

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND MATERIAL 144th FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP

The 144th Field Artillery Group, commanded by Colonel Clifford B. Cole of Pacific Grove, California, has its origin in the 144th Field Artillery Regiment, known as the California Grizzlies in World War I. The last fully volunteer regiment in the United States Army the Grizzlies were mustered in at the old Tanforan race track and began their training at Camp Kearny. After service on the Mexican border the regiment moved to France where they went into action near Metz and moved on to the Rhine with the Army of Occupation. Over 1,000 officers were graduated out of the regiment and when it was mustered out of service at the Presidio of San Francisco former members organized the 144th Field Artillery Association. The latter organization is still active and numbers among its members Frank Jordan, Secretary of State of California; Fletcher Bowron, Mayor of Los Angeles, and many other notables.

When the War Department accorded to the 144th Field Artillery Regiment (155mm Gun) of the California National Guard the colors and honors of the War I organization the Grizzlies were again a part of the Army of the United States. An outgrowth of Battery B, 143rd Field Artillery, which was organized about 1932 at Santa Barbara, California, the 144th Regiment was activated in August 1940 with Headquarters at Santa Barbara and subordinate units at Santa Maria, Ventura, Oxnard, Santa Monica, Riverside and Bakersfield. The 144th was inducted into Federal Service on February 3, 1941 and moved to Fort Lewis, Washington for training.

With the outbreak of hostilities on December 7, 1941, the First Battalion of the regiment was placed on coast defense in the Gray's Harbor Sector of Washington, and the Second Battalion was rushed to defend vital points along the coast of Southern California. The regiment remained split in this manner until October of 1942 when the Second Battalion was relieved of coast defense duty in California and joined the regimental Headquarters and the First Battalion, also relieved of coast defense duty, at the Field Artillery Firing Center at Yakima, Washington.

On February 17, 1943 the regiment was reorganized as the 144th Field Artillery Group with its two battalions becoming the 980th Field Artillery Battalion and the 981st Field Artillery Battalion attached to the Group. On April 16, 1943 the Group headquarters and its two attached battalions along with other units of the 76th Field Artillery Brigade moved to the California-Arizona maneuver area. After an intensive training period of four months on the desert the group and its battalions moved to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, where it was stationed and trained for about three months.

On November 20, 1943 the group moved to a staging area in preparation for overseas movement, and sailed from the Port of Boston for the United Kingdom on December 29, 1943, arriving in Liverpool, England in January. Leaving the 980th and 981st Field Artillery Battalions in England the Group Headquarters moved to North Ireland on January 11, 1944. After four months of training among the peat bogs and at the firing range of the Sperrin Mountains in North Ireland, the 144th moved to Wigpool Common, near Ross-on-Wye, England. Several trips were made to the Sennybridge Firing Range in Wales and on July 16, 1944 the group landed on the coast of Normandy, France.

Upon its arrival in the United Kingdom, the 144th was assigned to XV Corps and because of its long experience with heavy artillery became the long-range group of the XV Corps Artillery. It landed in France as part of the XV Corps and the Third Army at Utah Beach on July 16, 1944. The Group with the 208th, 731st, and 989th Field Artillery Battalions, and the 999th Field Artillery Battalion as attached battalions went into a bivouac with other corps artillery units in the vicinity of Sortosville, France.

The Corps became operational on July 29th, and on August 4th, the Group with the 208th, 989th, and 999th Field Artillery Battalions attached moved out the Coutances - Avranches break-through with the XV Corps and the Third Army. The 980th Field Artillery Battalion was attached on August 5, 1944. The



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The first fires against the enemy were placed in the Forêt De Perséigne on August 12, 1944. Up until this time the fires of the heavy artillery had not been needed. The 989th Field Artillery Battalion was detached on August 13, 1944 and the 208th Field Artillery Battalion on August 19, 1944.

On August 15, 1944 the Group with the 270th Field Artillery Battalion attached, again following the 79th Division, pulled out of the "Falaise Gap Sector" and on August 19, 1944 reached the area in the vicinity of Mantos-Gassicourt and positions were occupied to harass the enemy crossings of the Seine, and interrupt traffic on the otherside. The 208th Field Artillery Battalion was again attached on August 24, 1944.

Commencing August 27, 1944 the XV Corps was relieved by XIX Corps, and Corps troops moved to a bivouac area to the south. On September 1, the 270th Field Artillery Battalion was detached from the group and on Sept 8th, the Group headquarters and the 208th Field Artillery Battalion moved south and east of Paris to Brienne Le Chateau and thence to Fays, where the 267th Field Artillery Battalion was attached to Group. From there the Group and its Battalions moved to positions near Diarville to support the Moselle River bridgehead at Charmes.

On September 19 the Group moved to positions to support the attack of Luneville and later the Forêt De Parroy.

The Group has had under its control a total of over twenty battalions and has operated under assignment to the First, Third and Seventh Armies. It has been attached to the XV Corps Artillery most of the time since arriving in the European Theater, except for a short period of assignment to XXI Corps Artillery in January 1945.

The Group participated in the XV Corps drive which liberated Strasbourg, in November 1944. Following that drive it took up positions near Enchenberg where its battalions played a prominent part in the reduction of the forts surrounding Bitche. When the XV Corps was moved westerly following the German counter-attack of December, the 144th Group moved to Puttelange. In March 1945 the Group left Leyviller and shortly thereafter was marching with the rest of the XV Corps Artillery in the drive through Saarbrücken to the Rhine.

(PASSED FOR PUBLICATION BY THE FIELD PRESS CENSOR R.O. 285 4/25/45)

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HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTERY  
144TH FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP

Aboard the U. S. S. EDMUND B. ALEXANDER. 29 December 1944.

COLE, Clifford B.	Colonel	0-07601 Gp Comdr.
McCLENAUGHAN, Robert S.	Lt. Col.	0-14946
COOK, Herchel E.	Major	0-405561
STEVENS, George W.	Major	0-323576
SHUG, James J.	Major	0-350771
ANDERSON, Merlin M.	Captain	0-1169412
GALLICHE, Flavius F.	Captain	0-523113
HARRIS, Loy V.	Captain	0-278622
McEVOY, Leonard L.	Captain	0-511450
McCORY, John D.	Captain	0-1174948
McPHERSON, Frank W.	Captain	0-378038
MEAD, Donald H.	1st Lt.	0-1175800
MORSE, Charles A. II	Captain	0-411574
WATSON, Howard B.	Captain	0-424210
JAMES, John A.	1st Lt.	0-1174755
SANDERS, Marvin O.	1st Lt.	0-1174186
LILLER, Frank A.	1st Sgt.	6058792
JEWELL, Elmo F.	S Sgt	39378210
EVERSON, Oliver V.	Tec 5	37074875
CORDERO, Daniel C.	Pvt	20918543
DUPREY, Frank A.	Tec 4	20918576
MORRIS, Leslie J.	Tec 5	36509691
NEWELL, Jr., Charles J.	Tec 5	36566950
PEASE, Jr., Lucius D.	Tec 5	39231853
TALLEVI, Ubaldo F.	Tec 5	20918844
LELIEFELD, Alfred J.	Tec 5	39550842
YEE, Den G.	Tec 4	33419405
GREINER, William W.	Pfc	39378198
WILDE, Merlin H.	Pfc	39677498
HILL, Eldon, F.	Tec 5	20918107
RICHARDS, Harvey J.	Tec 4	20918517
GALLAGHER, Jr., George M.	Tec 5	20918601
AUBREY, Henry K.	S Sgt	39156632
GLERUP, Walter S.	S Sgt	20918313
ANDRUS, Donald R.	Tec 4	37074812
CRISS, Ralph F.	Tec 4	20918256
ORMOND, David J.	Tec 4	20918632
MONIGER, Joseph S.	Tec 5	39379696
ZARN, William J.	Pfc	37165130
MOROZ, Michael	Pfc	33414525
BLANEY, Alexander A.	S Sgt	20918590
MURRAY, Ray F.	Tec 4	39601668
BRINGTON, Roy E.	Tec 5	39378207
ROSEBROOK, Ronald R.	S Sgt	6547975
DYRD, Stanley, J.	T Sgt	33024616
ROCK, John P.	Tec 3	35208825
ESPELLAND, Lyle E.	Tec 5	37658066
ADAMS, Donald C.	Pfc	33567382
WERTZ, Francis E.	M Sgt	20918647
ARKO, William V.	M Sgt	38076000



ENGBRITSON, Myron, R.	T Sgt	37165201
LOSELLEY, George B.	Sgt	17049870
HANSEN, William E.	Tec 4	20918612
BOWERS, Ivan E.	Tec 4	37082860
IRVING, Arthur J.	Tec 5	36445391
KING, George	M Sgt	32602464
LOLOSKY, Lawrence	Tec 5	33414447
REHORST, Glenn W.	Pfc	37115789
STREPAY, Paul A.	Tec 4	33419292
SENTENEY, Charles R.	M Sgt	20918561
SKOFFIELD, Hobart O.	T Sgt	20918640
BEIL, James W.	S Sgt	33485249
BOYD, William E.	Cpl	33476677
GRILES, Orville	Pfc	37116111
MULD, John J.	Pvt	33476788
LONG, Joe E.	Tec 5	35622038
GUBERT, Lino	Tec 5	20918607
RIOS, Francis J.	S Sgt	20918568
AKLS, Charles L.	S Sgt	39378220
GUNNELL, Edwin E.	Cpl	39378182
GRILES, John J.	Cpl	20918606
BATTEN, Adrien C.	S Sgt	39302442
CORDERO, Bernard B.	Pvt	20918594
RCHER, John J.	Sgt	33567939
COREA, Fred J.	Tec 5	39005944
COOPER, Joseph A.	Tec 5	39083432
MILLER, Donald	Tec 5	37165415
SIROKI, Joseph N.	Pvt	33419382
SUDA, Anthony T.	Pfc	33419270
TOLKO, Michael P.	Pfc	33419298
SHEPHERD, Robert D.	Pvt	33419291
GUTIERREZ, Michael R.	Pfc	20918548
BROWN, Jr., George	Pfc	33476897
BISH, Henry L.	Tec 5	33567983
BARTKO, George	Tec 5	33458679
BENSON, Robert V.	Pfc	33485558
MELSTERS, Elvin G.	Tec 5	39450824
WITCHES, Andrew	Tec 5	36611768
STENSON, Martin	Tec 4	20918642
BISHOP, Ford O.	Tec 4	39677508
SIMPSON, Thomas M.	Tec 5	37115965
JOSLIN, John M.	Tec 5	36520009
REGISTER, Lee K.	Tec 4	39302230
ASTORECA, Gabriel	Tec 5	39302258
THORMANN, Theodore E.	Tec 5	33549103
ARROYO, Melchor M.	Pvt	39156643
BLANTON, George B.	Pfc	39378613
HENDERSON, Norman S.	Tec 5	20918490
VALENZUELA, Lawrence R.	Tec 5	20918646



ROSTER OF MEN WHO JOINED US SINCE COMING TO ATO -VE DAY

MILLER, Norris F.	Cpl	39913541
GILLMAN, Theophilus F.	1st Lt	0-449043
BAKER, Orlen L., Jr.	1st Lt.	0-505097
LAUER, Theodore W.	2nd Lt.	0-1171641
WIST, Henry P.	Major	0-405681
JONES, John H.	Captain	0-464262
COFFIN, John H.	Lt. Col.	0-342690
PITT, Walter C.	2nd Lt.	0-1183158
KROON, Phillip C.	Captain	0-1170081
LAPE, Vance C.	Major	0-423474
McKERNON, Wilfred D.	1st Lt.	0-1175512
CAMPBELL, Robert J.	1st Lt.	0-1295990
FRILBE, Gerald J.	Captain	0-358621
VESTAL, Homer K.	Tec 3	39416275
GALLACHE, Flavius F.	Capt.	0-523113
BERGER, David Z.	Capt.	0-486270
BRIGHT, Hobert D.	Pfc	34386380
BROWN, James W.	Pfc	36740166
CABANA, Herve U. ---	Pfc	31399240
CORRIS, James L.	Pfc	32307972
DAVIS, Charles E.	Pfc	34678316
PAGLIERANI, Bruno W. ---	Pfc	31429362
POTTS, George W. ---	Pvt.	34776790
JONES, Walter F.	1st Lt.	0-515642
HOOVER, Franklin J.	Pvt.	34997441
PARHAM, Samuel L.	Pvt.	34997335
SUMMERS, Alfred E.	Pvt.	33905818
TEDDER, James T.	Tec 5	33822882
WHEELER, George W.	Pvt.	33842913
NOONAN, James J.	Tec 3	32260676
VARIPATIS, Michael J.	Capt.	0-425675
LOVELL, Powell M. Jr.	2d Lt	0-532774
McMILLIN, William J.	Pvt.	44020535
MARGETIS, Peter H.	1st Lt.	0-1755592
POINTER, Zeb H.	Pvt.	32798868
BIX, Paul	Cpl.	32002758
PARKHURST, Cyril I.	1st Lt	0-1181721



HEADQUARTERS  
144TH FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP  
APO 403, US ARMY

FA Bn Attachments to 144th FA Gp from 7 Feb 44 to 20 July 45

7 Feb 44	961 (155 How), 202 (155 How)
28 Feb 44	961 (155 How), 202 (155 How), 974 (155 How), 975 (155 How)
22 Mar 44	961 (155 How), 202 (155 How), 974 (155 How), 975 (155 How), 989 (155 Gun)
3 Apr 44	989 (155 Gun)
5 Apr 44	208 (155 Gun), 989 (155 Gun)
6 May 44	208 (155 Gun), 989 (155 Gun), 731 (155 Gun)
17 May 44	208 (155 Gun), 989 (155 Gun), 731 (155 Gun), 999 (8" How)
20 July 44	208 (155 Gun), 989 (155 Gun), 999 (8" How)
5 Aug 44	208 (155 Gun), 989 (155 Gun), 999 (8" How), 270 (240 How)
9 Aug 44	208 (155 Gun), 989 (155 Gun), 270 (240 How)
15 Aug 44	208 (155 Gun), 270 (240 How)
17 Aug 44	270 (240 How)
24 Aug 44	208 (155 Gun), 270 (240 How)
1 Sep 44	208 (155 Gun)
10 Sep 44	208 (155 Gun), 267 (240 How)
13 Oct 44	208 (155 Gun), 267 (240 How), 989 (155 Gun), 999 (8" How)
14 Oct 44	208 (155 Gun), 989 (155 Gun), 999 (8" How)
19 Oct 44	208 (155 Gun)
26 Oct 44	208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How)
6 Nov 44	208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How), 698 (240 How), 1 Btry of 575 (8" Gun), 976 (155 Gun)
23 Nov 44	208 (155 Gun), 976 (155 Gun)
24 Nov 44	976 (155 Gun)
25 Nov 44	208 (155 Gun), 698 (240 How), 1 Btry of 575 (8" Gun), 976 (155 Gun)
27 Nov 44	208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How), 976 (155 Gun)
28 Nov 44	208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How), 697 (240 How)
21 Dec 44	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 278 (240 How), 731 (155 Gun), 939 (4.5" Gun)
21 Dec 44	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 939 (4.5" Gun)
27 Dec 44	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 939 (4.5" Gun), 278 (240 How)
30 Dec 44	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 278 (240 How)
31 Dec 44	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 278 (240 How), 977 (155 Gun)
7 Jan 45	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 278 (240 How), 939 (4.5" Gun)
20 Jan 45	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 278 (240 How)
12 Feb 45	208 (155 Gun), 738 (8" How), 278 (240 How), 999 (8" How)
21 Feb 45	208 (155 Gun), 278 (240 How), 999 (8" How)
28 Feb 45	208 (155 Gun), 999 (8" How)
8 Mar 45	208 (155 Gun)

(Over)



9 Mar 45 208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How)  
 11 Mar 45 208 (155 Gun), 190 (155 Gun), 991 (155 SP M.12),  
 932 (8" How)  
 11 Mar 45 208 (155 Gun), 190 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How)  
 16 Mar 45 208 (155 Gun), 190 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How),  
 991 (155 SP M.12)  
 20 Mar 45 208 (155 Gun), 190 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How)  
 25 Mar 45 208 (155 Gun), 190 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How),  
 278 (240 How)  
 27 Mar 45 208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How)  
 5 July 45 208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How), 202 (155 How),  
 772 (4.5" Gun).  
 8 July 45 208 (155 Gun), 932 (8" How), 202 (155 How),  
 961 (155 How)  
 21 July 45 (Present Date) 208 (155 Gun), 202 (155 How),  
 932 (8" How), 961 (155 How)



MOVEMENTS IN FRANCE, GERMANY, AND AUSTRIA

- 14 July 1944, Dorchester, England  
"Alerted for departure"
- 15 July 1944, Aboard HCS Prince Henry  
"Embarked at Dorchester, England (Weymouth Harbor) at 1400 hrs."
- 16 July 1944, Move 1  
Utah Beach, Area B St. Germain Virvee, France  
"Disembarked 1710 hours, marched 7 miles to Area "B"
- 17 July 1944, Move 2  
Sortosville, France  
"Marched Via Motor 35 Miles, arriving bivouac area 1100 hours."
- 29 July 1944, Became Combat Operational"
- 31 July 1944, Move 3  
Tribhou, France  
"Left Sortosville, France, at 0900 hours via motor march. Traveled  
40 miles, arrived Tribhou at 1300."
- 4 August 1944, Move 4  
St. Germain, France  
"Left Tribhou 0030, stopped over at St. James until 1900. Arrived  
St. Germain 2200; Distance traveled 90 miles."
- 6 August 1944, Move 5  
St. Quen Des Toits, France  
"Left St. Germain 0630; Distance traveled 40 miles, arrived 1700."
- 7 August 1944, Move 6  
Laval, France  
"Left St. Quen Des Toits at 1930. Arrived at 2100; Distance  
traveled 11 miles."
- 8 August 1944, Move 7  
St. George Du Bois, France  
Left Laval 0830. Arrived 2200; Distance traveled 29 miles.  
(Through La Mans)."
- 10 August 1944, Move 8  
Chanteloup, France  
"Left St. George Du Bois 1430; Occupied position at Chanteloup 1930;  
Distance traveled 29 miles. "
- 11 August 1944, Move 9  
St. Aignan, France  
"Left Chanteloup 1630; arrived 2130 ; Distance traveled 10 miles ."
- 12 August 1944, Move 10  
La Guilloisiere, France  
"Left St. Aignan at 1830; Arrived 2130; Distance traveled 68  
miles"



- 15 August 1944, Move 11  
Challet, France  
"Left La Guilloisiere 1500; arrived 2230; Distance traveled 9 miles."
- 17 August 1944, Move 12  
Le Boullay Thierry, France  
"Left Challet at 2100; arrived 2330; Distance traveled 9 miles"
- 18 August 1944, Move 13  
Le Petit Tertre, France  
"Left Le Boullay Thierry 1800; Arrived 2230;; Distance traveled 34 miles."
- 21 August 1944, Move 14  
Rue DeLa Vallee, France  
"Left Le Petit Tertre 1500; arrived 1600; Distance Traveled 6 miles."
- 29 August 1944, Move 15  
Brechamps, France  
"Left Rue De La Vallee 1200; arrived 1600; Distance traveled 31 miles."
- 31 August 1944, Move 16  
Gevry, France  
"Left Brechamps 0005; arrived 0930; Distance traveled 106 miles."
- 8 September 1944, Move 17  
Brienne Le Chateau, France (German ammunition Dump)  
"Left Gevry 0600; Arrived 1130; Distance traveled 90 miles."
- 10 September 1944, Move 18  
Fays, France  
"Left Brienne Le Chateau 1400; arrived 1600; Distance traveled 30 miles."
- 11 September 1944  
"Enroute to new station. Left Fays 1730"
- 12 September 1944, Move 19  
Diarville, France  
"Arrived 0500; Distance traveled 29 miles."
- 19 September 1944, Move 20  
Einvaux, France  
"Left Diarville, 0200; arrived 1800; Distance traveled 10 miles."
- 24 September 1944, Move 21  
Chaufontaine, France (Luneville)  
"Left Einvaux 1730; arrived 1815; Distance traveled 10 miles."
- 12 October, 1944, Move 22  
Maranviller, France  
"Left Chaufontaine 1200; arrived 1230; Distance traveled 7 miles."



13 October 1944, Move 23 & 24  
St. Clements, France  
"Moved 7 miles from Maranviller, split position, stayed one night and returned to Maranviller."

(Distance traveled to date 804 miles)

19 November 1944, Move 25  
Avricourt, France  
"Left Maranviller, France 1430; Arrived Avricourt 1530; Distance traveled 12 miles".

21 November 1944, Move 26  
Aspach, France  
"Left Avricourt 1000; Arrived 1100; Distance traveled 17 miles."

22 November 1944, Move 27  
St. Jean, France  
"Left Aspach 1230; Arrived 1330; Distance traveled 16 miles."

24 November 1944, Move 28  
Hochfelden, France  
"Left St. Jean, 1745; Arrived 2000; Distance traveled 19 miles."

25 November 1944, Move 29  
Wahlenheim, France  
"Left Hochfelden, 1130; Arrived 1200; Distance traveled 6 miles."

27 November 1944, Move 30  
Phalsbourg, France  
"Left Wahlenheim, 1130; Arrived 1200; Distance traveled 24 miles."

29 November 1944, Move 31  
Hirschland, France  
"Left Phalsbourg, 1300; Arrived 1300; Distance traveled 14 miles."

5 December 1944, Move 32  
Tiffenbach, France  
"Left Hirschland 1530; Arrived 1730; Distance traveled 11 miles."

12 December 1944, Move 33  
Enchenberg, France  
"Left Tiffenbach 1315; Arrived 1410; Distance traveled 15 miles."

21 December 1944, Move 34  
Hambach, France  
"Left Enchenberg, 0900. Arrived 1100; Distance traveled 21 miles."

23 December 1944, Move 35  
Puttelage, France  
"Left Hambach 1400; Arrived 1445; Distance traveled 6 miles."

23 January 1945, Move 36  
Leyviller, France  
"Left Puttelage 1610; Arrived 1645; Distance traveled 6 miles."

9 March 1945, Move 37  
Ratzweiler, France  
"Left Leyviller 1000; Arrived 1200; Distance traveled 28 miles."



- 11 March 1945, Move 38  
Bining, France  
"Left Ratzeweiler 1330. Distance traveled 8 miles."  
  
(Total Distance to date: 1007 miles)
- 16 March 1945, Move 39  
Ormerviller, France  
"Left Bining 1530; Arrived Ormerviller 1730; Distance traveled 12 miles."
- 23 March 1945, Move 40  
Wachenheim, Germany  
"Left Ormerviller 0800; Arrived Wachenheim, Germany 1630; Distance traveled 82 miles."
- 24 March 1945, Move 41  
Offstein, Germany  
"Left Wachenheim, 1300; Arrived 1330; Distance traveled 6 miles."
- 27 March 1945, Move 42  
Lorsch, Germany  
"Left Offstein 1300. Arrived Worms 0900; Traveled 8 miles; Left Worms 1900; Arrived Lorsch 2030; Distance traveled 13 miles."
- 29 March 1945, Move 43  
Konig, Germany  
"Left Lorsch 0800; Arrived Konig 1830; Distance traveled 40 miles."
- 30 March 1945, Move 44  
Seckmauern, Germany  
"Left Konig, 1430; Arrived 1745; Distance traveled 12 miles."
- 31 March 1945, Move 45  
Hausen, Germany  
"Left Seckmauern 1500; Arrived 1615; Distance traveled 9 miles."
- 3 April 1945, Move 46  
Partenstein, Germany  
"Left Hausen, 1030; Arrived 2345; Distance traveled 40 miles."
- 7 April 1945, Move 47  
Thulba, Germany  
"Left Partenstein 0930; Arrived 1600; Distance traveled 32 miles."
- 8 April 1945, Move 48  
Reiterswieszen, Germany  
"Left Thulba 1445; Arrived 1530; Distance traveled 12 miles."
- 11 April 1945, Move 49  
Kleinmunster, Germany  
"Left Reiterswieszen 1705; Arrived 1850; Distance traveled 23 miles."
- 12 April 1945, Move 50  
Steinsfeld, Germany  
"Left Kleinmunster 1715; Arrived 1930; Distance traveled 12 miles."
- 13 April 1945, Move 51  
Waldorf, Germany  
"Left Steinsfeld 1715; Arrived 1830; Distance traveled 21 miles."



- 14 April 1945, Move 52  
"Left Walsdorf 1700; Arrived 1800; Distance traveled 10 miles."  
Herrnadorf, Germany
- 15 April 1945, Move 53  
Zeckern, Germany  
"Left Herrnsdorf, 1900; Arrived 2030; Distance traveled 10 miles."
- 16 April 1945, Move 54  
Weiher, Germany  
"Left Zeckern 1730; Arrived 1930; Distance traveled 14 miles."
- 20 April 1945, Move 55  
Zirndorf, Germany  
"Left Weiher 1900; Arrived 2320; Distance traveled 20 miles."
- (Total distance traveled to date- 1383 miles)
- 21 April 1945, Move 56  
Veitsaursch, Germany  
"Left Zirndorf 1200; Arrived 1740; Distance traveled 17 miles."
- 22 April 1945, Move 57  
Wernfels, Germany  
"Left Veitsaurach 1900; Arrived 2330; Distance traveled 10 miles."
- 23 April 1945, Move 58  
Sausenhofen, Germany  
"Left Wernfels 1300; Arrived 1500; Distance traveled 14 miles."
- 24 April 1945, Move 59  
Wending, Germany  
"Left Sausenhofen, 0315; Arrived 1900; Distance traveled 25 miles."
- 25 April 1945, Move 60  
Baierfeld, Germany  
"Left Wending 1630; Arrived 1805; Distance traveled 9 miles."
- 26 April 1945, Move 61  
Graibach, Germany  
"Left Baierfeld, 1400; Arrived 1500; Distance traveled 7 miles."
- 28 April 1945, Move 62  
Willprechiszell, Germany  
"Left Graibach 0400; Arrived 1800; Distance traveled 21 miles."
- 29 April 1945, Move 63  
Lauterbach, Germany  
"Left Willprechiszell, 1610; Arrived 1930; Distance traveled  
36 miles."
- 30 April 1945, Move 64  
Lochhausen, Germany  
"Left Lauterbach 1140; Arrived 1210; Distance traveled 19 miles."
- 1 May 1945, Move 65  
Arget, Germany  
"Left Lochhausen, Germany at 1805 hours via motor march; Arrived  
Arget 2000. Distance traveled 34 miles."



2 May 1945, Move 66  
Bad Aibling, Germany  
"Left Arget 1900; Arrived 2100; Distance traveled 38 miles."

7 May 1945, Move 67  
Wals, Austria  
"Left Bad Aibling, Germany 0900; Arrived at Wals, Austria at  
1230. Distance traveled 59 miles."

7 May 1945, Move 68  
Thalham, Austria  
"Left Wals, Austria 1230; Arrived 1315; Distance traveled 18  
miles."

WAR ENDS MAY 9 1945

TOTAL DISTANCE TRAVELED TO DATE 1690 MILES.



U.S.N.T. MAUND B. ALLEN  
OFFICE OF THE TRANSPORT COMMANDER

7 January 1944

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

TO : Colonel Clifford B. Cole, FA, C.O. Troops, DO 179

1. Association with the Officers and men of this draft has been a privilege and pleasure. Without exception all Ships functions have been excellently performed. The Guard has been more efficient and better instructed than others of previous twenty-eight voyages. The sanitation of all troop areas has been superior. Officers of the Army, Nurse Corps and Red Cross have attained a normal attitude of respect for the Services of Government, which has been an unattained ideal prior to this draft. The efficiency of the above matters will be my privilege to report to the Commanding General of the European Theater of Operations.

2. We are especially indebted to Colonel Clifford B. Cole, FA, Senior Line Officer and Staff, Lt. Col. Robert S. McClenaghan, and Major James J. Shaug, FA, for their administration of the troops aboard. These Officers and the five Area Commanders, Colonel R. P. Bourbon, Lt. Col. Vaughn R. Fricke, Major Kenneth McLaughlen, Major Joseph H. Fyles, and Lt. Col. Harold C. Welch, have produced the excellent results mentioned.

3. On behalf of the Ships permanent staff, we wish all personnel success in their operations on the beach and a safe return to the U. S. of America.

/s/ H. S. Duncombe, Jr.,  
/t/ H. S. DUNCOMBE, JR.,  
Lt. Col., T.C.  
Transport Commander.



HEADQUARTERS  
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, US Army  
14 August 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Officers and Enlisted Men of the XV Corps.

1. It is with extreme pride that I publish to you the following commendation of the Army Commander on the historic movement of the XV Corps around the German armies in northern France during which the Corps advanced against resistance a distance of approximately 180 miles in nine days, and stopped only because of order from higher authority.

"Please accept for yourself and transmit to the officers and men of your command my sincere appreciation and commendation for the masterly manner in which the Corps has pressed relentlessly forward, executed difficult changes of direction, and taken calculated risks with the utmost daring. The whole performance on the part of yourself, and your officers and men, has been very superior."

2. You have done a fine job. You have whipped the German wherever you have met him. You have strewn the country-side with the wreckage of his equipment. You have captured thousands of prisoners. With the experience gained in this campaign you will handle whatever lies ahead of us with confidence and ease. My heart-felt thanks and best wishes to you all.

/s/Wade H. Haislip  
/t/ WAD H. HAISLIP  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

1st Ind.

Headquarters, XV Corps Artillery, APO 436, U.S. Army, 30 August 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 144th FA Group, APO 436, U.S. Army.

1. The above commendation of the Commanding General's Third US Army and XV Corps are forwarded with great pleasure.

2. I feel that the zeal, resourcefulness, and energy exhibited by all ranks of the XV Corps Artillery have made it possible to give the Corps the artillery support which it needed. I hope that the satisfaction of knowing the job was well done will be in some measure a compensation for the tremendous effort made by all.

3. It is desired that copies of this communication be published down to batteries inclusive.

/s/Edward S. Ott  
/t/ EDWARD S. OTT  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army  
Commanding



2nd Ind,

HEADQUARTERS, 144th FA Group, APO 436, U. S. Army, 1 September 1944

TO: Commanding Officer, Hq Btry 144th FA Group, APO 436, US Army

1. Transmitted with pleasure are the foregoing expressions of praise by our higher commanders. You, yourselves know you have done a good job but the acknowledgement of the fact and appreciation by those above should arouse still greater self satisfaction.

2. I want each of you to feel that this is a personal message to you. I, who was much closer to you, can say no more than that you played the game; usually in darkness, on strange grounds, and in the rain, and you were in there pitching at all times.

/s/ Clifford B. Cole  
/t/ CLIFFORD B. COLE  
Colonel, Field Artillery  
Commanding

3rd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY 144th FA Group, APO 436, US Army, 6 September 1944

TO: All personnel of Headquarters Battery 144th FA Group, APO 436 US Army

1. Transmitted to you with pleasure the above commendation from the Army Commander and Corps Commander with very favorable indorsements by the Corps Artillery and Group Commanders.

2. May the satisfaction of a job well done and the lessons learned from the same spur us on as we continue with the task before us.

/s/ Merlin M. Anderson  
/t/ MERLIN M. ANDERSON  
1st Lt 144th FA Group  
Commanding Hq Btry



HEADQUARTERS  
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U.S. Army  
4 September 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Commanding General, XV Corps Artillery

1. It is a great pleasure to publish the following commendation from the Commanding General, Third United States Army:

"1. YOUR CORPS HAS MOST EXPEDITIOUSLY ACCOMPLISHED ITS MISSION OF SECURING A POSITION IN THE VICINITY OF MANTELS GASSICOURT, HOLDING A BRIDGEHEAD EAST OF THE SEINE RIVER AT MANTELS GASSICOURT, AND DENYING THE USE OF CROSSING SITES TO THE ENEMY AS FAR NORTH AS LOUVIERS.

"2. THE AGGRESSIVE AND EFFICIENT MANNER IN WHICH THIS MISSION HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT UPON THE CORPS IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGH TRADITIONS OF THE SERVICE AND UPON YOU AS ITS COMMANDING GENERAL. YOUR ABILITY TO ACCEPT CALCULATED RISKS WITHOUT BECOMING INVOLVED IN UNWARRANTED DELAYS HAS CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE SUCCESSFUL ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE MISSION.

"3. YOU AND THE PERSONNEL OF YOUR COMMAND ARE HEREBY HIGHLY COMMENDED FOR YOUR SPLENDID ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THIS MISSION."

2. I desire personally to thank you and every member of your command for the splendid accomplishment of every task assigned. Your achievement as a first class fighting unit is playing a large part in the liquidation of the German Army which is our eventual goal. My best wishes to you and your command for continued success.

/s/ Wade H. Haislip  
/t/ WADE H. HAISLIP,  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding.

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, XV CORPS ARTILLERY, APO 436, U. S. Army 9 Sept 1944

TO: Commanding Officer, 144th FA Group, APO 436, U. S. Army

1. The commendation and sentiments from the Commanding Generals, Third U. S. Army, and XV Corps are transmitted to you with a great deal of pleasure and with much pride in the splendid accomplishment of the field artillery in the actions concerned.



2. I feel that the operations of the Corps Artillery were so successful because of a burning desire to assist our infantry and armor to the utmost in the achievement of a total victory over the Germans; and because all ranks of the Corps Artillery proceeded most vigorously and intelligently to translate this desire into acts which would give our supported troops more help even than had been expected or hoped for. With such a high purpose, I feel that our future blows will continue to make the tasks of our arms increasingly easier and less costly.

3. It is desired that this letter be distributed through channels to include batteries.

/s/ Edward S. Ott  
/t/ EDWARD S. OTT  
Brigadier General, US Army  
Commanding

2nd Ind.

Headquarters, 144th FA Group, APO 430, U. S. Army, 15 September 1944

TO: Commanding Officer, 205th, 270th FA Bn's

1. I am glad to transmit to you another commendation from our commanders. This time for the part we played in the accomplishment of the field Artillery in the Montes Cassio area.

2. These words of praise are meant for each individual. You did the job and I regret that the situation as it is, prevents me from personally delivering the message.

3. When the task is set before us by our higher Commanders, I know that for our part the mission will be accomplished. The confidence I have in your ability and the fine spirit with which the job is tackled, which are necessary to accomplish the mission, is my word of praise to you.

C. B. COLE  
Colonel, U. S. Army  
Commanding



HEADQUARTERS  
XV CORPS ARTILLERY  
APO 436

5 September 1944

SUBJECT: Performance of Combat Duty.

TO : Commanding Officers, 208th FA Gp  
173rd FA Gp  
40th FA Gp  
144th FA Gp  
3rd FA Obsv Bn  
Hq Btry, XV Corps Arty

1. Recently there was received an order awarding the Bronze Star to five enlisted men of XV Corps Artillery.
2. These awards were for a period when the battalions were attached to or reinforcing a division of the XV Corps.
3. The following extracts from a personal letter from the Artillery Commander covering the transmittal of the division order are published for the information of the command:

"That Corps Artillery of yours, by the way, has a fine fighting spirit. They depended on no one for their local security and would fight at the drop of a hat, as all good artillerymen should. The occasion of these awards was probably the first time in history when the flank of a division was protected by a medium battalion with a heavy battalion in direct support. This situation continued most of one day and during that day the 961st FA Bn, still pointing East at 1000, was suddenly shifted to the northwest at 1100, to the northeast at 1500, and changed position at 1800 to get inside the outpost line and prepared to fire north. I don't think they fired a round of artillery ammunition during this period, but the threats to our flank were real. Nevertheless, the only threat developed was broken up by the heavy battalion. The 693rd didn't do so badly either. If I remember correctly they captured around 200 prisoners. On one occasion they were attacked by panzers while marching and in the scrap that followed the 693rd with no casualties to itself, accounted for five dead Germans, seven wounded ones, and nineteen prisoners".

4. Such high word of praise from this Division Artillery Commander should be a source of satisfaction to all of the XV Corps Artillery who took part in the breakthrough from AVANCHES; that our standard is high is evidenced by the above remarks; that we are living up to our standards is evidenced by the awards given these five enlisted men.



PRESS RELEASE

Adolf Hitler fought in the Forest of Parroy back in World War I, and at whatever cost, he wouldn't give it up in World War II. In the area east of Nancy and Luneville, Parroy is a spot of great tactical importance and it was necessary to throw the well-entrenched Heinies out. That this task was given to the XV Corps - which achieved its objective - was not unusual, for tough jobs have been its lot since it exploited the original American break-through out of Normandy and threw a dagger into the heart of the German Seventh Army.

Arriving in France early in July, the Corps, commanded by Major General Wade H. Haislip (War Dept. G-1 in '41 and '42) really started moving on July 31st. Tearing down from Normandy, it amazed the enemy with the daring break-through beyond Avranches. It was easy to follow the course of the Corps in August - front pages in newspapers the world over recorded its activities as spectacular headline advances. General Patton was frequently at Corps Headquarters and the bulk of Third Army correspondents were daily visitors at the quickly changing scenes of advance to the east. Laval, Mayenne, Le Mans, Alencon, Argentan, Montes-Gassicourt, Dreux - these are just some of the names that highlighted an epochal advance of XV Corps' 340 mile push from Normandy to the initial crossing of the Seine River made by American troops. For speed and accomplishments, veteran war correspondents said this campaign out-blitzed all German blitzes and even broke the Russian records. Participating during the drive which eventually resulted in the liberation of Paris, were the 79th and 90th Divisions the 5th Armored Division, the 2nd French Armored Division, the 106th Cavalry Group and various other crack Army units.

Missions frequently required river crossings, speedy advances through ideal defensive terrain, and often were without hope of assistance on either flank. Sharp angle thrusts necessitated maneuvering and reshuffling that called for military finesse and daring, and required operational efficiency of superior skill. Courage, gallantry and fighting fitness sparked vigorous drives that would not stop short of success.

Corps units formed the southern flank of the famed Argentan-Falaise pocket and caused huge losses to enemy personnel and material. Later, the clipping claw was widened closer to Paris and once again the Germans could not break out of the second pocket rigidly held by the furious Fifteenth. Still later, the first bridgehead over the Seine was enlarged and defended to clear the way for the general advance of American and British forces east of the river. The troops were very close to Paris and they itched to go in, but impending tactical objectives overruled the glamorous call and the Corps kept going.

General Patton liked the Corps and said so. In expressing his commendation he wrote General Haislip, "Please accept for yourself and transmit to the officers and men of your command my sincere appreciation and commendation for the masterly manner in which the Corps has pressed relentlessly forward, executed difficult changes of direction, and taken calculated risks with the utmost daring. The whole performance on the part of yourself, and your officers and men, has been very superior."

(Continued pp 2)

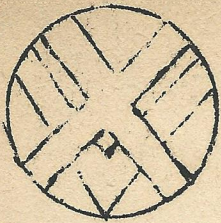


PRESS RELEASE (Cont'd)

Mostly in the Third Army, for a few days under First Army now under Seventh Army, the Furious Fifteenth still gets the rugged jobs to do. The Forest of Parroy is just another reason why, in a recent visit to Corps Headquarters and the front lines, General George C. Marshall said to the troops of the AV Corps, "You men are doing a wonderful work and we in Washington know it and appreciate it."

E N D





NOTE: The following material, a XV Corps Public Relations release, was passed for publication by 6th Army Group field press censor on 23 Nov 1944.



With the XV Corps in France -- A co-ordinated attack begun a week ago has seen units of the powerful XV Corps smash their way to a singularly vital segment of the outer rind protecting Germany. As a boxer measures his opponent, slugs, feints, jabs and makes ready for a series of finishing punches -- as a master chess player maneuvers his chessmen to strangle his opponent's moves, so Major General Wade H. Haislip, Commanding General of the Corps, has skillfully fashioned a pattern in which the units of his command have been able to achieve an important break-through in the area near Saverne and Strassbourg in sight of the Rhine.

The Corps started to push at a jumping-off point east of Luneville with the 44th Infantry Division on the left of its advance. Commanded by Major General Robert L. Spragins, who gained fame at Guadalcanal, this was the first American division to disembark at the port of Cherbourg. On the Corps' right was Major General Ira T. Wyche's veteran 79th Infantry Division, an outfit that made history in Normandy and throughout western France. Protecting the northern flank was the 106th Cavalry Group, whose Colonel Vennard Wilson is one of the "fighting-est" men in the U. S. Army. Right back of the 79th and to its right flank was another "Furious Fifteenth" stand-by, the colorful 2nd French Armored Division of General Jacques LeClerc, an organization with one of the best combat records compiled in France. The massed fire power of Corps Artillery was skillfully employed by Brigadier General Edward S. Ott. There were other units also -- groups and battalions of engineers, tank destroyers, anti-aircraft, and other arms and services.

The Germans employed natural terrain to every advantage and supplemented it with cleverly constructed fortifications and emplacements. Particularly between the Rhine-Marne Canal and a prominent Vosges Mountain height to the south, the enemy had built a defense line with which he confidently expected to appreciably delay or perhaps entirely halt the expected American attack. What the Wehrmacht did not anticipate was a puncturing XV-Corps offense which felt out every weakness and every strength and then knifed through with a series of complicated outflanking maneuvers that stunned the krauts. Then, at precisely the right moment, the hard riding tanks of the 2nd French Armored flashed their mobile power to give wings to the ground attack and General Haislip's calculations bore fruit in producing a spectacular break-through. Caught off tactical balance, their communications disrupted and troop morale shattered, the Germans were routed all along the Corps front.

It was a dramatic event whose reverberations will hammer home beyond the outer rind protecting Germany and will go through the Nazi pulp to spike the rotten core of the foe of all humanity.



23 November 1944

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....114)

COMPLIMENT FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE XV UNITED STATES CORPS: Assigned the task of forcing the SAVERNE Gap and throwing the enemy back from their strongly defended positions in the Vosges mountains. In this operations you have accomplished your missions and achieved additional successes far beyond those which were required of you. The divisions of your command have routed the enemy everywhere; he has been thrown back in disorder and has lost much valuable equipment and hundreds of prisoners. Having bewildered the enemy and scattered his forces, you prevented him the opportunity to regroup and make a stand west of the Vosges. Without pausing for rest you continued your tireless pursuit of the enemy, capturing the highly important strongpoint of Saverne within eight days after launching your initial assault.

This difficult assault and tenacious pursuit has contributed significantly to the successes of the Allied Forces in western Europe. It indicates a high state of discipline, as well as a plan soundly conceived and energetically executed. You can be justly proud of your outstanding achievements.

/s/ A. M. Patch  
/t/ A. M. PATCH  
Lieutenant General, U. S. A.  
Commanding.

DISTRIBUTION: "B"

OFFICIAL COPY



HEADQUARTERS 100TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO 447, U. S. Army

19 December 1944.

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Commanding General, AV Corps

The Corps Artillery of the AV Corps has been outstanding in its effectiveness, cooperation and eagerness to render maximum support at all times since we have been engaged in combat with the AV Corps. I should like to express my deep appreciation and commendation to the Corps Artillery Commander, Brigadier General Edward S. Ott, his immediate assistants, and the officers and men of his command for the splendid job they have done for the 100th Division. Our Infantry has the utmost confidence in their accurate firing.

/s/ W. A. Burress  
/t/ W. A. BURRESS  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS AV CORPS, APO 436, U. S. Army, 24 December 1944

TO: Commanding General, AV Corps Artillery

It is with pleasure that I forward this well earned commendation from the Commanding General, 100th Infantry Division, for the splendid performance of you and the members of your command.

/s/ Wade H. Heislip  
/t/ WADE H. HEISLIP,  
Major General, U. S. Army,  
Commanding.



Ltr, Hq 100th Inf Div, Subj: "Commendation", dtd 19 December 1944

AG 201.22 - (A)  
(19 Dec 44)

2nd Ind.

JAB/pfm

HEADQUARTERS XV CORPS ARTILLERY, APO 436, U. S. Army, 1 January 1945

TO: Commanding Officer, 144th Field Artillery Group, APO 436, U. S. Army

1. It should give every member of the XV Corps Artillery units a feeling of deep satisfaction to realize that his own individual efforts and his teamwork with his comrades have resulted in such a fine performance of duty as to warrant the above commendation.

2. Of particular note is the last sentence of the original letter, "Our Infantry has the utmost confidence in their accurate firing." Such a trust is priceless.

/s/ Edward S. Ott  
/t/ EDWARD S. OTT  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

AG 201.22 - (A)  
(19 DEC 44)

3rd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 144TH FA GROUP, APO 436, US Army 8 January 1945

TO: Commanding Officer, 208th FA Battalion, APO 436, U. S. ARMY

1. I am particularly pleased to forward to you this commendation, inasmuch as your battalion had a great deal to do with the reduction of Fort Schiessick in the 100th Division Sector.

2. I also feel that this commendation should extend to Captain Kallums and the officers and men of "B" Battery who so energetically handled the 112 self-propelled gun in the 100th Division Sector, and which probably had no small part in the reduction of Forts 7 & 8 in the Schiessick group.

C. B. COLL  
Colonel, 144 Fa Gp  
Commanding



HEADQUARTERS, 44TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 44, c/o Postmaster, New York, NY

26 December 44

SUBJECT: Neutralization of Fort Sinsershoff

TO : Commanding General, XV Corps Artillery. (Through Channels)

I am happy to pass on to you the following report on the excellent work done by the XV Corps Artillery during the neutralization of Fort Sinsershoff:

"1. With reference to actions of the Corps Artillery in the neutralization of Fort Sinsershoff, the following facts are submitted:"

"a. The heavy howitzers and guns of the Corps Artillery normally require a minimum of twelve hours to displace and sometimes as high as thirty-six hours. Due to the superior efforts of all those in the chain of command of Corps Artillery, batteries were displaced considerable distances to the right and left flank after midnight on one night so that the bulk of the batteries were ready to fire when visibility permitted the next morning."

"b. This displacement was found necessary because a study of a stereo pair of airplane photo verticals indicated that the faces of the various units of Fort Sinsershoff were quite at an off-set to the normal fire. The prompt displacement and excellent firing done by Corps Artillery units are believed to have aided materially in the neutralization of this fort. Particular appreciation is expressed of the full cooperation and rapidity of displacement of the various elements of several units of the Corps Arty."

"/s/ William A. Beiderlinden  
/t/ WILLIAM A. BEIDERLINDEN  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army."

/s/ Robert L. Spragins  
/t/ ROBERT L. SPRAGINS,  
Major General, United States Army  
Commanding.



Ltr Hq 44th Inf Div, Subj: "Neutralization of Fort Sinschhoff", Dated  
26 Dec 44.

AG 201.22 - (A)  
(26 Dec 44)

1st Ind.

Hfp/pre

HEADQUARTERS AV CORPS, U. S. ARMY, APO 436, 28 December 1944

TO: Commanding General, AV Corps Artillery

The splendid results achieved in this difficult movement fully justify the highest praise. It is with pleasure that I forward this commendation of the Commanding General, 44th Infantry Division Artillery.

/s/ Wm H. Haislip  
/t/ Wm H. Haislip  
Major General, US Army  
Commanding

AG 201.22 - (A)  
(26 Dec 44)

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS AV CORPS ARTILLERY, APO 436, US Army, 1 January 1945

TO: Commanding Officer, 44th Field Artillery Group, APO 436, U. S. Army

1. That the success of this operation was made possible only by the demonstrated ability and determined effort of every rank in the Corps Artillery is evident from the original letter. Let each man take personal pleasure in the recognition of a difficult task completed in superior fashion.

2. An Army which can do the impossible, can never lose.

/s/ Edward S. Ott  
/t/ EDWARD S. OTT  
Brigadier General, US Army  
Commanding

Ltr Hq 44th Inf Div, Subj: "Neutralization of Fort Sinschhoff", dtd 26 Dec 44

AG 201.22 - (A)  
(26 Dec 44)

3rd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS 44TH FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP, APO 436, U. S. ARMY 11 Jan 45

TO: Commanding Officer, 208th FA Battalion, APO 436, U. S. Army

1. I am greatly pleased to forward to you this commendation from General Biederlinden. You and the officers and men of your command are rightfully deserving of the highest praise for this excellent piece of work.

2. It is also gratifying that the superior accomplishment of this mission has received recognition from our higher commanders. Their comments reflect the greatest confidence in you, a trust to be highly prized by every rank.



HEADQUARTERS XII CORPS  
APO 312, US Army

Office of  
Commanding General

28 December 1944

Major General W. H. Haislip,  
Commanding, XV Corps  
APO #436, U. S. Army.

Dear Han:

The energy and helpfulness with which our artillery was relieved was amazing. As a result of this quick action and fine cooperation, we were able to get into action here in record time. As a matter of fact, a delay of 24 hours might have produced a critical situation. As it was, we were able to regain a strong position before the build-up became excessive.

I want to express my appreciation for this fine Army spirit and hope you will convey my thanks to Stanley Ott.

Best regards,

/s/ M. S. Eddy  
/t/ M. S. EDDY,  
Major General, US A.  
Commanding.

1st Ind.

AG 201.22 - (A) -  
(28 Dec 44)

HEADQUARTERS XV CORPS, APO #436, U. S. Army, 10 January 1945

TO: Commanding General, XV Corps Artillery.

It gives me genuine pleasure to forward a commendation of this nature. Such attention to duty is in keeping with the high traditions of the Army and I express my own appreciation for work well done.

/s/ Wade H. Haislip  
/t/ WADE H. HAISLIP  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding.

AG 201.22 - (A) -  
(28 Dec 44)

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS XV CORPS ARTILLERY, APO #436, U. S. Army, 15 January 1945

TO: Commanding Officer, 144th Field Artillery Group, APO #436, U. S. Army.

1. Seldom are the results of our own operations made so apparent to us; for evidently in this instance, the speed and efficiency with which the XV Corps Artillery effected the relief of XII Corps Artillery units in our present sector directly contributed to the stopping of the German offensive near BASTOGNE.

2. The appreciation expressed by the Corps Commander extends alike to cannoner and commander.

/s/ Edward S. Ott  
/t/ EDWARD S. OTT  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army  
Commanding.



Basic: Ltr Hq XII Corps, dtd 28 December 1944, Commendation of XV Corps  
Artillery, U. S. Army

AG 201.22 - (A)  
(28 Dec 44)

3rd Ind.  
HEADQUARTERS, 144TH FA GROUP, APO #136, U. S. Army, 28 Jan 45

TO: Officers and Men, 144 FA Group Hq Btry.

1. This commendation, in addition to warning you, should make you aware that others besides myself and those familiar with you have also noted your ability to put out and to deliver when the ships are down.

2. I personally appreciated what you did on this occasion and who knows but that your work in this critical period may have been the cause which resulted in the failure of the German attack at EASTOGNE.

/s/ C. B. Cole  
/t/ C. B. COLLE  
Colonel, 144 FA Gp  
Commanding.



HEADQUARTERS  
XV CORPS, UNITED STATES ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General.

APO #436, US Army  
31 December 1944.

TO: Officers and men of the XV Corps

1. It is with a feeling of great pride that I transmit to you the following letter from the Chief of Staff of the Army, General George C. Marshall. To receive such praise from him means that you have truly earned it.

"WASHINGTON

December 1944

Dear Haislip:

When the accomplishments of the closing year are reviewed, your score will be among the highest. You and your people have done great things, and you are still doing them. I have full confidence that your Corps will continue to handle every situation that will arise, and with great credit to American arms.

May you find some opportunity to enjoy the Christmas season with its age old promise of better things to come.

Faithfully yours,

G. C. Marshall

Major General Wade H. Haislip,  
Commanding General, XV Corps  
APO 436, c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York."

2. In thanking the Chief of Staff for his fine letter, I shall tell him that the XV Corps will continue to do its utmost to destroy the enemy in our front, and that he may rest assured that our effort will not lessen until final victory is attained.

/s/ Wade H. Haislip  
/t/ WADE H. Haislip  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding.



HEADQUARTERS  
XV CORPS ARTILLERY.

APO 436 U. S. Army  
4 January 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : See Distribution.

The following is a copy of a teletype message received from Major General Wade H. Haislip, XV Corps Commander:

SINCE THE NIGHT OF THIRTY ONE DECEMBER NINETEEN FORTY FOUR THE GERMAN FORCES HAVE BEEN ATTACKING OUR POSITIONS WITH ALL THE STRENGTH THEIR DOGGED FANATICISM AND A DESPERATE DESIRE TO PENETRATE OUR LINES CAN MUSTER PD THEY HAVE GONE ALL OUT IN THEIR USE OF ARTILLERY MASSING EVERY CALIBER FROM SEVENTY FIVE MM TO TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY MM ON OUR TROOPS AND INSTALLATIONS PD THEY HAVE ATTACKED US WITH THEIR AIR FORCE IN NUMBERS NOT HERETOFORE SEEN BY THIS CORPS PD DESPITE THESE DESPERATE EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE ENEMY THE YOU OFFICERS AND MEN HAVE BY YOUR COURAGE VALOR AND DEVOTION TO DUTY REPULSED HIS EVERY ATTACK PD YOU HAVE INFLECTED UPON THE ENEMY TREMENDOUS LOSSES IN PERSONNEL AND MATERIEL PD SKILLFUL PLANNING OF DEFENSIVE ORGANIZATIONS AND EXECUTION OF COMBAT OPERATIONS HAVE RESULTED IN REASONABLY LIGHT LOSSES TO OUR OWN TROOPS PD I CONGRATULATION YOU ON THE BRILLIANT ACHIEVEMENTS PD END.

HAILSIP COLAND

/s/ John A. Berry, Jr.  
/t/ JOHN A. BERRY, JR.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - Ea Group
- 1 - Hq Btry, XV Corps Arty
- 1 - 3rd FA Obsn Bn
- 1 - Ea Bn 144 FA Gp



HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO #758

30 March 1945

ORDER OF THE DAY

TO; All Officers and Men of the Seventh Army.

The Army Commander has just received a letter of congratulations from the Supreme Allied Commander over the successful recent operations of this Army.

My congratulations to all concerned for such high achievements which have elicited these expressions from the Supreme Allied Commander.

/s/ A. M. Patch  
/t/ A. M. PATCH  
Lieut. General, U. S. Army  
Commanding.



HEADQUARTERS  
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U.S. Army  
8 April 1945

AG 200.6 (A)

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Officers and Men of the XV Corps

1. It is with utmost pride that I publish to you the following commendations from the Commanding General, Sixth Army Group and the Commanding General, Seventh Army, on the recent accomplishments of the XV Corps:

HEADQUARTERS  
SIXTH ARMY GROUP  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO 23

27 March 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Commanding General, XV Corps

THRU: Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO  
758, U. S. Army

Since the morning of 15 March, the XV Corps has achieved new and magnificent successes. Acting as the spearhead of the Seventh Army's attack on that date, you launched a blow at the enemy forces in your sector which resulted in the ultimate destruction of the major part of two German Armies.

On the second day of the attack you captured the heavily fortified city of Bitch. Continuing your advance you breached the Siegfried defenses and on 20 March captured the cities of Zweibrucken and Homburg. In conjunction with the other Corps of the Seventh Army, and the Third Army, you completed the mopping up of the Saar pocket, and closed to the Rhine River.

Without pause you crossed the Rhine and established a firm bridgehead on the east bank. From that bridgehead the Seventh Army will be able to assist in launching the final blow at Nazi Germany.

Your actions have been bold, thoroughly planned, and efficiently executed. The combination of brilliant leadership and stalwart fighting men has paid rich dividends.

I am proud of the XV Corps and I desire that you express to your divisions your appreciation.



Ltr Hq XV Corps, file AG 200.6 (A), subj: Commendation, dtd 8 April 1945  
(Con').

JCK/pfm

AG 200.6-A  
(8 Apr 45)

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY, APO 758, US Army 31 March 1945

TO: Commanding General, XV Corps, APO 436, US Army

I wish to add my commendation that of the Commanding General, Sixth Army Group, and to express my congratulations and admiration for the magnificent achievement of the XV Corps.

/s/ A. M. Patch  
/t/ A. M. PATCH  
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

2. I desire to thank you personally for the splendid accomplishment of every task assigned. Your aggressive spirit and outstanding efforts in contributing to the defeat of the German forces opposing the advance of the XV Corps have done much towards the achievement of final victory. My sincere thanks and best wishes to you all.

/s/ Wade H. Haislip  
/t/ WADE H. HAISLIP  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:  
"A" & "B"

1st Ind.

JCK/pfm

AG 201.22-A  
(8 Apr 45)

HEADQUARTERS XV CORPS ARTILLERY, APO 436, U. S. Army, 14 April 1945

TO: Commanding Officer, 144th Field Artillery Group, APO 758, U. S. Army

The part played by the XV Corps Artillery in the attack, which is the subject of this commendation, is a source of great pride to me. Your actions and your accomplishments have been truly outstanding and worthy of this commendation.

/s/ Edward S. Ott  
/t/ EDWARD S. OTT  
Brigadier General, U. W. Army  
Commanding



NOTE: The following material,  
a XV Corps Public Relations re-  
lease, was passed for publication  
on 21 April 1945

## XV CORPS UNITS COMMEMORATE CAPTURE OF

### N U R N B E R G

#### Gen. Haislip Reviews Troops

With the XV Corps in Germany -- Commemorating the spectacular capture of Nurnberg units of the XV Corps participated in a colorful review in the heart of the old, walled city. Organized resistance had come to an end the day before mid the bright sunshine of what, appropriately enough, was Hitler's 56th and possibly his last birthday.

After crashing through the Maginot and Siegfried Lines, Maj. Gen. Wade H. Haislip's XV Corps troops had led the Seventh Army's crossing of the Rhine and had broken some records in bridge construction and speedy personnel movements to accomplish that feat. A rapid dash through city and town, over mountain, hill and dale through forest and plain, finally brought the Corps to the city of Nurnberg Nazi Party intellectual center and frequent scene of fascist harangue by Hitler, Goebbels, Goering, Himmler, Hess and other propaganda laden spellbinders. The site of the German War College, of Tank Gunnery, Anti-Tank, and Tank Destroyer Schools, the city was filled with enthusiastic cadets, SS and Wehrmacht troops and an assorted hodge-podge of semi-military battalions, all of whom had pledged themselves to fight to the death in defense of fascism's ideological capital.

Representative units of all XV Corps organizations attended the short celebration in Adolf Hitler Platz in honor of a world-heralded victory. A Hollywoodian appearing but sternly realistic background of rubble and ruin bore striking testimony of the destruction wrought by American artillery fire and aerial bombardment, and symbolized the decline of Nazi military might. Composite infantry battalions were present and passed in review, as did companies of engineers, batteries of Long Tom and anti-aircraft artillery, sections of Tank Destroyers, and a tank company. The bounding 3rd Infantry Division band played martial airs at the left of the reviewing stand and at the right were massed Regimental and Group colors. Doughboys marched to the band's stirring rendition of "Der Fuehrer's Face." Brig. Gen Edward S. Ott, Corp Artillery Commander, was in command of troops who participated in the ceremonial exercise.

Following the presentation of troops and their inspection by the Corps Commander, General Haislip delivered a short forthright address, parts of which were immediately cabled back to the United States in Associated Press dispatches. The Stars and Stripes was



formally raised over the heart of the city, and then lowered to half mast in honor of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and of soldiers of XV Corps units who had fallen on the road to victory.

Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, who was on the reviewing stand, expressed his "profound thanks and gratitude for the splendid work" of the Corps and its divisions. Additional officers on the stand included commanders of divisions and of other organizations within the Corps and members of General Haislip's staff.

The text of General Haislip's address follows:

### GENERAL H A I S L I P ' S A D D R E S S

Nurnberg, Germany

21 April 1945

To the General Officers, Officers and Men of the XV Corps:

Here we stand today amid the tumbled ruins of Nurnberg - amid the ruins of a city which gave its name to the infamous laws that violated every concept of human decency. Here Hitler reigned and strutted, and here he shouted at the multitudes of adoring Germans who used to gather in propaganda-filled stupefaction. In this city fascism flourished. We have conquered Nurnberg and we have destroyed it just as thoroughly as we shall destroy fascism and every evil thing connected with it.

The capture and destruction of this city mark the end of the campaign of which we all can be rightfully proud. We started on March 15 and have made an average advance of approximately 260 miles. Let's review for a moment what was accomplished during that advance. The first big step was to crash through the Siegfried Line and capture Zweibrucken and Homburg. Then proceeded along with the Third Army to the Rhine. The crossing of the Rhine, I believe, is an epic. Within 68 hours of the time the first assault boat started across the river in the face of the enemy machine gun fire, the Corps had built four bridges, each approximately 1,000 feet in length, and had moved 120,000 men across with everything that goes with them, including about 23,000 vehicles of all sizes and description. While the 3rd and 45th Divisions continued their dash towards the Main River, the 44th Division on the south took Mannheim. The Main was crossed with great rapidity, and the German made one of his worst mistakes when, facing the 45th Division, he decided to fight it out at Aschaffenburg. The Boche asked for it and we gave it to him. We destroyed his city, killed 1,500 soldiers and took 3,000 prisoners. The enemy was stubborn at Babmerg, also, and he paid dearly for his error in judgment. On we went, mile after mile, and finally arrived at Nurnberg. Here the German made another mistake. He again decided to fight it out with the result that many hundreds of Nazis were killed and what was left of the city was destroyed. We gave Hitler a bitter birthday present because yesterday, on his birthday, the fight was over.



I want to thank you for your truly remarkable accomplishments and to tell you that my pride in you is unlimited. And I know that the Army Commander, the Army Group Commander and the entire nation are proud of you.

From here we are going on to victory. We must give the enemy no rest whatever. We must prove to him completely and conclusively that his way of life is not what the civilized world wants. This we shall do.

The Stars and Stripes will now be raised over the heart of the city of Nurnberg.



HEADQUARTERS, SEVENTH ARMY  
APO 758 US ARMY

22 December 1944

AG 330.11 Misc

SUBJECT: Supreme Commander's "Order of Day".

TO: All units, Seventh Army

The following "Order of Day" issued by the Supreme Commander is to be delivered to every member of all Headquarters and units under your command:

"To Every Member of the A.E.F.

"The Enemy is making his supreme effort to break out of the desperate plight into which you forced him by your brilliant victories of summer and fall. He is fighting savagely to take back all that you have won and is using every treacherous trick to deceive and kill you. He is gambling everything, but already, in this battle, your gallantry has done much to foil his plans. In the face of your proven bravery and fortitude, he will completely fail.

"But we cannot be content with his mere repulse.

"By rushing out from his fixed defenses the enemy may give us the chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat. So I call upon every man, of all the allies, to rise now to new heights of courage, of resolution and of effort. Let everyone hold before him a single thought - TO DESTROY THE ENEMY ON THE GROUND, IN THE AIR, EVERYWHERE - Destroy him united in this determination and with unshakable faith in the cause for which we fight. We will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory."

Signed: DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By command of Lieutenant General PATCH:

/s/ W. G. Caldwell,  
/t/ W. G. CALDWELL,  
Colonel, AGD,  
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION: "C"



HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO 758 US Army

AMP/gwb

1 May 1945

AG 201.22-A

SUBJECT: Order of the Day

TO : See Distribution

The Supreme Allied Commander has directed that the following O of the Day issued by the Supreme Commander be delivered to every member of all headquarters and units under your command:

"30 April 1945

"To Every Member of the AEF:

The whole Allied Expeditionary Force congratulates the 7th Army on the seizure of Munich, the cradle of the Nazi Beast. Signed Dwight D. Eisenhower."

/s/ A. M. Patch  
/t/ A. M. PATCH  
Lieutenant General, USA.  
Commanding

Distribution: "C"



HEADQUARTERS, SEVENTH ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO #758 US Army

AMP/ck

9 May 1945

AG 201.22-A

SUBJECT: Order of the Day

TO: See Distribution.

1. I have received the following cable from the Secretary of War:

"I join a grateful nation in applauding the heroic part you and your men have taken in our triumph. Each soldier of the Seventh Army Shares in congratulations for success gained through magnificent courage at the front. You can be proud of a distinguished accomplishment."

2. Observe you glorious men of the Seventh Army, our efforts exploits are not unrecognized in our country. To you who have done the fighting, I send my deepest and most patriotic thanks.

/s/ A. M. Patch  
/t/ A. M. PATCH  
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army  
Commanding.

DISTRIBUTION: "C"



Bnl 66 Hq Seventh Army,  
9 May 45, contd.

and the efforts of each have contributed to the outcome. This we shall remember, and in doing so we shall be revering each honored grave, and be sending comfort to the loved ones of comrades who could not live to see this day.

Signed Dwight D. Eisenhower."

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL PATCH:

ARTHUR A. WHITE  
Major General, GSC  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W. G. Caldwell  
/t/ W. G. CALDWELL  
Colonel, AGE  
Adjutant General



## HEADQUARTERS THIRD US ARMY

APO # 403

GENERAL ORDERS

9 May 1945

NUMBER 98

SOLDIERS OF THE THIRD ARMY PAST AND PRESENT

During the 281 days of incessant and victorious combat, your penetrations have advanced further in less time than any other army in history. You have fought your way across 24 major rivers and innumerable lesser streams. You have liberated or conquered more than 82,000 square miles of territory, including 1500 cities and towns, and some 12,000 inhabited places. Prior to the termination of active hostilities, you had captured in battle 956,000 enemy soldiers and killed or wounded at least 500,000 others. France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia bear witness to your exploits.

All men and women of the six corps and thirty-nine divisions that have at different times been members of this Army have done their part. Each deserves credit. The enduring valor of the combat troops has paralleled and made possible by the often unpublicized activities of supply, administrative, and medical services of this Army and of the Communications Zone troops supporting it. Nor should we forget our comrades of the other armies and of the Air Force, particularly of the XIX Tactical Air Command, by whose side or under whose wings we have had the honor to fight.

In proudly contemplating our achievements, let us never forget our heroic dead whose graves mark the course of our victorious advances, nor our wounded whose sacrifices aided so much to our success.

I should be both ungrateful and wanting in candor if I failed to acknowledge the debt we owe to our Chiefs of Staff, Generals Gaffey and Gay, and to the officers and men of the General and Special Staff Sections of Army Headquarters. Without their loyalty, intelligence, and unremitting labors, success would have been impossible.

The termination of fighting in Europe does not remove the opportunities for other outstanding and equally difficult achievements in the days which are to come. In some ways the immediate future will demand of you more fortitude than has the past because, without the inspiration of combat, you must maintain—by your dress, deportment, and efficiency—not only the prestige of the Third Army but also the honor of the United States. I have complete confidence that you will not fail.

During the course of this war I have received promotions and decorations far above and beyond my individual merit. You won them; I as your representative wear them. The one honor which is mine and mine alone is that of having commanded such an incomparable group of Americans, the record of whose fortitude, audacity, and valor will endure as long as history lasts.

/s/ G. S. Patton Jr.

/t/ G. S. PATTON JR.  
General

fellow countrymen will forever  
George VI, 7 May 1945." G-1







BULLETIN )  
NUMBER 68 )

10 May 1945

OFFICIAL SECTION

I - COMMENDATORY MESSAGE.

The following personal message has been received by General Eisenhower from His Majesty, the King. It is the Supreme Commander's desire that this message be brought to the attention of every member of this command.

"Eleven months ago, you led the Allied Expeditionary Force across the English Channel, carrying with you the hopes and prayers of millions of men and women of many nations.

"To it was entrusted the task of annihilating the German Armies in western Europe, and of thus liberating the peoples whom they had enslaved.

"All the world now knows that, after fierce and continuous warfare, this force has accomplished its mission with a finality achieved by no other such expedition in history.

"On behalf of all my peoples, I ask that you, its Supreme Commander, will tell its members how deeply grateful we are to them, and how unbounded is our admiration for the courage and determination which, under wise leadership, have brought them to their goal of complete and crushing victory.

"I would ask you also to convey a special message of congratulations to my own forces now under your command.

"Throughout the campaign, they have acquitted themselves, in all services, with valour and distinction for which their fellow countrymen will forever hold them in honour. Signed George VI, 7 May 1945." G-1



HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY  
APO 758 US Army

WGC/hlh

BULLETIN )  
:  
NUMBER 69 )

11 May 1945

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

It is the desire of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, that the following congratulatory messages be brought to the attention of all members of this command.

1. Message from the President, Harry S. Truman:

"In recognition of the unconditional and abject surrender of the Nazi barbarians please accept the fervent congratulations and appreciation of myself and of the American people for the heroic achievements of your Allied Army, Navy and Air Forces; by their sacrifices, skill and courage, they have saved and exalted the cause of freedom throughout the world. All of us owe to you and to your men of many nations a debt beyond appraisal for their high contribution to the conquest of Naziism.

"I send also my personal appreciation of the superb leadership shown by you and your commanders in directing the valiant legions of our own country and of our allies to this historic victory.

"Please transmit this message to the appropriate officers of your command and publish it to all Allied Forces in your theater of operations."

2. Message from the Secretary of War:

"In this first moment after one of the greatest military victories in all history, I find it most difficult to express to you in words the thankfulness which fills the hearts of millions of your countrymen for all that the victory means to them.

"In this great hour of victory I join with all peace loving peoples of the world in sending my most heartfelt thanks to you, your staff and commanders, and to every member of your Allied Armies."

3. Message from the Secretary of the Navy:

"The United States Navy send to you and your commanders its congratulations and admiration for the superb accomplishments of the American Armies in achieving in conjunction with our allies the destruction of Nazi Germany.

"To you personally goes my unbounded admiration for a great accomplishment in terms of military strategy, leadership and above all those qualities of will, patience and tact which have earned for you the unswerving support of our own forces and those of our allies."



Bul 69, Hq Seventh Army,  
11 May 45, Con't.

4. Message from Admiral King:

"On behalf of the officers and men of the U. S. Navy, I extend hearty and sincere congratulations to you and all officers and men under your able command on the victory attained in Europe.

"The unselfish devotion to duty demonstrated by your forces will serve as an inspiration to renew our determination to hasten the day of victory over Japan."

5. Message from Admiral Nimitz:

"The smashing victory of American and Allied Arms over Germany ends the reign of brute force and terror in Europe. Millions of the world's people are beholden to you and the superb forces under your command for the restoration of their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

"The victory confirms the wisdom of our world strategy which required the use of the bulk of our strength against Germany while holding Japan and driving them back when possible. Now the whole overwhelming weight of our force can be turned upon our treacherous enemy in the Pacific. Japan deserves and from now on will receive our united and undivided attention.

"My sincere congratulations to you, your staff and all the men of your command on the completion of a formidable task supremely well done.

6. Message from the Queen of the Netherlands:

"Please accept my most sincere congratulations on the great and decisive victories which have caused the final downfall of a powerful and ruthless enemy. Together with me and my peoples, grateful thanks to you and all the armies under your supreme command, who, by their unflinching bravery and sacrifice, have brought about the triumph of our common cause and the liberation of the Netherlands."

7. Message from the Prime Minister of Canada:

"I send to you and to the forces under your command the heartfelt congratulations of the government and people of Canada upon the final defeat of the military might of Nazi Germany to which defeat the Allied Expeditionary Forces contributed so decisively. We are indeed proud that Canadians had so worthy a place in the great company of the forces of liberation which under your supreme command have achieved so complete a victory."

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL PATCH:

OFFICIAL::  
/s/ W. G. Caldwell  
/t/ W. G. CALDWELL  
Colonel, AGD  
Adjutant General

ARTHUR A. WHITE  
Major Gen., GSC  
Chief of Staff



## GENERAL DEVERS COMMENDS XV CORPS TROOPS

## LETTER TO GENERAL HAISLIP NAILS CORPS

## AMONG U. S. "MILITARY GREATS"

With the XV Corps in Austria -- General Jacob L. Devers, Commanding the Sixth Army Group, has enthusiastically commended the XV Corps for its "great record" which contributed so outstandingly to the defeat of Germany.

In an acclamatory letter to Lt. Gen. Wade H. Haislip, General Devers acknowledged the "spectacular deeds" of the XV Corps from the time the organization joined the Sixth Army Group's Seventh Army until the "hour of triumph". He lauded the bold maneuvers of the Corps which resulted in the capture of Forrey Forest, the Saverne Gap, and Strasbourg, the breaching of the Maginot and Siegfried Lines, the conquest of Zweibrücken, the crossing of the Rhine, the victories of Aschaffenburg, Bamberg, Munich and Salzburg and the breaking of "the last remnants of German resistance".

Previously, while under General Patton's Third Army command, the XV Corps has exploited the Normandy break-through, spearheaded the drive through western France, made the first Allied crossing of the Seine River, opened the gateway to Paris, and subsequently made contact with and joined Seventh Army forces who had moved north from Marseilles.

"Your country has every reason to name the XV Corps among its military greats," wrote General Devers to General Haislip. The full text of the letter of commendation follows:



HEADQUARTERS  
SIXTH ARMY GROUP  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
APO 23

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Commanding General, AV Corps, APO 436, US Army

In the glorious victory which we have just won, you and the officers and men of your Corps may well be proud of your great record as part of the 6th Army Group. As spearhead in many of Seventh Army's drives, you have borne the brunt of the attack, and the impressive successes of that Army bear witness to the effectiveness of your efforts. Your country has every reason to name the AV Corps among its military greats.

You joined my command at the time when an attack through the treacherous Forêt Forest in Northern Alsace was underway. After swiftly clearing this area, your forces composed the main effort of the Seventh Army to break through the naturally strong line of the Vosges to the Rhine. By a series of bold maneuvers, the Severne Gap was breached and Strasbourg was taken in a breath-taking dash to the Rhine. You then turned north to the Siegfried Line and were proceeding against the German border when the Ardennes offensive forced a halt on your front. In late December and early January, you were required to hold a greatly extended line against determined enemy attacks, but your troops repulsed every thrust.

When on the entire Western Front an offensive was launched early this spring, your Corps once again headed the advance of the Seventh Army. Reaching the Siegfried Line, after bitter fighting you took Zweibrücken and Saarbrücken and broke through to the Rhine. This fabulous river, once considered an important military barrier, proved no obstacle to your troops. Precise planning and perfect execution made possible a successful assault on 26 March 1945, as you plunged across with almost no pause.

In your drive deep into Germany, Aschaffenburg and Nurnberg were encircled and captured. Munich, one of the most sacred of German cities to the Nazis, was assaulted and seized in a decisive action. Several days later Salzburg fell to your troops, as they entered Austria and broke the last remnants of German resistance before you.

In our hour of triumph, I salute you and the Officers and men of the AV Corps. Your spectacular deeds, exemplifying the courage and resolution of the American soldier, give your country, as well as myself, the greatest of pride and satisfaction. That the AV Corps was part of my command in the struggle now ended will always be a source of deep inspiration to me.

JACOB L. DEVLERS,  
General, U. S. Army  
Commanding



AF0 000, US Army C-5  
24 November 1944

AG 41110.00 (ELEGA)

SUBJECT: Indoctrination for Return to US.

TO : All Units, European Theater of Operations, USA.

1. In compliance with current policies for rotation of armed forces overseas, it is directed that, in order to maintain the high standard of character of the American soldier and to prevent any dishonor to reflect on the uniform, all individuals eligible for return to the United States under current directives will undergo an indoctrination of demilitarization prior to approval of this application.

2. The following points will be emphasized in the subject indoctrination course:

a. In America, there are a remarkable number of beautiful girls. These young ladies have not been liberated and many are gainfully employed as stenographers, sales girls, and beauty operators or welders. Contrary to current practices they should not be approached with, "How much?". A proper greeting is, "Isn't this a lovely day?", or "Have you ever been to Chicago?". THEN ask "How much?".

b. A guest in a private home is usually awakened in the morning by a light tapping on his door and an invitation to join the host in breakfast. It is proper to say "I'll be there shortly" DO NOT say, "Blow it out your - - - - -".

c. A typical American breakfast consists of such strange foods as canteloupe, fresh eggs, milk, ham, etc. These are highly palatable and though strange in appearance are extremely tasty. Butter, made from cream, is often served. If you wish some butter, you turn to the person nearest to it and say quietly, "Please pass the butter". YOU DO NOT say, "Throw me the goddam grease".

d. Very natural urges are apt to occur in a crowd. If it is found necessary to defecate, one does NOT grasp a shovel in one hand and paper in the other and run for the garden. At least 90% of American homes have one room called the "bathroom", i.e., a room that, in most cases, contains a bathtub, wash basin, medicine cabinet, and a toilet. It is the latter that you will use in this case. (Instructions should make sure that all personnel understand the operation of a toilet, particularly the lever or button arrangement that serves to prepare the device for re-use).

e. In the event the helmet is retained by the individual he will refrain from using it as a chair, washbowl, footbath, or bathtub. All these devices are furnished in the average American home. It is not considered good practice to squat Indian fashion in a corner in the event all chairs are occupied. The host will usually provide suitable seats.

f. Belching or passing wind in company is strictly frowned upon. If you should absent-mindedly forget about it, however, a belch in the presence of others, a proper remark is, "Excuse me". DO NOT say, "It must be the lousy chow we've been getting".



g. American dinners in most cases consist of several items, each served in a separate dish. The common practice of mixing various items, such as corned beef and pudding or lima beans and peaches to make it more palatable will be refrained from. In time the "Separate Dish" system will become enjoyable.

h. Americans have a strange taste for stimulants. The drinks in common usage on the Continent, such as under-ripe wine, alcohol, and grapefruit juice mix, or gasoline bitters and water (commonly known by the French term "Cognac") are not ordinarily acceptable in civilian circles. These drinks should be served only to those who are definitely not within the inner circle of one's friends. A suitable use for such drinks is for one's landlord in order to break an undesirable lease.

i. The returning soldier is apt to often find his opinions differ from those of his civilian associates. One should call upon his reserve of etiquette and correct these acquaintances with such remarks as "I do believe you have made a mistake", or "I am told you are in error on that". DO NOT say "Brother, you're really f- - - -d up". This is considered impolite.

j. Upon leaving a friend's home after a visit, one may find his hat misplaced. Frequently it has been placed in a closet. One should turn to one's host and say, "I don't seem to have my hat". "Could you help me find it?" DO NOT say, "Don't anybody leave this room, some S.O.B. has stolen my hat".

k. In traveling in the U.S. particularly in a strange city, it is often necessary to spend the night. Hotels are provided for this purpose and almost everyone can give directions to the nearest hotel. Here, for a small sum, one can register and be shown to a room where he can sleep for the night. The present practice of entering the nearest house throwing the occupants into the yard, and taking over the premises will cease.

l. Whiskey, a common American drink, may be offered to the soldier on social occasions. It is considered a reflection on the uniform to snatch the bottle from the hostess and drain the bottle, cork and all. All individuals will be cautioned to exercise the extreme of control in these circumstances.

m. In motion picture theaters seats are provided. Helmets are not required. It is NOT considered good form to whistle every time a female over 8 and under 80 crosses the screen. If vision is impaired by the person in the seat in front, there are plenty of other seats which can be occupied. DO NOT hit him across the back of the head and say, "Love your head, jerk, I can't see through wood".

n. It is not proper to go around hitting everyone of draft age in civilian clothes. He might have been released from the service for medical reasons. Ask for his credentials, and if he can't show any, then go ahead and slug him.



o. Upon retiring, one can find a pair of pajamas laid out on the bed. (Pajamas it should be explained are two piece garments which are donned after all clothing has been removed.) The soldier, confronted by these garments, should assume an air of familiarity and act, as though he were used to them. A casual remark such as, "My, what a delicate shade of blue", will usually suffice. Under NO circumstances say, "How in hell do you expect me to sleep in a get-up like that?"

p. Natural functions will continue. It may be necessary frequently to urinate. DO NOT walk behind the nearest tree or automobile you see to accomplish this. Toilets (see "c." above) are provided in all public buildings for this purpose.

q. Beer is sometimes served in bottles. A cap remover is usually available and it is not good form to open the bottle by the use of one's teeth.

r. Air raids and enemy patrols are not encountered in America. Therefore it is not necessary to wear the helmet in church or at social gatherings or to hold the weapon at the ready, loose and cocked, when talking to civilians in the street.

s. Always tip your hat before striking a lady.

t. Every American home and all hotels are equipped with bathing facilities; when it is desired to take a bath, it is not considered good form to find the nearest pool or stream, strip down, and indulge in a bath. This is particularly true in heavily populated areas.

3. All individuals returning to the U.S. will make every effort to conform to the customs and habits of the regions visited and to make themselves as inconspicuous as possible. Any actions which reflect upon the honor of the uniform will promptly be dealt with.

By order of the Commanding General:

/s/A. J. Blank,  
/t/A. J. Blank,  
Col., A.S.D.,  
Adj. Gen.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"