -- on the spelling of names, for example. Therefore, if a reader objects to being "slugged" as T/5 Isam Etheridge of Centralia, Washington, or as Jaypnaip Thackart of Fishtrap, Kentucky there is not much use blaming the XII Corps History Association. That's the way the name is spelled on the back of the appropriate Signal Corps photographs; and the Signal Corps photographs, as is well known, were often taken under fire under other circumstances which made the securing of full accurate captions extremely difficult. With almost as many pages of photographs as of text, and with these photographs and captions designed to tell XII Corps' story almost as fully as the text, it was considered desirable to place them in order and in such arrangement that the reader not interested in details could go smoothly through them and get the general outlines of the whole story without reference to the text. Accordingly, with few exceptions they appear on right hand pages in logical sequence. This makes the relationship of any given picture page with any given facing page of text likely to be disappointing. An attempt to overcome this deficiency has been made by liberally citing photographs at appropriate points in the narrative.

Maps used in this history came from a variety of sources, and were probably the most vexing single element to find, prepare, check, and reproduce by the numerous technical processes available. Although the map produced in Germany by XII Corps' "own" company of topographic engineers, as credited to them in detail elsewhere, has been supplemented by some fifty others in color or black-and-white, it is believed that the majority of readers for the majority of purposes will find the "topo" company's Battle Route map, in the end papers of this volume, most satisfying. This is not to discount the hours of patient and painstaking work which many men, as indicated below, put into the other maps. For special and more detailed reference purposes these "close-ups" will be found indispensable.

3. Credits

No such labor as this history could possibly have been done by one person alone. It was bound to be, and is, the end product of the work of many hands. Too many of these invaluable helpers could not be identified; wherever practicable they are fully credited at appropriate points in the course of the narrative. It would be an unforgivable omission, however, to fail to accord here additional recognition to the certain persons whose contributions were outstanding.

Members of the Executive Committee listed above were active and unfailing in their support of the venture. The Chairman, Brigadier General Ralph J Canine, true to his character all through combat,

inspired and aggressively backed to the limit the work of those assigned to assemble vast scattered masses of material and shape them into a history of XII Corps. His decisive influence was felt at many a critical moment while the project was still in operation in Germany, and continued to be an important factor after transfer of the work to America. Major General Manton S. Eddy, while not in Europe at the time the history was initiated, showed the keenest interest in the project from the start and when it returned to the United States, he willingly assumed the responsibility of an active place on the Executive Committee, and forwarded the work of preparation in many essential respects. It is no exaggeration to say that the thousands of former GI's and officers who enjoy this record of their joint exploits in Europe will owe their enjoyment in large measure to these two generals, without whose inspiration and backing the project would not have been completed along the ambitious lines originally planned, if indeed it could have been started at all.

Major General S LeRoy Irwin, as noted above, while at no time on paper a member of the Executive Committee, was often asked for help and never failed in either active interest or support, throughout the almost two years required to complete the work. Among a great many other acts of assistance, he freely gave access and permission to quote from his private diary, as will be observed in later stages of the narrative. Both Major General Gilbert R Cook and Lieutenant General William H Simpson, early commanders of XII Corps, accorded the project complete cooperation. Brigadier General John M Lance, last of the XII Corps' combat general officers to leave the Corps headquarters before it was officially disbanded in Germany, was several times in a unique position to advance the project, and did so in the same way he had fought the war, generously and up to the hilt. Colonel Paul M Martin, first Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee, also remained long in XII Corps Headquarters, and later from his office in Headquarters Third Army was able to facilitate greatly the actual transfer of the work to the United States.

The member of the Executive Committee whose task was undoubtedly the most trying was Colonel Albert C Lieber, Jr. As former Deputy Chief of Staff of XII Corps Headquarters during almost its whole period of active existence he was a "natural" for the job of final review of the work. He cheerfully and meticulously threaded his way through some 250,000 words of beaten-up draft typescript, catching countless mistakes of fact, fancy and grammar, and adding hundreds of words of original material. The improvement resulting from his devoted labors will be evident from one end of the book to the other. Responsibility for any errors of omission or commission which may have slipped by his alert attention will confidently be assumed entirely by the author.

A word of special appreciation should go to the Treasurer of the XII Corps History Association, (then) Captain Charlotte L Dyer. One of the two WAC officers who originally came down from Frankfurt shortly after the end of the fighting in Germany to assist with organization and preparation of XII Corps History, she stayed on the job and on active duty for months after her "point" score entitled her to return to the United States and be separated. Then for months after her release from active duty she remained in close touch with the project as a volunteer, giving freely of her time to keep the financial records straight until publication had been accomplished.

The extensive promotional activity necessary to lay a firm foundation of subscription money for the enterprise was largely the effort of (then) 1st Lieutenants L D Gilbertson and Donald G MacLeod. The former acted as the original secretary of the Executive Committee; the latter took over in this capacity after Gilbertson went home, and carried out a most energetic campaign of publicity and promotion. Lt William C Blamer and Horace E Curran carried out essential administrative functions in connection with the operation and in addition collected quantities of medical and engineer source material, respectively.

Other individuals who put in extensive full-time on the groundwork of this volume, with resulting conspicuous improvement in the final product, were Francis H. Ghur, Anthony C. Marchant, Edward Kaplan and John C. Johnson. Everyone of these former XII Corps Headquarters sergeants has left his mark with for the better on the history. Guhr's biggest single task was the compiling of the consolidated list of units in Appendix B, but his knowledge of the headquarters Adjutant General files and his careful research in them benefited the project at innumerable other points besides. Marchant's work speaks for itself; he is responsible for all the photographic layout and all the decorative drawings in the volume, except in those few instances specifically credited to some other hand. Both Guhr and Marchant loyally remained on duty in Germany and Washington, in order to wind up their particular assignments for several weeks after their Adjusted Service Rating scores would have permitted them to return to civilian life. Johnson and Kaplan, during combat with the XII Corps Headquarters War Room, put their special experience to valuable postwar use. The former's most tedious mission no doubt, was the translation of the grid readings in the station lists (Appendix A into geographic equivalents, so that members of units might tell at a glance, without reference to special maps, where their own headquarters were located on the given date. Kaplan was draftsman for the series of 17 operational and three double-spread occupational maps herein, in addition to many other duties in connection with the preparation of the volume.

A large number of other individuals helped to advance the work while it was still being carried out in Bavaria, doing special jobs in addition to their regular assignments, or working for shorter periods full-time. William N Thomas, Jr and Rudolph C Lange, then both captains with the G-3 and G-2 sections respectively, collaborated to layout the operational maps referred to in the preceding paragraph. Captain Janet P Coleman, WAC, conscientiously employed a month's Temporary Duty from SHAEF to collaborate with Captain Dyre in obtaining many of the first-hand accounts of personal experience which have been used so liberally throughout the book. Captain Clifford A Raser, working closely with MacLeod, secured most of the outlying artillery and cavalry interviews. Captain Thomas H Whalen, a former XII Corps Headquarters officer then with the 90th Infantry Division, was a shining example of assistance in the promotional field, being largely responsible for arousing a higher degree of interest in the project among members of his new outfit than was expressed in the concrete form of subscriptions by any other XII Corps division. M/Sgts Rolf C Chambers and Quentin McKillop were unusually cooperative in their contributions of photographs and other useful material.

With transfer of the project to the United States a whole new field of indebtedness was opened. The work required two months of Temporary Duty in the Pentagon Building while sources relating to XII Corps' Pre-ETO experience was examined. Here the Historical Division of the War Department Special Staff acted as host; especially encouraging in that division was the Director, Major General Edwin Harding, together with his assistants, Colonels Alan F Clark, Jr and John M Kemper, and a Dr Walter L Wright, Jr. Much specialized help in their respective fields was rendered by Mr Israel Weiss, Miss Louise Haanes, Miss Katherine Lambert, and others in the division. Captain Thurman Wilkins and his assistant, Miss Clyde Hillyer, gave invaluable assistance in the Adjutant General Historical Records; as did Captain George R Wagoner in the map section of G-2, War Department General Staff.

In Headquarters Third Service Command (later Headquarters Second Army) the list is also long. Outstanding for months of devoted attention to exacting detailed work is Mrs Hazel Gordon Maguire, who is responsible for the entire stenographic and clerical work during the latter stages of the project. Most impressive of her many achievements was the typing of an estimated million words of preliminary drafts, final draft and final typescript. In addition she indexed the whole text, a most lengthy labor. In the Engineer Section, Captain Paul E Mullins assisted with map work; and Jack E Carr was the soldier-

draftsman for all these maps taken with a few additions from the Third Army After Action Report, which show the advance of the Army's front. In the Adjutant General's Reproduction plant, great technical assistance and personal interest was given the project by M/Sgt C E Galton and Mr Raymond G Goldsmith, the latter with the 90th Infantry Division when it was a part of XII Corps. Several girls in the Adjutant General Editorial Section under Lieutenant Colonel J B Williams worked hard to proofread the whole typescript before it went to the publisher.

Unquestionably, the names of many persons who made important contributions to this volume have been left out for reasons of limitation of space or because they could not be obtained. Like the faithful proofreaders in Colonel William's office, or the unsung hero who wrote the much-used historical narrative of the Corps' first year, they must remain anonymous here. They will have to satisfy themselves with the knowledge that several thousand ex-members of XII Corps have benefited from their efforts, and with the certainty that the author, at least, as he completes the work of writing and returns contentedly to civilian life at long last, is well aware that XII Corps, Spearhead of Patton's Third Army is anything but a one-man book.

4. Character of XII Corps

The military entity known as the "Corps" or "US Army Corps" is not familiar to many Americans. The "Army" or "Field Army," of which a corps is the largest single element, is far better known. So is the Division, which is the largest single unit in a Corps. Even among men who were members of XII Corps in combat it was often true that they thought of themselves as "belonging" to the much more widely publicized Third Army, or to an equally famous infantry or armored division. It is therefore perhaps worthwhile to give the reader a brief definition of what constitutes an American Army Corps, and to indicate in what way it is the indispensable, adaptable but direct, link between the Field Army and the Division.

"The (Field) Army," says Field Manual 101-10, "is a flexible combat force capable of independent operations, consisting of two or more Corps and reinforcing combat and service troops." Of the Corps the manual says: "The functions of the Corps in an army will be primarily tactical.... Other units will be assigned to a Corps in accordance with its combat mission. These will be divisions, groups or battalions of Field artillery, antiaircraft artillery, tank, tank destroyer, engineer, and cavalry reconnaissance elements.... The organic elements of the Corps will consist of a headquarters and headquarters company; and military police platoon; signal battalion; headquarters and headquarters battery, corps artillery; and a field artillery observation battalion...."

Translated into specific terms, this means that throughout combat and occupation on the Continent of Europe, XII U S Army Corps was always a part -- and a very considerable part -- of Third US Army. Similarly, Third Army was always a very considerable fraction of 12th Army Group during the fighting, and 12th Army Group in turn was at times the largest single subdivision of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in the ETO. Turning from a higher chain of command to look in the other direction, the reader will see that XII Corps' average total of about 90,000 men was made up in large measure of the various divisions which were parts of the Corps, -- on occasion as many as six. The rest were the "Corps Troops," -- combat and service units fighting shoulder to shoulder with the divisions.

Just where of the modern American Army in the field gets most of the flexibility credited to it in the Field Manual may be inferred from the fact that while XII Corps was at all times on the Continent assigned to Third Army, as Third Army was at all times a part of 12th Army Group, not one of the divisions assigned to XII Corps remained in that organization for the entire period of combat. Divisions

to a total of 15 served as parts of XII Corps in various stages of the fighting, being freely pulled in or out in accordance with the changing needs of the tactical or strategic situation. Colonel Frank R. Veale the Corps G-1 has estimated that approximately a quarter million men served in XII Corps at one time or another in Europe. A division's component parts remain relatively constant; for Corps, internal change is the rule rather than the exception. This circumstance, which renders difficult compiling of a Corps history (and impossible the inclusion in such a history of the usual complete rosters, lists of commendations and awards, and so forth, that will be found at the back of most unit histories) has useful application in battle. As said elsewhere, the army-corps-division team together make up a weapon analogous to the old-fashioned flail; or perhaps it might be better likened to one of those "morning stars" of medieval warfare, in which the Army is represented by the iron handle, the Division by the spiky steel knob, and the Corps by the chain which, connecting the two loosely but firmly, multiplies the blow of the knob and prevents the enemy from knowing exactly how hard, or from exactly what quarter, the next stroke is going to fall on him.

Only the Corps headquarters and its "organic elements" remain in general without change, and it is these parts of the organization which give the Corps most of its individual character. And individual character was what XII Corps had in full measure.

The reader may well be warned at this juncture that if he is not prepared to approach this chronicle with acceptance of its major premise, i.e. that XII US Army Corps was an exceptionally fine and successful outfit, he should proceed no further. This premise is not quite the customary vehement and unsupported asseveration to the effect that the organization dealt with is the "best damn unit in the best damned Army in the world," etc. there will be found occasional hints of the spirit scattered throughout this volume, as well as some good-natured kidding of XII Corps' closest "rival" among "competing" corps in Third Army, -- both attitudes of the sort freely indulged in by members of any proud outfit in war. But jesting aside, it is honestly believed that the record spread across the following pages speaks more eloquently than such normal oratory for the conclusion that XII Corps was exceptional, if not actually unique, in its performance during World War II. To mention only two items in the bill of argument, the reader is referred to the comparative table of towns liberated or captured on page 450, and is urged to glance through the ten maps showing the Advance of Third Army's front and note the position of XII Corps' share of that front in each instance. The fame of the Corps was by no means limited to Third Army. It was not uncommon for personnel in divisions which had never served in either the Corps or the army to say: "Put us in Third Army and XII Corps and we'll show you!" Of course, since "a good Corps attracts good divisions," XII Corps was fortunate in the great infantry and armored divisions attracted to it. The exploits of these divisions, and of the other magnificent units that joined with the divisions to make up XII Corps, reflected glory not only upon themselves but also upon the Corps of which they were parts. Without their efforts, as will be clearly demonstrated in the pages to follow, the Corps headquarters would have been operating in a vacuum. Nevertheless, the rest of 80 y headquarters organization itself had something especially its own to contribute to the combination.

What was this special character? An attempt has been made, it is feared with indifferent success, to sketch that quality in the course of the following narrative. It lay, naturally, partly in the policies and personalities in command of the Corps; but the personalities of the staff also contributed a great deal. Shortly after VE-Day the Chief of Staff required the various staff sections to submit an extensive study of their operations in combat; it is an interesting and useful document, but the basic elements which made the headquarters so successful have eluded even this careful analysis. "The policies of the XII Corps Staff," comments Colonel P M Martin in the Chief of Staff section of the study, "were in all probability not greatly different in theory from those of any other, but constant vigorous effort was made to adhere to those policies and translate them into action. The policy that had the greatest effect on

operations was undoubtedly that which forbade the delegation of any mission to a subordinate unit, especially tactical units such as divisions, if it could be performed by Corps Headquarters or Corps Troops.... 'Can do' was the standing order, and the bold solution, if not rash, was invariably preferred to the cautious solution. Informality was the keynote of all staff relations, and practicality the touchstone of all decisions...." When XII Corps entered combat the headquarters personnel had trained together, with far less than average turnover, for 17 days less than two years. They performed their jobs in an atmosphere of energy and aggressiveness, and not without a certain grim humor, which could be remarked by the most casual observer. Units of all types coming into the Corps have left evidence that they could sense the difference in the quality of the support and direction they received while in the Corps.

The success of XII Corps, then, may perhaps be attributed in large measure to a threefold good fortune. The organization was forged and welded by a group of general officers among whom each one was an outstanding expert in the particular service he was called upon to give the Corps. It had an able and exceptionally well-trained staff. And its efforts were founded solidly on the superlative fighting and technological capacities of the American Ground Force soldier, unquestionably the greatest all-round warrior of the modern world. It is not surprising that with teamplay between such elements the corps made a record for itself on which every former member can well be extremely proud.

Two men who fought with XII Corps have summed up the matter in the own individual ways, as compactly and exactly as it is any work stated in the Chronicle to follow. Major Pierre L. Vivet, French liaison officer with the headquarters throughout combat, road as he prepared to return to civilian life after the war was over:

"To all my friends in Paris who eagerly keep on asking: 'What do you think of the American Army?' ... I simply answer: 'The US people are *soldat qui s'ignore*.'"

And Pfc Walter C Reed, with the XII Corps Headquarters MP Platoon during the fighting, put it this way in September of 1945: "Well, one thing you can say, we all got along together pretty good in Corps -- the officers and men. We didn't have much trouble between them. We got along pretty good together, I think."

The account which follows is primarily a record of teamplay by many fine American organizations composed of citizen-soldiers who could impress a French officer with their expertness in the art of war, and even more with the easy, and unselfconscious quality of their soldiering. It is as a record of these units, made up of such individuals, "getting along pretty good together" in successful prosecution of the greatest enterprise of our times -- that this chronicle of the XII Corps, Spearhead of Patton's Third Army, is presented.

G.D.
New Hope
Pennsylvania
December, 1946

ABBREVIATIONS

AA	antiaircraft	BSM	Bronze Star Medal
AAA	antiaircraft artillery	btry	battery
AAF	Army Air Force	c	combat
Abn (also ABN and A/B).....	Airborne	cal	caliber
AC	Air Corps	cam	camouflage
AC of S	Assistant Chief of Staff	CandR.....	command and reconnaissance (vehicle)
actg	acting	Capt	Captain
adm o	administrative order	c/atk	counterattack
Adsec.....	Advance Section, Communications Zone	cav	cavalry
adv	advance	cav gp.....	cavalry group
adv msg cen.....	advanced message center	cb	counterbattery
AEF.....	American Expeditionary Force (or Allied)	CC	Combat command
AESP.....	Army Engineers Supply Point	cem	cemetery
AF	Air Force	chap	chaplan
AFA	Armored Field Artillery	CHQ.....	Corps Headquarters
adj	adjutant	CG	Commanding General
ADC.....	Aide-de-Camp	CIC.....	Counterintelligence Corps
AFN	Armed Forces Network	CID	Criminal Investigation Detachment
AG	Adjutant General	cir.....	circular
AGF.....	Army Ground Forces	civ	civilian
AHQ.....	Army Headquarters	Class I Sp or CI I Sup.....	Class I Supply (Rations)
AIS	Army Information Service	Class II Sp or CI II Sup.....	Class II Supply (Supplies and Equipment)
am	ammunition	Class III Sp or CI III Sup	Class III Supply (Gasoline and Oil)
AM.....	Air Medal	Class IV Sp or CI IV Sup.....	Class IV Supply (Miscellaneous)
amb	ambulance	Class V Sp or CI V Sup.....	Class V Supply (Ammunition)
ammo.....	ammunition	Class 40-70, Etc.	Class 40-ton, 70-ton (maximum carrying capacity bridge)
ANC.....	Army Nurse Corps	clr sta	clearing station
AP.....	armor-piercing, or airplane	CMH	Congressional Medal of Honor
APC	Army Photo Center	cml.....	chemical
APO.....	Army Post Office	Cml Co (SG)	Chemical Company (Smoke Generating)
APS.....	Army Postal Service	4.2 Cml Mort.....	Chemical Mortar, 4.2 inch
apt.....	appointed	CO.....	commanding officer
APU.....	Army Postal Unit	co	company
AR.....	Army Regulations	C/S or C of S.....	Chief of Staff
ARC	American Red Cross	coll pt.....	collecting point
armd.....	armored	Col	Colonel
armd div	armored division	comd	command
Armd FA Bn.....	Armored Field Artillery Battalion	comdg.....	commanding
arty	artillery	comdr	commander
ASF	Army Service Forces	comdt	commandant
asgd	assigned	comm	communication
ASN.....	Army Serial Number	com z (also Com Z).....	communications zone
ASP.....	Ammunition Supply Point	contl.....	control
ASR.....	Adjusted Service Rating ("points" to go home)	CP	Command Post
asst.....	assistant	CPX	Command Post Exercise
AT	Antitank	Cpl	Corporal
atchd	attached	CQ.....	soldier in charge of quarters
ATF	Air Task Force	C/S.....	Chief of Staff
atk.....	attack	CT	Combat Team
atzd	authorized	CwW	Chief Warrant Officer
AU	attached unassigned	CWS.....	Chemical Warfare Service
AUS.....	Army of the United States	DAO.....	Division Ammunition Officer
AW	automatic weapon	DBS.....	Delta Base Section
AWOL	absent without leave	DC.....	Dental Corps
Ax Sig Com	Axis Signal Communications	DC/S.....	Deputy Chief of Staff.
BAR	Browning Automatic Rifle	defv	defensive
BB	Bailey Bridge	dep	depot
BC.....	battery commander	det.....	detachment
bdry.....	boundary	DHQ.....	division headquarters
bet.....	between	Div	division
BFM.....	Basic Field Manual	divarty.....	division artillery
bkry.....	bakery	DOW.....	died of Wounds
BPO.....	Base Post Office	DP.....	displaced person
bn.....	battalion	DS	detached service
brig.....	brigade	D/S BB.....	Double Single Bailey Bridge
Brig (Gen).....	Brigadier (General)	DSC.....	Distinguished Service Cross
br.....	Bridge	DSM.....	Distinguished Service Medal

dy.....	duty	IC.....	Information Center
E.....	East	I & E.....	Information and Education (program, G-3 section, etc.)
ECA.....	European Civil Affairs	IG.....	Inspector General
ECAD.....	European Civil Affairs Division	IIA.....	injured in action
ech.....	echelon	inf.....	infantry
EEl.....	Essential Elements of Information	Int O or S-2.....	intelligence officer
elms.....	elements	IP.....	initial point
emb.....	embarkation	IPW.....	Interrogation of Prisoners of War
EM.....	enlisted man or men	JAG.....	Judge Advocate General
enr.....	engineer	JAN.....	Joint Army-Navy (operation, etc.)
Engr C Bn.....	Engineer Combat Battalion	jc.....	junction
Engr GS Regt.....	Engineer General Service Regiment	jn.....	joint
E H Equip Co.....	Engineer Heavy Equipment Co	KIA.....	killed in action
ETOUSA.....	European Theater of Operations United States Army	km(also Km).....	kilometers
evac.....	evacuation	l.....	light
f.....	field	lat.....	latitude
FA.....	Field Artillery	LC.....	line of communication
FA Gp.....	Field Artillery group	LCM.....	landing craft, mechanized
FA Obsn Bn.....	Field Artillery Observation Battalion	LCP.....	landing craft, personnel
F&B.....	Fumigation and Bath	LCT.....	landing craft, tank
FDC.....	Fire Direction Center	LCV.....	landing craft, the vehicle
FD.....	Fire Department	LCVP.....	landing craft, the vehicle-personnel
Fin Disp Sec.....	Finance Disbursing Section	LE.....	low explosive
F HOSP.....	Field Hospital	LD.....	line of duty
fld.....	field	LD.....	line of departure
Fme.....	Ferme (French—farm)	ldry.....	laundry
FO.....	Field Order	ldr.....	leader
FPL.....	Final Protective Line	LM.....	Legion of Merit
ft.....	fort	LMG.....	light machine gun
FUSA.....	First U S Army	Ln O.....	liaison officer
FUSAG.....	First U S Army Group	LST.....	landing ship, tank
fwd.....	forward	Lt.....	lieutenant
Fwd Ech.....	Forward Echelon	long.....	longitude
Fwd CP.....	Forward Command Post	LWB.....	long wheelbase
g (also G).....	gun	LWA.....	lightly wounded in action
G-1.....	Personnel	L-1, L-4, L-5.....	three different types of light liaison and observation airplanes
G-2.....	Intelligence	maint.....	maintenance
G-3.....	Operations	Maj.....	major
G-4.....	Supply	mbl.....	mobile
G-5.....	Civil Affairs	MC.....	Medical Corps
Gen.....	General	mecz.....	mechanized
GFRC.....	Ground Forces replacement center	med.....	medical
gen hosp.....	general hospital	Med Bn.....	Medical Battalion
GO.....	general order	Med GT Bn.....	Medical Gas Treatment Battalion
govt.....	government	MG.....	machine gun (also Military Government)
gp.....	group	MH (also CMH).....	Medal of Honor (Congressional)
grd.....	ground	MI.....	Military Intelligence
GRO.....	Graves Registration Officer	mi.....	mile
Gr Reg Co (Bn).....	Graves Registration Company (Battalion)	MIA.....	missing in action
GS.....	General Service	MLR.....	Main line of resistance
GS.....	General Staff	mm.....	millimeter
GSC.....	General Staff Corps	MOS.....	military occupational specialty
GSGS.....	Geographic Section General Staff (maps)	MP.....	military police
GT.....	Gas Treatment	mph.....	miles per hour
HE.....	high explosive	M/R.....	morning report
HM Co Tk.....	Heavy Maintenance Company Tank	MRU.....	machine records unit
hosp.....	hospital	msg.....	message
how.....	howitzer	MSR.....	main supply route
HP.....	Heavy Ponton	mtd.....	mounted
hq.....	headquarters	MTP.....	Mobilization Training Program
Hq Comdt.....	Headquarters Commandant	mtr.....	motor
H & I.....	Harassing and interdiction (missions- artillery)	mt.....	mountain
H & S (Btry, Co, Tr).....	Headquarters and Service (Battery, Company, Troop)	mtz.....	motorized
Hq & Serv (Btry, Co, Tr).....	Headquarters and Service (Battery, Company, Troop)	mun.....	munitions
h-trk.....	half track	mvmt.....	movement
hvy.....	heavy	N.....	North
Hvy Wpn Co.....	heavy weapon company	NCO.....	non-commissioned officer
hwy.....	highway	NGUS (also NG).....	National Guard of the United States
		no.....	number
		NP.....	numeral-psychopath (ic, -y)
		NYPOE.....	New York Port of Embarkation

O or off.....	officer or officers	reinf	reinforced, -ment
o.....	order	regt.....	Regiment
OB.....	Observation Battalion	Regt S-1	regimental adjutant
OB.....	Order of Battle	Regt S-2.....	regimental intelligence officer
OBS.....	Oise Base Section	Regt S-3.....	regimental operations
obsn.....	observation	Regt S-4.....	regimental supply
O/C.....	officer in charge	repl.....	replacement
OCS.....	Officer candidate school	res (also RES)	reserve
OD.....	officer of the day	rhd (also RHD)	railhead
od.....	olive drab	RHQ.....	regimental headquarters
OLC	Oak Leaf Cluster	RI Co.....	Radio Intelligence Company
OP.....	observation post	RJ.....	road junction
Op Dir.....	operation will directive	rpt.....	report
opns	operations	rept 1	report line
ORC.....	Officer's Reserve Corps	RR	railroad
Ord or O.....	Ordnance	rr.....	rear
Ord Am Co.....	Ordnance Ammunition Company	Rr Ech.....	Rear Echelon
Ord Dep Co.....	Ordnance Dep on Company	RTO.....	Rail Transportation Officer
Ord HAM Co.....	Ordnance captivity Automotive Maintenance Company	S.....	South
Ord HM Co.....	Ordnance captivity Maintenance Company	S-1.....	Personnel (Staff Section, units below division in size)
Ord MAM Co.....	Ordnance Medical Automotive Company	S-2.....	Intelligence (Staff Section, units below division in size)
Ord MM Co.....	Ordnance Medical Maintenance Company	S-3.....	Operations (Staff Section, units below division in size)
org.....	Organization	S-4.....	Supply (Staff Section, units below division in size)
OWI.....	Office of War Information	SA	small arms
PA.....	public address (voice amplifying system)	salv.....	salvage
PCS.....	permanent change of station	SBS.....	Seine Base Section
PE (or POE).....	Port of embarkation	sec.....	sector
Pfc	Private First Class	serv	service
PH.....	Purple Heart	S&F.....	sound than flash (artillery ranging system)
PI.....	Photo Interpreter	SG.....	smoke generating
PL.....	Phase Line	Sgt.....	Sergeant
plat.....	platoon	S/Sgt.....	Staff Sergeant
PM.....	provost marshal	T/Sgt	Technical Sergeant
POE.....	Port of embarkation	M/Sgt.....	Master Sergeant
POM.....	Preparation for Overseas Movement	SHAEF.....	Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces
pon.....	ponton	sig.....	signal
pos.....	position	Sig Const Co (H).....	Signal Construction Company (Heavy)
PRO.....	public relations officer	Sig Serv Co	Signal Service Company
prov	provisional	Sitrep.....	situation report
pt	point	SL.....	support line
PT.....	primary target	SM.....	Soldier's space Medal
PTO.....	Port transportation officer	SO	special order
Pvt.....	Private	SOI.....	Signal Operating Instructions
PW (also POW).....	prisoner of war	SOP.....	standard operating procedure
PWE.....	prisoner of war in closure	SP.....	self-propelled
PX.....	Army Post Exchange	SP.....	supply point
QM.....	quartermaster	Sp Sv Co.....	Special Service Company
QM Car Co.....	Quartermaster Car Company	Spec Serv Co.....	Special Service Company
QM Gas Sup Co.....	Quartermaster Gasoline Supply Company	sp trs	special troops
QM Gp Hq.....	Quartermaster Group Headquarters	sq.....	squadron
QM Rhd Co.....	Quartermaster Railhead Company	SS	Silver Star, Special Service, Selective Service, or (German units)Schutzstaffel
QMSO.....	Quartermaster Supply Officer	SSO.....	Special Service Officer
QM Trk Co.....	Quartermaster Truck Company	SSV.....	Short Sea Voyage (used as Code to conceal channel crossing)
QM Tr T Co.....	Quartermaster Troop Transport Company	ST	secondary target
r.....	river	sta.....	station
RA.....	Regular Army	str.....	strength
rad.....	radio	sup.....	supply
RAMP.....	Recovered Allied Military Personnel (ex-POWs)	sup pt	supply point
rat.....	rations	surg hosp	surgical hospital
rcn.....	reconnaissance	sv	service
RCT.....	regimental combat team	sv cen.....	service center
R Co.....	River Company	SWA.....	seriously wounded in action
RD (RBn).....	reinforcement depot (reinforcement Battalion)	t or trans	transport, transportation
rd.....	road	T/A	table of allowance
rece, or recco.....	reconnaissance	tac.....	tactical
		Tac/R.....	tactical reconnaissance (airplane)

TAC.....Tactical Air Command
 T/BA.....Tables of Basic Allowance
 TBC.....Tactical Bomber Command
 TC.....Transportation Corps
 T Co.....transportation company
 TCS.....traffic control station
 TD.....tank destroyer
 trdy.....treadway
 TDy (also TDY).....temporary duty
 T/E.....table of the equipment
 tech.....technical
 Tech Int Team (also TIT)..... Technical Intelligence Team
 TF.....task force, training film
 THQ.....Theater Headquarters
 tk.....tank
 Tm.....team
 TMA.....Tennessee Maneuver Area
 Tng Dir.....Training Director
 Tr Co.....train commander
 Trdy Br Co.....Treadway Bridge Company
 TO.....transportation Officer
 T/O.....table of organization
 topo.....topographic
 TOT.....Time on target
 trac.....tractor
 tr-dr.....tractor-drawn
 trdwy.....treadway
 trk.....truck
 trkhd.....truck had
 trs.....troops
 T/S BB.....Triple Single Bailey
 Tr TB.....Triple Triple Bailey
 TTB.....Triple Triple Bailey
 TUSA.....Third United States Army
 TWX.....teletypewriter
 T/5.....Technician Fifth Class (equiv of Corporal)
 T/4.....Technician Fourth Class (equiv of Sergeant)
 T/3.....Technician Third Class (equiv of Staff Sgt)
 UK.....United Kingdom (of Great Britain and Ireland)
 USAT.....United States Army Transport

USFET.....United States Forces European Theater
 vic.....vicinity
 VOCC.....verbal order commanding general
 VOCO.....verbal order commanding officer
 W.....West
 WAC (Wac).....Women's Army Corps (member of Women's Army Corps)
 WD.....War Department
 WIA.....wounded in action
 w/o.....without
 WO.....warrant officer
 WOJG.....warrant officer junior grade
 WP.....white phosphorus
 wpn.....weapon
 wpn carr.....weapons carrier
 W Sup Pt.....Water Supply Point
 w/w.....With Winch (on front off truck)
 z.....zone
 Z/A.....zone of action, or of advance
 ZI.....zone of Interior
 ZTO.....zone transportation Officer
 "4x4".....jeep, ambulance or other vehicle with four wheels and four-wheel-drive
 "6x6".....2 1/2-ton truck or other vehicle with six wheels and six-wheel-drive

COMMON GERMAN TERMS

FK.....Feldkommandantur (field headquarters)
 FW.....Focke-Wolfe (airplane)
 JU.....Junker (airplane)
 KK.....Kreis Kommandantur (County headquarters)
 ME.....Messerschmitt (airplane)
 OT.....Organization Todt (labor troops)
 P or Pc.....Panzer (armored)
 PG.....Panzer Grenadier (i.e. armored infantry)
 PGR.....Panzer Grenadier Regiment
 SS.....Schutzstaffel
 VG.....Volksgrenadier (also Volksturm)
 "people's" militia)

BASIC MAP SYMBOLS

Size of Unit

XXXXX



Army Group

XXXX



Army

XXX



Corps

XX



Division

X



Brigade, Armored Division, Combat Command or Task Force

III



Regiment, Group, or Combat Team

II



Battalion or Squadron

I



Company, Troop, Battery or Flight (AAF)

Type of Unit



Infantry



Armored



Artillery



Cavalry (Mech)



Armored Artillery



Anti-Aircraft



Tank Destroyers (E—Engineers, etc.)



Parachute (enemy)


 Boundary line between similar units (XII and XX Corps)

DISTRIBUTING (SUPPLY) POINTS:



CLASS I SUPPLIES: Rations and Water



CLASS II SUPPLIES: T/E, requisitioned (Signal)



CLASS III SUPPLIES: Gasoline and Oil


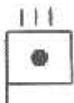
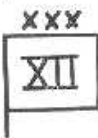



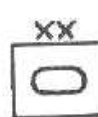

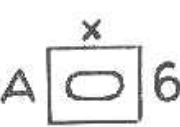

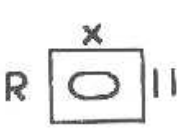



CLASS IV SUPPLIES: Restricted requisition (Engineer)



CLASS V SUPPLIES: Ammunition

ILLUSTRATIVE COMBINATIONS

	<p>Headquarters, Third Army (at point of staff)</p>		<p>Headquarters, 177th Field Artillery Group (at point of staff)</p>
	<p>Headquarters, XII Corps (at point of staff)</p>		<p>359th Infantry Regiment (general location)</p>
	<p>Fifth Infantry Division (general location of unit)</p>		<p>Second Cavalry Group</p>
	<p>Fourth Armored Division</p>		<p>421st Cavalry Squadron</p>
	<p>Combat Command A, Sixth Armored Division</p>		<p>974th Field Artillery Battalion</p>
	<p>Combat Command Reserve, Eleventh Armored Division</p>		<p>Eleventh Panzer Division (German)</p>

Shaded symbols always indicate enemy units, unshaded, Allied (usually American)

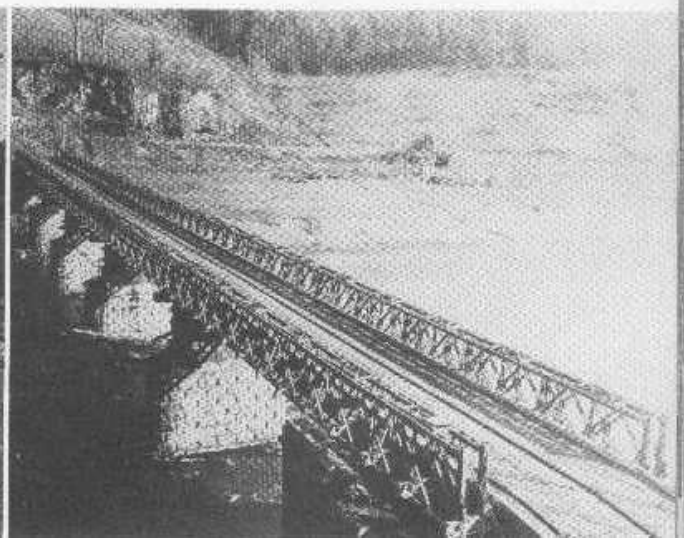
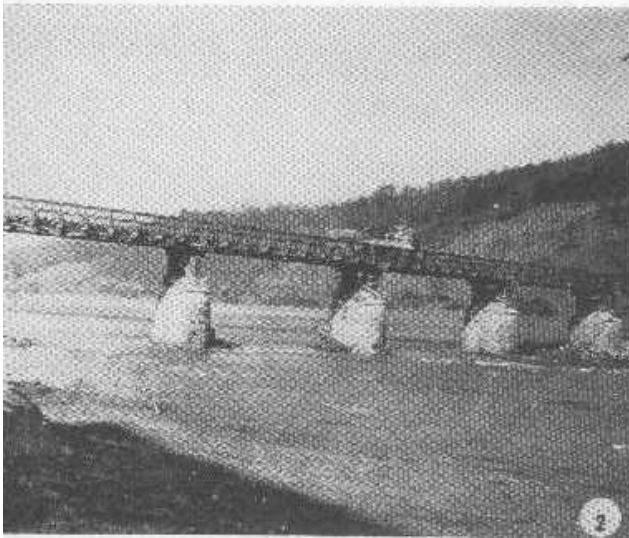
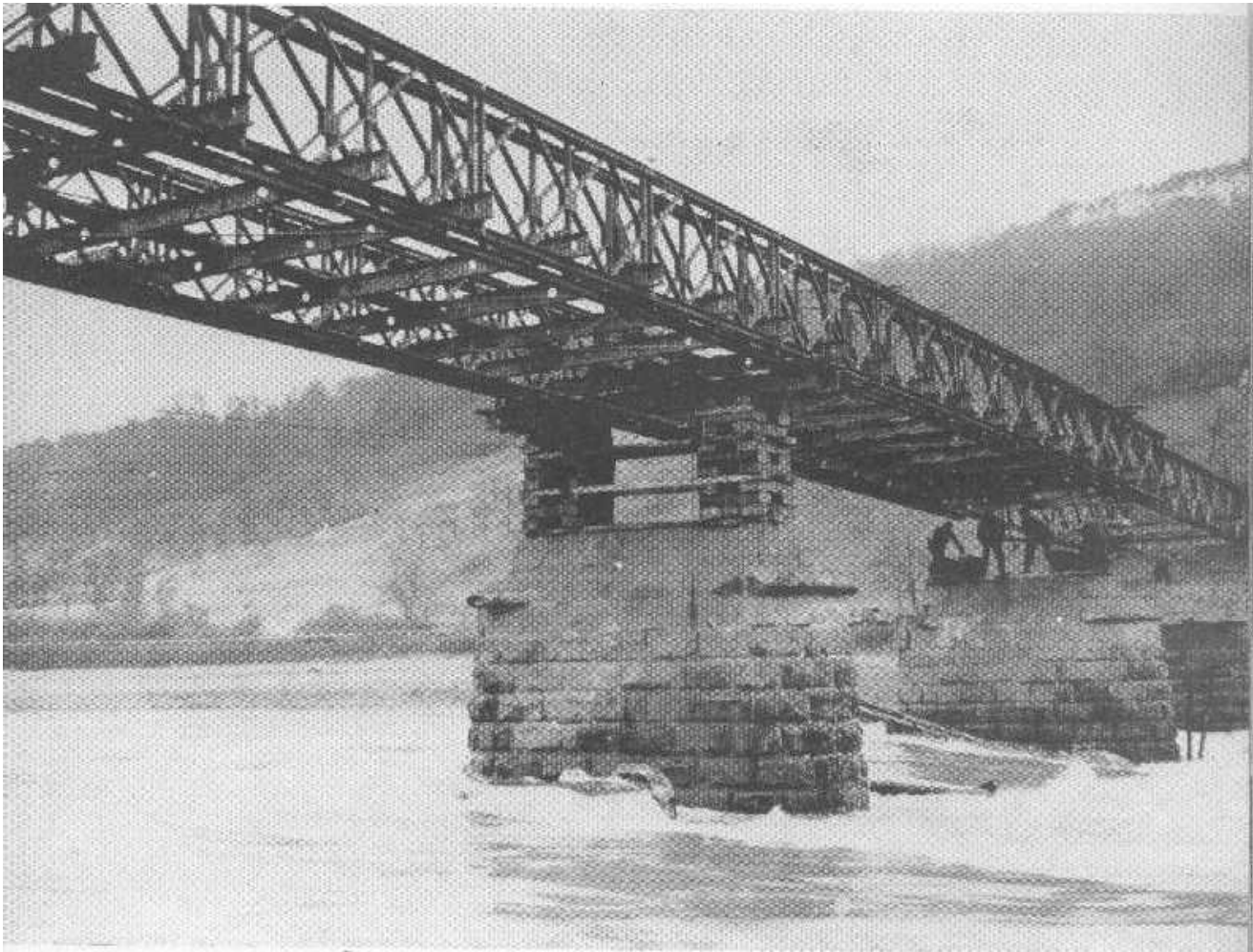
PICTURE ALBUM

GERMAN SOLDIERS DIED AND WERE CAPTURED BY THE THOUSANDS



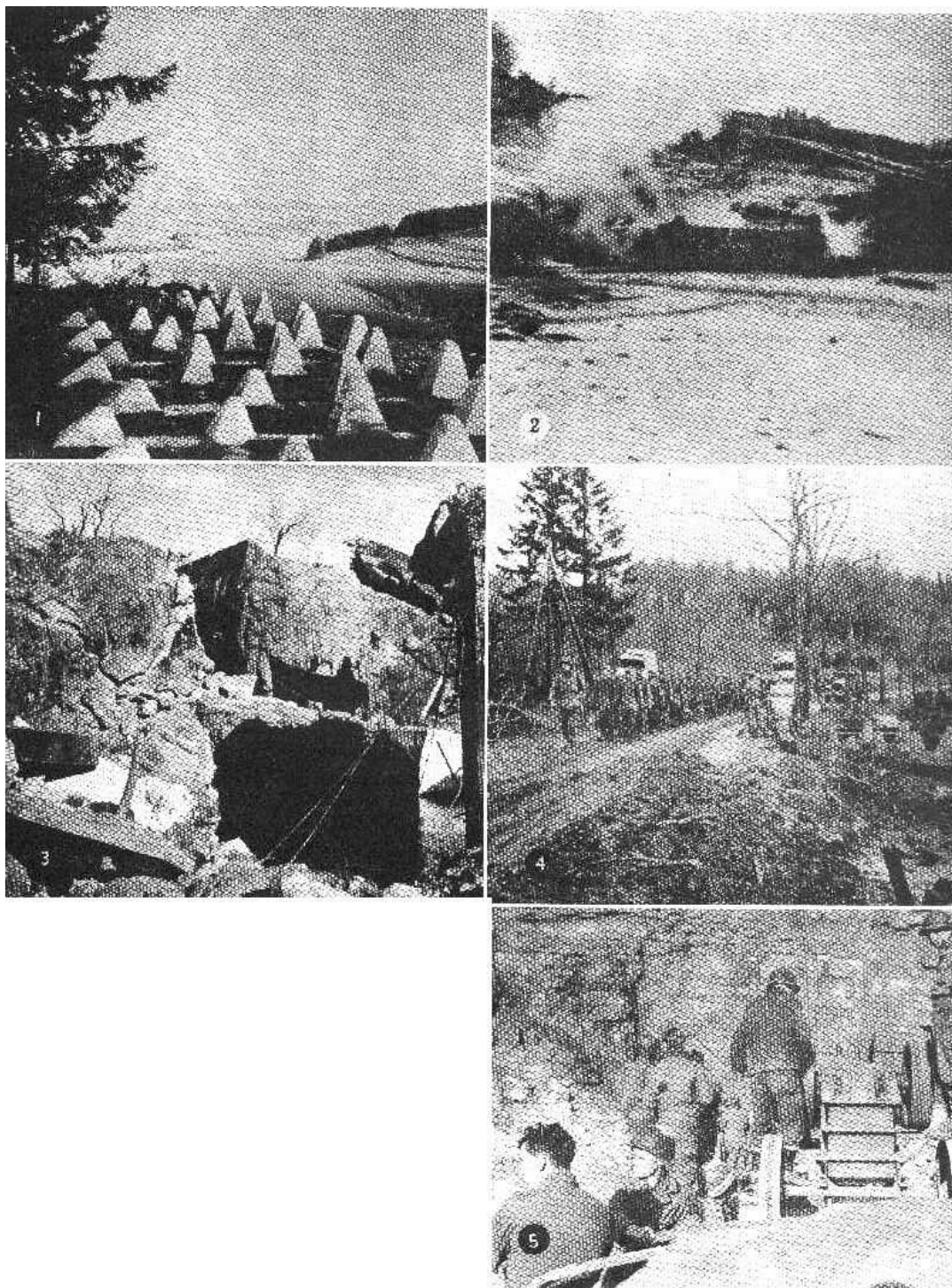
(1) One last Kraut, beside a road near Goesdorf, Luxembourg. 7 January 45. (2) XII Corps divisions hauled them in in droves: MP's of the 358th Regiment, 90th Infantry Division examine German prisoners before passing them back to Corps. 13 January. (3) The same for the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. 18 January. (4) And back they go into the Third Army cage. 13 January.

BAILEYS WERE CLOSE BEHIND THE PONTONS



(1,2,3) Three photographs supplied by the 166th Engineer Combat Battalion show the 270 foot double-single Bailey Bridge constructed by the XII Corps unit across the Sauer River, Luxembourg. 16 February 45. Picture 1 gives an excellent idea of the swift current of the flooded river that cost XII Corps units many casualties during the assault crossing.

**WE SMASHED THE SIEGFRIED LINE, THE VAUNTED GERMAN
"WEST WALL"**



(1,2,3,4) This was the sort of experience with the Siegfried Line common to all XII Corps units during the breakthrough-concrete "Dragon's Teeth" running across the fields along the edges of the wood; white phosphorus shells bursting against a dark pillbox; smashed reinforced concrete ruins of the demolition strong point; and lines of prisoners marching back through the broken defenses.(Source: 1, 2, & 4) photos by T/5 Millard McKee, 315th Engineer Combat Battalion, 90th Infantry Division; (3) 80th Infantry Division; (5) The 166th Engineers find good use for materials from a wrecked Siegfried Line pillbox near Beistorf, Germany, 19 February 45. It is being turned into crushed rock for road and bridge repairs.

Pin Ups



ORIGINAL:
(1940)

LILI MARLEEN

WORTE: HANS LEIP.

MUSIK: NORBERT SCHULTZE

IM VOLKSLIEDTUN:

1. Vor der Ka-ser-ne vor dem grossen Tor
2. Uns-re bei-den Schat-ten sah-n hier ein-er-aus. Da
3. Schon tief der Post sie blasen Zapfen strei-
es

Modorato molto legato

1. Stand ei-ne La-ter-ne und steht sie noch da-vor so woll-n Wind-a uns Wied-er-sehn bei
2. Dir so lieb uns -tern das sah man gleich dar-auf mit 2. Leuchte soll-n er-sehn
3. Kann drei Tage kosten, Kam-rad, ier komm Copie-ien: Da sag-ten hier: auf Wier-

1. der Lat-er-ne soll-n hier ste-hen, wie einst Lili MARLEEN! wie einst Lili MARLEEN!
2. dir bei der Lat-er-ne ste-hen, wie einst Lili MARLEEN, wie einst Lili MARLEEN!
3. ger-ne st-uh-rt in mit dir-fehn, mit dir Lili MARLEEN, mit dir, Lili MARLEEN!

Hoyde No. 5

PHILIPP, BAND 'REGENSBURG, Okt. 1945

A theme song of the occupation.

19.10.45
Hille