

HEADQUARTERS
2D BATTALION, 6TH US INFANTRY
APO US Forces, 09742

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1 March 1966

SUBJECT: 2D BATTALION, 6TH US INFANTRY
ANNUAL HISTORICAL SUMMARY

TO: Chief of Military History
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

1. 5 January 1965: Major James J. Turner assumed the duties of Battalion Executive Officer.
2. 11-12 January 1965: All companies of the battalion participated in the Berlin Brigade Small Bore Rifle and Pistol Competition. Company A's pistol team, consisting of Captain Hartman B. Mowery, SSgt Allen Rhodes, Pfc Herbert Voigt, and Pfc Donald Kerstetter, took first place in the team pistol event.
3. 15-19 January 1965: The battalion officers and non-commissioned officers attended classes on leadership and tactics in preparation for zonal training at Wildflecken, West Germany.
4. 18-22 January 1965: The battalion S-2, Captain James F. McCall, conducted an 8 hour school on all aspects of intelligence at the platoon, company, and battalion level for the junior officers and senior non-commissioned officers.
5. 19 January 1965: A border patrol from the battalion's reconnaissance platoon assisted West Berlin Police in breaking up a dog fight between a West German police dog and a border patrol dog that had escaped from East Germany.
6. 22-25 January 1965: The Drill Platoon, commanded by PSG Thomas Bone, performed their famous silent drill at the Bremen Stadthalle in Bremen, West Germany, and at the Sports Palast in West Berlin.
7. 29 January 1965: a. Company B and Company C conducted a combat-in-cities exercise for the benefit of a large group of dignitaries at the Spandau Combat-in-Cities Range. Company B acted as aggressors and Company C, the Brigade Immediate Ready Force at the time, acted as the friendly forces.

b. Twenty-four enlisted men participated in a memorial service for Sir Winston Churchill at the Olympic Stadium.

8. 30 January 1965: The battalion had a "Guardian Gathering" at the Gator Club, at which time Lt Col Jack F. Kettler and Sergeant-Major Casimir Ceizyk rededicated the Guardian Punch Bowl which had been lined in silver. Berlin Brigade Sergeant-Major Petersen was made a lifetime member of the battalion.

9. 31 February 1965: Pfc Charles B. Mumpower of Company C was presented with all of the awards designated for the Brigade Soldier of the Month by Brigadier General John H. Hay. His prizes included a paid vacation for one to Garmisch, a \$25.00 Savings Bond, a one year membership in the Association of the United States Army, a wrist watch and a letter of commendation.

10. 5 February 1965: Sergeant-Major Casimir Ciezyk left the battalion after four years of outstanding and devoted service to assume the duties of Berlin Brigade Sergeant-Major. On the same day, 1st Lt Wilford Phelps received the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service for three years in Berlin and departed for the 82d Airborne Division.

11. 9-10 February 1965: The Guardians conducted FIX "Liberty I" in the West Grunewald. The exercise stressed troop leading procedures at the platoon and company level in occupying the defense and conducting a battalion attack.

12. 11-12 February 1965: The battalion conducted the first classes ever taught in Berlin on the new anti-tank weapon, M72 LAW. SSgt William Ginac and SSgt Robert Carle from Company C gave the classes to all personnel of the battalion and were also requested for instruction of other units in the Brigade. The instructors were highly commended for their outstanding course of instruction.

13. 23-25 February 1965: The Guardian Battalion conducted an administrative motor march in five units from Berlin to Wildflecken, West Germany for concentrated field training. There were no incidents or accidents during the move.

14. 26 February - 16 March 1965: a. The battalion conducted training in skiing and survival assisted by a team from the 10th Special Forces Group from Bad Toelz, West Germany. MSgt Don Patrick of Company C was the principle instructor for skiing and was commended on an outstanding job.

b. The highlight of the tactical training during the period was the 81mm annual training test for the 81mm mortar squads of the battalion. The 1st Squad of Company C's Weapons Platoon, led by Sgt Hebron placed first in the overall competition.

c. The rifle elements of the battalion conducted squad and platoon tactics, both live and dry fire. The climax of the zonal training period was a combined weapons demonstration whereby all companies

were placed on the line with all organic weapons, supported by Battery B, 1st Battalion, 35th Artillery, and the 4.2in Mortar Platoon. The battalion built up fire power based on a narration on a public address system by Lt Col Kettler which finally resulted in the firing of final protective fires by all elements.

15. 17-19 March 1965: The battalion returned by motor march to Berlin with no accidents or incidents.

16. 22 March 1965: The Company C Mess Hall received a 3 Star Mess Award for excellence in inspections by the Food Service Branch of Quartermaster.

17. 26 March 1965: a. Company A and Company B participated in a Combat-in-Cities exercise at the Spandau Combat-in-Cities Range. Company B acted as the aggressor and Company A, the Berlin Brigade Immediate Ready Force at that time, was the friendly force.

b. Officers of the battalion bid farewell to the Prince of Wales Own Battalion of the British Forces, and welcomed the Officers of the 1st Battalion Greenjackets at a supper at the Officers Open Mess in the Harnack House.

18. 29 March 1965: Headquarters Company received the Top of the Guard Streamer for being the battalion's outstanding unit during the first quarter of 1965.

19. 30 March 1960: Company B received its IG inspection and was determined to be in a high state of readiness.

20. 1 April 1965: Company C relieved the Soviet Forces of the responsibility for guarding the Spandau Allied Prison. 2d Lt Eugene Francis was the American Officer of the Guard for the precise change-over ceremony.

21. 2 April 1965: The battalion participated in a Berlin Brigade Review in honor of General Andrew P. O'Meara, Commander in Chief, US Army, Europe, on his first visit to Berlin.

22. 5 April 1965: During Command Reveille, Major James J. Turner presented the "Distinguished Guardian Badge" to Captain Hartman B. Mowery of Company A, Captain Donald Nowak, Commanding Officer, Company B, Captain Charles R. Baker, Commanding Officer, Company C, and Captain Edgar Egeland, Commanding Officer, Headquarters Company.

23. 6 April 1965: The battalion Drill Team, under the supervision of PSgt Thomas Bone, performed a silent drill demonstration in Metz, France.

24. 12 April 1965: a. SP4 James Butts, Battalion Mail Clerk, received Brigade "Best Mail Room" award for the fifth consecutive month.

b. Sgt Thomas Lee, Company B, received a Letter of Commendation from the Commandant of the 7th Army NCO Academy. He also received the General Douglas MacArthur Award for leadership.

25. 21-26 April 1965: The battalion participated in a Berlin Brigade FTX, Compass Rock, acting as part of the friendly forces. The exercise began with alert procedures, riot control actions and Combat-in-Cities actions before it moved to the Grunewald for conventional defense and attack missions.
26. 30 April 1965: The officers of the 1st Battalion "Greenjackets" visited the battalion headquarters and were given a tour of the battalion facilities.
27. 3 May 1965: The battalion S-3, Major David Bailey, was reassigned to Berlin Brigade G-3 Division, and Captain Richard A. McClain became the new S-3.
28. 8 May 1965: Brigadier General John H. Hay, Commanding General Berlin Brigade, presented SP4 James Steigner of Company A with the soldier of the Month Award at a battalion Command Retreat.
29. 15 May 1965: a. The Allied Forces Day Parade was held on 17 Juni Strasse with British, French and United States units participating. The Guardian Battalion represented the United States along with the 4th Battalion, 18th Infantry.
- b. An Armed Forces Day exhibit was displayed on the Four Ring at McNair Barracks. The Battalion Drill Team, under the supervision of PSgt Thomas Bone, performed for the Berlin citizens that visited the exhibit.
30. 24 May - 5 June 1965: All rifle companies of the battalion underwent the annual Army Training Tests held in the Grunewald forest with each company spending 3 days in the field. Company A took top honors in an extremely close contest with Company C.
31. 7 June 1965: Company A received the "Top of the Guard" Streamer for the most outstanding unit in the battalion during the second quarter.
32. 11 June 1965: Headquarters and Headquarters Company received its IG inspection and was determined to be in a high state of readiness.
33. 14 June 1965: Company A received the Colonel William R. Washington award for first place in the battalion on the company Army Training Test.
34. 11-16 June 1965: The Drill Team under the supervision of PSgt Thomas Bone performed a Silent Drill Show at Mons, Belgium.
35. 16 June 1965: Battery C, 94th Artillery set the USAREUR "Hipshot" record for the fastest time to put effective fire on a target during their annual training at Baumholder, West Germany.
36. 21 June 1965: a. Lt Col Clayton H. Moore, former battalion commander and G-3, visited the battalion at Command Reville and was bid farewell by the battalion just prior to his departure from Berlin.

b. Captain Rudolf Egersdorfer assumed command of B Company.

37. 22-26 June 1965: The battalion underwent its annual training test and was designated as Combat Ready.

38. 24 June 1965: General Harold K. Johnson, Chief of Staff, United States Army, visited the battalion in the Grunewald forest on his inspection trip of Europe. The battalion was conducting its annual training test at the time.

39. 30 June 1965: Pfc Roger Cullen, Company A, became the Berlin Brigade Soldier of the Month for the month of May.

40. 1 July 1965: Captain Charles R. Baker, Commanding Officer, Company C, became the S-3 Air and Captain William Schuler, the S-4, assumed command of Company C. Captain Hartman B. Mowery, Commanding Officer of Company A, became the S-4 and Captain David Fonner, the S-3 Air, assumed command of Company A.

41. 3 July 1965: The Fourth of July Parade was held on Clay Allee in front of Berlin Brigade Headquarters and a static display was set up at Tempelhof Central Airport. The Guardian Battalion, along with all other units in the Brigade, marched in the parade and the Drill Team performed between the machine elements and the vehicle echelon.

42. 6-11 July 1965: Company B, commanded by Captain Rudolf Egersdorfer, acted as aggressors for the 4th Battalion, 18th Infantry annual training test.

b. The battalion began conducting marksmanship training with weapons qualification in preparation for Expert Infantryman Badge testing.

43. 21 July 1965: The battalion conducted a Combat-in-Cities demonstration for the new reinforcing battalion.

44. 23 July 1965: A twelve mile road march was conducted through the city and Grunewald Forest with all personnel eligible for the Expert Infantryman Badge participating.

45. 2 August 1965: Berlin Brigade Sergeant-Major Ceizyk, former Sergeant-Major of the Guardian Battalion, was given an attache case upon his departure from Berlin at command reveille.

46. 6 August 1965: a. Company B hosted members of the Berlin Police Force for a social call and took them to view portions of the EIB testing and training.

b. Company A received the Berlin Brigade trophy for being tops in the Brigade reenlistment standings from Colonel Henry Barber III, Deputy Berlin Brigade Commander.

47. 6-25 August 1965: The battalion prepared for movement to the Wildflecken training area and conducted EIB testing as well as squad and platoon tactics during this period.

48. 25-26 August 1965: The battalion departed Berlin for Wildflecken, West Germany.

49. 28 August - 15 September 1965: Platoon tactics and company-size field training exercises dominated this period with Army Training Tests given to the rifle squads. Each platoon and company conducted a live-fire attack.

50. 7 September 1965: 50 officers and men of Company B visited the Bundeswehr Infantry School at Hammelburg.

51. 9 September 1965: The Bundeswehr Infantry School officers and NCO's returned the visit and saw Company B in a company attack on Hill 808 at Wildflecken. They were then treated to a chicken dinner and a hamburger supper.

52. 15-16 September 1965: The battalion returned to Berlin.

53. 27 September 1965: SP4 Ronald Jones, Company A, became the Berlin Brigade Soldier of the month for September.

54. 28 September - 8 October 1965: Company A sent 59 enlisted men and 2 officers to Helmstedt, West Germany to welcome and assist the incoming reinforcing battalion into Berlin. They also assisted the outgoing battalion with fuel.

55. 1 October 1965: Battery C, 94th Artillery held their organization day activities and joined the battalion on the 4 Ring for a retreat parade. The battery has been in Berlin since 9 October 1963 and attached to the battalion for the same period of time.

56. 2 October 1965: Company C received a command inspection in preparation for the Commanding General's inspection.

57. 4-9 October 1965: The Allied officers and NCO's exchange program was held during this period with the battalions receiving two French Officers and 1 each French and British non-commissioned officer.

58. 11 October 1965: Berlin Brigade had a 14 hour command post exercise "Touch UP" for all Brigade and battalion Staff Sections.

59. 12 October 1965: The battalion held a retreat formation with Brigadier General John H. Hay awarding the Army Commendation Medal to First Lieutenant George Wolfe of Company A, and Soldier of the Month awards to SP4 Ronald Jones of Company A.

60. 14 October 1965: Lt Col Jack F. Kettler, Battalion Commander, received the Commanding General's Trophy from Brigadier General John H. Hay for having the highest number of persons to qualify for the Expert Infantryman Badge with 102 qualifying. It is believed that this was the second highest total for a battalion in USAREUR and the highest percentage of eligible participants.

61. 15 October 1965: a. The Second and Third Battalions, Sixth Infantry held the traditional Organization Day activities. Guests from the Berlin Police, British and French Forces attended.

b. All company/battery mess halls received the 4-Star Mess Award from the food service division of Quartermaster.

62. 18 October 1965: The Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Stanley R. Resor, visited the McNair Barracks Infantry Hall of Honor during his twenty-four hour visit to West Berlin. He presented Major's leaves to Edgar Egeland, Headquarters Company Commander, during his visit.

63. 27 October 1965: Captain William Schuler, Commanding Officer, Company C, received the Suggestion Awards Trophy from Brigadier General John H. Hay for the adoption of more suggestions originating in his company than any other company in the Brigade.

64. 30 October 1965: Company B presented a Combat-in-Cities demonstration for the Honorable George C. McGhee, United States Ambassador to West Germany, and Commander in Chief, United States Army, Europe, General Andrew P. O'Meara at Parks Range. East German border guards watched from atop a cherry picking device and received considerable attention from the press.

65. 1-5 November 1965: The Berlin Brigade Service Weapons Competition was held during this period with selected members of each battalion competing for top awards in the firing of the M-14 Rifle, the M-60 Machine Gun and the .45 caliber pistol.

66. 6 November 1965: A command inspection was held for B Company in preparation for the Commanding General's Inspection.

67. 12 November 1965: Brigadier General John H. Hay visited a battalion retreat formation and awarded the Bronze Star for Valor to SSgt LeRoy M. Wasielewski, Company C, SSgt Steve F. Gaydosk of Company B, and SP5 Walter Davis of Headquarters Company for actions in Vietnam.

68. 13 November 1965: A command inspection was given Headquarters Company in preparation for the Commanding General's Inspection.

69. 18 November 1965: Brigadier General John H. Hay inspected the battalion and was well pleased with the outcome.

70. 20 November 1965: Sergeant-Major Richard Ackley became the Battalion Sergeant-Major upon being promoted from 1st Sergeant. He came to us from the 3d Battalion, 6th Infantry.

71. 22-26 November 1965: A Forward Observer School was held at C Battery, 94th Artillery, with Captain Harry Downing as the principal instructor.

72. 25 November 1965: The companies had the traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner with invited Berlin residents.

73. 27 November 1965: Twenty men and officers of the Berlin Brigade graduated from the Fire Direction School conducted by Battery C, 94th Artillery. Colonel Henry A. Barber III, the Deputy Brigade Commander, presented the diplomas.

74. 29 November 1965: Battery C, 94th Artillery received their Commanding General's Inspection.

75. 4 December 1965: Battery C, 94th Artillery held a St Barbara's Day celebration in the Infantry Hall of Honor with members of the French Artillerymen and General John H. Hay attending.

76. 10 December 1965: Lt Col Jack F. Kettler relinquished command of the battalion to Major James J. Turner. Colonel Kettler was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Staff, Army Reserves. Major Turner had been the battalion Executive Officer.

77. 17 December 1965: Company A received a trophy for the Best Weapons Squad for Berlin Brigade at the Hall of Honor.

78. 20-21 December 1965: Members of the Berlin Police Force had a Christmas Dinner at the Company B Mess Hall.

79. 25 December 1965: The companies had Christmas Dinner in their mess halls and invited German and Allied guests.

80. 28 December 1965: Company C participated in a Tank-Infantry training exercise at Parks Range.

81. 31 December 1965: The battalion celebrated the end of a highly successful year with a four day holiday through 3 January 1966.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



JAMES A. NEAL
Captain, Infantry
Adjutant