

**NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2022
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Patton Battalion - USABOT is a chapter of the US Army Brotherhood of Tankers and is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit.

Patton Battalion - USABOT covers Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky & Tennessee.

The Blood and Guts Newsletter covers events and activities within our area and USABOT National.

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And registered with the state of Kentucky

Patton Battalion - USABOT

Total: 93 paid members

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438 on Battalion Facebook Page

PATTON BATTALION - USABOT

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January ended with a BANG! We received an anonymous donation of \$10,000.00 for the Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument Project. This puts us at \$26,152 of our goal of \$31,000.00. We are seeking donations to push this project to a close. If you would like to donate please email the Patton Battalion at pattonbattalion@outlook.com.

For Black History Month we are going to talk about the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, 333rd Field Artillery Battalion and the 333rd Field Artillery Group. Last year we learned about five men buried together in Villeroux, Belgium. They were men from TF Rose/Harper/Booth CCR 9th Armored Division and from the 969th Field Artillery Battalion. Last year I requested copies of the After Action Reports for both the 969th and 333rd from the Eisenhower Presidential Library. Those came to me just a few weeks ago. After reading them I feel its important that they be shared.

So back in 1999, I wrote a letter to World War II magazine with questions for BG Albin F Irzyk who had his article about the Bulge. "Firsthand Account 4th Armored Division Spearhead at Bastogne" appeared in the November issue. I wrote the magazine a series of questions about the field artillery found by Task Force Ezell. This is what started the correspondence with Gen Irzyk. I wish he were here today to see what is in these AARs. They pretty much answer many, if not all, of the questions.

There is also a tie to the 4th Armored Division. One I had never known about. So sit back and read about some field artillery.

Before we begin lets break down a Field Artillery Battalion in World War II. The battalion would have a Headquarters Section, a Headquarters Battery, a Headquarters Service Battery and three firing batteries, "A", "B" and "C". Each Battery would have 4 howitzers per Battery. This made a total of 12 cannons. There was an Air Section with 2 planes for the battalion with a ground service crew. And a maintenance and supply section. Total number of troops was almost 600.

In the After Action Reports for the 333rd Field Artillery Group I need to point out that the 771st Field Artillery Battalion was not a colored battalion. The 969th Field Artillery, 333rd Field Artillery and 333rd Field Artillery Group were all listed as colored. In the 969th FA Bn the officers were white. I am still learning about the 333rd FA Bn and Group.

There is a great interview with the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, www.loc.gov/vets/, of Captain Jerome Arnold Caplan. He served as a Forward Observer, Executive Officer in a battery and during the bulge became a Company Commander of "A" Battery. He mentions training a FO named Lt Paulsen who would later be killed in action and he mentions when Capt Amann is killed in the Bulge. He also mentions that during one point in the Bulge each of his cannons were pointed in all directions, one pointed north, one east, one south and one to the west.

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Some other items to look up for information on the 969th FA Bn and the 333rd FA Group is the following:

Fire It! The African American Artillerymen in World War II (ETO) A Chronology, by CSM (R) Andrew N. Winfree.

THE EMPLOYMENT OF NEGRO TROOPS by Ulysses Lee from the US Army Center of Military History, CMH Publication 11-4-1, First Printed in 1963.

The Wereth 11 Massacre During the Battle of the Bulge, by By Stephen D. Lutz, World War II Magazine. www.warfarehistorynetwork.com/2019/03/07/a-hidden-massacre-in-belgium/

KP Morris
Patton 6

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969th Field Artillery Battalion - AAR August 1944

HEADQUARTERS
969th Field Artillery Battalion
APO 308, US Army

4 September, 1944

Subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Report for the month of August 1944

To: the Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Thru Channels)

On the first of August, 1944, this battalion, less Battery "A", plus Battery "A" of the 559th FA Bn, was assigned to the 333rd F Group, in general support of the 8th Infantry Division. The Bn was in position south and west of Le Repas. Reconnaissance had been made for positions south and west of la Haye Peanel. These positions were not occupied as that day the battalion was relieved from assignment to the Group and attached to the 4th Armored Division. Battery "A" of the 559th FA Bn was released. The Bn Liaison Officer was sent to contact the 4th Armored Division with information that they were near Dacey, south and east of Avranches. However, after a long search he found that unit near Rennes. The situation was such that the battalion did not leave to join the 4th Armored Division until the morning of August 3, 1944. In the meantime, the battalion was temporarily attached to the 174th FA Group, and the battalion S-2 reconnoitered routes and positions near Pont Orson.

The morning of August 3, 1944, the battalion left position area at Le Repas to occupy position near Rennes. Positions were supposedly previously surveyed by the 177th FA Bn, whose representative was to meet Survey Officer at St. Aubigne, between St. James and Betten. Representatives of the 177th FA Bn could not be found, and the battalion bivouacked at St. Aubigne until 4th Armored Division was contacted and positions found at Betton, north of Rennes. Battalion then moved into firing position, reinforcing fires of the 94th FA Bn, of the 4th Armored Division, and "A" Battery was returned to Battalion Control. At this time, the only infantry in the area were the 10th Armored Infantry, attacking Rennes.

Battery "A" of this battalion had been with the 4th Armored Division since 28 July, 1944, and had participated in most of their action from north of Periers, south thru Coutances, Avranches to Rennes. The Battery was constantly on the move, occupying positions six times in one day, the 30th of July. The Battery fired on or in the vicinity of Coutances, Avranches, Ducey and Rennes. Many unusual experiences were encountered by the Battery during this period. As the Armored moved, the Battery was constantly in country filled with snipers and were numerous times surrounded by enemy. In one position area it was necessary to march-order hurriedly and the men were being harassed by heavy sniper fire. 1st Sergeant Hamilton personally manned a 50 caliber machine gun to silence the sniper fire while march-order was completed. In doing this, Sergeant Hamilton without regard for his own safety, exposed himself to enemy fire. The Battery took credit for 79 prisoner, but actually captured many more which they disarmed and sent to the rear, as they were usually moving too fast to escort them to rear areas. In one position area the Battery was firing south, and to their rear they discovered a Battery of enemy 88mm guns firing north. The Armored Infantry captured the gun crews, but did not guard the guns. The guns were again manned by the enemy and again crews were captured. In another position 30 enemy armored vehicles passed by the Battery position and bivouacked about five-hundred yards away. Cavalry units were notified and a good portion of these vehicles destroyed. From this position near Ducey, it was necessary to march all night over second grade roads to escape encirclement. At about 0400 the night of 31 July, 1944, the Battery was bivouacked north of Avranches with the 66th FA Bn when a road block was attacked by the enemy in a captured US armored vehicle, a truck and an enemy armored vehicle. A ferocious battle lasted until daylight when the enemy, or what was left of them, escaped in the German vehicle. The captured vehicle had been destroyed. Battery "A" had suffered six enlisted casualties as follows:

Enlisted Men Killed,	Cpl. Fred Johnson
	Pfc. John W. Fields
Enlisted Men Wounded,	Pfc. Linwood Riddick
	Pfc. Walter Dixon
	Pvt. John Williams
	Pvt. John Manning

Two of the Batterys four guns had been damaged, one had to be destroyed. At daybreak more than 30 dead Germans were found laying in the road, some actually under the muzzle of "A" Battery guns.

After Arriving at Betton, the Battalion reinforced the fires of the 94th FA Bn, 4th Armored Division at Rennes until the 8th Infantry Division arrived. On the 4th of August, the Battalion was again attached to the 8th Infantry Division and moved to a position north of Rennes covering the airport which is located south of Rennes. Again on the 5th of August the Battalion was relieved of attachment to the 8th Infantry Division and attached to the 4th Armored Division as per VCOG VIII Corps. Orders were received to Vannes. The Battalion with the 94th Armored FA Bn, left for Rennes for Vannes on the afternoon of 5 August, 1944 and bivouacked that night near St. Martin. The morning of 6 August, 1944 the march to Vannes was completed.

At Vannes it was found that the city was undefended, except for a small force on the beach, which was destroyed or captured by the 4th Armored Division. The march from Rennes to Vannes was uneventful. The French people of the liberated towns enroute were very demonstrative in the appreciation; celebrations were held in each town. The French Forces of the Interior were very much in

969th Field Artillery Battalion - AAR August 1944

evidence, having German prisoners in their possession in nearly every town.

On the morning of the 7th August, 1944, the Battalion was ordered to march with CCA of the 4th Armored Division to Lorient via Hennebont. Battery "C" was attached to the 94th Armored FA Bn, the leading FA element, and the balance of the Bn to the 22nd Armored FA Bn. At Auray the leading elements of the column encountered light resistance which they cleared without difficulty. Several enemy anti-tank guns were destroyed and a large building which had been occupied by the enemy as an Ammo Dump was left burning. The French people were so excited at being liberated that they were actually in the streets during the battle. As the column moved forward and the Battalion passed thru Auray, buildings were still burning and the FFI were rounding up enemy prisoners. No further resistance was encountered until the column neared Hennebont. As we passed thru the town of Treauray, the column was shelled on the road by enemy 88mm guns. The column pulled off the road and into position joust southwest of Branderion, 846255.

The leading elements of the Armored Infantry had encountered very strong resistance on the river in the south part of Hennebont. The bridge across the river had been blown up and strong points were dug in on the south bank. Artillery had been placed on both sides of the river. While in position, Able and Charlie Batteries fired south on Hennebont and vicinity and Baker Battery was laid north-east, firing on the enemy artillery which had previously shelled the column. As the Infantry could not advance, the Commanding Officer of CCA decided to move north and west near Pont Scroff and join CCB of the 4th Armored Division. It was necessary for the forward elements of the column to fight its way into the position area. An enemy horse column was encountered and destroyed. Charlie Battery captured 12 prisoners and machine gunned some of the enemy. Evidence of battle was very prominent, as a balance of the column passed, in the form of enemy dead, men and horses, and wounded personnel and prisoners. In the new position area, the Battalion fired in the vicinity of Lorient. Lt Robert R. Steach of Able Battery voluntarily occupied an OP in a church steeple at Caudon. While he was adjusting fire on an AA Battery, the enemy shelled the church, three direct hits were scored, the last closing the stairway from the steeple. Lt Steach completed his adjustments in spite of the enemy fire and silenced the enemy battery until tanks were able to over-run their position. When CCA was ordered to leave this area, the Battalion was moved to position North West of Pont Scroff in general support of CCB under Division Artillery. As ordered were to contain the enemy in Lorient, there was not much action. On 14 August, 1944, CCB of the 4th Armored Division was relieved by elements of the 6th Armored Division, and the Battalion attached to the 6th Armored Division. Before the 4th Armored Division left, Colonel Bixby of Division Artillery wrote a letter of Commendation to the Commanding General, 4th Armored Division. (copy attached) The Battalion remained at Lorient until 19 August, when under orders from Commanding General, VIII Corps, we marched to Brest to participate in the attack that city. While at Lorient several unusual missions were accomplished. On 12th August, 1944 the Battalion marked four targets for the Air Corps with White Phosphorus. Marking was evidently accurate as the Air Corps reported 3 direct hits on AA gun positions. On 17th August, 1944 approximately 30 enemy soldiers were observed swimming. A Battalion volley was reported to have caused at least 50% casualties.

On arrival at Lesneven, Battalion went into bivouac, then firing position and reverted to control of 333rd FA Group. However on 20 August, 1944 the Bn was relieved from attachment to 333rd Group and designated a separate Corps Artillery Battalion with mission of reinforcing the fires of the 2nd Infantry Division. On 20th August, 1944 the Battalion moved to position area south of Plabennec. In this position, Battalion reinforced the fires of the 15th FA Bn, 2nd Infantry Division until 29 August, 1944 when Battalion changed to general support of 2nd Infantry Division. On the 29th August, 1944, the 407th AA less Battery "B", and "A" Battery of the 557th FA Bn were attached to the Battalion, which was designated the 969th Groupment, Lt Colonel Barnes Commanding. Capt Woodworth was sent to the 407th AA Bn on temporary duty to conduct a Fire Direction Center and instruct their personnel in the use of AA 90mm as Field Artillery. During the period 20th to 31st August, 1944 inclusive, usual duties were performed. OP's were occupied by Reconnaissance Officers, and the Battalion fired many counter-battery, harassing and interdiction missions plus time on target mission assigned. Reports indicate good results on all missions. Unusual missions fired were as follows. 27 August, 1944 one gun of "B" Battery furnished fire for Forward Observers to destroy the town of Kermao, which was an enemy strong point, 32 houses were destroyed with 121 rounds of HE fuze M-51 delay. At least 25% direct hits were obtained. More houses were destroyed at Fournet. On 29 August, 1944 the Battalion fired on a High Performance Aircraft Adjustment on six enemy AA guns. Two direct hits were observed and four guns silenced. The Air Corps silenced the other two. On the evening of the 29th August, 1944, the enemy was grouping for counter-attack. The Battalion fired emergency barrages and observers state fire was very effective, causing many casualties and breaking up the counter-attack.

The defenses of the city of Brest are proving very formidable for in spite of heavy artillery fire, Air Corps bombing and strafing and some fire from British warships, the Infantry has been unable to make much progress. Enemy strong-points are very well protected and camouflaged. The Plougal-Daoulas peninsula has been cleared of the enemy. Observation and Artillery fire from the high ground thereon should be aids in the capture of Brest.

The Battalion suffered no casualties during the month of August, 1944.

Hubert D. Barnes
Lt Colonel, FA, 969
Commanding

969th FA Bn - AAR August 1944

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION ARTILLERY
FOURTH ARMORED DIVISION
APO 254, US Army

14 August, 1944

Subject: Commendation for 969th Field Artillery Bn.
To: Commanding General, 4th Armored Division, APO 254, US Army

During the advance of this division from Periers, France to Lorient, France the Division Artillery had attached to it the 969th Field Artillery Bn equipped with 155mm truck drawn howitzers.

This was the first time the 969th Field Artillery Bn had operated with an Armored Division. Despite the fast moving situation, and complex supply problems the 969th Field Artillery Bn rendered an invaluable service to the 4th Armored Division. The prompt and accurate fire was greatly responsible for the advances made.

Battery "A" of the 969th Field Artillery Bn, commanded by Captain Coddington was exceptionally responsible for the advance into Avranches, France, and disorganization of the enemy retreat. As our forward elements neared the bridges at Avranches contact was made with a large column of enemy retreating across the bridge. Battery "A", 969th Field Artillery Bn was placed into position and ordered to place fire at the road junction short of the bridge. Even the firing at maximum range, the fire was prompt and accurate. Effectively disrupting the enemy retreat and causing a great many casualties in personnel and vehicles. Despite several casualties, the morale and esprit-de-corps of this organization was high.

I request that this communication be forwarded to Commanding General, VIII Corps.

/s/ Ernest A. Bixby
/t/ Ernest A. Bixby
Colonel, Field Artillery
Artillery Commander

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS 4th Armored Division, APO 254, US Army 20 August 1944
To: Commanding General, VIII Corps, APO 308, US Army

I wish to add my commendation for the outstanding performance of the 969th Field Artillery Battalion.

/s/ John S. Wood
/t/ John S. Wood
Major General, US Army
Commanding

A True Copy

Charles E. Sutton
WOJG, AUS,
Adjutant.

AG 201.22 (G-1)
(14 August 1944)

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS VIII Corps, APO 308, US Army, 1 September, 1944
To: Commanding Officer, 969th FA Bn, APO 308, US Army

The Corps Commander is pleased to note and transmit this letter and to add appreciation for the outstanding performance of du which earned this commendation. The superior service rendered by the officers and men of the 969th FA Bn was such as to bring credit upon themselves and their organization.

By command of Major General MIDDLETON
/s/ CCB Warden
CCB Warden
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

A True Copy

Charles E. Sutton
WOJG, AUS,
Adjutant

969th FA Bn - AAR October 1944

HEADQUARTERS
969th Field Artillery Battalion
APO 230, US Army

8 November, 1944

Subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Report
for the month of October, 1944

To: Commanding General, Headquarters, VIII Corps, APO 308, US Army
To: The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C.

On the first of October the Battalion completed its march from the Brest area across France and Belgium, went into a Bivouac area near Bastogne. The Battalion was attached to the 8th Infantry Division in general support, reinforcing fires of the 43rd FA Bn. First firing positions occupied on the western front were near the town of Weiswampach, Luxembourg. As the situation appeared to be stable with little offensive action by our forces anticipated, a search was made for safer more comfortable positions. The OP was moved to the town of Beiler approximately 1 mile north of Weiswampach and firing batteries took positions between these two towns. The CP, Personnel Section and Officer's mess were set up in the town buildings and Officers and EM of the CP billeted with different families. The Batteries built log shelters and procured stoves so that generally all were fairly comfortable.

It rained continuously during the month and the Battalion area was very muddy. The weather no doubt has limited operations. Operations of the Battalion were restricted mostly to observe fire missions, with a few counter-battery and harassing missions from Corps Artillery. An OP has been occupied by the battalion in the town of Harsplet, Germany and our observers have located some good targets. In spite of limited amount of ammunition expended, considerable destruction and damage was caused to enemy installations. During the month the Battalion destroyed or damaged the following:

<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
3 – 20 mm AAA Guns	2 – AAA Guns
2 – 75mm SP Guns	3 – Pillboxes
7 – Machine Gun Nests	4 – Houses (Fires Started)
2 – Enemy OPs in houses	1 – 75mm SP Gun
4 – Houses, enemy strong points	

In addition enemy working parties have been fired on with good results observed.

Enemy action during the month was mainly defensive and improvement of their defensive positions. Patrols were active and sporadic artillery fire was reported mostly on our front lines. Only two rounds of enemy artillery fire were received in the Battalion Area, as they were time bursts, it is believed that they were overs which were fired at a Liaison Plane.

Only two battle casualties occurred during the month. Cpl Willie N. Scott of "C" Battery being SWA in the leg, and Pvt Ronald A. Richards being LWA in the hand. Cpl Scott was evacuated, but Pvt Richards was treated and returned to duty.

Medals which had previously been awarded were received and presented to Lt Robert R. Steach, 1st Sgt Joseph Hamilton, and Cpl Daniel W. Jones by the Commanding Officer. Lt Mentser A. Anderson was awarded the Air Medal by the Commanding General, VIII Corps, and this medal was presented to him. Purple Hearts were awarded to Lt Robert R. Steach, Pvt Ronald A. Richards, and Pvt Archie Aaron. Recommendations for awards to Lt William H. Paulsen and Cpl Willie Johnson of "B" Battery, and Sgt Kze-kiel Young, Cpl Clifford Rhodes and Pvt John Kelly of Headquarters Battery were submitted to Commanding General 8th Infantry Division.

Emphasis has been placed on training due to the stable situation with little enemy action. Gunnery Schools were conducted for Officers, and Fire Direction and Survey Schools for Enlisted Men. Batteries are using a combination work and training schedule. Corps Artillery gave a fire direction test, and the grade of our fire direction center team was second highest of all VIII Corps Artillery.

Recreation in the form of Movies, USO Shows and Red Cross Clubmobiles were enjoyed by the Battalion during the month.

Hubert D. Barnes,
Lt Colonel, FA, 969th FA Bn
Commanding

333rd Field Artillery Group - AAR December 1944

HEADQUARTERS 333rd Field Artillery Group
APO 403, US Army

5 January, 1945

Subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports,
Period 010001 A December to 312400 A December 1944.

To: Adjutant General, Washington, D.C.

Thru: Commanding General, Third US Army, Apo 403, US Army

PREAMBLE: The 333rd FAGp Hq & Hq Battery landed on the continent at UTAH Beach on 29 June 1944, participated in the NORMANDY and BRITTANY Campaigns, including the Battle of BREST, then moved to the Western Front, arriving vic of Houfalize, Belgium (P6171) on 1 October 1944. On or about 5 October 1944, the Gp, 333rd FA Bn (155H) and 771st FA Bn (4.5 G) attached, occupied positions as follows: Gp CP at Atzerath (P921880); 333rd FA Bn vic Schonberg (P955865); 771st FA Bn vic Anelsheld (P947875). The Gp remained in these positions through 30 November 1944 with the mission of general support of VIII Corps, reinforcing 2nd Division Artillery and later the 106th Division Artillery. On or about 23 November 1944 the Gp CO, Colonel Charles W. Glover, became seriously ill and was evacuated. On or about 27 November 1944 Lt Colonel Edward L. Andrews assumed command of the Gp.

1 December to 15 December, incl.: Throughout this period, the Gp organization, mission, and positions remained as last mentioned in paragraph 1 above. During this period firing of the Gp was very light averaging approximately 150 rounds per day per battalion on harassing and interdiction missions, most of the firing being done during hours of darkness. An extensive winterizing program was carried out which included the construction of hutments and the general bettering of living conditions. Special Services were stressed and both officers and enlisted personnel were rotated on a pass schedule to Paris and to rest camps at Arlon, Belgium and Longwy, France.

16 December: At 0300 hours, a heavy enemy preparation including 370 millimeter caliber began and continued until 0530. Schonberg was heavily interdicted throughout the day. The Gp mission continued general support VIII Corps reinforcing the 196 Division Artillery, 333rd FA Bn reinforcing 590 FA Bn. The enemy was reported as making early and rapid progress. By 1000 hours the enemy had penetrated Bleialf (P9683) and occupied Auw (L0090). The 14th Cavalry Group at Manderfeld (L0093) requested Liaison from Gp. At 1700 hours the Gp Executive (Lt Col Brewster) reported to the 14th Cav Gp which had moved its CP to Meyerode (P9093) and remained with the Cav Gp until 2400 hours supporting it with fires from the Gp. At 1700 hours the Gp established Officer Liaison (Capt Jones) with 106th Div Arty. The Gp established a rear CP at Wallerode (P874899) approximately one (1) mile NE St. Vith (P8588) at 2100 hours and prepared to displace entire Gp to vic thereof.

Upon request of the Commanding General, 106th Div Arty, which request was approved by the CG VIII Corps, one battery of each battalion of the Gp was ordered to remain in the forward position. At 2300 hours "A" and "B" Batteries of the 333rd FA Bn began displacement. "C" Battery of the 333rd FA Bn remained in position (P959888) near Schonberg and fired heavily throughout the night particularly in support of the 14th Cav Gp.

17 December: The 771st FA Bn began displacement of "A" and "C" Batteries to vicinity Wallerode (P874890) at 0100 hours. Displacement was completed and the two batteries were in position ready to fire by daylight with center lines of approximate azimuth 2400. "B" Battery remained in position (P949873) vicinity of Amelscheid (P947875) and continued firing heavy firing throughout night of 16-17 December 1944 in support of 14th Cav Gp and particularly with defensive fires for 589th and 592nd FA Bns of 106th Div Arty, which fires were largely instrumental in enabling these battalions to displace with small losses.

At 0800 hours it was reported that the enemy had made a breakthrough at Bleialf (P967833) and at this time all advance elements of the Gp were ordered to displace to vic Wallerode.

The advance CP of Gp Hq had remained in position at Atzerath so as to maintain communications with the advance elements of the battalions until said advance elements of the battalions could be displaced. Between 1000 hours and 1100 hours light elements of a Cav Recon unit, which had been screening the CP area through the night of 16-17 December, retreated from Atzerath toward St Vith and reported that enemy tanks were approaching from Schonberg. Infantry elements of the 106th Inf Div also were passing through the Gp CP area. The Gp began displacement of its advance CP at about 1100 hours. Because of shortage of available transportation facilities it was necessary to shuttle the displacement. The displacement was not completed which resulted in considerable loss of equipment including two (2) BD72 switchboards, several telephones, a PE 75 Generator, a one ton trailer and personal and individual equipment of officers and enlisted personnel.

Upon receipt of the order to displace the advance elements, Lt Col Harmon S. Kelsey, CO 333rd FA Bn and Capt Kline L. Roberts, Bn S-2, left the Bn advance CP for "C" Battery position to assist in displacing the battery. However, the enemy over ran the "C" Battery position and the Battery was unable to displace. A few men who escaped from the battery report that the personnel of the Battery engaged in close-in fighting with enemy foot troops and tanks. Lt Col Kelsey and Capt Roberts together with Battery Officers and all Battery personnel, except approximately 15 EM who escaped, were captured or killed.

333rd Field Artillery Group - AAR December 1944 - Cont.

The 333rd FA Bn Service Battery was located at (P955896) . Service Battery was also given march orders at 0900 hours, however, its position was overrun by tanks and infantry before displacement could be accomplished. Capt Edmundson, the Bn Motor Officer was the only officer in the area at the time. The Battery was to march through Schonberg (P955885) thence to St Vith. Before reaching Schonberg the Battery column was attacked by machine gun, mortar and tank fire, forcing personnel to abandon all vehicles. Capt Edmundson and approximately 26 men escaped. Some of the vehicles and equipment were destroyed. Many records of the battalion were lost.

At the time of the breakthrough, the 333rd FA Bn had one liaison party and two OP parties in operation. The personnel of these parties including Capt John P. Horn, 1st Lt Elmer C. King and 2nd Lt Reginald L. Gibson, were lost.

The 771st FA Bn also was given march order at 0800 hours for its advance elements of Hq Battery and all of "B" Battery, which had remained in the forward position vic Amelscheid (P947875) . The leading vehicle of Hq Battery endeavored to displace vic Schonberg but was subjected to small arms fire between position (Amelscheid) and Schonberg. The personnel were forced to abandon the vehicle and endeavored to destroy same but were force to withdraw before accomplishing destruction.

This truck contained much of the Bn Hq equipment including fire direction equipment and battalion records. Subsequent events have shown that at this time Schonberg was cut off by the enemy. The remainder of the advance elements of Hq Battery and "B" Battery followed a route from Amelscheid across country to Schlierbach, Breited, thence to St Vith. This completed the displacement of the battalion to the vicinity of Wallerode.

At the time the enemy broke through at Bleialf and Schonberg, the 771st FA Bn was operating two OP's. The personnel of these parties, including 2nd Lt John E. Keleher, were lost.

At 1300 hours Corps Artillery ordered Gp to displace from its position vicinity Wallerode (P874899) to vicinity Beho (P757816). At this time the battalions were engaged in observed fired missions on enemy tanks at ranges less than 2500 yards. In displacing Gp Hq Battery was forced to abandon some equipment including tentage, office supplies and some individual clothing. Before the 333rd FA Bn could be march ordered, its positions were subjected to enemy fire. The howitzers and vehicles of "A" Battery lost two (2) howitzers, two (2) 4 ton Diamond T, trucks and one (1) M10 ammunition trailer. "B" Battery lost one (1) howitzer, one (1) ¼ ton Diamond T. Truck and several .50 caliber machine guns. The equipment of "A" Battery was partially destroyed and that of "B: Battery totally destroyed by the use of thermite grenades.

The 771st FA Bn was able to displace without substantial losses. The displacement of the Gp from Wallerode was uncoordinated. The Gp Hq Battery and each Battery marched independently. The route of march avoided St Vith which was receiving heavy shell fire at this time. The roads were heavily congested and all units of the Gp had difficulty in negotiating the march. By 2400 hours the Gp substantially completed displacement. The 333rd FA Bn now consisting of only 5 howitzers and an unknown number of vehicles never occupied its specifically assigned area because of lack of opportunity to make prior reconnaissance and being unable to find and occupy it's a position after darkness. "B" and "C" Batteries of the 771st FA Bn occupied firing positions and were laid on St Vith (P8588) . "A" Battery 771st FA Bn closed in its area but was unable to occupy a firing position due to darkness and because of lack of opportunity for prior reconnaissance of area. The Battalion did not fire any missions from this position. The Gp CP was opened vicinity Beho (P768829) at approximately 1700 hours. The 333rd FA Bn CP was established at (P766836) vicinity Beho. The 771st FA Bn CP was established at (P770836) vicinity Commanster.

During the morning the Gp and Bn Air Sections displaced from the Atzerath strip to the 402FA Gp air strip vicinity St Vith. At about 1300 Hours in view of the advance of the enemy, the air sections moved to a strip vicinity Beho (P7581) and late in the afternoon moved to vicinity Vielsalm (P7089).

18 December: The mission and organization remained unchanged. At approximately 1030 hours the Gp was ordered to displace to Vicinity Vielsalm (P7098) but enroute received orders to continue to vicinity Laroche (P4577). The Gp displaced along route Beho, Bovigny, Salmchateau, Regre, Samree, Laroche thence to vicinity Vecmont (P415748). The entire Gp closed at approximately 2300 hours. The 969th FA Bn was attached to the Gp VOCO VIII Corps Artillery and came under control of Gp upon arrival in vicinity Vecmont which was accomplished at approximately 2300 hours. Upon closure in this position the Gp was attached to Groupment Bacon. The Gp fired no mission during the night of 18-19 December 1944.

During the morning the Cp Air Sections moved from vicinity Vielsalm (P7089) to Sart (P6857) and later in the day moved on to Namur (J9611). A Group plane piloted by Lt Russell was badly damaged in landing at Sart. The plane was destroyed when displacing Sart.

19 December : The organization for combat of the Gp – 333rd FA Hq & Hq Battery, 333rd FA Bn, (155H), 771st FA Bn (4.5G), 969th FA Bn (155H). mission remained general support of VIII Corps reinforcing 106th Inf Div Artillery. Gp attached to Groupment Bacon.

At approximately 1300 hours per VOCC VIII Corps Artillery Gp was released from Groupment Bacon and attached to 101A/B Div and ordered to displace vicinity Bastogne (P5557) to support the 101 A/B Division. Reconnaissance immediately was initiated and displacement was initiated at 1430 hours. The Gp closed in new position at approximately 1730 hours – Gp CP ate Mande St Etienne (P500595), 771st FA Bn vicinity Flamierge (P473616), 969th FA Bn vicinity Flamizoulle (P492613), 333rd FA Bn vicinity Rennamont (P413597). Gp received very few missions during the night but fired continuously at rear area targets of Gp selection.

333rd Field Artillery Group - AAR December 1944 - Cont.

During the night it was reported that the enemy had cut the Bastogne-Marche highway. This was confirmed next morning at 0730 hours when Gp S-4 (Major Lewis) endeavored to travel this highway to rear echelon installations but was unable to do so because enemy tanks covering the road vicinity (P455623).

20 December: During the early morning, the 771st FA Bn reported sporadic small arms fire both to the SW and NW of its area.

At 0300 hours the Gp CO ordered the 333rd FA Bn to displace its five howitzers to vicinity Flamierge and Flamizoulle into anti-tank defensive positions for protection of the Gp area. During the morning several reports were received which indicated increasing enemy pressure and penetration from north, south, and west.

At approximately 0900 hours, Gp CO gave march order to all attached units with instructions to displace to vicinity St Hubert via Bastogne thence SW on the Bastogne-Neufchateau highway.

When the head of the column had proceeded 4 or 5 miles SW of Bastogne on the Bastogne-Neufchateau highway, a representative of the Gp Commander overtook the column and instructed all units to turn around and occupy positions along the highway between Sibret and Bastogne. Positions were occupied at approximately 1200 hours. The Bns were laid on center line compass of 800 mils. The Gp CP was established at Or (P537563). Several missions were fired from this position.

At approximately 1300 hours, the 771st FA Bn reported that their battery positions were located to the east of the highway were being attacked from the east by enemy infantry supported by machine gun fire. Shortly thereafter, the 969th FA Bn also reported small arms fire into their positions from their immediate east flank. Upon receipt of these reports, the Gp CO ordered all units of the Gp to displace to the vicinity of St Hubert. The displacement was uncoordinated and considerable confusion ensued in the displacement from position area. "C" Battery 771st FA Bn abandoned two (2) tractors and two (2) guns.

The 333rd FA Bn received counterbattery and small arms fire while march ordering and abandoned three (3) howitzers. After proceeding five miles SW along the Bastogne-Neufchateau highway column was overtaken and instructed to turn around and to into rendezvous vicinity (P466513). This was about 1330 hours.

At approximately 1430 hours Gp CO ordered all units to return to positions just previously abandoned. The Gp reoccupied said positions closing at approximately 1600 hours.

At 1500 hours the Gp CO, Lt Col Edward L. Andrews, reported to the Gp staff that he had been relieved of command by Brigadier General McAuliffe, Commanding General 101st A/B Division and that Lt Col Hubert D. Barnes, CO, 969th FA Bn was to assume command of the Gp. Lt Col Barnes reported in the Gp CP and took command of the Gp at approximately 1600 hours.

At 1630 hours the CO of the 101A/B Artillery ordered the Gp to displace to the Sibret-Chenogne-Villeroux area. Displacement was immediately initiated. In displacing from its position, Battery "C", 771st FA Bn was unable to extricate 1 gun which was badly mired and upon orders of the Bn S-3 (Major Sewell), destroyed the piece with incendiary grenades. The Gp CP was established at Chenogne (P484568) at 1700 hours. The Bns closed in the new positions at approximately 2000 hours. The CP of the Bns were located as follows: 771st FA Bn at Sibret (P4935), 969th FA Bn at Villeroux (P510554), 333rd FA Bn at (P490578). During the night the Gp fired a light harassing program. There was no opportunity to complete survey or registration and the data used was map data uncorrected, as no metro data was available.

At this time the Gp Air Sections were in Namur Belgium where they had been since Dec 16. On this date the ground crews of the Air Sections displaced to Neufchateau, Belgium.

December 21: During the early morning enemy pressure from the east against Sibret became intense. At 0430 small arms fire was heard a few hundred yards from "B" Battery, 771st FA Bn which was in position near Sibret. At 0530 hours mortar fire fell in "B" Battery position causing some casualties. This fire continued until 0700 hours at which time the battery displaced approximately 2000 yards NW toward Chenogne. At 0900 hours the battery again was forced to displace further to the NW, taking up, a position in Chenogne. The 771st FA Bn had shifted some pieces to cover the Sibret area. The Bn S-2 (Captain Rosan) adjusted fire on some enemy elements in that area, but at approximately 1100 hours was forced from his OP by enemy fire. When abandoning his OP he observed six enemy tanks approaching along the road between Sibret and Chenogne. At this time all firing batteries of the 771st FA Bn were position vicinity Chenogne. At about 1000 hours Hq 28th Inf Div evacuated Sibret. Some elements of the 28th Inf Div and the 58th FA Bn passed through Chenogne, where the GP CP was located and at this time all of the firing batteries of the 771st FA Bn were in position. About 1100 hours "A" Battery, 771st FA Bn received direct fire from enemy tanks resulting in the wounding of several men and destruction of one gun, one M6 tractor and one $\frac{3}{4}$ T C7R. The battery immediately march ordered and as it marched through the positions of the remainder of the battalion all units of the battalion march ordered, apparently without order of unit commanders. All guns, except two, were abandoned. The Bn Co and four officers and three enlisted men joined elements of Group Hq at the Group CP and proceeded to the Bastogne area. The remainder of the battalion proceeded NW from Chenogne thence via minor roads to Libramont and then to Neufchateau via highway N-42 where per VOGC, VIII Corps Artillery the battalion was proceeded to bivouac area vicinity of Matton, France (P1721).

The majority of the personnel of Gp Hq Battery with most of the vehicles of battery joined 771st FA Bn and proceeded to Matton, France. The Group CO, five officers and fourteen enlisted men, with four vehicles, proceeded to the Bastogne, area. Enroute Group CO, gave 333rd FA Bn (-) march order. Before the battalion could displace an enemy tank fired direct into the area hitting two

333rd Field Artillery Group - AAR December 1944 - Cont.

howitzers and one prime mover. The prime mover and one howitzer were abandoned. The battalion displaced to a firing position vicinity (P520580).

The 969th FA Bn remained in its position vicinity Villeroux. From approximately 1300 hours to 1600 hours Group maintained a temporary CP of the 420th Armored FA Bn located at Senochamps (P51377) and reinforced the fires of said battalion with the 969th FA Bn and the three remaining serviceable howitzers of the 333rd FA Bn.

During the afternoon the increased its pressure against Villeroux and subjected the 969th FA Bn to heavy mortar and artillery fire. Captain Otto Solberg, Bn Motor Officer, and several enlisted men were killed and several other enlisted men suffered wounds.

At 1600 hours, pursuant to verbal orders of the CO 101 AB Div Artillery the 969th FA Bn displaced to vicinity (P520580) the Gp CP was established in the castle Isle-la-Hesse, (P526581) one and one-half miles west of Bastogne. The three serviceable howitzers of the 333rd FA Bn were grouped with 969th FA Bn and thereafter the two units operated as one. The Joint CP of the battalions was located at (P518588).

December 22: The Gp established officer liaison and direct radio communications with the 430th Armored FA Bn and thereafter reinforced the fires of this Bn as well as provided general support to the 101 A/B Div Artillery. At this time the Gp had on hand approximately 4500 rounds of Shell HE. Missions continually were fired but in view of the shortage of ammunition, with no apparent possibility of resupply, usually adjustments were made with one piece and fire for effect accomplished with platoon volleys. The policy of firing only observed fires was followed.

At approximately 1630 hours Gp established and thereafter maintained officer liaison with two battalions of the 327th Glider Inf which battalions were protecting the western and southern approaches to Bastogne.

At 1600 hours the joint CP of the 333rd FA Bn and 969th FA Bn was moved to the location of the Gp CP at Isle-la-Hesse (P526581).

December 23: This was the third day that all primary roads leading into Bastogne had been cut by the enemy. Stocks of all classes of supplies were becoming critically low.

Between 1145 hours and 1330 hours C47 Air Transports dropped supplies by parachute. An estimated 150 C47s participated in the drop. No 155H ammunition was dropped.

December 24: At 1330 hours an estimate 150 C47s Air Transports dropped supplies. Between 2000-2030 hours Bastogne and vicinity severely was bombed by enemy aircraft, with bombs believed in excess of 500 pounds. The "A" Battery, 969th FA Bn received two direct hits. Captain Ray W. Chapple, BC of "B" Battery, 333rd FA Bn, Captain William Amann, BC "A" Battery, 969th FA Bn, and three EM of the 969th FA Bn were killed. Several vehicles were damaged.

All Group planes displaced from Namur, Belgium, where they had been based since 18 December 1944, to Douzy, France (P0522).

December 25: Between 0400 and 0430 hours the enemy again bombed Bastogne and vicinity. No damage to Group units. At 0600 hours friendly front line were established from 300 to 500 yards from the Gp CP to the west and north. Between 0530 and 1200 hours the Group CP received heavy SA, mortar and artillery.

Ammunition on hand in the Group at 1830 hours as follows: Sh HEM107, 149 rounds; Sh HEM102, 25 rounds; Sh smoke WP, 27 rounds; Sh smoke HC, 22 rounds; powder M4A1, 23; powder M3, 51; powder M2, 208.

At 2000 hours Gp received the report that elements of the US 4th Armored Division, approaching the besieged Bastogne area from the south, was approximately 7000 yards south of the city.

December 26: During the morning friendly air fighters (P47s) were active over the Bastogne area. At 1115 hours it was reported that elements of the US 4th Armored Division had reached Clochimont approximately 5000 yards SW of Bastogne. A report was received at 1300 hours that ten German FW 109 aircraft were over the area. No damage to Group units. A message, time signed 2145, was received from CO 101st A/B Div Artillery, that contact had been made with the center column of the US 4th Armored Div and that the main force of the Div had reached Assenois approximately 3000 yards SW Bastogne.

At 1700 hours the joint CP of the 333rd FA Bn and 969th FA Bn moved to (P548592) approximately 1000 yards NW Bastogne.

December 27: Approximately 50 gliders towed by C47s landed at 1230 hours with supplies, including considerable 155H ammunition. This was followed by a parachute drop by approximately 100 C47s at 1430 hours.

At 1600 hours the elements of the 333rd FA Gp Hq and Hq Battery, 333rd FA Bn and the personnel of the 771st FA Bn in the Bastogne area were ordered VCG VIII Corps Artillery to displace on 28 December to vicinity Matton, France (P1721) to reorganize and re-quip. 969th FA Bn to remain attached to 101st A/B Div, Lt Col Hubert D. Barnes to be released as Gp CO and return as CO 969th FA Bn, Lt Col John P. Brewster, Gp Executive, to assume command of Gp.

December 28: At 0900 hours elements of the 333rd FA Gp Hq & Hq Battery, 333rd FA Bn and personnel of the 771st FA Bn in the Bastogne area initiated march to Matton, France, arriving 1200 hours. The personnel of the 771st FA Bn continued to Muno, France (P1527) where the remainder of the battalion was stationed.

333rd Field Artillery Group - AAR December 1944 - Cont.

(P1527) where the remainder of the battalion was stationed.

December 29: By order of the CG VIII Corps the 333rd FA Bn, 771st FA Bn, 58 AFA Bn and 740 FA Bn were attached to Group for administrative and reorganization and re-equipping purposes; the 333rd FA Bn to be dissolved, bulk of the personnel to be transferred to the 578 FA Bn, 969th FA Bn and Gp Hq Battery; the primary mission of the Gp to be re-equipping of all units in preparation for early return to combat, and with further mission of maintaining security and defensive road-blocks and bridge guards in this area. Location of CPs of attached units as follows: 58 AFA Bn at Fontenoille, Belgium (198270); 333rd FA Bn at Matton, France (175215); 771st FA Bn at Muno, Belgium (P155275); 740th FA Bn at Clemency, France (P168218).

December 30 and 31: All units of Group remained in locations shown in next preceding paragraph, pursued equipment problems and carried out emphasized program of clearing and maintenance of material and rehabilitation of personnel.

John P. Brewster, Lt Col, FA
Commanding



Presidential Unit Citation

As Authorized by Executive Order No. 9396 (sec 1, Bul. 22, WD, 1943), superseding Executive Order No. 9075 (sec III, Bul. 11, WD 1942), the following unit is cited by the War Department under the provisions of section IV, Circular No. 333, War Department, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

101st Airborne Division (less 2nd Battalion, 401st Glider Infantry Regiment), with the following-attached units:

501st Parachute Infantry Regiment;
506th Parachute Infantry Regiment;
463rd Parachute Field Artillery Battalion;
Counterintelligence Detachment, 101st Airborne Division;
Order of Battle Detachment Number 5;
Military Intelligence Interpreter Team Number 410;
Photo Interpreter Teams Number 9 & 81;
Prisoner of War Interrogation Teams Number 1, 9 & 87;
Third Auxiliary Surgical Group, Team Number 3;
969th Field Artillery Battalion;
755th Field Artillery Battalion;
705th Field Artillery Battalion;

Combat Command B, 10th Armored Division including:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Combat Command B, 10th Armored Division;
3rd Tank Battalion (less Company C);
20th Armored Infantry Battalion (less Company A);
54th Armored Infantry Battalion (less Company A and C);
420th Armored Field Artillery Battalion;
Troop D, 90th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized);
Company C, 609th Tank Destroyer Battalion (less 1st Platoon; with 2nd Platoon Reconnaissance Company attached);
Battery B, 796th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion;
Company C, 55th Armored Engineer Battalion;
Company C, 21st Tank Battalion;

Reserve Command, 9th Armored Division including:

Headquarters Reserve Command, 9th Armored Division;
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 12th Armored Group;
2nd Tank Battalion;
52nd Armored Infantry Battalion;
73rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion;
Company C, 9th Armored Engineer Battalion;
Company C, 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion;
Battery C, 482nd Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion (Self-Propelled);

Conclusions

I hope you learned something while reading about these field artillery units in the Battle of the Bulge. I sure did.

First, I did not know that the 969th FA Bn had what they describe as a 155 howitzer M1 towed. I always thought the only 155mm cannon was the "Long Tom" 155 which was a big gun with a long barrel. The 155 towed was a short barrel 155. In the photo below right you can see that the 155H towed was very similar to the 4.5 Gun. So in the picture to the right it is hard to tell which howitzer is being towed.

The 771st FA Bn had the 4.5 Gun M1. I had no idea what this was. At first I thought it was a 105mm gun but the 4.5 is actually a 114mm diameter. Based on some information I found the 4.5 had a longer range than the 155H.

In the 333rd FA Bn report on page 8 of the Newsletter under December 21 you will see mention of Captain Rosan. When I read this it really popped that this name was familiar. So I went home and dug into my files and got out my 771st FA Bn letters. Sure enough, Captain Richard "Dick" Rosan was one of the officers I wrote to with the 771st FA Bn.

After I first corresponded with BG Irzyk I began a quest to learn more about colored artillery units in the Bulge. The 771st was my first thought. I corresponded with Corporal Dwain "Chris" Christofferson. He is the one who put me in contact with Captain Rosan. Both men were at Sibret. Chris was in a vehicle that was hit by a German tank. Dick helped get him and



US Signal Corps Photo. 111-SC-198295 - This photo is dated December 20, 1944. It shows a Diamond T, 3/4 Ton truck with towed howitzer. The photo does not identify the unit. So it could be 333rd FA, 771st FA or 969th FA. One day I hope to find other photos in this group and maybe we can learn more.



155 mm Howitzer M1 (left) and 4.5 inch Gun (right) at the U.S. Army Field Artillery Museum, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.



the other wounded to safety. Both men talk about the fact that when you drop the breech on the 4.5 you can look through the open breech and down the guntube to aim against a direct fire target.

Casualties

Below are the names of those who died in WWII and are listed with the American Battle Monuments Commission website.

Name, Rank, Serial #, State, Date of Death, Section-Row-Grave, Cemetery

969th Field Artillery Battalion

Hendricks, Arthur, *Private First Class*, 34554496, *Alabama*, 21 December, 1944, *G-9-32*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Kornrich, Myron, M, *Private*, 32675556, *New York*, 2 March, 1945, *C-14-11*, Netherlands American Cemetery
 Miller, James, L, *Private First Class*, 36571788, *Michigan*, 18 October, 1945, *A-33-48*, Epinal American Cemetery
 Mills, John, J, *Private*, 32481369, *Delaware*, 14 January, 1945, *E-8-20*, Luxembourg American Cemetery
 Morris, George, S, Jr., *Corporal*, 34550145, *Georgia*, 23 December, 1944, *H-10-72*, Luxembourg American Cemetery
 Nicholes, Eugene, *Private*, 34482188, *Mississippi*, 15 November, 1945, *A-32-46*, Epinal American Cemetery
 Shepard, Charlie, R, *Technician Fifth Grade*, 38287861, *Texas*, 10 July, 1945, *A-28-47*, Epinal American Cemetery
 Strickland, Marvin, *Staff Sergeant*, 35456042, *Ohio*, 30 June, 1945, *A-34-46*, Epinal American Cemetery
 Vetturini, Alfred, *Corporal*, 33036276, *Pennsylvania*, 11 March, 1944, *D-1-95*, Cambridge American Cemetery
 Watson, Leroy, *Private*, 34046985, *Mississippi*, 2 January, 1945, *D-15-33*, Lorraine American Cemetery
 Wilburn, James, A, *Sergeant*, 38423111, *Texas*, 24 December, 1944, *I-11-12*, Luxembourg American Cemetery
 Williams, Leon, J, *Private First Class*, 38368090, *Texas*, 26 December, 1944, *H-9-34*, Luxembourg American Cemetery
 Wright, Columbus, *Private First Class*, 32570933, *New York*, 28 December, 1944, *I-5-7*, Luxembourg American Cemetery
 Yeagley, Charles, G, *Staff Sergeant*, 20320703, *Pennsylvania*, 11 March, 1944, *B-3-35*, Cambridge American Cemetery

771st Field Artillery Battalion

Lambert, Charles, H, *Private First Class*, 36868943, *Michigan*, 24 August, 1944, *K-5-11*, Brittany American Cemetery
 Langendorf, Earl, E, *Private First Class*, 36819182, *Wisconsin*, 31 March, 1945, *Tablets of the Missing*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Nealy, Ernest, A, *Lieutenant Colonel*, O-254114, *Georgia*, 23 February, 1945, *E-16-75*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Nolan, John, D, *First Lieutenant*, O1302178, *California*, 29 November, 1945, *B-46-11*, Epinal American Cemetery

333rd Field Artillery Battalion

Adams, Curtis, *Private*, 34511454, *South Carolina*, 17 December, 1944, *C-11-41*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Bailey, James, T, *Private First Class*, 33378939, *Maryland*, 18 December, 1945, *Tablets of the Missing*, Ardennes American Cemetery
 Chapple, Ray, W, *Captain*, O1166687, *Indiana*, 24 December, 1944, *I-5-22*, Luxembourg American Cemetery
 Davis, George, *Private First Class*, 34553436, *Alabama*, 17 December, 1944, *D-10-61*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Dixon, Robert, *Private*, 34481844, *Mississippi*, 18 December, 1945, *Tablets of the Missing*, Ardennes American Cemetery
 Florence, Elijah, *Private*, 345544363, *Alabama*, 27 January, 1945, *E-49-22*, Lorraine American Cemetery
 Forte, Thomas, J, *Staff Sergeant*, 34046992, *Mississippi*, 17 December, 1944, *C-11-55*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Harris, Samuel, E, *Private*, 34311005, *North Carolina*, 29 March, 1945, *D-3-53*, Ardennes American Cemetery
 Hines, Casey, *Private*, 32641807, *New York*, 17 December, 1944, *A-34-26*, Ardennes American Cemetery
 Hughes, Otto, *Private*, 34620119, *Mississippi*, 17 December, 1944, *F-7-6*, Luxembourg American Cemetery
 Lynom, Clemmie, *Private*, 34621084, *Mississippi*, 4 January, 1945, *C-17-15*, Ardennes American Cemetery
 Moss, Nathaniel, *Private*, 38040062, *Texas*, 17 December, 1944, *F-10-8*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Moten, George, W, *Private First Class*, 38304695, *Texas*, 17 December, 1944, *E-10-29*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Porter, John, L, *Private*, 14049647, *North Carolina*, 17 December, 1944, *D-25-2*, Ardennes American Cemetery
 Stewart, James, A, *Technician Fourth Grade*, 35744547, *West Virginia*, 17 December, 1944, *C-11-2*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Turner, Due, W, *Private First Class*, 38383369, *Arkansas*, 17 December, 1944, *F-5-9*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery
 Woods, Dorsie, Jr., *Technician Fifth Grade*, 34554382, *Alabama*, 3 April, 1945, *Tablets of the Missing*, Netherlands American Cemetery
 Young, Robert, *Private*, 34511761, *South Carolina*, 17 December, 1944, *G-7-34*, Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery

Battle Campaign Credits

333rd Field Artillery - Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe, Rhineland. Occupation - 2 May-4 June, 45.

333rd Field Artillery Group - same as above. Occupation - 2 May-30 Oct, 45.

969th Field Artillery Battalion - Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe, Rhineland. Occupation - 2 May-14 Aug, 45.

771st Field Artillery Battalion - Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe, Rhineland. Occupation - 2 May-14 Aug, 45.

Capt Kline Leslie Roberts Jr. - 333rd Field Artillery Battalion

Birth: 13 Mar 1916 - Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, USA

Death: 26 May 1995 - (aged 79) Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, USA

Burial: Green Lawn Cemetery, Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, USA

Memorial ID: 38740082

Beloved son of Kline L. Roberts, Sr., and Julia Ryan Roberts. He married Latolia "Toy" Hillyer on Feb 13, 1943. Kline was a State Representative and State Senator, President of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce and partner in the law firm of Knepper, White, Richards, Miller & Roberts. He was a Captain in the US Army 333rd Artillery, 1st Army, and captured in Germany by the Nazis during the "Battle of the Bulge". Left to cherish his memory are his sons, Kline L. Roberts, III and wife Barbara Bell Roberts; Douglas S. Roberts and partner Mary Ellen; and Scott R. Roberts and former Daughter in law Laura; 9 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren. He is deeply missed.

**Col Harmon S Kelsey** - 333rd Field Artillery Battalion

Birth: 28 Dec 1895 Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, USA

Death: 10 Mar 1962 (aged 66) Alameda, Alameda County, California, USA

Burial: Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Bruno, San Mateo County, California, USA

Plot: W, 2505

Memorial ID: 3595692

Harmon S. Kelsey Funeral Tomorrow

Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Harmon S. Kelsey, veteran deputy sheriff and National Guard officer, who commanded the first Negro combat unit to face the Germans in France in World War II. Mr. Kelsey died yesterday at Oak Knoll Hospital where he had been ill for the past seven weeks. He was 69. Services will be at 1pm tomorrow from the Telegraph Avenue Chapel of the Grant Miller Mortuaries.

Born in Detroit, Mr Kelsey came to the Bay Area in 1912. He served with the 143rd Field Artillery in World War I and continued with that unit, becoming commanding officer of its First Battalion in peace time. He went into active service with the unit, which had been reorganized as the 222nd Field Artillery in 194 and served in the Pacific. Mr Kelsey returned to the United States to train the 333rd Field Artillery, an all-Negro outfit which he took into combat in France in 1944.

Captured by the Germans in the Battle of the Bulge, he escaped from a prison camp and made his way to the Russian lines, despite hand and leg wounds. He returned home with the rank of Colonel in June 1945.

Mr Kelsey served as a deputy in the Alameda County Sheriff's office from 1927, with assignments in Oakland and Livermore. During that period he lived in Alameda and Livermore. He joined the Signal Oil Co, after his discharge from the service.

Retired in recent years, he has been living in Danville with his wife, Florence.

**1LT William H Paulsen** - 969th Field Artillery Battalion

Birth: 10 Oct 1917 California, USA

Death: 20 Dec 1944 (aged 27)

Burial: Garden of Memories, Salinas, Monterey County, California, USA

Memorial ID: 143166097

Word has been received by Mr. & Mrs. William H. Paulsen of Spreckle from the War Department that the Bronze Star Medal has been posthumously awarded to 1st Lt. William H. Paulsen, Jr., who died in the defense of Bastogne, Belgium, in December 1944. Arrangements are being made for the presentation of the decoration to Mrs. Marirose Paulsen, wife of the deceased, who now resides in Tulsa, OK. Quotation from the notice of award reads as follows: "Lt Paulsen was acting as an artillery forward observer with the infantry in France, when Communications were knocked out by enemy fire. As they were urgently needed to secure artillery support for the advance, Lt Paulsen personally went into the open and in spite of heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, maintained communications throughout the night, he remained with the infantry on constant duty for a 72 hour period and continued to furnish them with vital artillery support. Lt. Paulsen's aggressive leadership, unswerving loyalty, and high devotion to duty, reflected the greatest credit to himself and the Armed Forces."

Lt Paulsen was a member of the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, which during various periods of the Big Push against Germany, many was with the First, Third, Seventh and Ninth Armies. At the time of Lt. Paulsen's death, Lt Col Barnes wrote: "The death of Lt Paulsen is a great loss, not only to his family and friends, but to the officers of this battalion who admired him as an officer and friend." It was during the battle of Bastogne that Lieutenant Paulsen received the wounds which resulted in his death Dec 22, 1944. He was buried with full military honors in a military cemetery in Ciney, Belgium. Lieutenant Paulsen's honors include the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Distinguished Unit Citation and five battle stars.

Lt Paulsen was a member of the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, which during various periods of the Big Push against Germany, many was with the First, Third, Seventh and Ninth Armies. At the time of Lt. Paulsen's death, Lt Col Barnes wrote: "The death of Lt Paulsen is a great loss, not only to his family and friends, but to the officers of this battalion who admired him as an officer and friend." It was during the battle of Bastogne that Lieutenant Paulsen received the wounds which resulted in his death Dec 22, 1944. He was buried with full military honors in a military cemetery in Ciney, Belgium. Lieutenant Paulsen's honors include the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Distinguished Unit Citation and five battle stars.

The Californian, Tuesday, October 9, 1945



Big-Gun Crew Fought at Bastogne
Four Heroic Negro Artillerymen Share the Spotlight with “Kaput”
 By Captain Lowell M. Limpus, New York News Military Analyst.

Washington, Jan 28. A mongrel pup that strayed onto the battlefield shared the spotlight here Sunday with four heroic artillerymen. The quartet received special credit in a War Department statement praising a Negro big gun battalion at Bastogne, and the dog got honorable mention, too. At the height of the battle, the Negro gunners fought their pieces at almost point-blank range, and the pup got himself adopted as a mascot during the lulls of the conflict.

The outfit was the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, which was penned up with the 101st Airborne Division during the Battle of the Bulge. The men cited by the department statement include Sergeants, Harry Quintyne and Lloyd Wilkinson of Brooklyn, Donald Corzo, of Haddonfield, NJ and Fred Colman of Messina, GA, and the dog as mascot “Kaput,” formerly of Senochamps, Belgium, but now of wherever the 969th is stationed.

Kaput appeared as the battalion was making a last desperate stand at Senochamps, with its big 155mm howitzers drawn up in a circle according to the old Indian-fighting tactics. It had gone to the assistance of the 101st, after other artillery had been knocked out, during the first Nazi onslaught, and now the Germans were closing in from all sides. “A few scattered tanks” and “a handful of infantry” rallied on the guns and the 969th dug in desperately. So many men were down that only enough actual cannoneers remained to work on the weapons.

It was a new experience for the crews, whose big guns usually operate far behind the front lines. They were exposed to a ring of rifle fire, supplemented by that of tanks and mortars. “That mortar fire was like hail,” reported Sergeant Wilkinson. “I never thought that a 155mm howitzer outfit would get that close to mortar fire. I don’t know what we’d have done it hadn’t been for the help we got from that airborne infantry outfit. They’re hot stuff – best outfit I know.”

But the gunners held their ground, pulling their muzzles down to fire at 1,200 yards instead of the usual 15,000. And they “took everything the Germans had to throw,” according to Wilkinson. It was then that Kaput appeared at the command post, shivering from fear and cold. He found friends immediately and adopted the whole battalion at first sight. Before long he was frisking all over the place and helping mightily to keep the men’s spirits up.

They did a fine job, according to the department. When the survey section was pinned down by two enemy machine guns, Sergeant Quintyne crawled back for a similar weapon and with it he wiped out one enemy gun and silenced the other until the survey was finished. Sergeant Colman duplicated the performance with another Nazi machine gun, and he and one of the paratroopers brought back five prisoners from their experience. Sergeant Corzo risked his life by darting through a hail of bullets to destroy all the equipment on a disabled radio truck, as the battalion fell back to Senochamps from Villeroux. During that phase of the fight, the cannoneers captured 30 Nazi prisoners.

The battalion was kept in action when transport planes dropped new supplies, just as it had used up all its ammunition. It was finally relieved by 4th Armored Division tanks, which broke through the siege ring to reach Bastogne after the gunners had been fighting constantly for more than a week. The battalion, which has white officers and Negro enlisted men, under the command of Lt Col. Hubert D. Barnes of Milwaukee, had been in action ever since the Normandy invasion. It worked with the 8th Infantry Division at the siege of Brest. It was attached at the time to the 28th Infantry Division at the time of the German attack. But its members say it’s a lot better outfit now – since Kaput joined up.

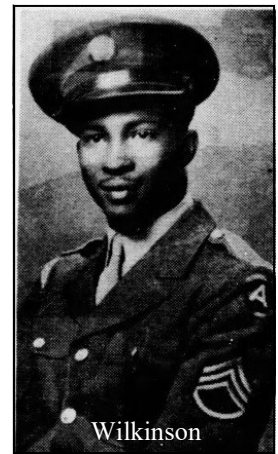
Fort Worth Star Telegram, Monday, January 29, 1945

Double Honors
969th Field Artillery Earns US–French Citations.
 By Rudolph Dunbar (Associated Negro Press War Department)

With the US Seventh Army in Germany – In Germany many where I am now installed, I have been given a special assignment with the Seventh Army to cover a Negro tank outfit that had distinguished itself in the battle of the Ardennes. When I arrived to find this outfit, I was informed that it had been shifted to another Army sector. Instead, I found that the famous 969th Negro Artillery of Bastogne fame was fighting with the Seventh Army. I immediately attached myself to this unit and was happy to be with it again, more so to learn about the true story of Bastogne which brought the outfit so much recognition.

The first thing the commander told me was that the battalion had been awarded the Presidential Citation for the heroic defense in the Battle of Bastogne. The 969th has received double honors. In the Battle of Colmar the battalion distinguished itself again, supporting the First French Infantry and the Second and Fifth French Divisions fighting in the city of Colmar in the Alsace pocket.

In recognition of the battalion’s brilliant exploits, the mayor has conferred the honor upon the battalion to use the coat of arms of the city of Colmar. The commanding officer, Lt Col Hubert D. Barnes, told me that the battalion would incorporate the arms in the insignia. Total number of decorations the battalion has received amounts to fourteen Bronze Stars, one Silver Star and one Croix de Guerre. These decorations cover the Normandy, Brest and Bastogne campaigns. In addition twenty-eight Bronze Stars have been recommended. *The Pittsburgh Courier, Saturday, April 28, 1945*



Field Artillery Journal, April 1946, Vol. 36, No. 4.

Negro Artillery in World War II, page 228.

Another Negro artillery organization which saw a great deal of action in the European theater was the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, also a 155-mm howitzer outfit. It stuck to its guns and fired around the compass during the defense of encircled Bastogne. The battalion, attached to the 28th Division at the time of the German attack, was informed by one of its forward observers, the morning of December 17, that the Germans were moving up. Heavy German artillery fire followed immediately and knocked out all communications. Unaware of the situation, the battalion moved back toward La Roche, where it was attached to an artillery group and ordered toward Neufchateau. Enemy tanks and infantry attacked from the east and south. Twice the battalion went into position to repel threats to the column.

Enemy mortar and artillery fire grew heavy. Under direction of the 101st Airborne Division, the 969th moved to Villeroux, where it again went into position. Enemy tanks and infantry were a constant threat but, with the help of a few scattered American tanks and a handful of infantry, the artillerymen kept Jerry at a distance. At one time, however, the enemy was so close that the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Herbert D. Barnes, ordered all classified materials destroyed.

As enemy pressure increased and casualties mounted, all 969th personnel except the actual cannoners fought infantry fashion and even succeeded in taking 30 to 40 prisoners. The batteries displaced to Senonchamps for a last stand. It was now evident that the enemy was on all sides. "We made two gun platoons," recalled Major James W. Melville, S-3, "and fired in all directions. We had targets everywhere. Would have fired more ammunition than we'd used at Brest if we'd had the stuff." The howitzers were firing at 1,200-yard ranges. The enemy was that close. The gun positions were under fire from German tanks, mortars and small arms. Surveying in the battery areas was hazardous, to say the least. On one occasion, a Jerry machine gun pinned down the battalion survey section until one of the group crawled back and got a machine gun of his own, destroying one enemy gun and effectively neutralizing another until the survey was complete.

Ammunition became a serious problem. Finally, only clearly observed targets were fired upon and single guns were used on battery targets. The battalion displaced once more, to the outskirts of Bastogne, and was in that position when the German ring was broken.

The 969th hit the Normandy beach on July 9 as part of the VIII Corps Artillery. It supported the 8th Infantry Division around La Haye du Puits, helped the 4th Armored Division in the breakthrough near Rennes, and fired in support of the 8th Division on the Brest Peninsula. For its "Battle of the Bulge" action, the battalion was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation. Numerous other Negro field artillery units have combat records as brilliant, as filled with individual heroism and group ability, as those of the 333d and 969th Battalions. Although more publicized, these units are merely two of approximately a score of negro artillery battalions, both divisional and non-divisional, which did an outstanding job in the American ground victory.

Silver Star Recipients

First Sergeant Joseph J. Hamilton, Gallantry in action, France, 30 July 1944.

Born: 10 November 1907 - Galveston, Texas

Death: 9 February 1959

Burial: McBeth Cemetery, Angleton, Texas

Private First Class Robert L. S. Foreman, Battery "B",

Birth: 24 Jan 1922 - Kennard, Houston County, Texas, USA

Death: 1 Nov 1944 (aged 22)

Burial: New Hope Cemetery, Kennard, Houston County, Texas, USA

Memorial ID: 50933484

Private First Class Lawrence Reynolds, Battery "B",

Birth: 12 Apr 1922 - Blossom, Lamar County, Texas, USA

Death: 1 Nov 1944 (aged 22)

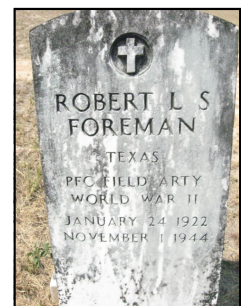
Burial: Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, USA

Plot: Section A, Site 248

Memorial ID: 3044453

Both killed by an artillery shell on November 1, 1944 in Luxembourg after they volunteered to to repair several wire communication lines.

The Exclusion of Black Soldiers from the Medal of Honor in World War II, by Elliott Converse, Daniel Gibran, John A. Cash.



Notes - Cont.

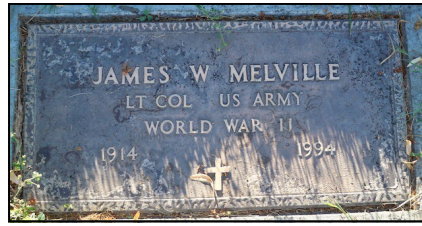
James Willard "Jim" Melville

Birth: 1914

Death: 1994 (Aged 79-80)

Burial: Morris Hill Cemetery, Boise, Idaho

Memorial ID: 55595946



Major James W. Melville, son of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur W. Melville of Broken Bow, received a citation for the Bronze Star medal early this year, according to information recently received by his parents. The citation reads as follows: Major James W. Melville, 0-353259, Field Artillery, 969th Field Artillery Battalion, U.S. Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 9 July 1944 to 1 January 1945 in France and Belgium.

During this period, Major Melville performed his duties as Battalion S-3 in a superior manner. He continually kept the Battalion Fire Direction Center operating with superior speed and skill regardless of any situation. Major Melville gave no thought to his personal safety when all his efforts were directed toward furnishing fire power so necessarily needed in keeping off the enemy. The tenacity of purpose, skill and unflinching courage displayed by Major Melville illustrate the highest traditions of the Armed Forces and reflect great credit upon himself. Entered Service from Nebraska.

Major Melville was called into military service as a first lieutenant in 1942. During his training period in California and Oklahoma he advanced to the rank of Captain. He accompanied his unit to England in March 1944 and later was commissioned major. His artillery unit was sent to France early in the invasion in July 1944. His unit was among those supporting the small Allied group at Bastogne when the entire group was surrounded by German forces late in December.

Official news releases early this year mentioned Major Melville and his men along with other units for their brave defense of the Bastogne position until Third Army spearhead made contact with them relieving their complete isolation.

Melville held a reserve commission as a first lieutenant through his training with the ROTC unit at the University of Chicago where he received his law degree several years ago. After graduation from school he was employed by the Carpenter Paper Company at Omaha and at Denver before entering service. His wife resides with her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Linn Campbell, at 6621 Underwood Ave, Omaha.

Captain William Julius Amann

Birth: 18 August 1920

Death: 1 January 1945 (Aged 24)

Burial: San Fernando Cemetery #3, San Antonio, Texas

Memorial ID: 41996333

Enlistment Army Service No. (ASN) 20817327

Officer Service No: 0-1166658

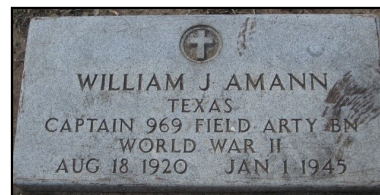
Captain William Julius Amann was a son to Laura Helen Lee and Max Walter Amann, Sr. He lost his life defending his country during World War II.

Captain William J. Amann, 24, has been reported killed in action in Belgium Jan. 1, his parents and his widow, Mrs. Mardell Amann, of Kingsville, have been notified. Amann who was listed as missing in action Dec. 24, was a graduate of the Poteet High School and studied engineering at A & I college, Kingsville. A member of the National Guard, he entered active service in November 1940, and had been overseas with a field artillery unit since February, 1944. Surviving Amann, besides his parents and widow, are two children and two brothers, Max W. Amann, Jr. of Utopia, and Willard Lee Amann, a student at A & I College.

He joined the National Guard in 1937 in order to help pay for his college education. He had a room at the Armory where he was caretaker while going to Texas A & I. The National Guard was called up after Pearl Harbor. He chose to go to Officer Candidate School at Ft Sill, OK, and received his commission July 21, 1942. He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in November 1942. He was assigned first to the 333rd and in 1943 to the 969th Field Artillery Battalion. Due to the Army's policies on segregation during WWII, white officers were attached to Negro units and the 333rd and 969th were two of those. The 969th trained at Camp Gruber, OK, where "Bill" became the Executive Officer for Battery "B." The 969th entered foreign service on March 1, 1944, and fought at Normandy, In France and at the Siegfried Line. The unit was given the Distinguished Unit Citation for its stand at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge. He was promoted to Captain and Commander of Battery "A" September 1944. According to men who were with Bill on December 24, 1944, he was killed in a German bombing raid, when a JU88, flying around 3,000 feet, dropped a bomb directly on a farmhouse where Bill and Ray Chapple were housed. He was first considered missing in action and was declared "Killed in Action" on January 1.

George E. Greene (1918-2002) of Boston, MA, and his wife, Odette M. Tondini (1926-2006), at the time of their marriage. He served with in World War II in the 969th Field Artillery Battalion in General Patton's Third Army. He met his bride, who was from Longwy, France, in Northern France after his service in the battle of Bastogne.

From the Johns Family History Association, Facebook page.



Notes - Cont.

Fred Johnson
 Birth: 21 Feb 1922
 Death: 31 Jul 1944 (aged 22)
 Burial: Montrose Cemetery, Montrose, Baldwin
 County, Alabama, USA
 Memorial ID: 37020207



John W. Fields
 Birth: 2 Jul 1917
 Death: 31 Jul 1944 (aged 27)
 Burial: Poplar Grove Church Cemetery, Hubbard, Hinds County, Mississippi, USA
 Memorial ID: 11550300

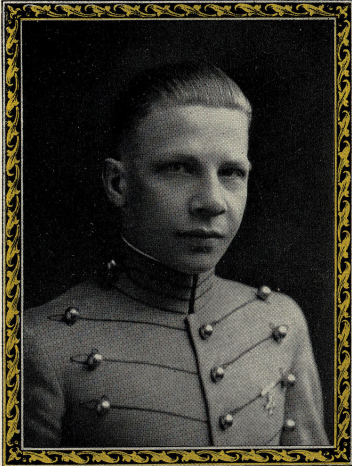


Both men were from Battery "A", mentioned on page 2 of this newsletter.

EDWARD LYNN ANDREWS
 "Andy"—"Bum"
Third Congressional District
 McALESTER
 Oklahoma

IT was twenty below zero and Andy awakened singing soulfully "So kiss me again with your hot red lips"—and when the smoke cleared away he was minus a few blankets and certain essential portions of a suit of pajamas. Moral: never smoke in bed. This domineering Don Juan hails from Oklayhomey, the land of Choctaw Beer; he learned about women while there. Now he P.S.'s to the tune of a banjo—in the moonlight and other conspicuous places. In fact, he lost his heart one night and just had to throw his banjo in with it, he's so generous. If you don't believe it, ask B. B. & B.

Speaking of rings, he's a past master of the ring—any kind. Starting with his shoulders on the mat he worked his way up to the dizziest heights of fistic art. Yea verily, knocked 'em dead! And since this last ring, well, may we drink Andy's health in the class cup.



Rifle Marksman; Pistol Sharpshooter; Cast (1); A.B. (1); Sgt. (1); Camp Illumination Cast (1); Boxing (1, 2); Company Baseball Team.

LTC Edward Lynn Andrews
 Birth: 6 Aug 1902
 Death: 21 Aug 1967 (aged 65)
 Burial: McDonough Memorial Cemetery, McDonough, Henry County, Georgia, USA
 PLOT: Grid 21
 Memorial ID: 31554490

LTC Andrews is mentioned on page 8 under December 20. He was in command of the 333rd FA Group and was relieved by Gen McAuliffe. He was a class of 1924 West Point graduate.

A glider brings in 155mm ammunition for the 969th Field artillery Battalion on 26 December 1944. The 969th was attached to the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne, Belgium. From the digital collection of the Don F. Pratt Museum.



LTC Hubert D. Barnes - 969th Field Artillery

Barnes, Hubert D., 0267294 (Wisconsin) –
 Private, Private First Class, Corporal, Sergeant 15 September 1925 to 9 September 1929
 2nd Lt FA 10 September 1929, 1st Lt 10 April 1931, Capt 2 January 1936.
 Federal: Captain FA 15 October 1940, Major 28 January 1941
 Graduate of Field Artillery School Officers Course 1942.

Battery C, 121 FA – Whitefish Bay

Birth: 4 September 1902

Death: 1992 (aged 89–90)

Burial: Christ Church Episcopal Columbarium, Whitefish Bay, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, USA

Memorial ID: 114814710



Lieutenant Col. Leo Levenick, Madison, Wis., acting adjutant general of the 32nd Division, has announced the promotion of Captain Hubert D. Barnes, Milwaukee, to major, and 2nd Lt Grand Gee, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., to First Lieutenant.

The Capitol Times, Thursday January 30, 1941

It is always a treat to meet interesting people, especially those who have the good fortune of traveling about the country and learning by seeing. Captain and Mrs. Gilbert Barnes and their two daughters, Ann and Jane, are that type of persons, and the residents of on lower Washington Street in Marksville, are very happy that they have become neighbors of theirs. They are occupying the Hunter Saucier home at the present time and it is to be hoped that they will be here for a long time. Captain Barnes is an officer of the 121st Field Artillery of the 32nd Division of the U.S. Army, he is stationed at Camp Livingston. He motors to Marksville on week-ends to be with his family. Mrs. Barnes is an interesting Milwaukeean and holds a Home Economics degree from the University of Milwaukee. She was a 4-H Club worker when a little girl, and was raised on a farm. Said Mrs. Barnes, "I like Louisiana, and I especially like Marksville."

Captain Barnes has a brother who is Major Hubert Barnes, and he is arriving in Marksville on the first with his family, Mrs. Barnes, Barbara, and Marjorie. They will reside in the Gradney Couvillon home on Washington Street also.

Major and Captain Barnes are officers of the 32nd Division which is composed of men from the states of Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin only.

The Weekly News, Saturday, May 17, 1941

Major and Mrs. Hubert Barnes and their daughters, left Marksville early Friday for a trip to Port Arthur, Texas, where they enjoyed swimming in salt water and where they visited many interesting parts of the city. They have returned to Marksville and are at home at the Gradney Couvillon' home.

The Weekly News, Saturday, July 12, 1941

Major and Mrs. Hubert Barnes and Captain and Mrs. Gilbert Barnes and their children, left Marksville this week for their home at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The men will return to Camp Livingston to continue their work there, but their families will remain in the North until after the 6 weeks' maneuvers.

The Weekly News, Saturday July 26, 1941

The Hubert Barnes, up until Hitler began to do things, lived in Milwaukee. Mr Barnes was a production engineer in the Automobile Frame Department of the A. O. Smith Corporation of Milwaukee, and they had recently built a new home. Mr Barnes had also been a member of the Wisconsin National Guard for 15 Years, and when the U.S. Army began to take shape, he was called in, and sent to Camp Livingston, near Alexandria. He is now Major Barnes and he had brought his wife and children to live temporarily near me in Marksville.

The Weekly News, Saturday August 2, 1941

Major Hubert Barnes and Mrs. Barnes and their two young daughters made a visit here as guests of the F. A. Swann, family. The Barnes family resided for several months at Marksville where they made many friends. More recently they have been living at Alexandria, near Camp Livingston, where Major Barnes was stationed. It is understood that the major has received orders to report for duty elsewhere.

The Weekly News, Saturday, August 15, 1942

LTC Barnes returned to Milwaukee after the war . He went back to work A. O Smith Corporation and retired as a Colonel from the Reserves on 1 October 1962. Still working to find out where his brother Gilbert went during WWII.

Patton Monument Report for 2021

As of February 1, 2022, the Monument fund has \$26,152.00.

Total in Monument Account: \$26,152.00.

The Bourg Tee Shirts we have on hand. **(UPDATED)**

Large: Yellow - 2, **2XL:** Yellow - 2, Tan - 2, OD - 3, **3XL:** Yellow - 2, Tan - 2, OD - 1, **4XL:** Yellow - 1.

M4 Tee Shirt

Large: Tan - 1.

2XL: Tan - 1

New Mugs!!!

We now have the 15oz Red Ball Express mug and the new 15oz Treat'em Rough Mug!

Lapel Pins

We are looking at \$12 each for these.



Patton Battalion Funds / Memberships / Dues

The Patton Battalion, as of February 1, has 438 members on our battalion Facebook page. Out of those 451 members we are currently at 93 paid members. The Patton Battalion has \$130.27 in funds in the PayPal account. We have \$430.00 in the Patton Operating account. Battalions funds are \$430.00. There are no Monument funds in the Battalion account as of this time.

In order to be a paid member of the battalion you must be a paid member of USABOT National. Again, a paid first year membership of \$15.00 which gets you a free battalion patch. Since we now have the battalion patch in the larger size both in color and subdued you have a choice as to which one you want free with your paid membership.

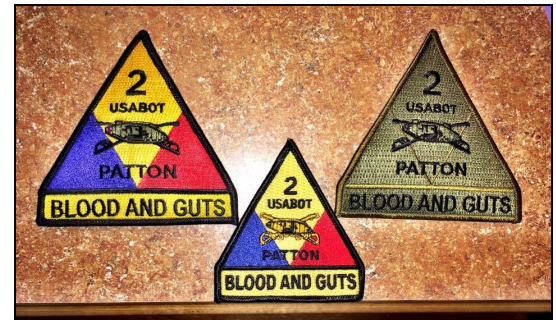
Both patches are also available for \$5 EA.

Your annual membership renewal will be \$10.00 every year after that. **Annual dues for the battalion are now due in June of each year!**

You can pay for your battalion membership through Paypal at: **pattonbattalion@outlook.com** or **patton.battalion@usabot.org**.

If you don't have a Paypal account you can send a check or Money Order to:

Patton Battalion - USABOT
1432 Flood Road
Shelbyville, KY 40065



ATTENTION

USABOT Memberships can be renewed and purchased By mail at

USABOT
68 West Marion ST
Doylestown, OH 44230

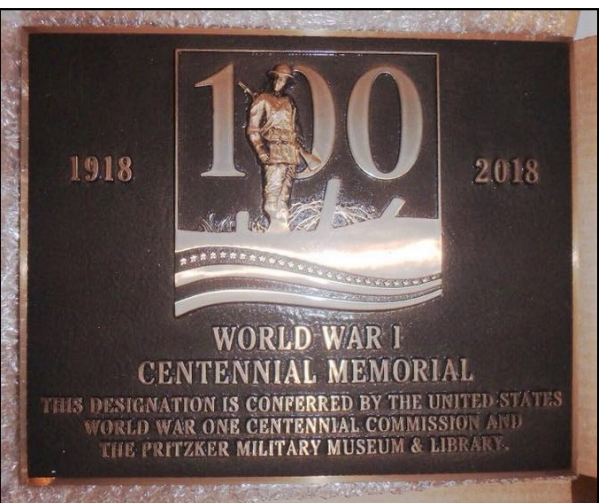
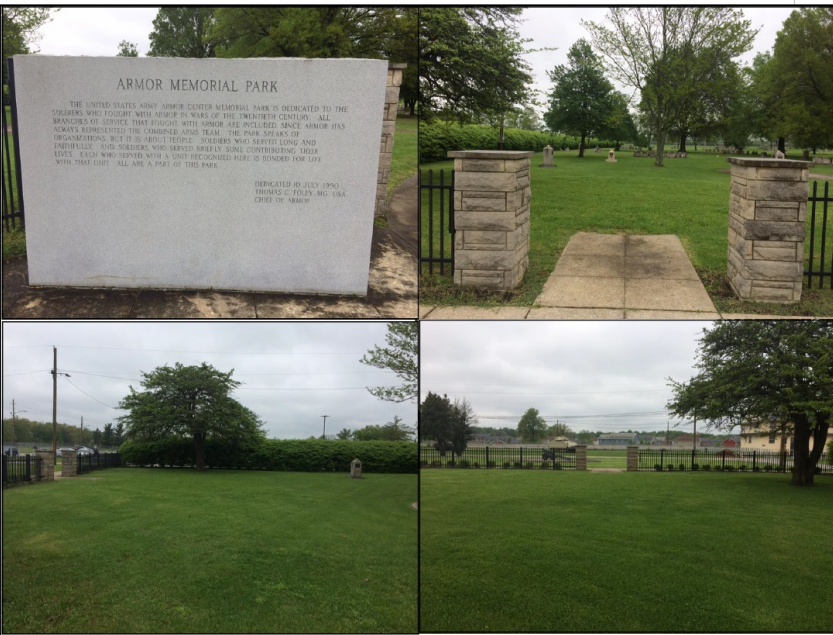
Make checks payable to USABOT
If at all possible try to go the USABOT Store Online and register there so that the G4 can track.

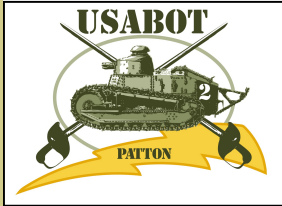
WWW.USABOT.ORG

Patton Joins the US Tank Corps Monument

The US Tank Corps shirts we still have few tees left!

<https://19seriesclothing.com/>





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Be sure to check us out on
Twitter @pattonbattalion



ATTENTION -

I am trying to find photos from people who had been to the original Patton Museum. This is the old wooden building museum. The current museum was built in 1974.

If you have photos you can email the images to pattonbattalion@outlook.com



Coming in the March Issue - Colonel John Evans, G3, VIII Corps 1943-45.

Upcoming Events

US Cavalry & Armor Association Chapter Fort Knox - Stable Call monthly meeting, 3rd Thursday of every month, Location TBD - Fort Knox, KY.

Indiana Military Museum Schedule 2021

- WWI - April 2 & 3.
- WWII - May 7 & 8.
- Vietnam Appreciation Day - TBD
- WWII Salute to Veterans - September 2 & 3.

Tenth Annual Tanker Homecoming - Gettysburg, PA. - Mid October 2022, dates TBD

Sullivan Cup - Fort Benning, GA - Sullivan Cup – Best Tank Crew Competition, 2-6 May, 2022

Plans for the Gainey Cup to return around the same time in 2023.

Operation Anvil - Battle for Southern France 1944- Phil Moore Park, Bowling Green, KY, October 1, 2022.

Patton and the US Tank Corps Monument - Fort Knox - *TBD*

