

The Red Bull is back!

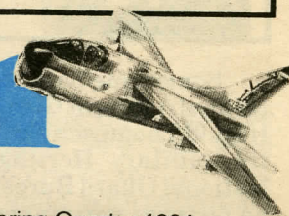


The Iowa

Militiaman

Official Newspaper of the Iowa Army and Air National Guard

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit #28
Clarion, IA 50525



Spring Quarter 1991

Published by the 135th Public Affairs Detachment

1941



First platoon, Company I, 133rd Infantry assembles on February 27, 1941 in the Sheldon Community Building in preparation for departure to Camp Claiborne, La. for federal service in WWII. (Photo courtesy of Richard E. Bauer and the Sheldon Prairie Museum)

Ceremony marks 50th Anniversary of WW II National Guard call-ups

By Spec. Carolyn Tenney

Iowa Governor Terry E. Branstad and Maj. Gen. Warren Lawson praised the 113th Cavalry Group and the 34th Infantry Division for their valorous service during World War II in a moving ceremony at the State Capitol on February 8.

IN THIS ISSUE

Accolades from Headquarters	2
Early days of the 34th Div.	3
Former F Co. Commanders	4
Ceremony in Villisca	5
Gammack covers the 34th	5
Brig. Gen. (Ret) Ed Bird	6
Red Bull symbol	7
Ceremony in Atlantic	7
124th Observation Squadron	7
113th Cavalry Group	8
Gammack with the Red Horse	9
Reactivation photos	10
Animated Red Bull Crest	11
WWII Scrapbook	12
34th Division in WWII	14
Winter Line	23
Red Bull campaign map	24

Color guard members marched to the music of a fife and drum from the 34th Army band and stood at attention as the duo played selections of patriotic music.

After the pledge of allegiance and invocation, Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Edward W. Bird shared his remembrances of "our former comrades in the 34th Infantry Division and the 113th Cavalry Group." He spoke proudly of the imminent reactivation of the 34th Infantry Division as he offered a plaque in honor of the event to Gov. Branstad.

Maj. Gen. Lawson presented Gov. Branstad with two plaques: one commemorating the achievements of the 34th "Red Bull" Division; the other honoring the 113th "Red Horse" Cavalry Group.

Branstad, as he spoke of the achievements of these two distinguished units, urged the assemblage to also remember those soldiers serving in Operation Desert Storm. He prayed for their speedy and safe return.

Red Bull patches—old and new—were in abundance. Retired and active military persons greeted each other and enjoyed the opportunity to share stories and renew old acquaintances.

34th Infantry Division regains its place in history

As the 34th Infantry Division's colors were uncased on February 10 at the St. Paul National Guard Armory in Minnesota, the 47th Infantry Division became history.

Nearly 16,000 National Guard members from Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin will don the familiar red and black patch as they become Red Bulls instead of Vikings.

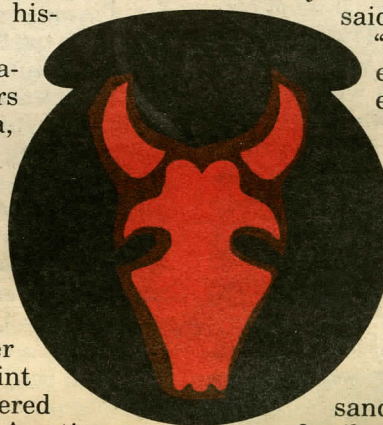
Retired Gen. John Vessey, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, delivered the keynote address. A native Minnesotan, Vessey received a

battlefield commission while serving with the 34th Division in Italy.

In his remarks concerning the history of the 34th Division, Vessey said that the Red Bull men "had the fear of the enemy and the respect of every other soldier in the army."

The 34th Division, headquartered in Minnesota, includes 8,250 soldiers in Minnesota, 3,650 in Iowa, 3,450 in Illinois, and 300 in Wisconsin.

More than a thousand soldiers, friends and family members attended the reactivation ceremony in St. Paul.



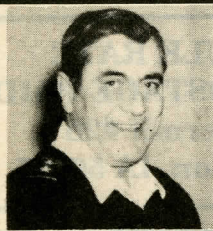
34TH INFANTRY (RED BULL) DIVISION

ATTACK! ATTACK! ATTACK!

1991



Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Muehlbauer, 34th Division (left) hands the case that moments before contained the Red Bull flag to Gen. (Ret.) John W. Vessey, Jr., officially bringing the division back on line. (Photo by Sgt. Tom Slaybaugh)



A lineage of significance

By Maj. Gen. Warren Lawson
Adjutant General, Iowa National Guard

Some time back, after I was appointed Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Harold Thompson and I talked about the Military Heritage Gallery at National Guard Bureau. There were no pictures pertaining to Iowa. We were disturbed that Iowa was a state with an incredible history and yet no recognition. As a result Col. Jerry Gorden was tasked to research some part of the 34th Division history and get a bit of it replicated into a piece of art for the heritage gallery. After extensive research of the 34th Division's history, the historians chose the battle now depicted as "Red Bull in the Winter Line."

When the painting by Donna Neary was completed, it was presented to Gen. Temple, Chief of National Guard Bureau. The historian there observed that it was a shame that we had a division with the lineage of the 34th that was not on the active rolls. Gen. Temple inquired as to how the 34th got off the rolls, and was advised that during a force reduction back in 1968 either the 47th or the 34th had to be taken off the active rolls and that the Viking Division was saved. Gen. Temple said that he'd reopen the issue if the

Adjutants General of Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois would agree. Following this understanding, the efforts to reactivate the 34th Infantry Division were set in motion.

The 34th Division Association, Gen. Vessey (the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and World War II 34th Division member), the adjutants general, and former Red Bull members everywhere began a campaign to bring the 34th Division back on line. It was a collective effort that involved a host of people and I think everyone in our brigade is overjoyed that the effort succeeded. It brings back a military lineage that is second to none and one that we've got to be proud of.

I'm old enough that I can remember when the 34th Division mustered for active duty in World War II out of my hometown of Fairfield. Everybody wore Red Bulls. I can remember watching the newspaper for information on "our Guard," the 34th Division. They were the first ready for deployment... they were first in combat in North Africa... they proved their capability at Hill 609... sustained their losses at the Kasserine and then went to Italy. The Red Bull campaign in Italy was considered secondary to Normandy and Central Europe. But, in Iowa, due to our soldiers, there was continuous coverage of that campaign. I can recall following their successes and the record-setting number of days of continuous combat. Even today an affinity exists in Italy for the Red Bull Division. They still hold our division in great regard.

I'm overjoyed that the military leadership of the Army was willing to bring this division back up on line. The Red Bull patches on our soldiers simply add a historical precedent to the fine job they do today.

The soldiers that put on that patch—whether it was in World War I or II—have created a heritage of significance. That record of achievements ought to make them extremely proud and provide the stimulation to today's guardsman to become good enough to equal their record should that be required.

I'd say this to the soldiers just putting on the Red Bull patch: "I extend hearty congratulations. Be proud of those in the past who created history. Train hard, so that if you ever are called, you can replicate the type of history that the 34th Division enjoys."

DEDICATION

This special edition of the Iowa Militiaman honors the brave soldiers of the 34th Infantry Division, 113th Cavalry Group, and 124th Observation Squadron who were mobilized for federal service during World War II. It also celebrates the reactivation of the legendary "Red Bull" Division.

The realities of time and human resources precluded the coverage of every ceremony and worthy individual associated with these historic events. We therefore ask that you accept this journalistic offering in the spirit in which it was designed and produced—as a tribute to all soldiers and family members who sacrificed so much a half-century ago.

A proud heritage

By Brig. Gen. Harold Thompson,
Deputy Adjutant General, Iowa National Guard

I'm delighted with the fact that the 34th Division is being reactivated. I started out in August 1954 in the Red Bull Division—in the second battle group of the 133rd Infantry Regiment—and spent a number of years with the division before it was deactivated.

The 34th Division boasts a tremendous heritage. It claims the greatest number of consecutive days spent in combat. It participated in a number of important operations during World War II.

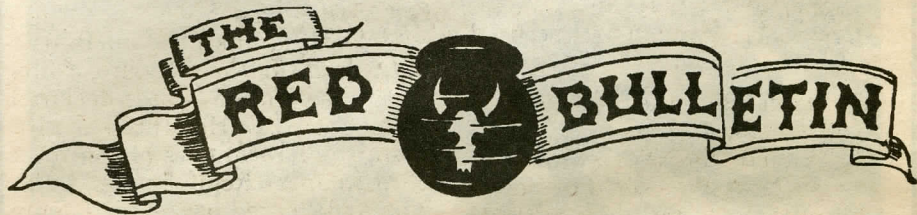
The 34th Division has been around Iowa and the Midwest all of

its life, and Iowa has been the base or hub around which it has revolved. So certainly it is a division with which we can identify.

History is important to those of us in the military. The wearing of the uniform is a patriotic gesture that identifies soldiers as part of this country's defense. It sets us apart.

It's the same with the 34th Division. Being a part of that famous division gives an individual almost an instant credibility—that wow, you must be good!

The 34th Division has a proud heritage earned in blood and thousands of lives. It carries forth something that is hard to put into words. The momentum in command—and around Iowa—in connection with this reactivation is the best expression of what this division means to all of us.



Reactivation brings back piece of history

By Col. Roger Schultz,
Chief of Staff, Iowa National Guard

The reactivation of the 34th Division provides us with an opportunity to correct something that was a mistake many years ago. We can bring back a level of recognition to the Iowans who were part of the 34th Division in World War II.

Simply put, it is an opportunity for us to bring back that piece of history upon which we in Iowa need to reflect.

We all want to remember the positive things. In terms of a contribution on the part of service members, the 34th Division has to remain one of the best

that we have in Iowa.

Across the state, many communities are having special reactivation ceremonies where former members of the 34th Division will come to the armories and be part of bringing the division back on line to active status. Former members will be involved in essentially every one of those reactivation ceremonies.

We need to teach Guard members across Iowa what the 34th Infantry Division really did, what they're all about, and what they accomplished. Because those accomplishments were a piece of the price of what this country is today. That was a significant contribution.

Hopefully we can identify with all of those lessons in Iowa history and be a better organization for it.



Grant Bishop, a former member of the 109th Medics, 34th Division, admires the new Red Bull patch on the shoulder of Sgt. Maj. Dennis Norton of Boone, Iowa (Photo by Spec. Carolyn Tenney)

THE IOWA MILITIAMAN

The Iowa Militiaman is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-81. It is published by the 135th Public Affairs Detachment, Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa 50131-1902, and appears four times annually.

Public Affairs Officer

Lt. Col. Robert C. King

Commanding Officer

Maj. Allen Bloemendaal

First Sergeant

1st Sgt. Garry Skeries

Press Officer

Capt. Greg Steggerda

Militiaman Editor

Staff Sgt. Ken Sweeney

Red Bull Section Editor

Spec. Carolyn Tenney

Press Staff

Staff Sgt. Jim Stordahl

Sgt. Mike Nyman

Sgt. John Scheffler

Sgt. Tom Slaybaugh

Unit Administrator

Sgt. Arlin DeGroot

Other Contributors

Maj. Robert L. Anderson

Col. (Ret.) Homer R. Ankrum

Richard E. Bauer

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Ed Bird

Des Moines Register

Capt. (Ret.) Paul Gauthier

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Arnold

Harjehausen

Eldon D. Johnson

Lt. Col. (Ret.) W.H. Johnson

Col. Aloysius Rolfes

Bob Stoyles/Stoyles Graphics

The news and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Adjutant General of Iowa, or the Department of the Army.



The early days of the 34th Infantry Division

By Lt. Col. (Ret.) Homer R. Ankrum

When Maj. Gen. David H. Lueck, Winona, Minn., assembles the Old Red Bull Division on the parade field, their proud tradition will be evidenced by a highly impressive array of campaign streamers.

Indian uprisings

Lineage history of the 34th Division's three regiments dates back to the Indian Wars and Indian uprisings. Forerunners of the 133rd Infantry Regiment were Companies A and B of Fort Dodge, Iowa and Company C of Webster City. All were part of a battalion commanded by Maj. William Williams.

Ill-clad in the freezing temperatures occurring in March of 1857, these companies marched through snowdrifts to Spirit Lake, Iowa to come to the aid of settlers in a Sioux Indian massacre that left 42 settlers dead.

Later, in 1858, the 1st Minnesota Volunteers, now the 135th Infantry Regiment, hastily shouldered their muskets and marched to New Ulm, Minnesota to aid that settlement when Indians brutally massacred some 1,100 settlers.

Lineage regiments of the Iowa 168th Infantry Regiment and the Minnesota 135th Infantry Regiment patrolled the western Iowa and Minnesota borders from 1859 to 1864. Their mission was to quell Indian disturbances.

Civil War

With the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, forerunners of what later comprised the regiments of the 34th Division and the 175th Field Artillery were called into service. During the Civil War, the 133rd Infantry forerunners fought at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg and Atlanta. The Iowa 168th Infantry Regiment has streamers for Arkansas, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, Alabama, Atlanta, North Carolina and South Carolina. Minnesota's 135th Infantry has streamers for Virginia, Bull Run, Peninsula, Valley, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg and Petersburg. The 175th Field Artillery is authorized a Civil War campaign streamer.

War with Spain

With the sinking of the Battleship Maine in the Havana, Cuba harbor, the United States declared war on Spain. During the War with Spain, the forerunners of the Iowa 133rd Infantry Regiment served in Cuba and cleared pockets of enemy resistance after formal hostilities ceased. The Iowa 168th Infantry Regiment was sent to the Philippines and during the insurrection earned streamers for the Manila and Malos Campaigns. The Minnesota 135th Infantry Regiment has streamers for Manila from the War with Spain and Luzon and San Isidro during the Philippine Insurrection.

Mexican border

President Victoriano of Mexico was forced to resign July 14, 1914. A power struggle ensued and the United States recognized Vennistiano over Francisco ("Poncho Villa") as President. Villa's forces murdered 18 Americans, thinking the president of Mexico would be blamed. Discovered, Villa crossed freely into America for safe harbor, then raided several villages, killing people. The United States mobilized forces under Gen. John Pershing and dispatched them to the border. Forerunners of the 133rd, 135th and 168th Infantry Regiments were among those dispatched during June of 1916 to the Texas border. All three regiments were mustered out of federal service during the period January through March 1917.

World War I

World War I had been raging since the Germans invaded Belgium in August 1914. France, Britain and Russia aligned against Germany, Austria and Hungary. The Iowa - Minnesota Guardsmen, after returning from border service, hardly had adjusted to sleeping in beds and eating food without sand in it, when they again were called to active duty during the period March through July 1917.

Most of those mobilized had received extensive training on the Mexican Border. Before many units

had left home station, the ranks were purged of trained men who were hastily sent to France to fight with regular Army units. With patriotism at a fevered pitch, replacements soon were enlisted.

August 1917 found the guardsmen in Camp Cody, N. M. where the units were formed into the 34th Infantry Division. The Minnesota 135th and 136th Infantry were the nucleus of one brigade; the Iowa 133rd and 168th Infantry Regiment formed the nucleus of the other. However, in more personnel raiding of the 34th Infantry Division, the 168th Infantry Regiment and 175th Field Artillery were pulled to help form the famous 42nd "Rainbow" Infantry Division.

The 34th Infantry Division was, however, awarded a World War I Campaign streamer, as were the 125th, 151st, and 175th Field Artillery Battalions. As a part of the Rainbow Division, the 168th Infantry Regiment and the 175th Field Artillery fought brilliantly and were awarded campaign streamers for Champagne Marne, Aisne-Marne, Lorraine, Champagne, St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne.

The 34th Infantry Division veterans of World War I long bemoaned the tragic splitting of their division's men and units. However, historical records authenticate their combat effectiveness both as individuals and as units.

Brief time line of the 34th Division

1917 World War I is declared...The 34th Infantry Division is created from National Guard troops of Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and the Dakotas, and then sent to Camp Cody, New Mexico, for training.

1918 Most original personnel are withdrawn from the division and sent as replacements to France...Refilled with new draftees, the division eventually ships to France but war ends before it sees action.

1920 Reorganization as a National Guard division from Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota.

1940 With war clouds on the horizon the division receives word of an impending mobilization for a year of active training.

1941 The division is inducted into active federal service and goes to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana...War is declared.

1942 The 34th becomes the first American division sent overseas...After combat training in Northern Ireland and Scotland, it enters the campaign to push the Axis forces out of North Africa.

1943-44 Fighting continues in Tunisia (Faid Pass, Fondouk, Kassarine, Hill 609) until North Africa is in Allied hands...It joins with the Fifth Army in Italy (Salerno, Benevento, Volturno River, Monte Pantano, San Vittore, Rapido River, Cassino, Anzio, Rome, Leghorn, Pisa, the Apennines).

1945 War ends as the 34th takes control of the Po Valley in northern Italy...The division is inactivated after amassing more days in combat than any other American division in the war.

1946 The division is reorganized with troops of the Iowa and Nebraska National Guard.

1963 Guard cutbacks reduce the division to a divisional command headquarters.

1968 More cutbacks force the division to be inactivated.

1991 Reactivation comes when the 47th Infantry Division, a National Guard division from Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin, is converted to the 34th Division with no change in personnel or structure.

From: Historical Sketch #2 - Minnesota Military Museum



A mannequin models the World War II 34th Division uniform of Russell Gull of Earlville, Iowa. Gull enlisted in Dubuque, Iowa. (Photo by Spec. Carolyn Tenney)



Former F Company commanders share memories of World War II

By Paul Gauthier

It was an afternoon of great reminiscing and turning back of the National Guard historic clock as three former commanders of F Company, 168th Infantry, 34th Division, assembled in Villisca, Iowa one day last November.

They came to help plan celebration activities observing the reactivation of their famous Red Bull outfit on the 50th anniversary of its induction into federal service on February 10, 1941. This year's events were scheduled in the same Villisca armory where—five decades ago—the three, along with other citizen-soldiers, were mobilized into service.

"Everyone around here is pleased to know that our National Guard troops again will be wearing the Red Bull patch," commented Robert R. Moore (Brig. Gen., Ret.), now of Red Oak, who served as F Company's commander when the unit was federalized. "The 34th was an outfit with a great record, pride and heritage. It is only proper that its troops again serve under this designation."

Rounding out this trio of former F Company commanders were Edward E. Reynolds (Brig. Gen., Ret.) and Dennis F. Neal (Col., Ret.), both of Villisca. Reynolds commanded the unit during the invasion of North Africa on November 8, 1942, and Neal served as commander of the unit when it was reorganized in 1946 following World War II.

Both echoed Moore's comments about the reactivation, noting that their enthusiasm is shared by other former wartime members and by those who have served since World War II.

"It seems that the pride is inherited from one generation to another," noted Reynolds. "F Company's history goes back to the days of the old Highland Blues of Civil War days."

When the 34th was federalized before the outbreak of World War II, the 33 armories across Iowa became full-time military stations for approximately 5,500 National Guards-

million potatoes," he said.

During the period before entraining to Camp Claiborne, La., company members could go home at night but had to report for reveille at

war effort were invaluable.

The 34th spent 517 days in combat, a record high for any infantry division in World War II. It was the first division to enter the European Theater of Operations, prompting the great warrior Winston Churchill to write, "The 34th was the first of the United States troops to leave the New World and carry, by their sacrifices and valor...the blessings of freedom and justice to lands enslaved." The division came home in 1945 with 3,737 killed in action; 14,165 wounded; and 3,460 missing in action. Many were prisoners of war.

Combat veterans seldom talk publicly about their experiences, but do occasionally among themselves. As that afternoon in November moved along, a number of landmarks and their associated events of five decades ago were remembered as if yesterday. The recall of names, incidents and places was remarkable, but war does etch its indelible mark. There were some hushed tones in the conversation and some periods of momentary silence as memories floated back.

Moore recalled receiving a camera from a captured German officer. The officer noted, "The film is half exposed with pictures taken during our [German] attack on you at Faid and Kasserine Pass. Now you can use the other half taking pictures of your attack on the Germans." (Ironically, someone later swiped the camera from Moore.)

The route could be traced...the invasion of North Africa...Sened Station...Kasserine Pass...the two Fondouks...Hill 609. It was at Hill 609 the 34th fought as a complete unit for the first time and it helped make the division, the three agreed. In Italy there were three crossings of the Volturno...Mount Pantano...Benevento...Anzio...Cassino. And those who were there can never forget the bombing of the Abbey of Monte Cassino. In an unusual twist of military history, the 34th's last action was the disarming and evacuation of its enemy counterpart, the German 34th Infantry Division.

Events and dates, important to the history of our country, often dim with the passing of time. They fade into the background, to be brought back occasionally to center stage. On this Golden Anniversary it is center stage time once again for the men and women of the 34th—as their great accomplishments of the past are renewed and remembered and as their outfit once again is "brought back on line."

(Editor's Note: Shortly after this interview—on November 22, 1990—Brig. Gen. Reynolds suffered a fatal heart attack at his home in Villisca, Iowa.)



Three former commanders of F Company, 168th Infantry, share some memories last November while planning for the reactivation of the 34th Division. From left: Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Robert R. Moore (now of Red Oak), who commanded the unit when it was federalized in 1941; Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Edward E. Reynolds (Villisca), who commanded F Company when it first went into combat in North Africa in 1942; and Col. (Ret.) Dennis F. Neal (Villisca), who was the company commander when the 34th Division was reorganized in 1946. Shortly after this photo was taken, Reynolds suffered a fatal heart attack. (Photo by Paul Gauthier)

men. Neal, who—along with Reynolds—had personally been recruited by Moore, remembers doing KP duty at the Presbyterian church in Villisca, where unit members ate all of their meals. "I think I peeled a

7 o'clock each morning. Shots and vaccinations, less sophisticated in those days, resulted in many sore arms.

Company F members boarded a troop train at the now-raised depot on March 2, 1941, bound for Camp Claiborne, La.

There are vivid memories of that departure morning. Led by the high-stepping Villisca High School marching band, the company of five officers and 107 enlisted men marched proudly to the Burlington rail station, to be greeted along the way by a crowd of 1,500 persons.

The misty eyes, choking good-byes and lumpy throats reflected the emotions and feelings of this small agricultural community.

Sons, husbands, fathers, relatives and friends were going off for a "year of federal service" that would not end, as it turned out, until nearly four years later on May 8, 1945 near Ivrea on the Ticino River in Italy. Four Christmases, three of them overseas, passed before the Third Reich was destroyed.

F Company absorbed its share of casualties as telegrams filtered back telling of those killed in action, wounded in action, missing in action and taken prisoner. No home remained untouched.

Outfits like the 34th were the "proving ground people" of World War II. Lessons learned from their early days in combat relating to training, weapons, materiel and tactics later helped to build a mighty military machine. Their contributions to the

About the author

During World War II, Paul Gauthier served with the 87th Infantry Division before being assigned to the public relations staff of Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. in Europe.

In that capacity he was a daily briefing officer to Patton's general staff and to some 40-50 war correspondents covering Third Army for press and radio through France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany and into Czechoslovakia.

A member of a three-generation family of National Guardsmen, Capt. Gauthier participated in the reactivation of units in southwestern Iowa following World War II, serving as S-2, 2nd Battalion, 168th Infantry. Since leaving the Guard, he has maintained an interest in the public relations and promotional ar-



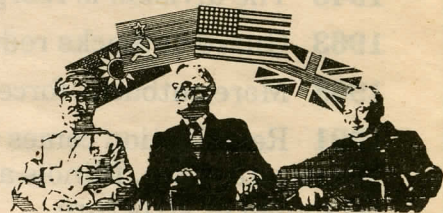
Paul Gauthier

reas of the organization.

From 1976 to 1982, Gauthier researched and edited *Brickbats from F Company*, a book focusing on the National Guardsmen of southwest Iowa. Much of the material came from columns and articles entitled "Brickbats" written by the late Sgt. Milo Green—of Company F—for the *Villisca Review* and *The Adams County Free Press* in Corning.

Having spent over three decades as editor and publisher of *The Adams County Free Press*, Gauthier still works part-time as a reporter. He is in his fourth year of researching a book on Icaria, a French commune that settled east of Corning in the last half of the 19th century.

"The 34th Division's World War II record needs to be brought to the forefront," says Gauthier. "It's a tremendous outfit. Getting the Red Bull patch back on the shoulder really gave everyone a lift. I can't say enough about the goodness of all of this."





Villisca celebrates the return of the Red Bull

By Paul Gauthier

Echoes of 50 years ago filtered across the Villisca Armory drill floor Saturday and Sunday, February 9 and 10 as hundreds gathered in this southwestern Iowa community to celebrate the "return of the Red Bull."

On this golden anniversary of the 34th National Guard Infantry Division's federalization in 1941, the community's own F Company, 2nd Battalion, 168th Infantry, was welcomed "back on line" in reactivation ceremonies. It most recently was known as Company A, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry.

memory of her late husband, Brig. Gen. Edward E. Reynolds, who headed up the company during its invasion of North Africa.

Neal reviewed the history of F Company, tracing its travels from the Villisca Armory in 1941 to Camp Claiborne, La., and on through Ireland, Scotland, North Africa and Italy.

A crowd of more than 200 on Sunday afternoon heard Lindberg read the official reactivation orders for the 34th Division and the deactivation orders for the 47th.

The audience was sprinkled with F Company members wearing their



Members of F Company when the unit was federalized returned to the Villisca Armory for the reactivation ceremony on February 10. From left: Elvin Moritz, Villisca; Russell Nelson, Decorah; Don Patton, Villisca; Tom Dunn, Rogers, Ark.; Robert Moore, Villisca; Dennis Neal, Villisca; and Charles Coy, Villisca. (Photo by Paul Gauthier)

Saturday's festivities began with a buffet dinner for nearly 150 persons, program and dance. Don Patton, a member of the unit when it was federalized, served as master of ceremonies for the two-day event. He was assisted by other members of the planning committee: Capt. David Lindberg, Dennis Neal, Bob Harris and Jerry Greenfield.

Said Capt. Lindberg, current unit commander, "We are looking forward to wearing the 34th Division patch. We hope to measure up to its long and historical heritage."

Special plaques were presented to former F Company commanders. Recipients were Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Robert Moore of Red Oak who commanded F Company upon federalization, and Col. (Ret.) Dennis Neal, commander when the unit was reorganized in 1946. Mrs. Edward (Dorothy) Reynolds accepted a plaque in

uniforms and medals. In some cases former members pinned their medals on civilian clothing. In addition to original F Company members who were federalized, attendees also included many former members who had served in the company since World War II.

Relatives and friends then pinned the Red Bull patches on members of A Company, which has units in Villisca, Corning and Clarinda.

In a stirring closing ceremony, present-day 34th Division members led a parade to the Villisca depot site, symbolizing the departure of F Company for Camp Claiborne on March 2, 1941. "That one year of training turned out to be a period of more than four years, with three Christmases overseas," Moore commented.

The Red Bull is back.

Gordon Gammack

Gordon Gammack, a reporter for the *Des Moines Register and Tribune*, covered three wars during his journalistic career. His firsthand stories of America's fighting men during World War II include columns written while with the 34th Infantry Division. This is one of his reports.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER,
December 26, 1943

VALOR BASED ON DEVOTION TO COMRADES

WITH THE 34TH DIVISION IN ITALY—Nothing at the front transcends devotion of a soldier for the men with whom he has been dumped into the whirlpool of war—his buddies.

A soldier's devotion to his country is an intangible, vague thing. Basically he fights for his country because he has to, but he fights for his buddies because he wants to.

When I hear of a soldier who does a very brave and courageous thing, who risks his life with great abandon, I can usually trace it to an urge to help his friends who are in trouble.

A few nights ago, I was sitting in front of a fire in an Italian farm house with Lieut. Col. Lloyd Rockwell of Council Bluffs, Capt. John Agnes of Sioux City and several other officers and we were talking about this.

"You ought to get a story on Stan Davis," suggested Colonel Rockwell, referring to Sergt. Stanley Davis of Kingsley, Ia. "He's a mess sergeant. He doesn't have to get in there and shoot with the boys, but he does every time there's a fight on. He

grabs his rifle, tells his assistant to take over the kitchen, and goes into the line with the boys."

That led to mention of two other soldiers in the colonel's battalion who do the same thing—Sergt. Floyd Drake of Sioux City, and Sergt. Nenzo E. Hatter of Davenport.

They are supply sergeants and they could stay back of the front lines and do their routine jobs, but when they think of their friends in trouble they, too, grab their rifles and join them.

I didn't get a chance to talk to Sergeant Drake, but Davis said, "He's never out of it when his company is in the line."

Several weeks ago, Sergeant Hatter took rations up to his buddies, found they were having a tough fight, "and just couldn't get back."

Behind the Lines.

"It gets to working on you when you are sitting back away from the real fight," said Sergeant Hatter. "When reports come in that the boys are getting it, a man feels he must do something, particularly when they are his buddies. You sweat it out more in the rear areas in a mental way. It's harder than being up there."

"There are so few of the old men left," interjected Sergeant Davis. "The new men kind of like to see an old man out there."

"And then I saw a friend of mine whose feet had been frozen. The pain was so great tears were just running down his face, but he put on his equipment and went in fighting."

"I asked one man in pain why he stayed in there, and he tells me, 'damn it, someone's got to stay. If I leave, there would be a hole in the line.'"

Then Sergeant Hatter told a story about Second Lieutenant Dennis Neal of Villisca.

"Four of our men were injured at a command post," he said, "Lieutenant Neal took the men into a shelter. The water was up to his boot tops. Two of the men were hurt bad, and one was in awful pain. Lieutenant Neal stood in that water for 12 hours caring for those men and he didn't leave until the men were evacuated."

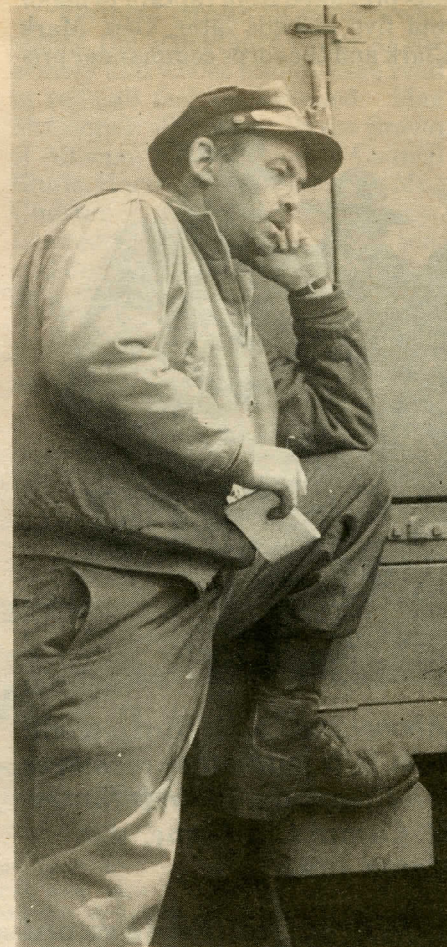
There are so many soldiers with such great character that it stuns a civilian like myself coming among them. I keep on saying that they're the finest men I've ever known.

They complain bitterly about this and that—and often they complain with the greatest amount of justice. War is repellent to them. They long for peace and quiet in their homes.

But they're great fighters, those men from Iowa. They're the best. There's a lot of poppycock about soldiers in noncombatant jobs itching for combat, about wounded soldiers restless to get back into action.

But one thing about an Iowan in war is true. Almost everyone of them will sacrifice his life for his buddies and heroes are made through this devotion.

©1991 *Des Moines Register and Tribune Company*. Reprinted with permission.



Gordon Gammack, war correspondent for *The Des Moines Register*, shortly after arriving in Normandy in 1944. © 1991 *Des Moines Register and Tribune Company*. Used with permission.



How to donate military items to the Gold Star Museum

If you have military memorabilia that you are interested in contributing to the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge, you may:

1. Call Col. Aloysius Rolfes at Camp Dodge (he oversees the operation of the museum): (515) 242-5313.
2. Write:
Iowa National Guard Memorial Association
Att: Col. Aloysius Rolfes
Camp Dodge
7700 NW Beaver Drive
Johnston, IA 50131-1902
3. Visit the museum: Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 1-4:30 p.m.; weekends, by appointment.

The Gold Star Museum is located in the Memorial Building at Camp Dodge. A fund-raising campaign for a new museum began February 13 of this year.





Wounded war hero proud to serve with fellow Iowans in 34th Division

By Staff Sgt. Ken Sweeney

Whenever old 34th Division dogfaces get together to talk about the tough times of the early '40s, one name that pops prominently into the conversation is Ed Bird's.

Bird, of Des Moines, possibly may have served more Army combat hours than any other Iowan during World War II. Despite losing part of his hand to an enemy machine gunner, the Army officer volunteered to return to combat with American forces in Germany.

"Most of us had never been out of the state of Iowa."

Today, he remains active as a member of the 34th Division Association and is president of the Iowa National Guard Memorial Association.

Born July 3, 1914 in Albia, Ed Bird moved to Des Moines when he was three years old with his mother and father, a coal miner-turned-house painter.

Because of a bout with diphtheria, young Bird missed one and one-half years of high school, graduating from Des Moines East in 1934.

He entered the Iowa Guard in the early '30s when the commander of A Company, 1/168th Infantry, Capt. Jack Tarlton, found out that Bird was a baseball pitcher for the Baldwin-Patterson Legion Post. "He wanted A Company to be the best in everything," Bird explained.

During Bird's senior year at East, Company A was pressed into service in the cow war at Tipton and Bird faced the choice of going on duty there or taking a discharge and get-

ting his high school diploma. He chose the latter. After graduating, he worked at a variety of jobs around Des Moines.

In early 1939, a good friend, David Smith, talked Bird into taking the "10-series," a group of written exams which, if successfully completed, would lead to an officer's commission. The young man received his commission as a second lieutenant on July 16, 1940, and was called to active duty with his unit in February 1941.

Bird's military record reads like a chronicle of many of the toughest battles of World War II. After training several months at Camp Claiborne, La., the 168th Infantry left in January 1942 for Belfast, Northern Ireland. From there, the Guard unit went to Scotland and eventually landed in Algiers November 8, 1942, with Bird serving as commander of B Company, 1/168th Infantry.

"Most of us had never been out of the state of Iowa, let alone out of the States," he recalled in a recent inter-

"We looked at it as sort of an adventure."

view. "We looked at it as sort of an adventure—everything seemed so far away."

The unit went on to Oran, then beached at Salerno, Italy, with the 36th and 45th Divisions, and moved to Naples and Cassino.

Bird rose quickly through the ranks. At 29, he commanded an infantry battalion. In May 1943, he was promoted from captain to major and five months later, Gen. Mark Clark and the corps commander pro-

moted him to lieutenant colonel.

"I decided at one point that as long as you could do the job, there was no competition [for commanders positions]," he noted. "Nobody wanted the job."

"It was a matter of desire," Bird added. "I got the fundamentals of combat out of the drill regulations."

On November 30, 1943, while conducting a reconnaissance on Mount Pantano, Italy, Bird was walking down a path to the edge of a cliff when a lone German machine

"I got the fundamentals of combat out of the drill regulations"

gunner on a hillside spotted him. For what seemed like an eternity, the enemy soldier watched the American officer. Meanwhile, Bird nonchalantly moved down the road, trying to find a spot to dive into cover.

Suddenly, Bird said, he began to run and the machine gunner opened fire on him, tearing off two fingers. For a time, the plucky Iowan feigned death but eventually scrambled to safety. His jacket sleeve had been torn by eight bullets.

In late 1944, Bird, back at Fort McClellan, Ala., heard about the need for field grade officers for duty in France. By December 21, he was back serving as a battalion commander with the 45th Infantry Division, finishing the war in Germany.

When the war ended, Bird said he had planned to stay in the Army. However, the 4th Division was deactivated at Camp Bowie, Texas, and Bird was reassigned to the 26th Infantry Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, which retired him in April 1946 at Camp Swift, Texas, as a full colonel. He subsequently went on the retired list as a brigadier general in 1963.

Bird holds the Silver Star with cluster, the Bronze Star with cluster

and V-clasp, the Purple Heart, the European Theater Medal with six battle stars and bronze arrowhead and the combat infantry badge, as well as other awards and decorations.

Married to the former June Gustafson, the Birds have two children: Timothy and Julie, both of Des Moines. Gen. Bird is a retired insurance company executive and holds directorships in three insurance companies.

Bird said he "felt great" when he learned that the 34th Division was being reactivated. "I think it's fantastic," he said. "Why it ever changed in the first place—politics, I guess."

He said he still enjoys hearing from former members of the division, many of whom he hasn't kept track of over the years.

Commenting on the current mobilization of Iowa Guard members to support Operation Desert Storm, Bird said, "At first I felt sorry for the families because the families are giving up a helluva lot."

"And then I felt sorry for the

"If anybody thinks combat is glamorous, it's not...it's dirty."

men. "If anybody thinks combat is glamorous, it's not . . . it's dirty."

But he said he thinks the same grit and determination which helped him and many other Iowans survive World War II will help the Iowa Guard members fulfill their duties in Operation Desert Storm.

"I don't know anybody I'd rather serve with," he emphasized, "than the people from Iowa."

Writing his memoirs, well-known Iowa farm broadcaster and former war correspondent Herb Plambeck recalled meeting Bird as Nuremberg fell. "In my opinion," wrote Plambeck, "Colonel Bird . . . is the kind of leader I would want if I had to face enemy fire. To this day, he remains my personal war hero."



(Above) 2nd Lt. Ed Bird (second from left) with other members of A Company, 168th Infantry, at Camp Claiborne, La. in March 1941.

(Left) Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Edward W. Bird.



Lt. Col. Ed Bird (far right) with Lt. Col. Langdon (third from right), 1st Battalion Commander of the 168th Infantry, on a road in Italy, November 1, 1943.



Cedar Rapids artist designed Red Bull Division insignia

By Sgt. Mike Nyman

When called into service during World War I for combat training, members of the 34th Infantry Division from Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and the Dakotas reported for duty but did not have a unit identity; they did not have a unit patch.

While training at Camp Cody in 1917, a dry area with a blazing hot landscape of sand plains located near Deming, N. M., the 34th Division was referred to as the "Sandstorm Division."

The following year, the division, while looking for an insignia, organized a contest in order to select the best entry.

The winning entry turned out to be a steer bull with an elongated Indian jar as a background.



Marvin Cone

Information on the Red Bull insignia was provided by Eldon D. Johnson, a member of Company C, 133rd Infantry, 34th Division, from May 1, 1941 to June 23, 1945.

This design was officially approved as the division insignia on October 29, 1918.

The insignia designer was a young private from Iowa, Marvin Cone. He based his design on elements of pre-Aztec history. Heavy jars placed over the heads of skeletons were found during the excavation of Indian grave sites.

Cone, who later became head of the Coe College art department, created a painting depicting life on the desert where the 34th Division was formed. He painted an elongated Indian jar combined with a white buffalo skull. In the background are sand hills, rocks, cacti, and a red sunrise. In the clouds at the top of the painting appear the words "Duty-Honor-Country."

The painting now hangs at the Veterans Memorial Commission in Cedar Rapids.



Painting by Marvin Cone depicts the heritage of the Red Bull Division.

124th Observation Squadron served during WW II

In January 1941, the Iowa Adjutant General appointed Maj. Lester G. Orcutt as commander of the 124th Observation Squadron. On February 25, the unit received its federal recognition.

Non-commissioned officers from the Army Guard gave new recruits their basic training at the Argonne Armory. The recruits then received technical training at the Tech High Aviation Lab in Des Moines.

The unit was mobilized on September 25, 1941.

After a 15-day indoctrination period at Fort Des Moines, the 124th Observation Squadron moved to Sherman AAF, Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

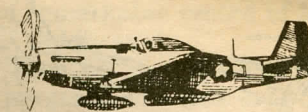
Capt. John O. Bradshaw commanded the 124th when it was transferred to Ellington Field, Houston, Texas in April 1941, to begin anti-submarine patrols.

In July the 124th was moved to Galveston, Texas to continue this type of mission as part of the Gulf Task Force. The squadron then went to New Orleans to increase air surveillance in the area.

Lt. Albert Snider took over as commander in November 1942. He was instrumental in the unit's redesignation as the 124th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron and move to Key Field, Meridian, Miss., as a Replacement Training Squadron. The unit retained this role until its deactivation from active service on April 30, 1944.

Snider was promoted to major in September 1943. Many of the original 124th Observation Squadron went with him when he was transferred to a combat unit overseas.

Edward White, a combat veteran, commanded the 124th until its deactivation.



Medal of Honor recipient hailed from Charles City

Lt. Paul Riordan, the only native Iowan in the 34th Division to be awarded the Medal of Honor, was recognized posthumously for action he took on February 12, 1944 at Cassino, Italy.

Born in Charles City, Riordan joined the service in Kansas City, Mo. He led a rifle platoon that was part of Company L, 133rd Infantry, commanded by Lt. Dennis Neal of Villisca.

Riordan distinguished himself in the battle for Hill 175, so Neal chose him to lead the assault on the jail at Cassino.

As Riordan and his platoon began to occupy the jail, he was mortally wounded. He ordered his men to wait until nightfall to evacuate him because the Germans fired on the stretcher bearers every time they started for the aid station.

For his action at the Cassino jail and at Hill 175, Riordan was awarded posthumously the Medal of Honor.

Atlantic celebrates redesignation

By Sgt. John Scheffler

More than 200 people from Atlantic, Iowa and the surrounding area gathered at the local armory which presently is the headquarters of C Company, 1st of the 168th Infantry, to honor the changing of the divisional designation.

The February 10 ceremonies included 10 former members of Company K, 168th Infantry. These guests of honor attended in order to mark the 50th anniversary of the 34th Division's mobilization to active duty on that date in 1941.

One of these former guardsmen, Burdette "Shorty" Parrott of Atlantic, gave a brief history of the unit's involvement in World War II, from the date of mobilization, February 10, 1941, through the conclusion of the war. "I remember that day quite well," recalled the former sergeant as he looked from one side of the assembly hall to the other as if noting the appearance of the old armory. "We gathered right here."

"The 34th was the first American division to leave this country and the last to come home," continued Parrott. He noted that 46 members of Company K were captured during fighting in North Africa. He remembered the first two soldiers from the area who were killed in combat, Paul Denison and Stanford Johnston. He told how American POWs would throw food across the fence to the Russian POWs in another section of the camp to keep them from starving

to death.

Capt. Steven Berning, company commander, welcomed the attendees, and 1st Sgt. Terry Bond took charge of posting the colors.

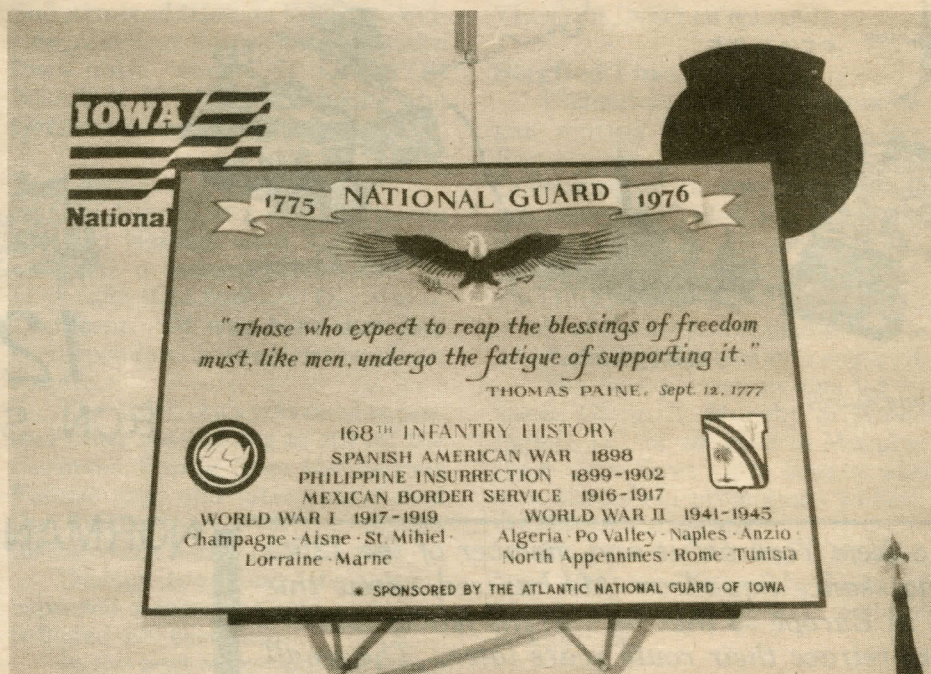
Local members of the Forever Greens 4-H Club presented a wreath to the unit. The ceremonies concluded with the unveiling of the divisional insignia by Staff Sgt. Steven Livengood.

Former Company K soldiers who signed the attendance roster at the armory and whose names were read in roll-call fashion included: Max McConnell of Corning; Byron Brown of Altoona; Paul Bintner of Council Bluffs; Harvey Fries of Trenton, Mo.; Chester Pieken, Rodney Jensen, Lawrence Query, Charles Johnson, and Burdette "Shorty" Parrott, all of Atlantic.

Phyllis Gaylord of Lewis, widow of William Gaylord, also attended and was recognized.



Posting of the colors at the Atlantic armory on the occasion of the reactivation of the 34th Infantry Division. (Photo by Sgt. John Scheffler)



Sign, sponsored by the Atlantic National Guard, honoring the 168th Infantry. (Photo by Sgt. John Scheffler)

Mobilized during World War II, esprit of Red Horse Cavalry transcends mechanization



By Spec. Carolyn Tenney

The 113th "Red Horse" Cavalry Group had its roots in the mounted volunteers from towns and villages in the Iowa territory. Volunteer horsemen gathered in groups to defend their communities against hostile Indians.

These early-day Red Horse Cavalry members were mainstays of the Northern Border Brigade and the Southern Border Brigade that patrolled Iowa's boundaries.

After building numerous forts, the northern state militia of cavalry and infantry was relieved in December 1863 by the Sixth Cavalry, made up largely of Iowa Civil War volunteers. These "Red Horsemen" battled the Indians.

Red Horsemen in the Southern Border Brigade quelled disturbances caused by Confederate sympathizers.

After the border situation quieted, some of the Red Horsemen from the Southern Border Brigade joined the 7th Iowa Cavalry for service along the frontier trails of Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas and Dakota.

Red Horse troopers in the 6th and 7th Iowa Cavalry Regiments were known for their Indian fighting. The other seven Iowa Civil War cavalry regiments distinguished themselves in some of the most famous battles in the war against the South.

Eleven thousand cavalry officers and enlisted men from Iowa served the Union cause.

For some time after the conclusion of the Civil War only one Iowa cavalry unit existed: "Baker's Light Horse" unit of Iowa City.

Men of Red Horse heritage served in the Spanish-American War of 1898, but not in their capacity as cavalrymen.

The modern lineage of the 113th Cavalry Regiment began with the organization of the 1st Iowa Cavalry in 1915. This National Guard regiment consisted of a single squadron.

The 1st Iowa Cavalry was mobilized in 1916 for action on the Mexican border. During World War I it was activated and served as a machine gun unit.

In 1921 the 1st Iowa became the 113th Iowa Cavalry.

Mechanization of the cavalry was a gradual process leading up to the time of World War II. But the spirit of the cavalry remained unchanged. William Eagen notes in his book, *The Man On The Red Horse*:

"Cavalrymen had a pride in their branch of the service, a certain cockiness and willingness to fight evident at home or abroad. No cavalryman was merely in the 'army'—he was in the cavalry!"

"Possibly part of this spirit was

engendered by the reckless, dashing charges the cavalryman took part in; the sense of individual freedom in action that he felt it gave him. Not for him, the plodding pace of the weary doughboy!"

"Nor was the spirit lost when the horse was abandoned for the fast-cruising armored vehicles. The personnel present when the changeover was made saw to that, and from them the new recruits caught the sense of pride and esprit. The 113th Red Horse Regiment was no different than any other cavalry unit in this respect."

The 113th Cavalry was called into federal service on January 13, 1941 and became fully mechanized in March and April of 1942. It trained at numerous sites in the United States and participated in several major maneuvers before departing for the European Theater of Operations in World War II.

The unit saw extensive action in Normandy, Northern France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. Its primary mission was to conduct long-range reconnaissance in advance of corps and Army divisions or as an element of the 2nd Armored Division. It was the first element in the 9th Army Sector to link up with the Russian forces.

Retired Brig. Gen. Arnold E.

Harjehausen, a former member of the 125th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), recalls boarding the train—with about 500 horses—in Des Moines, bound for Camp Bowie, Texas: "We got there about January 26. It was nice and warm and we thought it was just wonderful. We had gas heaters in our tents. But then it rained and rained and rained. There were no walkways, so we waded in mud every place we went."

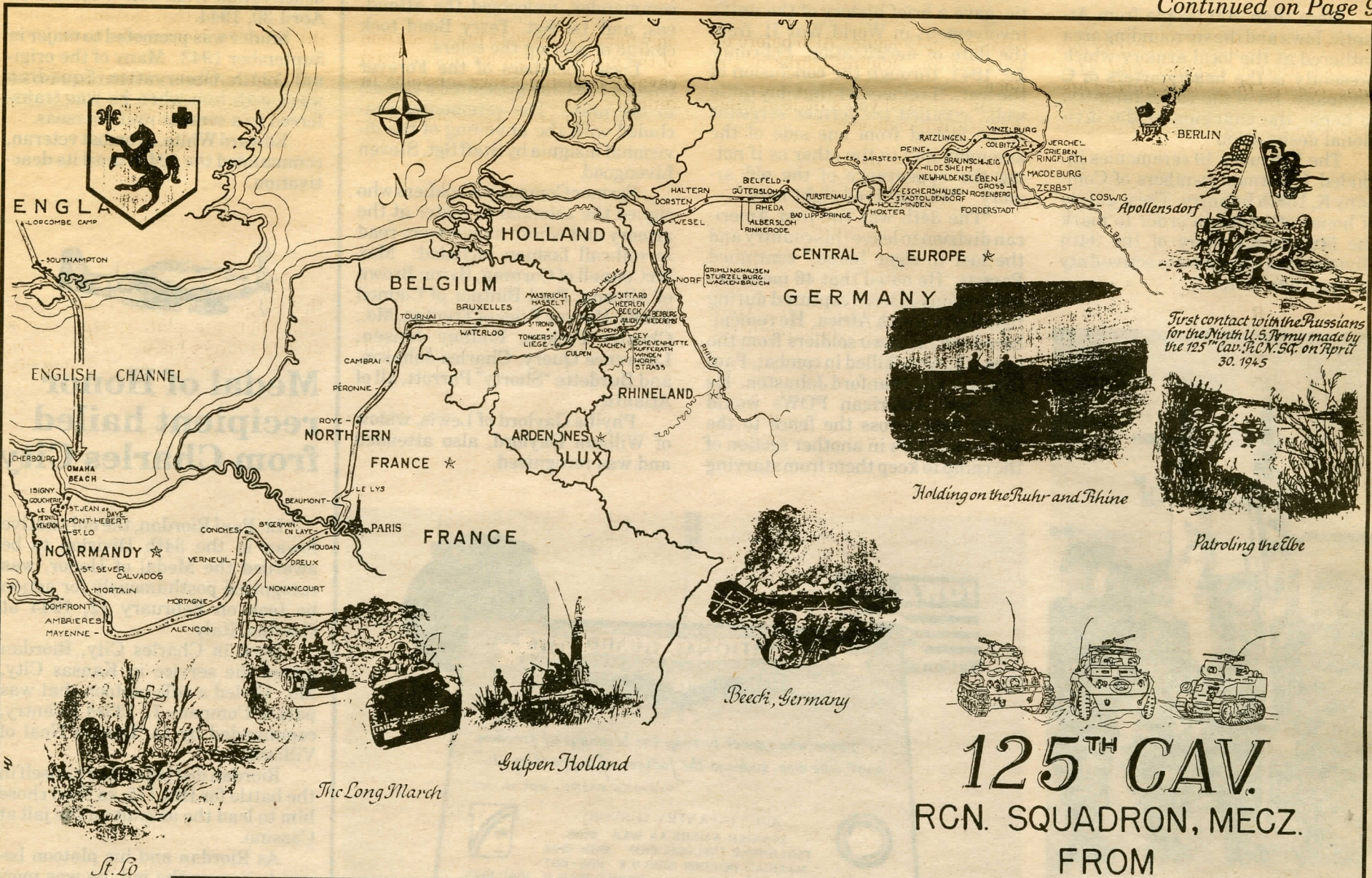
Harjehausen remembers thinking of mobilization as "a great experience." He knew a lot of people and was looking forward to being in the Army (he had previously served in the Guard). He anticipated enlisting for a year and then getting out, but instead served from January 13, 1941 to January 12, 1946.

Harjehausen was present when his unit linked up with the Russians. A move currently is underway to commemorate this historic moment in a National Guard Heritage painting.

"The Russians were a motley crew," Harjehausen recalls. "When we contacted them we had a difficult time figuring out what unit they belonged to. We found a Russian major general but he wouldn't talk to us."

"Most of them had no uniforms."

Continued on Page 9



Pvt. Celander, a New York artist and member of the 125th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), drew this map while still in Europe so that he and his fellow soldiers would be able to retrace their route years later. The small drawings were sketched from actual photographs.

CELANDER



Red Horse Cavalry Continued from Page 8

I remember seeing a group without uniforms on a hayrack pulled by two horses. One guy had a long white beard and a broken arm and was holding a rifle.

"Two tanks showed up, and a man and a woman got out. She spoke perfect English, so we found out their unit. She knew what was going on and who we needed to contact to make the link-up. I still don't know if she was the other officer's wife or what."

After inactivation following World War II, the 113th Cavalry was reorganized and federally recognized in 1947 as the 113th Mechanized Cavalry Squadron. In 1949 it was redesignated as the 113th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion.

In 1959 it was converted and redesignated as the 113th Armor, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System, consisting of 1st Reconnaissance Squadron, 113th Armor, and 2nd Medium Tank Battalion, 113th Armor.

These groups were reorganized in 1963 to consist of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 113th Armor.



Chief Warrant Officer Arnold E. Harjehausen, 113th Cavalry Group, in Germany in 1945.

Gordon Gammack

Gordon Gammack, a reporter for the Des Moines Register and Tribune, covered three wars during his journalistic career. His firsthand stories of America's fighting men during World War II include columns written while with the 113th Cavalry. This is one of his reports.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER
Winter 1944

BIDDLE PROUD NOW OF IOWA 'RED HORSERS'

WITH THE 113TH CAVALRY, GERMANY—When I first met Col. William S. Biddle, commander of Iowa's 113th Cavalry last summer in Normandy, he was courteous, but a little aloof. It was whispered in my ear that he was not overly impressed with the Iowans under him.

After all, he was a Biddle of the aristocratic Biddles, and the Biddle who went to West Point.

But this time, he radiated charm of all sorts, displayed friendliness, and gave me a hearty welcome. He'd found out about Iowans and was more than willing to be quoted.

"Your state makes grand soldiers," he said. "I'm proud of every Iowan who serves under me. They're a grand bunch."

And on tap was a written history of the group from its first action in Normandy on July 4 to as near the present as censorship will permit. This document, "The Story of the Red Horse," was prepared largely by Maj. Pat Hollowell of Fort Madison, Ia., whose father was the former warden of the state penitentiary. "Red Horse" is the outfit's nickname.

From the group's observation point I looked down on the Roer River, saw Duren well enough to distinguish buildings, and when the fog lifted I could see factory chimneys in the

outskirts of Cologne. Also before us were Iowans holding banks of the Roer.

But let's tell you a little of what that outfit has done.

Fought as Infantry.

Though trained and equipped as mechanized cavalry, the Red Horsers found themselves fighting as infantry in Normandy against top German units spearheading an attack to retake Caretan and Isigny. The unit won commendation of Maj. Gen. Charles H. Corlett, commanding the 19th Corps.

After that, the Red Horsers followed advance troops into St. Lo and fought bitterly for a week on high ground south of the city. Then when the St. Lo breakthrough started, the group shifted its attachment from two infantry divisions to the U. S. 2nd Armored (Hell on Wheels) Division, and near Percy elements of the Iowa outfit were CUT OFF FOR NEARLY TWO DAYS during the German counterattack.

Fast Move.

On Aug. 13, in a very fast move, the Red Horsers went 32 miles to establish a moving screen for the U. S. 30th (Old Hickory) Division to Domfront. (It was here that this correspondent last visited the unit in France.)

The 113th then was used to protect units assembling to cut off the Germans fleeing from the famous Falaise gap, and later established the first contact with the British forces which had closed the gap.

During three days, the Iowans captured a thousand prisoners and inflicted 400 casualties.

In the next operation, the group crossed the Seine river on the outskirts of Paris, overrunning a seaplane assembly plant, several un-

A brief historical sketch of the 113th Cavalry Group in World War II

By Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Arnold E. Harjehausen

Under combat conditions, the 113th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized) and the 125th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized) traveled over 800 miles from their original landing at Omaha beach in Normandy, France on June 29, 1944 to Appolensdorf, Germany, just 37 miles from Berlin, on April 30, 1945. They made the first link-up with the Russians for the Ninth United States Army.

The 113th and 125th Cavalry Groups earned battle stars for participation in the Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central European Campaigns.

They were in actual combat for

309 days; destroyed or captured more than 600 tanks, armored cars, half-tracks, and miscellaneous other vehicles; took 21,599 prisoners; and overran scores of enemy installations, supply depots, airfields and munitions factories.

The units received three letters of commendations from corps and division commanders. Men of these units were awarded an almost unbelievable number of medals which included two Distinguished Service Crosses, one Legion of Merit, 96 Silver Stars, 454 Bronze Stars, 870 Purple Hearts, one Legion of Honor (French), seven Croix de Guerre (French), one Military Cross (British), one Military Medal (British), and the Belgium Forragere.

One hundred seventy-four men were killed in action.

derground luftwaffe repair shops and nine V-1 launching sites.

Starting Sept. 1, the Red Horsers led the 30th (Old Hickory) Division and the U. S. 79th Division on a two-day dash through northern France and were among the first Allied troops into Belgium.

Won Waterloo.

It isn't official history, but the group has the distinction of retaking from the Germans a Belgian community called Waterloo, a name known as a city in Iowa, but in Belgium a place where Napoleon lost his shirt.

On Sept. 5, the group moved out on what is believed to have been one of the most spectacular mechanized cavalry reconnaissance missions in military history.

The Red Horsers made a brilliant dash across Belgium three days in advance of corps troops. Messenger service was maintained by plane, and communications by radio.

So these Iowans caught a real flash of the happiness that went with liberation. Official records speak of "jeeps festooned with flowers and laden with delicious fruits—champagne and fine wines flowed freely."

The objective, the Albert canal, was reached on Sept. 8.

The group then played a part in crossing the Meuse River at Liege and joined with the 30th (Old Hickory) Division in the liberation of Maastricht, sharing the honor of being the FIRST AMERICAN TROOPS INTO HOLLAND.

Siegfried Line.

Ultimately the Red Horsers began writing history in Germany. Remember the fight for Geilenkirchen in the Siegfried line last November? Well, the 113th was in the thick of that. East of that city 125th Squadron, which is a part of the 113th, captured the town of Beeck in one of the hottest engagements in which the Red Horsers ever engaged.

The first platoon in was led by Lieut. Glenn R. Murphy of Washington, Ia. In addition to Murphy, there were three other Iowans who won battlefield promotions to lieutenant from sergeant.

They were Matthews Nichols, Des Moines; Kenneth Scott of Melcher, Ia., and Earle T. Zelle of Ankeny, Ia.

In Thick of It.

Sergeant Jess Richardson, 1016 Leland Ave., Des Moines, was in the

thick of the fight, and Sergeant Ernest Salato of Albia, Ia., raced across a field covered by German machine guns to deliver a vital message.

Francis R. Avis of Council Bluffs, Ia., said, "We got 2,000 rounds of German artillery and the guys were walking around holding their heads like they were slap-happy. It was even hotter than St. Lo."

One German shell hit right on top of the cover of the foxhole occupied by Sergt. Wallace Hawkins, Ottumwa, Ia., but Hawkins was unscratched.

One remarkable thing about the Red Horsers is that casualties since the start in Normandy have been low.

That reminds me that in Paris I was told that the 113th "had been chewed to ribbons," so that's how much stock to put in rumors.

I asked Colonel Biddle what Iowans had been outstanding, and the first name he mentioned was Lieut. Pat Kilbane of Council Bluffs. He has a remarkable record of leadership," Biddle said.

"Then be sure you get hold of that sergeant who took over the patrol when the platoon leader was killed. I forget his name right now, but he's terrific. He did a magnificent job."

Patrol Across Roer.

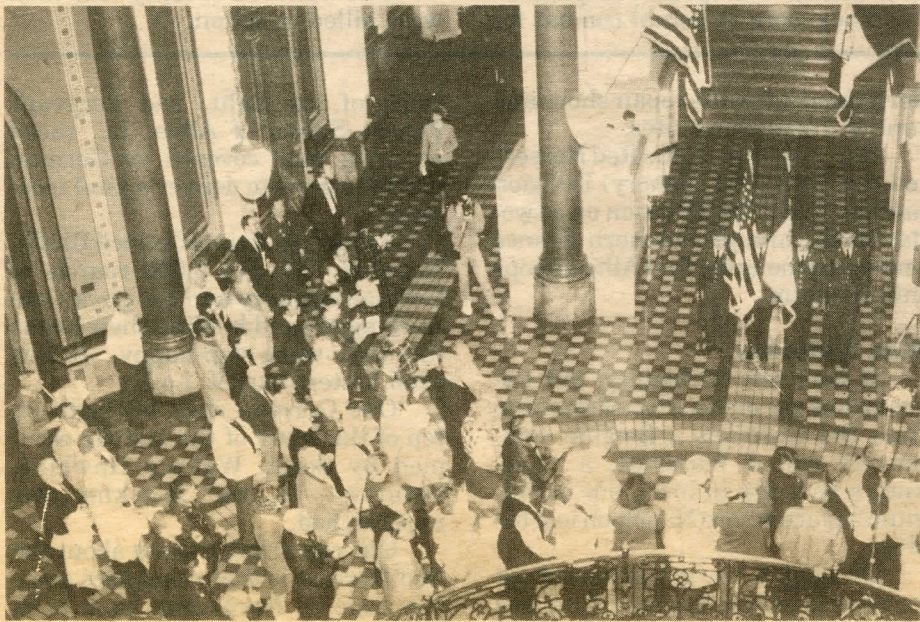
"That sergeant" proved to be Arthur Spangler of Eagle Grove, Ia., a bashful, quiet chap. The patrol went across the Roer River to capture some German prisoners for information. Other Iowans in the patrol were Sergt. Thomas Lynes of Ryan, Ia.; Joseph E. Carroll of Steamboat Rock, Ia., and Corp. Gene Fulton of Iowa City, Ia.

I should mention that the executive officer of the 125th Squadron is Maj. Everett Orman of Ottumwa. There are scores of other Iowans who have performed marvelously with this outfit, and the boys now have their eyes on those factory chimneys on the outskirts of Cologne.

"Of course we might run into the Russians between here and there," chuckled Maj. Kenneth Timmons, 1442 University Ave., Des Moines. "Who knows?"



47th Viking Division becomes 34th Red Bull Division



The scene at the State Capitol in Des Moines February 8 at a ceremony marking the reactivation of the 34th Infantry Division. (Photo by Spec. Carolyn Tenney)



Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Muehlbauer (left) uncases the colors of the 34th Division and prepares to hand the case to Gen. (Ret.) John W. Vessey, Jr. during reactivation ceremonies in St. Paul. (Photo by Sgt. John Scheffler)



John Votek (left), a former member of the 34th Infantry Division, pins a Red Bull patch on a soldier during ceremonies at Glenwood, Iowa on February 10. (Photo by Maj. Robert L. Anderson)



Villisca's two-day celebration of the reactivation of the 34th "Red Bull" Division included a buffet dinner for nearly 150 persons. (Photo by Paul Gauthier)



Animated Crest ~ 34th Division

Camp Cody, New Mexico

August 18, 1918

Picture contains 16,000 men

Length of crest - 500 feet



(Photo by Newman Photography, Deming, N.M.)



WW II Scrapbook



Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark visits front line troops on Christmas Day, 1943.



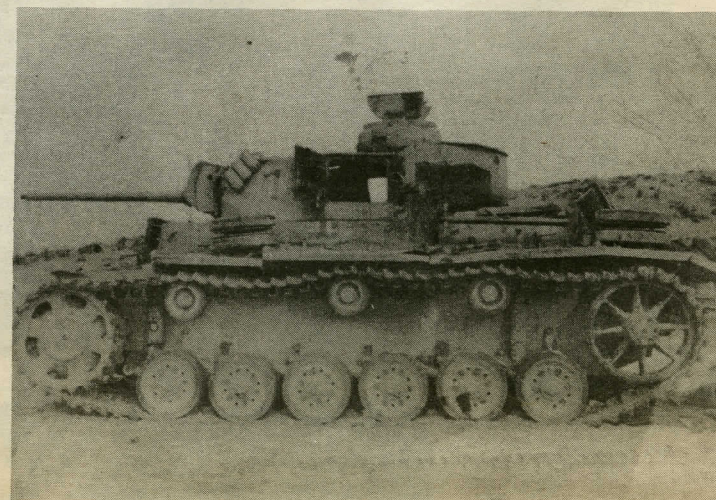
GI leaving the Rapido River Area in Italy on February 7, 1944, after 23 days on the front.



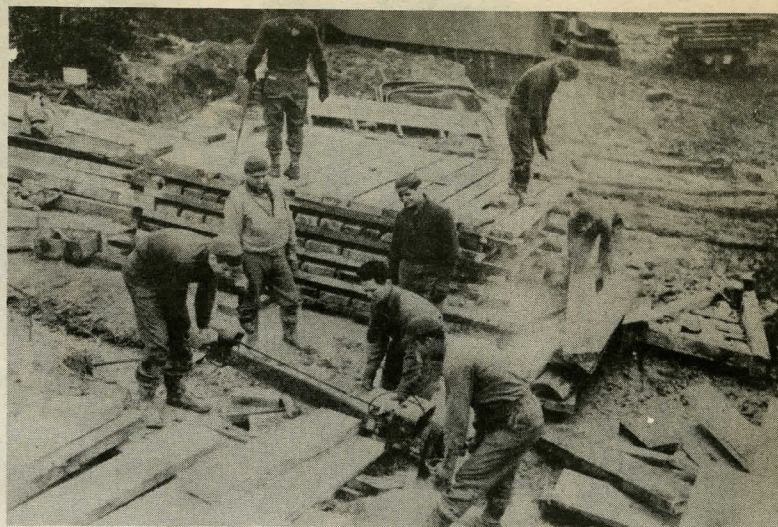
Troops of the 34th Division draw new clothing from the Fifth Army Rest Center at Naples on December 22, 1943.



Service Club dance for the 34th Infantry Division personnel at Camp Claiborne, La.



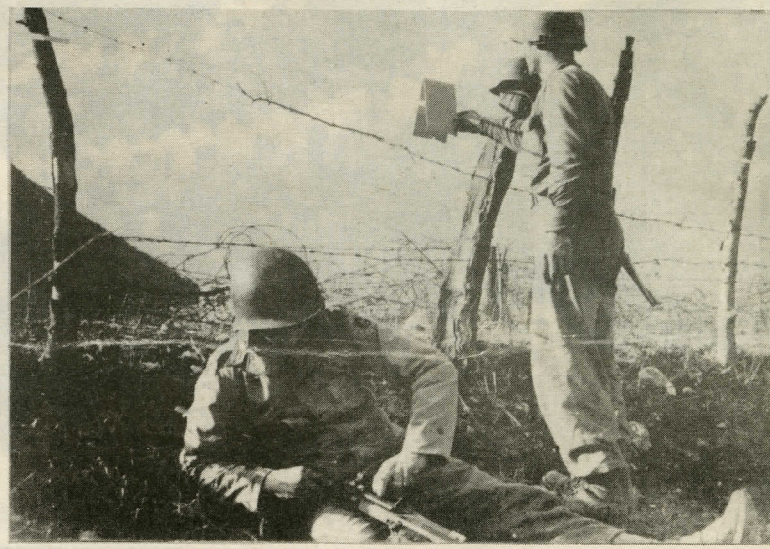
Mark III German Tank stopped by a 37mm gun south of Sbiba.



Engineers building a section of plank road to be transported and laid at night.



Lt. Col. Gerald E. DuBois of Boone, Iowa in his artillery battalion command post in an abandoned cave on Mt. Chiaia in the Cassino area on January 17, 1944.



Marking a minefield on the Gustav Line near Cairo, Italy on February 2, 1944.



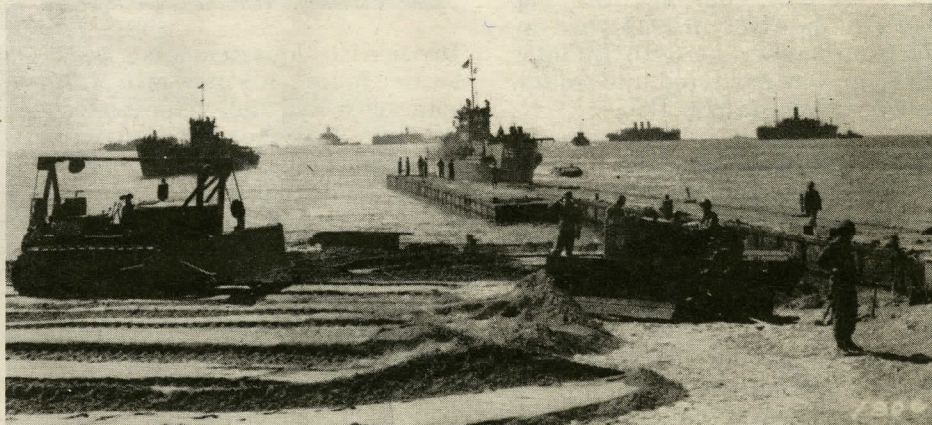
The Red Bull



The 34th Division passing in review on July 2, 1941 at Camp Claiborne, La.



Units of the 34th Infantry Division parading before their Majesties, the King and Queen of England, in North Ireland on June 25, 1942. Note the World War I type helmets.



133rd Infantry troops unloading at the Salerno Beachhead, Agropoli, Italy on September 21, 1943.



Vince--of the 34th MPs--photographs Winston Churchill when he visited the 34th Division.



Artillery section command post in the Mt. Chiaia Area of Italy on January 17, 1944.



Hill 609, one of the most formidable objectives of the African Campaign.



Tech. 5 Whetstine of Richmond, Iowa and his pup "Mussolini" on February 6, 1944. Both were veterans of Cassino.



Cleaning a captured German machine gun in San Vittore, Italy on January 9, 1944.



The 34th Infantry Division in World War II

By Lt. Col. (Ret.) Homer R. Ankrum

When asked the significance of the date February 10, most Iowans would appear a bit perplexed. A few would opine, "Wasn't that the date of the big blizzard?" Naturally a few would blurt out, "Gosh, it's only four days until Valentine's Day." However, there are still a few gray-haired old-timers who would rub their chins, lean back their heads and muse, "Let's see now, February 10th, yep that's the date back in 1941 when my old Guard unit, the 34th Infantry Division, was mustered into federal service for World War II."

Reactivation of the 34th

This year, February 10 was again etched into the minds of thousands of young Iowa and Minnesota Guardsmen as the standards and campaign streamers of the 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division were removed from storage, proudly hoisted by color bearers, and marched on line, signifying the return of that great battle-tested division to its rightful role as an active Army National Guard division, this time with headquarters in Minnesota.

In ceremonies at many locations across Iowa and Minnesota, proud old veterans of the Red Bull Division stood at attention, then pinned the Red Bull insignia of the 34th Division on young guardsmen. Emotions ran high, for this was the day that Red Bull veterans had been striving for since 1968.

In 1946 the 34th Infantry Division was reorganized with headquarters in Iowa under the command of Maj. Gen. Ray Fountain. An additional National Guard division was authorized, and Minnesota, anxious to have a division headquarters, became headquarters for the new 47th Infantry Division. In 1968 a reduction in Army National Guard divisions was ordered, and high-level political and military leaders in Minnesota prevailed upon the powers that be to place the historical 34th Infantry Division on inactive status

while retaining the history-devoid 47th Infantry Division as an active Guard division. Although the 34th

Most Red Bull veterans feel that a grievous wrong has been righted.

Division Headquarters was originally located in Iowa and now is in Minnesota, most Red Bull veterans feel—politics aside—that a grievous wrong has been righted.

As the old Red Bull warriors stood in ceremonies on February 10, their minds no doubt reflected back to that early morning 50 years ago when alarm clocks clanged across Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, causing nearly 8,000 young guardsmen to hurry to their armories in below freezing temperatures, not fully realizing impact that their muster into federal service that day would have on their young lives.

Camp Claiborne

President Franklin D. Roosevelt had ordered the 34th Infantry Division, among others, to active duty for a period of 12 consecutive months unless sooner relieved. Although the call-up was authorized in October 1940, the camp they were to occupy had not yet been readied. Consequently February 10, 1941 had been set for the official muster. Few men in the 34th Infantry believed that they would return to civilian life after one year for the world's militaristic scenario offered little hope.

On or about February 26, 1941 crowds jammed railroad sidings to bid farewell to the 34th Infantry Division Guardsmen, then under the command of Maj. Gen. Ellard Walsh of Minnesota. They boarded trains bound for Camp Claiborne which had been carved out of the swamps and pine forests some 18 miles from the

city of Alexandria, La. The cantonment area, in various stages of completion when the guardsmen arrived, consisted of 6,006 tents for enlisted men and 759 tents for officers. There were wooden frame mess halls, buildings, a hospital, two service clubs and a theater.

Camp Claiborne would have drawn few "takers" if placed on a multiple-choice list. The troops about to be spoiled with these palatial accommodations included the following:

The 68th Infantry Brigade, consisting of the 135th (Minnesota) Infantry Regiment and the 164th (North Dakota) Infantry Regiment; the 67th Infantry Brigade, consisting of the 133rd (Iowa) Infantry Regiment and the 168th (Iowa) Infantry Regiment; Minnesota's 59th Field Artillery, 151st Field Artillery, and 125th Field Artillery; and from Iowa, the 185th Field Artillery.

Special troops consisted of the 109th (South Dakota) Engineer Regiment, 136th (Iowa) Medical Regiment, and the 109th (Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota) Quartermaster Regiment. Other special troops included the 109th (Minnesota) Ordnance Company, the 34th Division (South Dakota) Signal Company and the 34th Division (Minnesota) Military Police.

Training for war with equipment available

Although still not completely equipped, vigorous training was quickly initiated in the rain-induced quagmire. The men simulated light machine guns for training and substituted stovepipes for mortars. Until the new M1 Garand semi-automatic rifles arrived, the principal armament of a rifle company consisted of .30 caliber 1903 Springfield bolt-action rifles, Browning automatic rifles and Colt .45 pistols. The poor weaponry was understandable, when one considers that the units had emerged from the Depression, during which period the entire military budget

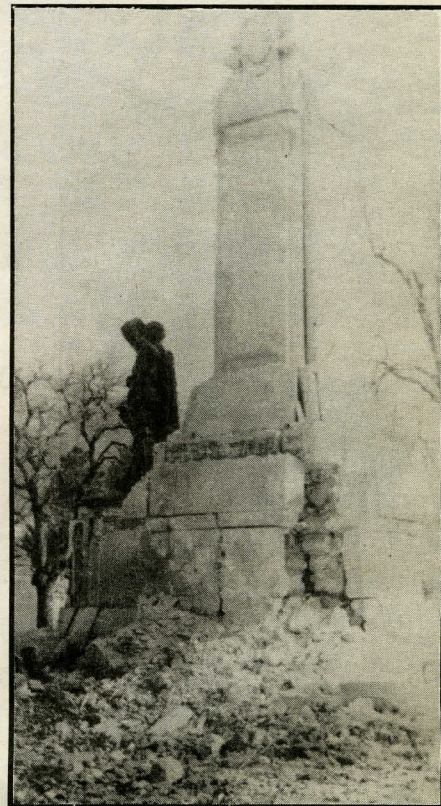
Few Men in the 34th Infantry believed that they would return to civilian life after one year.

wouldn't buy a modern-day bomber.

After completing several small-scale maneuvers, the division, by then under the command of Maj. Gen. Russell P. Hartle, participated in the Louisiana Maneuvers, which involved the Second and Third U.S. Armies. With the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941 and declaration of war, the division was spread through the South, guarding sensitive installations. But January 1, 1942 found them enroute to Fort Dix, N.J. for subsequent shipment overseas.

The 164th Infantry Regiment was pulled from the division to help form the Americal Division. The division was triangularized according to the three infantry regiment concept and the division's artillery was reorganized into four direct sup-

Editor's note: The 34th Infantry Division has been credited with more days spent in combat than any other division in World War II. This article highlights the historic events surrounding this famous division's long march toward victory that spanned two continents.



A monument to the soldiers of the "Last War" in the St. Elia Area, Italy, is shattered by shell fire of World War II on February 8, 1944.

port battalions: the Minnesota 135th, 151st and 175th, plus one general support battalion, Iowa's 185th Field Artillery Battalion.

Arrival in North Ireland

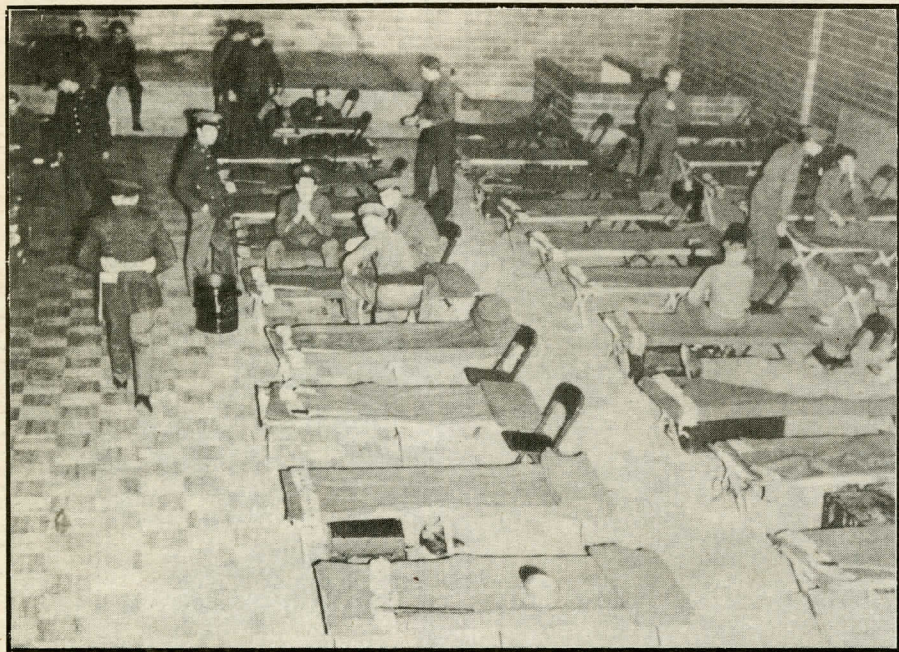
On January 26, 1942 elements of the 133rd Infantry Regiment, under the command of Col. Howard J. Rouse, Sioux City, Iowa, arrived in Belfast Harbor in North Ireland. Milburn H. Henke, Hutchinson, Minn.—then with Waterloo, Iowa's Company B, 133rd Infantry Regiment—stepped down the gangplank to become the first man of the American Expeditionary Force to set foot in Europe. Other elements of the division soon followed.

Training in Ireland was intense. The balance of small arms weaponry arrived, but direct support artillery units, stripped of their 105mm guns at Fort Dix, had to be issued British Eight-Pounder guns. Field training was the byword, but the division would suffer from lack of extensive combined arms training with tanks and artillery. Maj. Gen. Charles W. Ryder, a World War I veteran, was placed in command of the 34th Infantry Division.

Volunteers from the 34th Division provided 80 percent of the men for a newly formed 1st Ranger Battalion and many of them participated with the British Commandos in the famous raid on Dieppe, France.

The 168th Infantry Regiment and 175th Field Artillery, with attached units, were sent to Scotland to train for the invasion of North Africa, and some 600 of the division's men volunteered to fight with the British Commandos in that invasion. While still in North Ireland the 2nd Battalion, 133rd Infantry was pulled

Continued on Page 15



When Company I, 133rd Infantry was called into federal service in February 1941, the unit lived for two weeks in the Sheldon Community Building, which was the National Guard Armory at that time. (Photo courtesy of Richard E. Bauer and the Sheldon Prairie Museum)



34th Div. in WWII

Continued from Page 14

from its regiment and assigned as security troops for Allied Forces Headquarters in England, a move which would sorely hamper the regiment's tactics in North Africa.

Invasion of North Africa

Veterans of the division, who comprised the 168th Infantry Regimental Combat Team (RCT) under the command of Col. John W. "Iron Mike" O'Daniel, will well recall the invasion of Algiers. In addition to the 168th Infantry, the RCT consisted of the 175th Field Artillery Battalion, Company C; the 2nd Platoon of Company D, 109th Medical Battalion; Company C, 109th Engineer Battalion; and a detachment from the 34th Division Military Police.

Some will recall the night of November 7, 1942 when they were put ashore some 11 miles west of their designated landing site and the long run to rejoin the regiment in the assault on Algiers. Ultimately they seized the French Vichy Government Capitol which led to the end of French resistance in North Africa.

Those who were with Lt. Col. Edwin T. Swenson's Minnesota 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment will recall how the French beckoned with searchlights, leading the ships into the Algiers harbor, then opened fire on them. They will recall the total lack of armor which resulted in their being overrun by tanks. They will remember the casualties and their short internment as prisoners of war before the French surrendered. Those with the British Commandos recall their seizure of sensitive installations and airfields. Others who were with the Rangers went ashore at Arzew, a port city near Oran, and seized a hilltop fort.

Sened Station

Sened Station will always be remembered by those who were assigned or attached to the 168th RCT, as their baptism by fire against the Germans. They were hastened forward to an isolated portion of the front, assigned a new regimental commander, Col. Thomas D. Drake,

Vigorous training was quickly initiated in the rain-induced quagmire.

and attached to the 1st Armored Division. They were then led into position during the night by a 1st Armored Division lieutenant who became disoriented. At daylight they found themselves sitting like ducks in front of the German lines. A pitched battle ensued, resulting in cooks being among the first casualties. With courage, however, the 168th rebounded and drove back the enemy. One of the strangest events of the war occurred when Sgt. Leonard "Swede" Nelson, Villisca, Iowa directed fire which knocked out an 88mm anti-tank gun crew with a short range 60mm mortar.

Faid-Kasserine Pass

After a seesaw battle, the 168th RCT, still attached to the 1st Armored Division, found itself on the high hills of Lessouda, Ksaira and Garet el Hadid, overlooking Faid-Kasserine Passes. It was there German Field



The 34th Division passes in review on July 2, 1941 at Camp Claiborne, La.

Marshal Erwin Rommel, the Desert Fox, decided to divert a portion of his Afrika Korps from the British Eighth Army front and attack the Americans.

The 168th RCT was thinly spread over a wide, heretofore considered undefendable, front with rifle companies defending unheard of five-mile sectors. While preparing their defenses, the balance of the 34th Division, after arriving in Oran, moved forward to relieve battered French forces some distance away in the Fondouk Pass, Hajeb el Aioun areas.

Even though the 168th Infantry reported heavy German buildup in Faid Pass, Gen. Eisenhower and staff continued to maintain that the German thrust would be at Fondouk Pass. Gen. Rommel and Gen. Jurgen Von Arnim knew differently and at 6 a.m. February 15, the massive assault on Faid Pass began. The 1st Armored Division's obsolete tanks were no match for the Germans' highly sophisticated panzers. Nearly 400 armored vehicles descended upon the RCT, wiping out American tanks and artillery all the way.

When the smoke of battle cleared only Lt. Harry Hoffman and two enlisted men from the 3rd Battalion, 168th Infantry had escaped becoming a casualty or being captured. Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Robert Moore, Villisca, Iowa—then a major commanding the 2nd Battalion, 168th Infantry Regiment—miraculously led 420 men through the encirclement to safety. Out of Regimental Headquarters, support companies and attachments, only one man—Lt. Col. Gerald Line, Regimental Executive Officer, Sioux City, Iowa—escaped. Only the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry—in reserve positions—remained relatively unscathed.

At Fondouk Pass Col. Robert Ward's 135th Infantry Regiment (Minnesota) was still relieving the French when the attack started. Col. Ray Fountain, Des Moines, Iowa, who commanded Iowa's 133rd Infantry at Hajeb el Aioun, barely had his regiment in place when the Germans cracked the French infantry lines to his north. The regiments were placed under siege and executed some brilliant delaying actions in their withdrawal to more defensible terrain,

Kef el Amar Pass, where 34th Division Artillery Battalions did a fabulous job in helping halt the enemy advance.

It was at Hajeb el Aioun that Capt. John Agnes, Sioux City, Iowa and Lt. Washington Carter, Montgomery, Ala., came up with an ingenious entrapment plan which resulted in the 3rd Battalion, 133rd Infantry anti-tank gun crews—with their tiny 37mm guns—knocking out a scout car and two light tanks. This action temporarily halted the advance of the German 21st Panzer Division and contributed to the successful withdrawal of the regiment. Lt. Col. (Ret.) Harold Doyle, Waterloo, Iowa, then a captain commanding Company A, 133rd Infantry, went through a harrowing experience with his unit while covering the withdrawal of the 1st Battalion of that regiment.

It is well to point out at this time that—while on line—regiments functioned as Regimental Combat Teams (RCTs). The Iowa 133rd In-

Field training was the byword.

fantry Regiment was supported by the Minnesota 151st Field Artillery Battalion, Company A of the Iowa 109th Medical Battalion, and Company A of the South Dakota 109th Engineer Battalion. The Minnesota 135th Infantry Regiment was directly supported by the Minnesota 125th Field Artillery Battalion, Company B of the Iowa 109th Medical Battalion, and Company B of the South Dakota 109th Engineer Battalion. The 168th Infantry Regiment received its direct support from the 175th Field Artillery Battalion, Company C of the Iowa 109th Medical Battalion, and Company C of the South Dakota 109th Engineer Battalion. Additional attachments were made as the situation dictated.

Providing general support were the 185th Field Artillery Battalion; 34th Reconnaissance Company; 109th Medical Battalion; 109th Engineer Battalion; and the 34th Divi-

sion Signal, Ordnance and Quartermaster companies. When regiments are mentioned hereafter, they will be deemed to include attachments. However, when the regiments were rotated, the artillery often stayed on line.

Fondouk

After Faid Pass the 168th Infantry, now under the command of Lt. Col. Gerald Line, Sioux City, Iowa, was reorganized and reformed from the remaining men and replacements, many from the 3rd Infantry Division. Then, for the first time, Gen. Charles Ryder had command of his entire 34th Division. However, little did he expect that British Gen.

Continued on Page 16



34th Division combat men arriving in Rome for a rest period in January 1945.



34th Div. in WWII *Continued from Page 15*

John T. Crocker, who held little affection for Americans, would direct the next attack. The feeling was similar among many higher ranking British officers because they resented Gen. Eisenhower's having been appointed Allied Forces Commander without any combat experience.

The hill masses of Fondouk stood high above the flat desert sands. Orders were to move straight across five miles of flats and seize the hills, with no diversionary attacks. The first assault, as predicted by Gen. Ryder, failed miserably. In the second attack, Gen. Crocker diverted British troops from attacking hills on the division's flank, resulting in the Germans occupying hills overlooking the 34th Infantry Division's flank. Scheduled air support never appeared. Despite heavy casualties, the 34th Infantry Division moved forward.

After darkness, still determined to prevail, the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry penetrated enemy lines, the 135th Infantry broke loose on the left flank and the 168th Infantry moved forward on the right flank. Fondouk belonged to the 34th Division. During the advance into the foothills, young Pvt. Robert D. Booker, Company B, 133rd Infantry Regiment, bought his buddies' lives with his own when he grabbed his light machine gun, went forward under heavy fire and saved many from certain death. He was the first 34th Division soldier to receive the Medal of Honor.

Hill 609

American troops had been much maligned by some members of the

staff of British Gen. Harold R.L.G. Alexander, Gen. Eisenhower's Field Operations Commander, for setbacks at Faid Pass and the failure of the first attack at Fondouk. After Fondouk the 34th Division was moved up nearer the Mediterranean seaboard under American command and given the objective of taking Hill 609, a towering bastion in the desert.

It was at Hill 609 that 34th Division Commander Gen. Ryder was given latitude in decision-making

Red Bull men fought their way through grape arbors and villages.

authority and was provided armored support by attachments from the 1st Armored Division recently equipped with the new, more effective Sherman tank. With commanders at all levels determined to prevail, they began a vicious assault.

The 135th Infantry Regiment fought like possessed tigers to take Hill 531, the most formidable, enemy-defensible foothill. The 168th Infantry Regiment troops were moved at night to make strategic assaults, one after another. At last, in final assault positions, the 133rd Infantry was pulled from limited commitment and, along with the 168th Infantry (under command of Col. Frederick B. Butler since Fondouk), seized the higher elevations of the strategic hill mass in a final burst of energy.

The seizure of Hill 609 cracked the Axis lines and German resistance crumbled. Soon, all of the



Members of the 135th Infantry Regiment read newspapers from home during a break in fighting in the San Vittore Area, Italy on January 11, 1944.

Allied Forces were advancing. The final glory was to go to the British except, perhaps, for Capt. Vincent Goodsell and Einer Lund, both company commanders in the 135th Infantry Regiment, and their drivers. The adventuresome foursome took an unauthorized jeep excursion into Tunis. The balance of the 34th Division, who had advanced in a series of battles to within striking distance of Tunis, had to be content with sitting back while the British marched triumphantly into the city. However, even the British press gave high praise to the 34th for its achievements at Hill 609.

Men of the 34th Division had more than the enemy to contend with at Hill 609. To avert malaria, orders were issued to administer dosages of Atabrine to American troops. The Atabrine "backfire" in more ways than one because the prescribed dosages caused acute diarrhea. It was incredible how the 34th Division men, weakened by days of fighting and uncontrollable bowels, could summon up the energy to bring the battle to a successful conclusion.

The interim

The 34th Division was allowed to sit out the Sicilian Campaign and prepare for the Italian Campaign. The division made use of the time by training replacements and conducting combined arms training with tanks and artillery in live-fire exercises, which had not been made available to them in Northern Ireland. By fall they were honed for the impending Italian Campaign.

During this period the 100th Infantry Battalion, a separate Nisei (Japanese-American) unit from Hawaii, arrived in North Africa and was quickly attached to the 133rd Infantry Regiment to replace the 2nd Battalion which had been on security duty at Allied Forces Headquarters in England.

Salerno

The only 34th Division unit to land at Salerno on "D" Day, September 9, 1943 was the Minnesota 151st Field Artillery Battalion under the command of Gen. E. Dubois, Boone, Iowa. The 151st went ashore

in support of the Texas National Guard 36th Infantry Division. The Germans struck hard and fast, their armor driving the 36th Division back to the beaches. Knowing that if the Germans reached the beachhead all was lost, the brave men of the 151st Field Artillery lowered their high-angle fire 105mm howitzers, bore-sighted down the tubes, and in a rapidity of fire for that weapon that would not have been believed to be possible in the heat of battle, knocked out tank after tank.

The 151st fired 10,504 rounds during the battle compared to 7,904 rounds expended during the entire African Campaign. The 36th Division Chief of Staff is quoted as saying, "If it hadn't been for the 151st, it is probable the beachhead would have been destroyed!"

It appeared that Italy was made up of mountains, villages and Volturno Rivers.

Meanwhile, the 34th Division, enroute from Oran, Algeria, had been alerted that the beachhead was in danger and to prepare for a wet (assault) landing. This it did but fortunately the 36th finally prevailed, and ships carrying the 34th Division dropped anchor September 22, 1943 and the troops went ashore.

Advance up the Boot

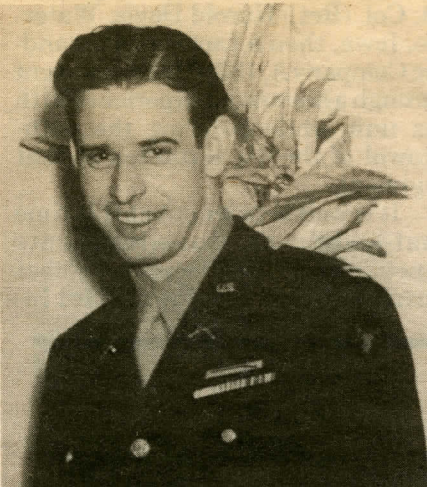
Moving with a sense of purpose, the 34th Division, with the 133rd Infantry leading the way, hastened to relieve enemy pressure on the British, who were still trying to clear Naples. Moving north, it eliminated resistance at Ponte Romito, then crossed the Calore River and continued through Montemarano. At Benevento a raging battle developed. With Benevento captured, the Volturno River loomed in sight.

About the author

Homer R. Ankrum was born in Webster City, Iowa. At age 15 he enlisted in Company E, 133rd Infantry, Iowa National Guard. He was with the 34th Infantry Division when that division was called to active duty in 1941 and sent to Camp Claiborne, La. He became a platoon sergeant and—except for a short stint with Company I of the same regiment—his service was with Company E. During the North African Campaign he served with a special security detachment assigned to Gen. Eisenhower's Allied Forces Headquarters Advance Command Post in Tunisia. During the Italian Campaign Ankrum received a battlefield commission.

Following World War II, Ankrum reorganized and commanded Company E, 133rd Infantry, then volunteered for active Army service during the Korean War. During his post World War II service he served with the 1st Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Division and 5th Infantry Regimental Combat Team, and in staff capacity from battalion to theater of operations level.

Ankrum retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1963 to become city manager of his hometown, Webster City. He served as city manager in two more cities before retiring to Mount Dora, Fla. in 1981 to devote his full attention to completing the researching and writing of his book, *Dogfaces Who Smiled Through Tears*, a World War II chronicle of the heartbreaks, hardships, heroics, and humor of the North African and Ital-



Lt. Col. (Ret.) Homer R. Ankrum as a captain following World War II.

ian campaigns.

"One of the reasons for writing the book was to give credit to many sung and unsung heroes for their outstanding deeds during World War II," says Ankrum, "which I hoped would somehow contribute to the reactivation of the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division. I am extremely happy that the division is being placed on active status. It's a goal many veterans have been striving for many years.

"It [the return to active status] has been a dream of mine ever since it was inactivated," says Ankrum. "It about broke my heart. I'm so happy now that you can't believe. We are all elated and feel that a grave injustice to the Red Bull veterans has been righted."

Continued on Page 17

**34th Div. in WWII***Continued from Page 16***Volturno River**

An autumn chill was in the air and swimming season had long passed when the Red Bull Dogfaces reached the lower reaches of the Volturno River, where the German Army had decided to make a strong stand.

On October 13, 1943 the 135th Infantry launched its crossing near the Calore River, using guide-rope fording and engineer assault boats. In the 168th Infantry area near Limatola, such volunteers as Sgt. Joseph B. Flatt and Maj. (Dr.) Roger Minkel, Newton, Iowa, of the 109th Medical Battalion, braved the swiftly flowing water and swam ropes across to the opposite bank. The going was tough with heavy enemy resistance, but the advance continued and a bridgehead was established.

Second crossing

Reaching the second Volturno River sites on October 18, 1943 the 133rd Infantry, in a column of battalions with the 1st Battalion leading, passed through the 135th Infantry Regiment and—under heavy en-

Red Bull men literally bartered their arms, legs and blood for each objective.

emy fire bombing and strafing—hurriedly forded the river in an attempt to capture a bridge intact. But the Germans had rendered it unusable with explosives. However, a bridgehead was established and held.

The 135th Infantry made its second crossing October 19 and came under heavy enemy fire and encountered heavy minefields and swamps. In that vicinity and along the roads, the regiment encountered the thickest minefields that they had seen to date. The enemy launched a strong armor-infantry attack, but the regiment held its ground and edged forward to take Piedmonte.

With all of the regiments across, the Red Bull men fought their way through grape arbors and villages until they reached the third crossing sites. On October 21, 1943 Col. Ray Fountain, Des Moines, Iowa, received orders rotating him to the States and Lt. Col. Carley Marshall was placed in command of Iowa's 133rd Infantry Regiment.

Third crossing

By the time the 34th Division units reached the third Volturno crossing sites, they had yet to dry out their clothes and boots from the first two crossings. However, they had gained considerable experience in crossing rivers.

The 168th Infantry, after a thunderous 30-minute preparatory barrage November 3, 1943 forded across the upper reaches of the Volturno at midnight, and by 10 a.m. had seized Roccaravindola. The 133rd Infantry crossed with its objective, Santa Maria Olivetto, one mile across the valley.

When all regiments of the division had made their last crossing and had seized their objectives, a drive was initiated to the Rapido River and Cassino.

To the Red Bull foot soldiers it

appeared that Italy was made up of mountains, villages and Volturno Rivers. They had fought three vicious series of battles and crossed the Volturno three times. Wet and miserable, the valiant troops continued the crossings, driving back enemy defenders, only to repeat the action all over again. Minefields, machine guns, mortars, multi-barrelled rockets, and enemy artillery fire continued to cut sharply into the ranks of the 34th Division. The Red Bull men literally bartered their arms, legs and blood for each objective.

Crossing the Volturno became a nightmare for the Red Bull Dogfaces. After each crossing they looked hopefully to the rear, expecting to see a fresh unit coming forward to relieve them and give them an opportunity to dry out or change their wet clothing. This proved to be wishful thinking, for relief never came. On and on they fought, clearing the enemy from such towns as Limatola, Amorosi, Ruviano, Caiazzo, Margherita, San Angelo, Alife, St. Angel de Alife, St. Leonard, Castello de Alife, Dragoni, Pratilia, Para, Santa Maria Olivetto, Roccaravindola, Ravindola, Montaquila, and Fillignano. To those who didn't speak Italian, the names of towns on the maps looked like an Italian restaurant menu. Strengths dwindled more with each engagement. Replacements received were few, and—without rest—weariness was overtaking the men, but move on they did.

Heroes were so numerous during the Volturno battles that it would not be possible to do them justice in this article. However, it would appear an exception should be made in the instance of Chaplain (Father) Albert Hoffman, Dubuque, Iowa.

With men falling right and left from rifle, machine gun, mortar, and artillery fire and the ever-present land mines, Hoffman continued, as in Africa, to lead medics, helping to give first aid and last rites to the dying. While giving aid to the wounded in a minefield at Santa Maria Olivetto, Hoffman himself stepped on a mine. He ordered his men not to come to his aid, but their love for him prohibited their obeying his order. One was killed while attempting to help him. Eventually Hoffman was brought out, but lost a leg. For his brave deeds in Africa and Italy, Hoffman became the highest decorated chaplain in the service of the United States. (An armory in Dubuque, Iowa has been named in his honor.)

Monte Pantano - Monte Marrone

Before the 34th Infantry Division stood the snow-capped mountain peaks of Monte Pantano and Monte Marrone where the Germans had anchored in what they felt would be their winter line. The crisp air of early winter was bone-chilling. In the valleys below the formidable mountains stood the Red Bull men in sleet, melting snow and a quagmire of mud, wearing wet uniforms and shoes. Throughout the area men could be seen attempting to help tanks, artillery, and trucks out of hub-deep mud. To make matters worse, the Dogfaces had not yet been issued winter uniforms.

On November 29, 1943 Col. Frederick Butler's 168th Infantry, on the left, set out to take Monte Pantano. On the right flank the 133rd Infantry, commanded by Col. Carley Marshall, moved out to attack Monte Marrone, remembered

by veterans as Sawtooth Mountain.

Monte Pantano will be recalled by participants on both sides as a short-lived brutal battle. Men of the 133rd Infantry have no fonder memories of Monte Marrone, although the Germans did not defend Old Sawtooth with quite as much courageous vigor.

Success at Pantano first appeared imminent as the 168th cleared out foothill blockhouses, but in a saddle near the crest the Germans counterattacked like demons possessed. Capt. Benjamin Butler (no relation to Col. Butler) led Company A, 168th Infantry in a brutal bayonet attack time after time to drive the enemy from their lines. The 168th Infantry troops met the enemy eyeball to eyeball midfield with assault fire, then drove them back with bayonet and rifle butts. All day and all night the battle raged.

Running low on ammunition, some of the 168th Infantry men threw C ration cans at the charging enemy who, in the darkness, mistook them for grenades, thus buying enough time for those with a few rounds to reload and fire. Grimly the 168th Infantry held on, advancing inch by inch, refusing to give up ground gained.

On the right flank the 133rd Infantry and attached 100th Battalion relieved the 504th Parachute Infantry and pushed forward in a series of attacks to better anchor the lines, thus preventing the flanking of their

positions and those of the 168th Infantry. After heavy fighting they seized the left slopes of Monte Marrone and outposted Cerasuola.

The Germans pounded both Pantano and Marrone viciously with mortar and artillery fire, then strafed the area with fighter planes. Still the 168th and 133rd Infantries refused to budge.

It was at this point a fortuitous development occurred. Sgt. Norman Raner, Company I, 133rd Infantry, now of Perry, Iowa, discovered an

Weariness was overtaking the men, but move on they did.

abandoned radio, somehow left behind when an Allied forward observer was wounded or killed. Testing it, he found an American artillery outfit on the other end. He could see enemy artillery firing on Pantano and directed highly effective fire on their positions. Raner later was given a battlefield commission and assigned as an observer with Cannon Company, 133rd Infantry.

On the night of December 3, the 135th Infantry Regiment relieved the 168th Infantry. Attacks and counterattacks continued on both sides, and casualties climbed. At last, on the night of December 8, the 34th Division was relieved by the 2nd

Continued on Page 18



The 34th Infantry Division passes in review at Alexandria, La. on April 7, 1941.



34th Div. in WWII

Continued from Page 17

Moroccan Division.

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Ed Bird, then Lt. Col., who commanded the 2nd Battalion, 168th Infantry, can raise his right hand, minus two fingers, and attest to the ferociousness of the battles. All three of the regiment's battalion commanders—Bird, Albia, Iowa; Lt. Col. Floyd Sparks, Centerville, Iowa; and Lt. Col. Wendell Langdon—became casualties.

Coming down out of the snow-covered mountains, above the tree lines, was a terrible experience for the men of the Red Bull. They were totally exhausted, and some had trenchfoot so bad that they could hardly walk. Litter bearers operated in relays, only carrying casualties in excess of five miles. Some casualties slid down the hillside, while others had to be lowered by ropes down steep cliffs.

Heroes during the battles are too numerous to mention, but Capt. Benjamin Butler, now a retired major general, then commanding Company A, 168th Infantry, was awarded a Distinguished Service Cross and the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry was given a Presidential Citation for its outstanding performance while bearing the brunt of the brutal German assaults.

Approaches to Cassino

Wet, worn and weary, the Red Bull warriors at last were given a short respite in squad tents erected amid the smaller mud puddles near St. Angelo de Alife. Time was spent cleaning clothing and equipment, bathing at portable shower units, and training the hundreds of badly needed replacements. Oh yes—they enjoyed an occasional beer and rest on a cot! The Red Bull men hadn't even partaken of Christmas dinner before the 135th Division was alerted to go back up front. The 36th Infantry Division, after its most creditable performance of the war, had seized San Pietro, but had bogged down before reaching San Vittore.

In succeeding days the 34th Di-

The Germans counterattacked like demons possessed.

vision regiments relieved their 36th Division counterparts, and the Red Bull battlers went about the gruesome task of driving Germans out of the Italian mountains.

After house-to-house fighting, the 135th Infantry drove the Germans from San Vittore. The terrain became rougher and rougher in the 10-mile stretch from Lenoci to Radicosa. There were no vehicular roads, only a few footpaths, and above the tree lines even these were obliterated in a glaze of snow and ice.

Movement of supplies and evacuation of wounded became a horrendous task. Packboards were strapped to men's backs and mules were pressed into service to carry much needed ammunition to isolated locations. Casualties in some instances were carried up to 14 miles on litters. The 109th Medical Battalion finally had to be augmented with litter bearers from the regiment's support companies and extra details from line companies.

Day and night the raging

mountaintop battles continued. Cicereli and surrounding hills were cleared. Only the looming Mount Porchio, Cervaro and Trocchio and their foothills stood in the division's pathway.

The 168th Infantry seized Cervaro. The 133rd Infantry combined with the elite 1st Special Service Forces (forerunners of today's Green Berets) to push the Germans from Mt. Majo, Mt. Vischataro and numerous hills in that area. Meanwhile, the 135th Infantry fought every step of the way up the approaches to Mt. Trocchio. All regiments fought brilliantly and in the end all of the hill masses were taken.

Adequate descriptions of these brutal battles and of the adverse conditions under which they were fought is not possible in these writings. Those who fought through those miserable days and nights have them etched, like a horrible nightmare, in their minds forever.

With these strategic hill masses seized, the Red Bull men could, in the distance, see the Rapido River and the awesome mountains surrounding Cassino, where hundreds and hundreds of them would become wounded or lose their lives.

Cassino

Cassino and its surrounding hills, Belvedere Hills, Abate Hills and snow-capped Monte Cairo, presented a bone-chilling bulwark of defensible terrain and the Germans knew how to use it to greatest advantage. Cassino Abbey stood as a pillar of rock in the mountain's crags. This constituted the formidable Gustav Line, which was to become a thorn in the side of Allied Armies.

Across the Rapido, waiting to greet the Red Bull Division, was the 211th Grenadier Regiment of the 71st Grenadier Division, which held the town of Cassino; the 44th Austrians

controlled the Massif. To the north, defending Monte Castellone and Monte Cairo, was the 5th Gebergstruppen (mountain) Division. Providing additional fire support was the 7th Werfer Regiment with six batteries of 150mm guns and two batteries of 210mm nebelwerfer rockets.

The 34th Division troops cleared the Rapido River banks, established positions, then prepared to launch a diversionary attack and render support fire for the 36th Infantry Division, assigned to make the initial crossing.

Minnesota's 135th Infantry faked a strong attack across the

Day and night the raging mountaintop battles continued.

Rapido on January 10, 1944 as the 36th Division launched its crossing. Using minefields and withering machine gun, mortar and artillery fire, the Germans literally decimated the Texas Division, driving them back across the river, shattering their effectiveness as a division.

The 34th started probing patrols at once in an attempt to find a suitable crossing site. On January 24 the 100th Battalion (Hawaiian) crossed, but was driven back. Attempts at establishing a bridgehead were made by the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 133rd Infantry, but they were repelled with heavy casualties. Then the 100th Battalion made a second attempt, only to be forced back with heavy casualties and the 3rd Battalion made still another unsuccessful attempt. The 100th Battalion succeeded, then—lacking armored support—again was driven back. Attempt after attempt to cross was

made by the regiments, but to no avail.

On January 27, 1944 the 168th launched a ferocious river crossing attempt. Tanks bogged down and the infantry forged ahead in minefields. Under withering fire, without tank support, the 168th men had to move back. Further attempts by the 168th failed to establish and hold a bridgehead, as tanks were either mired in the mud or were knocked out.

Lt. Col. Harry W. Sweeting, the commander of the 756th Tank Battalion then moved his unit upstream and under cover of smoke managed to get 23 tanks across the river. The 2nd Battalion, 168th Infantry, encouraged by tank support, then stormed across the river, drove the enemy back and surprisingly held its ground. On February 1, 1944 the 135th Infantry crossed the 168th bridgehead and took up positions. That same day the 133rd Infantry crossed and cleared out an Italian barracks area.

With the 168th Infantry holding ground in the vicinity of Caira, the 133rd Infantry moved toward the town of Cassino. The 135th Infantry moved up the hillside toward the Abbey. The 133rd Infantry reached the city of Cassino, fought a pitched battle, but until the last day of battling succeeded only in taking and holding little more than half the town.

The 135th Infantry doggedly moved forward under the Germans' noses for days, fighting desperately to reach the Abbey, but had to be satisfied to reach it with patrols. Meanwhile, the 168th Infantry, in the higher elevations, made attempt after attempt, but was never able to drive the enemy from the hills. Col. Robert Ward, 135th Infantry Regiment Commander, became a casualty at Caira and Lt. Col. Charles B. Everest, Council Bluffs, Iowa as-

Continued on Page 19



34th Infantry Division personnel cleaning their mess gear following an evening meal in North Ireland in 1942.



34th Div. in WWII

Continued from Page 18

sumed command.

Cassino was no doubt one of—if not the most—bitter large-scale battles fought during World War II. Neither side would yield. Unable to dig into the mountainside, men piled rocks around themselves for protection. But when mortar and artillery descended on them, the rocks shattered, creating even more shrapnel.

Feet froze, and men ran out of rations and ammunition because resupply could be accomplished only at night. In some instances men in isolated locations scavenged the dead for ammunition and rations. Still they held their ground. Strengths of units dwindled, as they fought off enemy counterattack after enemy counterattack.

Permission finally was granted to bomb the Abbey, which many felt was being used as an enemy observation post. (135th Infantry men who reached the wall said they had seen the enemy at that location.) On February 15, 1944 wave after wave of Allied bombers reduced the Abbey to rubble.

Gen. Alexander, Commander of the Allied Forces in Italy, who had learned of the 34th Division's depleted, exhausted condition from a member of his staff, finally ordered the 34th Division to be relieved by the British 4th Indian Division and the 6th New Zealand Brigade.

The 3rd Battalion, 133rd Infantry, had succeeded in cracking the

The miserable days and nights are etched in their minds forever.

Gustav Line at one point, but were so low in strength that a deep penetration was not possible. Two men from Company L, under the command of Lt. Dennis F. Neal, Villisca, Iowa—Pfc. Leo J. "Pop" Powers, Anselmo, Neb., and Lt. Paul F. Riordan, Charles City, Iowa—both won Congressional Medals of Honor while cracking the vaunted Gustav Line. Riordan was killed in action while leading his men in the capture of the jailhouse in Cassino. Had fresh troops been available to exploit the Gustav Line breakthrough, the battle for Cassino possibly could have ended sooner.

Down from the blood-spattered hills and out of Cassino came the brave Red Bull men, many with trenchfoot so severe that they dared not take off their shoes for fear that their feet would swell and they couldn't get them back on if the enemy attacked. Many had to wait for stretchers while buddies helped some down the hills. The feet of hundreds had to be amputated.

Companies were so badly depleted of manpower that it was not uncommon to find rifle companies, which were authorized 193 officers and enlisted men, down to 50 men and—in a few instances—30 men in strength.

The performance of the 34th Division at Cassino is etched deeply in the annals of military history. Despite the tendency of British historians to downgrade American military action while enhancing their own, British historian Dominick Graham, author of *Cassino*, had this to say about the Red Bull Division: "Considering the conditions and the



Gen. Charles W. Ryder enlightens their Majesties on American Army equipment in North Ireland on July 25, 1942.

unsuitability of some of their equipment, the performance of the U.S. 34th Infantry Division, a National Guard outfit, in coming within an ace of cracking the mountain defenses of Cassino, is almost beyond praise."

Graham goes on to quote Fred Majdalany, a British Indian Division company commander: "The performance of the 34th Division at Cassino must rank with the finest feats of arms carried out by any soldier during the War. When at last relieved by the 4th Indian Division, fifty of those few who had held on to the last were too numbed with cold exhaustion to move. They could still man their positions, but they could not move out of them unaided. They were carried out on stretchers."

Only a small number of the heroes were decorated for their valor. In some instances those who witnessed the heroism were killed before the deed could be reported. Then too, the 34th Division was never known for handing out medals with the C rations. Besides, it would have kept the entire regimental staffs busy for a year writing up citations.

Cassino, in future years, became somewhat of a yardstick by which to measure the ferociousness of battles. Months later it would be learned that it took nearly five divisions of troops to shatter the bulwark at Cassino and accomplish what the Red Bull men came "within an ace" of doing.

Anzio

While the Red Bull Dogfaces were still licking their wounds in a rest area behind Cassino, the 2nd Battalion, 133rd Infantry Regiment (then dubbed "The Palace Guards"), commanded by Lt. Col. B. G. Marchi, Fort Dodge, Iowa, rejoined the regiment. They were fortunate to learn some of the combat tricks of the trade from the regiment's battlewise veterans instead of learning them the hard way.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's folly, the invasion of Anzio, was launched January 22, 1944 by Gen. John P. Lucas's VI Corps to relieve pressure on the Gustav Line and, hopefully, cut off the

enemy's defending forces in that area.

At first the landings at Anzio appeared to be garnering success, as Allied Forces penetrated nearly to Rome. The Germans were able to move in reinforcements more quickly than anticipated, however, and they drove the Allies back into a perimeter some 11 miles long and seven miles deep in the vicinity of the harbors of Anzio and Nettuno.

Allied Forces were cornered on flat ground with both sides dueling with their deadly weapons. While German aircraft strafed and bombed the beachhead, the airbursts from Allied Forces' anti-aircraft guns cast black pockmarks in the sky. No one, but no one, will forget the huge German railroad guns that were pulled in and out of caves in the

Companies were badly depleted of manpower.

mountainside. The guns were dubbed "Anzio Annies" by some, while others called them the "Anzio Express," due to the projectile sounding like a rail car flying sideways as it creased the air overhead.

Arriving from the vicinity of Naples by Landing Craft Infantry (LCI), on March 22, 1944 the 135th Infantry Regiment, now under command of Lt. Col. Harry W. Sweeting, and 168th Infantry Regiments—with artillery—and attached units, commenced relieving elements of the battle-weary 3rd Infantry Division. The 3rd Battalion, 133rd Infantry relieved the battle-scarred 504th Parachute Regiment.

With the 442nd (Nisei) Regimental Combat Team's arrival on the beachhead, the RCT was attached to the 34th Division and the 100th Infantry Battalion was assigned to that unit. The 133rd Infantry Regiment and the 442nd RCT were assigned the task of preparing a secondary line of resistance in event of enemy penetration.

On April 1, 1944 the 133rd Infantry Regiment, now under the

command of Col. H. W. Schildroth, relieved the 168th Infantry Regiment where they remained until the breakout. Then in mid-May the 168th Infantry relieved the 135th Infantry to give that regiment some time off of the main line and to give it an opportunity to rehearse its role in the spring offensive.

Meanwhile, the division's artillery battalions remained in position, battering enemy lines and firing counter battery-fire missions. The 109th Engineer Battalion was kept busy helping infantry troops remove enemy personnel and tank mines.

Night after night patrols were dispatched through enemy barbed wire and land mines so thick that they seemed to blanket the earth. Thousands of men lost their lives or legs to these terrible devices. When not patrolling, probing attacks were launched by both sides, either to even up lines or to discover a weak link through which to launch an attack.

The front line was the entire beachhead and no one, from the harbor inland to the front lines, was safe. Ammunition and military impedimenta were stored in every available open spot or building. Even the half-dug-in hospital tents were surrounded by ammunition and supplies. Nurses wore helmets and several were killed or wounded.

Scattered through the rear area were some 1,500 field pieces, not including tanks. It was the largest close concentration of artillery in World War II, with the exception of Stalingrad on the Russian front. To add to this firepower the Navy pulled offshore at critical periods and lent the support of its big guns. By spring, every house or building on the beachhead had been badly battered or flattened.

The Germans attempted to break through Allied defenses with strong pushes in a few areas, but were repulsed with such losses that they abandoned further efforts. Somehow the Allies managed to hold the perimeter intact. The Air Corps, in a show of force, bombed towns and enemy defensive positions around

Continued on Page 20



34th Div. in WWII

Continued from Page 19

the perimeter.

Fresh troops and tanks started arriving from Naples in the spring. It was obvious that the time for an all-out offensive was drawing near. Shortly before 6 a.m. on May 22, 1944, with one simultaneous boom, every field piece and mortar on the beachhead opened fire. The skies lit up with muzzle flashes and the earth tremored as if shaken by an earthquake ranking high on the Richter scale.

On the right flank the 133rd Infantry, under the command of Col. H. W. Schildroth, supported with firepower while the 1st Special Service Forces made an assault. The Special Forces suffered heavy losses while cracking the enemy's first line of resistance. The 133rd Infantry passed through and continued the attack, driving the Germans out of their sector of the Lepini Mountain range.

In Col. Harry W. Sweeting's 135th Infantry sector, units launched an attack toward Cisterna. It was in this action that two Company E, 135th Infantry sergeants made an attempt to win the war by themselves, wreaking havoc upon the enemy in their path. Sgts. George J. Hall and Ernest Dervinshian both won the coveted Medal of Honor.

That night, without rest, the 133rd Infantry moved in a long forced march across the beachhead to a hilltop area northwest of Cisterna. On that flank the famous 3rd Infantry Division had suffered horrible casualties while taking Cisterna and the 36th Infantry was called up to bolster the attack. Meanwhile, the 135th Infantry, attached to Combat Command "A" of 1st Armored Divi-

The 34th was never known for handing out medals with the C rations.

sion, slashed forward north of Cisterna. The 1st Armored Division—in a mad dash—attempted to sack the retreating Germans. The 168th Infantry Regiment, now under the command of Col. Mark M. Boatner, was holding firm, waiting for the division's drive to the north.

On these high vantage points the Red Bull Dogfaces took a last look at the flat beachhead where they had been trapped like rats in a barrel, hastily received their C rations, and headed toward Rome.

Romeward Bound

The Germans were waiting on the next hills. If they were waiting for the Red Bull men they weren't disappointed, but they got more than they bargained for. In a series of forceful rapid-fire attacks, the enemy was driven back quickly. By now the 2nd Battalion, 133rd Infantry Palace Guards had not only proven themselves on defense, but offensively as well. Lt. Beryl R. Newman, Company F, 133rd Infantry, went on a rampage, knocking out machine guns and clearing the enemy out of houses as if the war was going to end before he could prove himself. For his day's work he received the Medal of Honor.

At last, the division's troops reached Villa Crocetta and the walled village of Lanuvio. Here the Germans, with labor battalions, had built

and fortified the strong Caesar line, designed to wreak havoc upon advancing forces.

Stubbornly, the enemy resisted all attempts to penetrate their bastions of defense. On the right flank Col. Henry C. Hine, Jr. succeeded Col. Boatner in command of the 168th Infantry. That regiment soon was battering German troops at Villa Crocetta time after time, but was driven back with heavy casualties.

It was at Villa Crocetta that the recently battlefield-commissioned John Vessey, Jr. directed his first artillery fire and scored on his first hits. (Vessey went on to become a four-star general and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.)

On the left flank, the 133rd Infantry ran into equally heavy resistance. The Germans wouldn't budge. The 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division, had launched an attack to the west (left) of the 133rd Infantry and nearly had been decimated. It was then that Minnesota's 135th Infantry moved across the rear to launch an attack through the 179th and attempt a penetration. Trapped in the lowlands, the 135th Infantry losses were staggering. Three-quarter ton trucks were pressed into service to haul out the dead bodies stacked like cordwood.

At last the German lines bent; then buckled. The 168th Infantry Regiment, low in manpower, was beefed up with the 109th Engineer Battalion and—with a strong thrust—moved up through Villa Crocetta. On the left side of Lanuvio the 2nd Battalion Palace Guards smashed through the town while the balance of the 133rd Infantry, the 100th Hawaiian Battalion and the 135th Infantry Regiment moved around the outskirts. The Caesar Line then buckled and the three regiments and 442nd RCT linked up north of Lanuvio.

During the heated battle in the draw west of Lanuvio, the Germans were about to overrun the Company L, 135th Infantry positions. Pfc. Furman L. Smith, on an outpost, held an enemy company at bay with his deadly marksmanship. Through his tremendous courage, he saved many of his buddies. At Villa Crocetta Capt. William W. Galt, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry commandeered a tank destroyer and literally wiped out a section of the German lines to prevent the enemy from flanking a company. Both were awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.

When the list of casualties was compiled it was discovered that the number of casualties per day was the heaviest of any engagement fought by the Red Bull Division.

In a series of strikes the city of Albano was cleared, pockets of enemy troops were driven from the hills, and the 34th Division troops drove hard to the hills south of Rome.

Rome

From high plateaus south of Rome the Red Bull men stood, waiting for orders to move in and capture the city—the centuries-old objective of many armies. But, not unlike at Tunis, their orders were to stand fast. Roman Fever, so to speak, had been contracted by all higher level commands in Italy. The 34th Infantry Division men could have been in Rome and had it cleared before the show on the outskirts was completed.

On June 4, 1944—from their hilltop perch—the Red Bull men could look down on Highways 6 and 7 and see troops being moved up

from every direction. The British Eighth Army was far behind, but French forces were pushing to get in the act. The 36th Infantry Division (Texas) was pushing up with the 1st Armored, and so forth. The whole display reminded one of kids crowding to get into a Saturday afternoon movie matinee.

Gen. Clark decided to bypass the older divisions in the theater and give the honors to the 1st Special Service Forces. They were an elite force, but the 34th, 3rd, 45th and 1st Armored Divisions had been battling steadily for the honors for a long time and their men were not at all happy at what they were seeing. The Special Forces were credited as being the first into Rome by higher headquarters and the press. The unhappy 36th Division commanders were told to get out of the line.

The 168th Infantry had been alerted to move into Rome several times, but each time orders were cancelled. Meanwhile, the 135th Infantry and elements of the 1st Armored had been ordered to strike south of Rome, cross the Tiber River and seize the airfield at Vetebro. They were able to move out before the orders could be cancelled. Whether by accident or design, they kept slamming ahead until they had established a command post in Rome at 1:30 a.m. on June 5, 1944 and laid claim to being the first infantry regiment in Rome. However, their regimental commander, Col. Sweeting, was not present as he had been captured while conducting his own reconnaissance. Col. Charles P.

Greyer was placed in command of the 135th Infantry Regiment.

Rome had been captured by the Allied Forces and a new chapter could be added to its centuries of military history. The Dogfaces of all units had long spoken of what they would do when they got to Rome. There were a few impromptu celebrations with the Romans who greeted them, but the festivities were short-lived. The pursuit of the enemy could not wait.

Rome to Tarquinia

In the true spirit of practice established by higher command, the 34th Division was given no rest and ordered to continue its advance. Someone must have thought that the Red Bull Dogfaces needed to keep their combat skills honed.

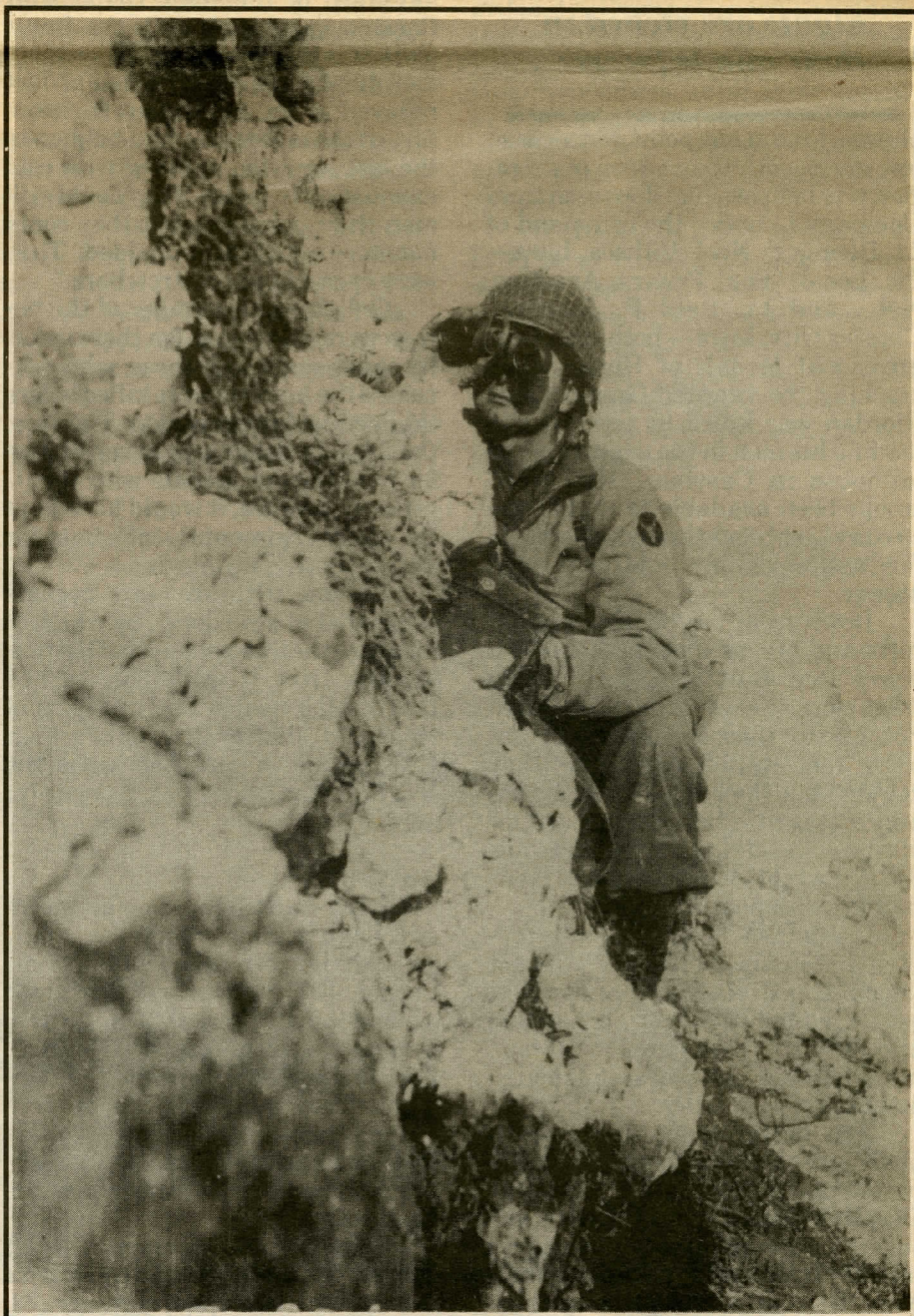
First to fall to the 34th Division was the port city of Civitavecchia on

Cassino became a yardstick by which to measure the ferociousness of battles.

the Tyrrhenian Sea, with the 168th Infantry leading the way. The afternoon of June 6, 1944 word filtered down of the Allied invasion of France, which completely negated the importance of Rome. The glamor was in Europe and the Dogfaces in Italy would suffer from that campaign's prestige.

From Civitavecchia, the 133rd Infantry took the lead in pursuit of

Continued on Page 21



An artillery observer atop Mt. Chiaia in the Cassino Area in Italy spots enemy activity on Mt. Trocchio on January 17, 1944.



Capt. Walter H. Johnson (left), 34th "Red Bull" Division, and Lt. Col. Wolfgang Kroll, 34th German Division, shortly after the German surrender in Italy, 1945. (Photo contributed by Lt. Col. (Ret.) Walter H. Johnson of Monroe, La.)

34th Div. in WWII

Continued from Page 20

the Germans. South of the old Roman outpost city of Tarquinia, where a German airfield also was located, the enemy decided to stand and fight vigorously to halt American advances. Time evidently had to be bought for withdrawing troops and they fought like tigers. After a bloody battle Tarquinia fell in a twilight attack. The Dogfaces will never forget how a German Bicycle Battalion scurried to ride off in retreat. It reminded many of the shooting galleries at the old county fairs as riflemen plinked them off like targets on a pulley as the Germans attempted to ride hurriedly away in the day's last shadows. Some German aircraft were caught on the ground before they could escape.

With Tarquinia seized, the 34th Division was at last given a rest and some men took their first baths since early March 19, 1944, the date they departed the Cassino area. They were long past the stage of a modern deodorant breakdown and any group of 10 or more gave off an aroma akin to a polecat convention.

To Pisa

Gen. Clark must have decided the Red Bull men would develop puppet fever if they slept out of the elements too long and on July 24, 1944 they were alerted and sent back to the front to relieve the 36th Division.

In the 442nd RCT area stiff resistance was encountered at Surreto. The 100th Battalion earned a Presidential Citation when it bypassed the town and wreaked havoc on an enemy battalion. On the left flank, the 133rd Infantry sacked Monte Pantoni. The 168th moved with the line and helped severely maul an enemy battalion.

The 133rd Infantry Regiment, with the 2nd Battalion Palace Guards in the lead, sliced hard around Castagnano, cutting off enemy troops and paving the way for the regiment's advance to its objective, the Bolgheri River.

Men of the 133rd Infantry Regiment will never forget the hotly contested battle for Cecina, near the Tyrrhenian Sea. Col. Schildroth, the 133rd Infantry Commander, overly

anxious to take the town, ordered Lt. Col. B. G. Marchi's Palace Guards to push across the flat second river bottom terrain to the river's edge, with surrounding hills occupied by the enemy. Quick to react, the German Panzer and Infantry units slashed through their ranks. One company, already under strength, suffered 54 casualties. However, the Palace Guards rebounded, seized Cecina, and the advance continued.

In other action, the 168th Infantry seized Riparbella. On July 3, 1944 the 133rd Infantry and 135th Infantry seized Collemezano while the 34th Reconnaissance took Casali. With hill masses seized by the 135th and 168th, the 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry fought its way to Rosignano.

Rosignano had been a peacetime vacation resort, but no one could convince the 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment that it was a desirable place to spend the Fourth of July. The Germans allowed them to enter the town, surrounded them, then closed the gates, so to speak. On one side of the city square was the enemy, on the other side, the 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry. The fireworks display was phenomenal, outdoing anything the men had ever seen in their hometowns.

So confusing were the battle lines that one enemy battalion dug in its

The earth tremored as if shaken by an earthquake.

positions with the soldiers' backs to the Red Bull men. The Minnesota 125th Field Artillery blasted the disoriented enemy's positions, adding further confusion to the enemy's ranks. The 442nd RCT launched an attack from south of Rosignano and—not having been invited to the Fourth of July party—the Germans turned their attention to the 442nd RCT. The memorable Fourth of July celebration lasted until July 6 and will long be remembered by all participants.

The drive continued to Leghorn and was marked with artillery units scurrying from position to position rendering support, often from exposed positions. Such objectives as Patina, Piere de St. Luce, Quercianiella, Mt. Maggiore,

Usigliano and Colli Aberti, fell to the 34th Division and 442nd RCT.

With all 34th Division artillery batteries performing in a fantastic manner, the 135th Infantry pushed through the 100th Battalion, captured Ceppeto, and seized Casone. With the assistance of the 742nd Tank Battalion and 804th TD Battalion, by nightfall the entire 34th Division held the high ground and the next day the Red Bull men—along with the 363rd Infantry—secured the greater part of the city of Leghorn.

It was on July 21, 1944 that Gen. Charles L. Bolte assumed command of the 34th Division. Bolte, a powerful figure of a man, would prove to be an outstanding commander. (Later he became U.S. Army Deputy Chief of Staff and peacetime commander of Allied Forces in Europe.)

The Red Bull forces then seized Pisa, where they were hurried past the Leaning Tower and a short time later relieved and sent to the former Italian resort area, "Rosignano by the Sea," courtesy of the 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment, for a badly needed period of rest and reorganization.

During the rest period, the 442nd RCT, along with the 100th Battalion, were pulled from the division to join the already withdrawn 3rd, 45th and 36th Infantry Divisions and 1st Special Service Forces in the invasion of southern France. Fifth U.S. Army had been stripped of much of its long battle-tested divisions. All priority had been shifted to Europe, as the Allies had liberated Paris and were pounding German 7th Army Forces with aerial bombardment.

Back at Rosignano the rotation system continued and a new procedure of giving the old-timers a 30-day temporary duty to the States was inaugurated. Some would return to battle the Germans up the Po Valley in the final days of the War.

To Bologna

By the time the 34th Division went back into action on September 6, 1944 the Midwestern flavor of the division had diminished considerably. Even in the 2nd Battalion, 133rd Infantry, Midwesterners were not plentiful. Although smaller battles receive little historical attention, it is not uncommon for units to have suffered five to 10 casualties in these encounters. When added up, these losses became quite astronomical over a period of time.

From the vicinity of Florence, then held by the British, the 34th Division launched its drive to the Gothic Line in a series of quick advances against enemy rear-guard action. Rains fell heavily as the regiments moved further into the mountains. Then the 168th Infantry hit strong resistance. In a pitched battle, 168th Infantry troops seized Collina, Puliana and advanced toward Larguno.

Again the 34th Division found itself in high rugged mountains where off-road traveling by vehicles was impossible. Pack mules again were pressed into service.

Col. Henry C. Hines' 168th Infantry, with patrols out front clearing minor resistance, advanced through seven villages. The 133rd Infantry advanced 20 miles over rugged terrain to Legri, where the regiments came abreast. Terrain was growing more mountainous and as many as 15 hours were needed to evacuate casualties. The 109th Medics and detailed litter bearers did a highly commendable job.

On September 10, 1944 the 168th Infantry encountered strong resistance at LeCroc. After a heated battle the enemy was driven out of Casa Farno and Cavalina. The 133rd Infantry advanced over extremely rough terrain to St. Margherita in a series of skirmishes. Both the 133rd and 168th Infantry Regiments steadily moved forward to the Gothic Line, where the 135th Infantry launched an enveloping movement around the right flank.

In the Company K, 135th Infantry area, this company reached a heavily fortified area. Lt. Thomas W. Wigle, a young executive officer, watched the men make attempt after attempt to scale a rock wall. He asked and was given permission to take command of the platoon. He went forward, his men helped him over the wall, then he opened fire on the Germans and his men crossed over. By that time Wigle had killed several of the enemy and had set about clearing several houses of the enemy, until he fell mortally wounded. Lt. Wigle was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.

Storming ahead, the 135th In-

At last the German lines bent, then buckled.

fantry penetrated the Gothic Line September 16, 1944 and the 133rd Infantry seized St. Margherita. On September 18 Col. William Schildroth was killed in a minefield and Col. Gustav J. Braun was assigned the 133rd Infantry command. A gap existed in the lines, so Gen. Bolte closed it with the 168th Infantry, and by September 22 had seized Trondale. That sector of the Gothic Line had been completely shattered by the Red Bull regiments.

It was October 1, 1944. The mountains were getting higher and the weather colder. One would have thought the Germans would have given up the fight, but the 168th Infantry fought a bitter battle to take Mt. Galletto and the heights along the Setta River Valley. Meanwhile, the 133rd Infantry seized the intermediate objective of Cedreccia and headed toward Monte Venere.

It was October 12, 1944 at Monte Venere when the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry commander, Maj. Edward M. Farbert, was wounded and Capt. Richard F. Wilkinson was placed in command. He had been around since Africa and knew the tricks of the trade. With a strong frontal attack in progress, he snaked a company around to the rear and hit the confused enemy, a proud German Paratroop Battalion, from both ends. The enemy either became casualties, surrendered, or somehow hotfooted it out of the area. For its action, the battalion won a Presidential Citation.

In a series of short, but bitter actions, the 133rd Infantry seized Collina, the 168th Infantry seized several hills, and—in a bitter battle—took Osteria di Ruggeri, Banzole and Nuova, and then crossed the Sambro River. The villages of Manzuno and Varole, among others, fell to the raging Red Bull warriors and they pressed onward until they reached a formidable hill mass some 12 miles south of Bologna.

Continued on Page 22



34th Div. in WWII

Continued from Page 21

Winter line 1944-45

In front of the division stood majestic Monte Bel Monte, Castle di Zena, and a mighty bastion of German mountain defenses. Time after time the division's regiments battered themselves against the enemy's seemingly impregnable defenses, only to be cut to ribbons for their efforts. There—in the cold, wet rains and mud—they battled until snow made further progress virtually impossible.

A stalemate developed with patrol and probing action being the order of the day. The Red Bull men dug in. With both sides entrenched (with the exception of a few localized attacks) the front remained little changed until spring. Misery was the watchword, except for short stints by units and individuals to the Montecatini Terme rest area. It was on the winter line that Gen. Gustav Braun, the new appointed Deputy Division Commander, was killed by enemy gunfire while on reconnaissance in a light aircraft.

From Rome northward, replacements and supplies became even more sparse. All attention had been given to the war in Europe and ammunition had to be rationed. Veterans of the winter line will long remember absorbing German artillery and mortar barrages and not being able to retaliate in kind. Although Allied air power had prevailed since North Africa, somehow the Germans had managed to maintain adequate supplies.

From Anzio to Bologna, a quiet,

withdrawn young farm lad, Pfc. Edwin J. Lemke, Webster City, Iowa, made numerous solo raids behind enemy lines, knocking out enemy gun replacements, blowing ammunition dumps and playing havoc with enemy communications. Although his deeds could be established from his reports and after an attack through the area, he was alone and without witness. The Phantom of the Fifth U.S. Army front, as Lemke was dubbed, did win the Distinguished Service Cross for deeds witnessed. Efforts still are being made to get him awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.

The spring thaws came and time for the big offensive drew near. Gen. Harold R. L. G. Alexander, Allied Commander in Italy, announced the end of ammunition rationing. Air Force bombing had halted much of the delivery of the enemy's ammunition and fuel to the front.

On April 9, 1945 the British Eighth Army launched its offensive. On April 24 the Fifth U.S. Army IV Corps jumped off in the attack and the II Corps leaped from its dugouts and moved forward April 16.

The 133rd Infantry relieved the 363rd Infantry Regiment and headed north, seizing Monte Arnigo. The 3rd Battalion, 133rd Infantry, now commanded by Lt. Col. B. C. Marchi, Fort Dodge, Iowa, then passed through his old 2nd Battalion, crossed the Savena River and—with the 752nd Tank Battalion—marched triumphantly into Bologna. Col. Marchi had been ordered to halt his march at the outskirts of the city, but later said, tongue-in-cheek, "I didn't get the order!" Marchi had no intention of having his 34th Division troops sit on the outskirts as they had at

Tunis and Rome, while some other unit reaped the glory.

Low on ammunition and fuel, the German Army—powerful as it still was—crumbled against the Allied onslaught. In some instances they moved artillery and trucks to the rear, pulled by oxen. The Allied Armies crossed the Po River and dogged the Germans in hot pursuit up the Po Valley. In the grand finale some 40,000 enemy troops surrendered to the 34th Division. German troops in Italy officially surrendered April 29, 1945. Col. John M. Breit, then commanding the 135th Infantry Regiment, 34th Infantry Division, received the surrender of the German 34th Infantry Division. Col. Breit was given the honor of receiving all the Red Bull Division prisoners. On May 7, 1945 the war in Europe ended.

The 3rd Division amassed 517 days of combat. One or more 34th Division units were engaged in actual combat with the enemy 611 days. The division was credited with more combat days than any other division in the theater. The 34th Division suffered 3,737 killed in action, 14,165 wounded in action, and 3,460 missing in action, for a total of 21,362 battle casualties. Casualties of the division are considered to be the highest of any division in the theater when daily per capita fighting strengths are considered. There is little doubt the division took the most enemy-defended hills of any division in the European Theater. The division's men were awarded 10 Medals of Honor, 98 Distinguished Service Crosses, one Distinguished Service Medal, 1,052 Silver Stars, 116 Legion of Merit medals, one Distinguished Flying Cross, 1,713

Bronze Stars, 51 Soldiers Medals, 34 Air Medals, with duplicate awards of 52 oakleaf clusters, and 15,000 purple hearts.

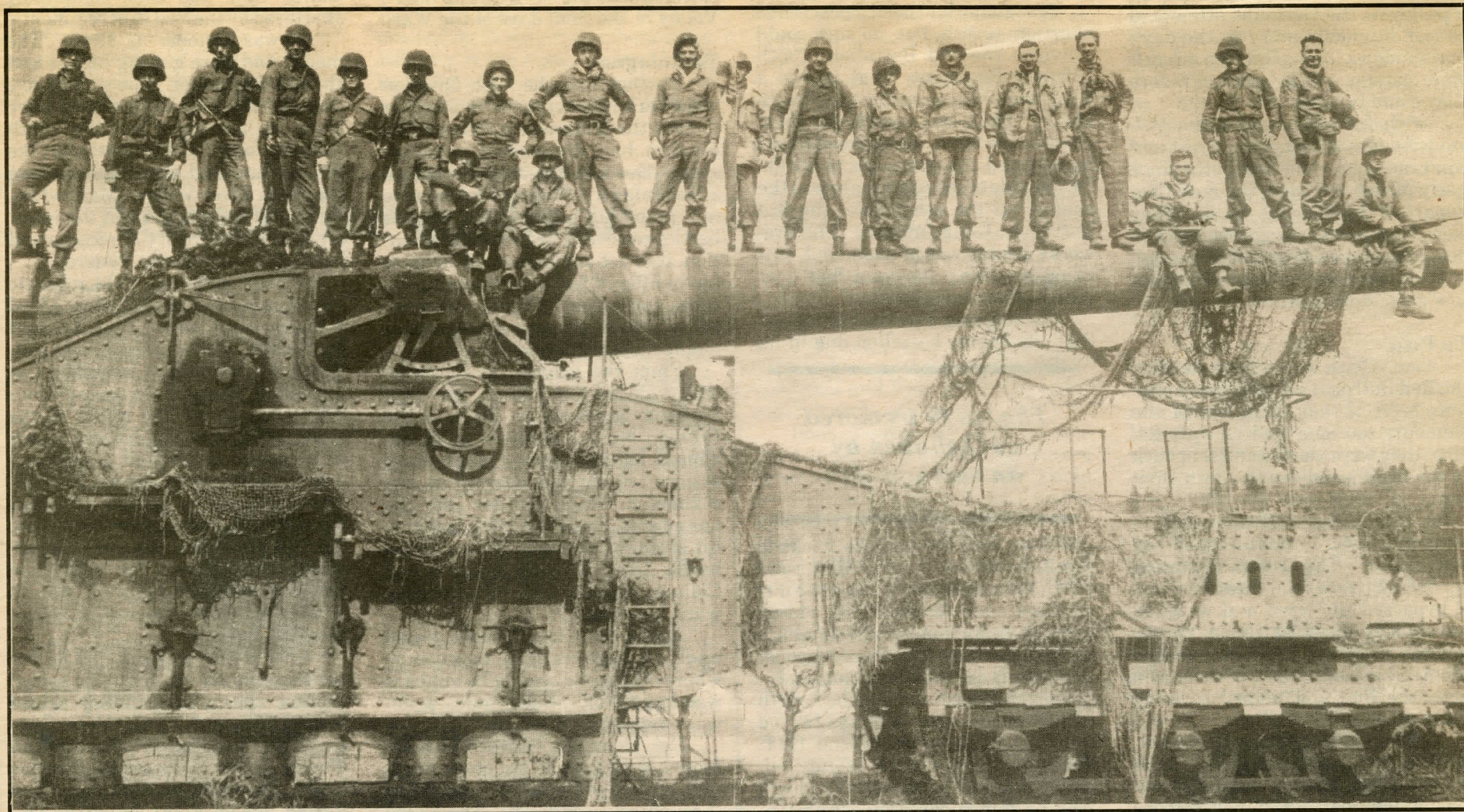
It is of interest to note that the division's only Distinguished Flying Cross was awarded to a non-pilot, Sgt. William Kriedler, Duluth, Minn., 125th Field Artillery Battalion. When the pilot became a casualty over Anzio, Kriedler took over the plane's controls and landed safely on an airstrip.

Additionally, 34th Division men and three units were awarded President Citations, 15 Unit Commendations, and 525 individual division citations. Individuals won seven British, seven French and six Italian medals. The French government awarded the Croix de Guerre with Palms to the division for its gallantry in action alongside French troops.

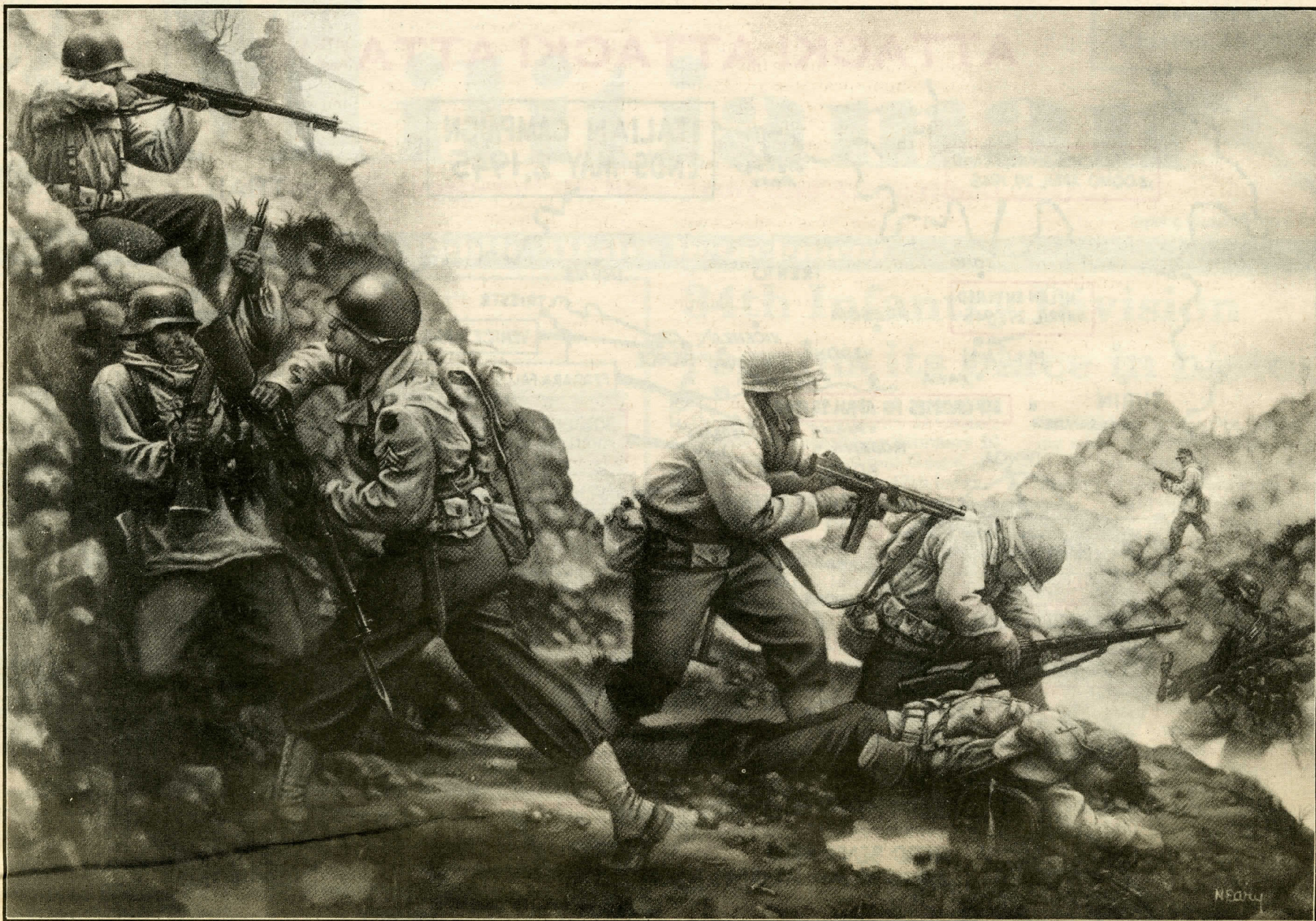
Small wonder the old veterans of the Red Bull Division were unhappy when their division was placed on the National Guard's inactive list, for they were rightfully proud of the 34th Infantry Division's accomplishments.



Editor's Note: Ankrum's 670-page book, *Dogfaces Who Smiled Through Tears*, is available from Graphic Publishing Co., Lake Mills, IA 50450 for \$27.50, plus a \$3.50 handling charge. (Iowa residents add 4% sales tax.) Books also are available from the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge or through your local bookstore.



Known to the Germans as "Slim Bertha," but by the Allies as "Anzio Annie," the 28cm railway gun used by the Germans at Anzio was one of the war's most potent pieces of artillery. It was hidden in a tunnel most of the time, emerging only to fire its 561-pound shell at the Allied beachhead. The weight of the gun and its railway carriage was 479,600 pounds, and its length 96 feet. Maximum range was 38 miles and its firing crew numbered 10. It was used exclusively during the bloody Italian Campaign during World War II. This behemoth was captured by the 135th Infantry, Red Bull Division near Civitavecchia. (Photo and information contributed by Lt. Col. (Ret.) Walter H. Johnson of Monroe, La., who served with the 135th Infantry Regiment, 34th Division in World War II)



The Red Bull in the Winter Line

In September 1943 the Allies invaded the southern Italian mainland at Salerno. Strategic planners had believed that the Germans would then withdraw north, toward the Alps. But the Germans did not withdraw, and in what became known as the Battle of the Winter Line, the Allies began their long fight up the Italian peninsula. Iowa's 168th Infantry landed at Salerno some three weeks after the initial invasion. Part of the 34th Infantry Division (Red Bull) from Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota, and the first U.S. Army division to arrive in Europe, the 168th Infantry was already a veteran of the North African campaigns. In Italy, the regiment went into action immediately, and on November 28, 1943, the battalion was directed to seize Mount Pantano, a large mountain whose four knobs gave it a square shape. Situated in a draw between the four knobs was a full battalion of German defenders. Taking the first knob from the surprised Germans, Company A repulsed an almost immediate counterattack in hand-to-hand fighting. The rest of the battalion arrived, and for the next five days the men were under constant attack. Company A's commander, although wounded three times, led a

bayonet charge against a German breakthrough; Company B stopped seven German assault waves; grenade duels raged all around the perimeter. When their ammunition was exhausted, the Americans hurled rocks and C-ration cans at the Germans. Because pack mules could only travel one-third of the way up the steep rain-soaked slopes, supply was a critical problem. For two days there was nothing to drink but rain water. To evacuate a casualty meant four to six hours on foot down the steep trail, under mortar fire, which forced the battalion surgeon to treat casualties on the actual firing line. Despite constant attacks, severe casualties, cold weather and lack of ammunition and food, the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry held its position for five days until it was relieved. For its gallantry, the unit was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation. This was not the last Italian hillside the 168th and its sister regiments would take from the Germans; the 34th Infantry Division spent the rest of the war in Italy, and is credited with more actual days in combat than any other U.S. Army Division. The heritage of the "Red Bull" Division has been perpetuated by the February 1991 reactivation of this distinguished division.

Red Bull monument graces Camp Dodge chapel lawn

In September 1987 hundreds of World War II veterans, their relatives and friends gathered for the dedication of a monument in front of the chapel at Camp Dodge to members of the famed 34th Infantry Division.

Brig. Gen. Neal Christensen addressed the group, saying that the monument was a lasting link, "a reminder of a division that had no match in days spent in combat." He said that Camp Dodge was proud to be home to the monument.

Charles A. Smith of North

Kansas City, Mo., spearheaded the effort to have the memorial erected at Camp Dodge.

In his dedication printed in the September 12 program, Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Edward Bird wrote, "It is with gratitude that we remember those who made our country and fashioned it to be a land of liberty and justice: may we always remember those men and women, and our comrades, who have in the name of patriotism, offered their blood that this liberty and justice should not perish from the earth."



Monument to the 34th Infantry Division at Camp Dodge, Iowa. (Photo by 1st Sgt. Garry Skeries)

TRAIL OF THE "RED BULL"

[illegible]

Red Bull Division Record
First Division to Europe—Jan. 26, 1942
Most combat days 517 — (Elements 611)
Most casualties per capita — 21,362
Most defended hills taken