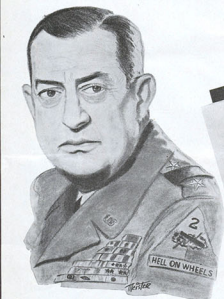
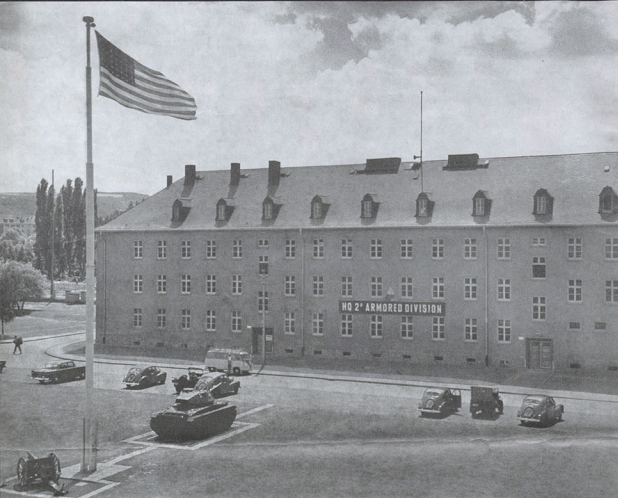


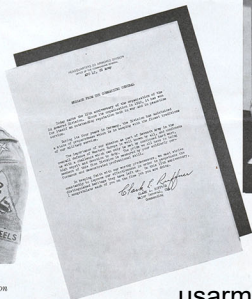
Hell on Wheels



1
9
4
0
-
1
9
5
5



Maj Gen Clark L. Ruffner
Commanding General, 2d Armored Division



Brig Gen Harry W. Johnson
Assistant Division Commander

usarmygermany.com

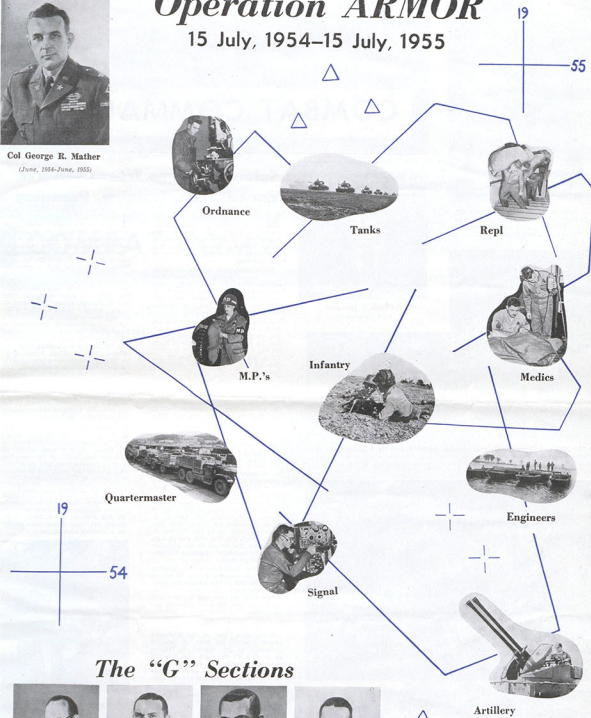
Chief of Staff



Col George R. Mather
(June, 1954-June, 1955)

Operation ARMOR

15 July, 1954-15 July, 1955



The "G" Sections



G-1 Lt Col Milton Densley G-2 Lt Col Charles H. Hallinan G-3 Lt Col Charles T. Krumpalitz G-4 Lt Col Frank B. Clay

Art by G-3 Drafting



Lt Col William A. Carmichael, former CO of 1st AIB (left), accepts the silver bowl representing the Division's Best Battalion of 1954 from Maj Gen L. L. Dean, former DTC.



COMBAT COMMAND A

Coleman-Worms Troops Observe Varied Year, Training, Parading

MANSHIEIM — CCA was designated by 7th Army to conduct the recently completed tank gunnery exercises at the British Zone, Helms-Hohne Range — the second year that a 2d Armored Div unit has been accorded this privilege.

During the two months of firing, every gunner, leader, and tank commander in the 7th Army fired through the guns of CCA's school troops, firing on Tables five, six, seven, and eight and two British constructed Combat Firing Courses.

Acting as school troops for the exercises were HQ & B Co, CCA; H & S Co, Co A and Co D of the 57th TR Bn; Co A, 8th Recon Bn; Co A, 158th TR Bn; Co A, 1st TR Bn; 8th Inf Div; Co B, 5th TR Bn, 1st Inf Div; Co B, 11th Inf Regt; and Co F, 2d Armored Cav Regt.

On Jan. 21, 1954, the 1st AIB, 57th TR Bn, and the 3d AFV Co joined representatives of every other organization in USAREUR to say farewell to its departing commander-in-chief, Gen William M. Hoge, who was retiring after 42 years of Army service.

A composite company from the 12th AIB led by Maj James S. Miles, Jr., and Capt Howard L. Long, Jr., Co C CO, took part last August in ceremonies marking the sixth anniversary of the liberation of the town of Cherbourg on the Cherbourg Peninsula.

Before leaving for his new assignment with the office of the Chief of Army Field Forces, Maj Gen L. L. Dean presented the Div's "Best Battalion of 1954" to Lt Col William A. Carmichael, CO, 1st AIB, who in turn presented the award to his battalion during a half-hour ceremony at Coleman Barracks.

The 1st continued on its winning ways after receiving this award, edging the 12th AIB in the 2d Armored's recent recruiting drive. The 1st recruited 194.3 per cent and the 12th AIB 193.3 per cent of their potential enlistments.

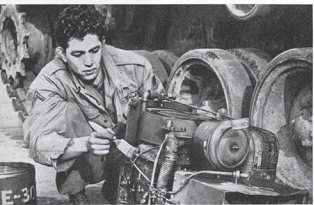
Maintenance, one of the Division's biggest jobs for 1953 last year, is performed by Pfc Melvin O. Duarte, Co B, 12th TR Bn (left). An armored personnel carrier and crew of Co B, 12th AIB stand ready to move out during a CCA maneuver, last year (below).



Col Leslie A. Baumhacker
CCA Commander



The 12th AIB goes through an attack problem during one of its frequent visits to Baumhacker last year. Pfc Walter G. Davis, Co B, charges toward a new position with his automatic rifle as squad leader, Sgt Wilbur A. Redman, prepares to follow.



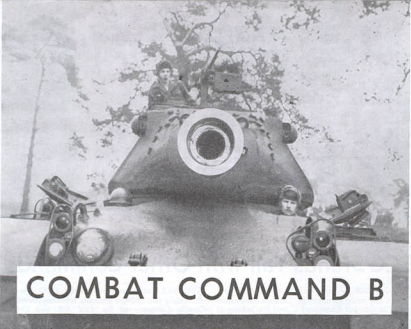
The 1st added additional laurels to its crown recently when it was named top battalion in amount of contributions to the March of Dimes and American Red Cross campaigns. In November, a tank crew from the 1st platoon, Co B, 57th TR Bn set a Division record for tank gunnery by firing with a score of 807 points out of 1000. The crew was made up of Cpl Lowell H. Beveline, tank commander; Pfc Dallas R. England, loader; Pfc Earl R. Barnett, gunner; Pfc Robert G. Smith, driver; and Pvt Clayton R. Cooper, bow gunner.

After last summer's maneuvers at Baumhacker, the 1st AIB was named the outstanding infantry unit in the Division. Silver Punch Bowl proficiency awards were presented to Lt Col William A. Carmichael, 1st CO and Lt Col Charles T. Keaney, 57th TR Bn CO.

The seven platoons of the 57th TR Bn, led by 1st Lt Floyd Ashley, was named the best recon platoon in the Division after exercises at Baumhacker last summer.

Early December, Senator F. George P. Abel (D-Neb) visited the 1st AIB to bring Christmas greetings to the troops. After a meal at the 3d AFV Co mess hall and an inspection at other Coleman Barracks units, Mrs. Abel visited the crew and good conduct of the 2d Armored soldiers.

Necessary third election support for the vehicles of CCA was provided all last year by Co A, 12th AIB. Before Sgt Virgil Zimmerman works on a disabled tank turret.



COMBAT COMMAND B

Changes, Innovations Highlight Year at CCB's Mangin Casern

MANZIE — At CCB it was a year of change and innovation. As rotation orders were draining the list of the Division's "Old Guard" last Summer, Col Andrew J. Boyle arrived at Mangin Casern, replacing Col George R. Mathew as 1st CO.

Within the year, 2d Armored units here had gained four new battalion COs, numerous new officers, and — on the deficit side — had lost one whole battalion, as the 14th AFV, winners of the 1954 Wood Trophy for artillery firing, switched to Baumhacker in January.

This last was the most obvious feature of CCB's "new look." Replacing the 2d Armored group at Mangin Casern was the highly-publicized 12th FA Bn, the 7th Army's "Coke-pot" guided missile unit.

Also missing from Mangin at year's end was the 17th AIB's Baker Co, which retained its parent organization at Division.

Pfc John Pusack, Charlie Co, 12th AIB, lies in wait for the enemy in the track of a tow tractor during recent exercises near Mainz.

From his cramped office in Bldg 15, Building H, Harvey D. Black, CCB recruiting sergeant, got the division's new drive into high gear when he gave first utterance to the campaign's unofficial slogan: "More nic, less cas." For many, it was a year of honors and search.

CCB, having taken part in V Corps' September FTX, was chosen as 1st unit of aggressor forces for FTX West Wind, an October VII Corps maneuver.

The 57th TR Bn received a silver punchbowl and was cited "best tank battalion for 1954."

Under Col Boyle's guidance, CCB set a keynote in the strengthening of NCO prestige with the allocation of special quarters for its committed senior sergeants. The new CO also pioneered the establishment of the Division's first unit ban radio station, set up this March under direction of Capt Julius Reicin, CCB Comm O.

German-American relations reflected increased emphasis, as Paris Pact ratification spurred competition efforts materialized in a series of Thanksgiving and Christmas parties for German guests.



Frequently trained, composed of tank-infantry teams from CCB, one unit against the aggressor units, defending a town on the Baumhacker range. Pfc Gilbert Davis, Co C, 2d AIB, keeps the ammo flowing to his 37-cal machine gun.



A pair of 4th men, Cpl Lyle C. Nissala (top) and Pfc Frank W. Schulte, both of 12th Co, pull maintenance on a drive-and-half during one of CCB's field training sites last year.



Col Andrew J. Boyle,
CCB Commander
(July, 1954-June, 1955)



Vehicles of CCB Bq roll past the restowing stand during Armed Forces Day ceremonies at Fintzen Air Strip, near Mainz.



Members of Baker Co, 66th TK Bn, brace before their tanks and equipment preparatory to the unit's AGI-CMI in Baumholder. The inspecting party was headed by Maj Gen Clark L. Ruffner, 2d Armad Div CG.



Col Ralph E. Haines
CCC CO



Cooking in the field brings many additional problems in mess sergeants. Sgt Gregorio Abraham, 18A5 Co, 29th TK Bn, lights a gas-operated field stove.



CCC Stands Tall with Other Commands

BAUMHOLDER — The highlight of the 15th year was the redesignation of Combat Command Reserve to Combat Command C and the pulling of CCC on the same par as the other combat ready units in 2d Armad.

The purpose of the change which took place in November — was to put all regimental size units of an armored division on the same plane, so that any one of the combat commands could act as the reserve force if need be.

In the summer of 1954 the 29th TK Bn acted as school troops during firing on the Belsen-Holme gunnery range in the British Zone. The 29th tanks were used by all 7th Army tank gunners.

In the fall, after completing their battalion tests, CCC units — 29th TK Bn, 66th TK Bn, 43rd AIB and Co C, 124th AGS — made their annual visit to the field of the 2d Armad Div tank force, to participate in the two week Indian Summer maneuver.

Returning to garrison, CCC in October sponsored a Night Illumination Demonstration to a group of high ranking officers that included Gen Anthony C. McAuliffe, USAREUR CO, Lt Gen Henry I. Hodes, 7th Army CG, and Lt Gen Charles E. Hart, V Corps CG.

ABLE COMPANY, 29th TK Bn, and Charlie Company, 43rd AIB, represented CCC, firing the M48 and M47 top tines, the B1m illuminating mortar shell, the sniperscope and the illuminating hand grenade.

February saw Col Ralph E. Haines assigned as the new CO of CCC, replacing Col Charles G. Dodge, who was reassigned to 7th Army.

Living in wait below right, Cpl Estes Lewis (left) and his leader, Pvt Thomas Simpson, Co C, the AIB, rest patiently in their machine gun emplacement while waiting for enemy action to develop.

At lower left are the triumphant tankers of Baker Co, 29th TK Bn, who registered the first perfect score of 1,000 points while training on the Individual Tank Course at Baumholder. From left to right: Sgt Robert E. Anderson, leader; Pvt Otto B. Hunsbaw, BOG; Pfc Charles G. McIntire, driver; Sgt Robert E. Anderson, Jr., gunner, and Sgt Robert L. Arminstrong, tank commander.

THE NEXT noteworthy event for CCC was the testing of a 300-gal portable refueling container. Charlie Company of the 43rd AIB and Charlie Company of the 29th TK Bn performed the test for 7th Army.

In the latter part of April the division shoot was held in Baumholder and CCC won the rifle team match. The 66th TK Bn dominated the firing, having the top man in both the rifle and pistol competition.

CO B, 29th TK Bn, had the first tank crew to score a perfect 1,000 on the Individual Tank Course. This tank crew was the only one to ever attain a perfect rating since the inception of the ITC in April 1954.



The paint brush is a traditional Army weapon used to "shape up" weapons and equipment attacked by rust, age and weather. Pfc Kyle P. Battman, Co C, 124th AGS, sits at a half-track in preparation for the April Command Maintenance Inspection of 2d Armored units at Baumholder.



Clouds of smoke bill from the Baumholder training area during an FSCC demonstration by Div Arty last November. Jet aircraft (far left) have just swept the site.

Constant Support is Arty Aim

BAUMHOLDER — Div Arty throughout the past year, has furnished 2d Armad with liaison officers, forward observers, survey teams, fire markers and control personnel in an endeavor to continuously supply the Division with efficient artillery support.

The 3d AFA Bn, 14th AFA Bn, 16th AFA Bn and 78th AFA Bn each participated in practice battalion tests in July, 1954, and then completed a V Corps-administered battalion test. The Roberts Trophy for achieving the highest score was presented to the 16th AFA Bn.

In the annual fall maneuver, "Indian Summer," Div Arty units

moved out en masse to the field where they spent two weeks of September supporting 2d Armad tank and infantry battalions.

At the conclusion of the two-week problem in October, Brig Gen Carl H. Jark, a graduate of the United States Military Academy, replaced Brig Gen Robert N. Tyson on CG of 2d Armad Div Arty. Gen Tyson was re-assigned to the 82d Airborne Div in the 21.

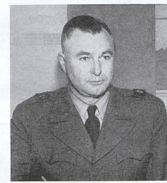
In November, the 94th AAA Bn journeyed to Grafenwoehr where they set what is believed to be an all-time ack-ack firing record. The 94th rolled up a score of 92.26 to finish ahead of all USAREUR and USFA light anti-aircraft artillery battalions — tops for the 1954 season.

EARLY in January, 14th AFA Bn personnel packed their gear, left their home in Mainz and moved to their new home in Baumholder.

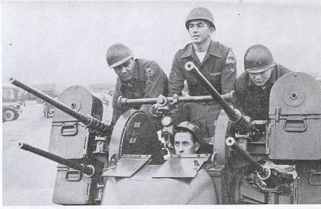
All through January and February, Div Arty supported the AIB units as they underwent platoon and company tests.

The Wood Trophy for outstanding artillery achievement was awarded to Able Battery of the 78th AFA Bn for attaining a score of 90.6. This trophy is awarded annually to the battery possessing the largest number of points during the spring tests.

Painted high and ready for firing is this 122-mm howitzer of the 10th AFA Bn. Each member of the crew stands by for the fire command as the two ammo bearers prepare to ram the huge shell into the breach of the artillery piece.



Brig Gen Carl H. Jark
Div Arty CG



Pfc Richard G. Ford (left), Btry C, 16th AFA Bn, stands by as Pvt Benjamin Dummer, Charlie Btry, commences, waits on the phone for firing instructions.



Delving out the miles of wire needed to keep an AFA battalion in good communication are Pvt Russell Levine (foreground) and Pfc Robert L. Brecker (center) and Mario Altes, all of Btry A, 78th AFA Bn.



A pair of 3d AFA Bn wiremen setting the communication wiring that is so vital to artillery during a field problem.

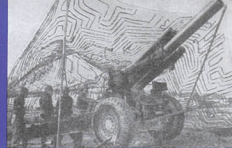
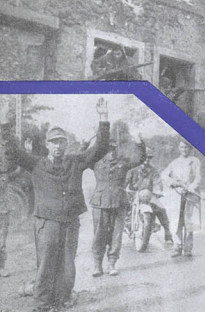


Above, Sgt Eugene C. Lowe, ammo set of Btry A, 3d AFA Bn, keeps the camouflaged machine gun ready for action during Baumholder field training. Below, searching for the target are members of the top M48 squad from Btry C, 9th AAA Bn, who set the Grafenwoehr record for 2nd-act. MG firing. In front is Cpl David Helms, crewer. Left to right, rear, are Pfc Dexter Smith, gunner, Cpl Irvin Heald, squad leader, and Pfc Ruffalo Casales, commoer.



Hell on Wheels... *On the Move*

- 15 July, 1940** — Division is activated at Fort Benning, Ga.
- 28 August-3 September, 1944** — Division crosses Seine River and is first to enter Belgium.
- November, 1941** — Division takes shape in Carolina maneuvers.
- 8 November, 1942** — Division takes part in amphibious landings in North Africa.
- 11 November, 1942** — Division captures Casablanca.
- 10-11 July, 1943** — Division lands at Licata and Gela in Sicily.
- 23 July, 1943** — Division enters Palermo, capital of Sicily.
- 24-26 November, 1943** — Division arrives in the United Kingdom and moves to Tidworth Barracks.
- 9 June, 1944** — Division lands on Omaha Beach in Normandy.
- 25 July-1 August, 1944** — Division aids in St. Lo breakthrough and engages in Vire River Battles.
- 20 September-3 October, 1944** — Division cracks Siegfried Line.
- 16 December, 1944-25 January, 1945** — Division defeats the 2d Panzer Division in "Battle of the Bulge" Celles pocket.
- 24 March, 1945** — Division engineers bridge the Rhine in record seven hours.
- 1 April, 1945** — Division aids in encirclement of Ruhr Valley.
- 11 April, 1945** — Division reaches the Elbe River.
- 3 July, 1945** — Division enters Berlin to represent the U.S. in occupation.
- January, 1946** — Division sails to Fort Hood, Texas.
- June-July, 1951** — Division returns to Germany to join Seventh U.S. Army.





Formal retreat brings the Division band out in full dress for musical support under the direction of Bandmaster Arlio Harfritz. The 45-piece concert band performs at military functions, reviews and formations throughout the Division. Sfc David A. Johnson, Jr. is the drum major, stands at left.

Trains Keeps 'em Rolling

BAD KREUZNACH—For the men of Division Trains the primary job every day of the year is keeping the men and the vehicles of the 1st Armored Division up and rolling.

This year Division Trains, composed of the 4th AMB, the 2d QM Bn, the 13th AOB, the 10th Regt. Co, 8th and 9th Co, and the Division Band, worked hard under the able command of Col Dale M. Garvey as CO. When Col Harney was named the new commander of CCCC in January, Col George F. Lindwahr moved in to become the 7th Train CO.

Keeping the machines and equipment of the 1st Armored Div in top condition is the task of the 13th AOB. The units of the battalion spread throughout the Division—headquarters at Poch Caven, Bad Kreuznach, Co A at Mannheim, Co B at Mainz, and Co C at Bambsheim.

At August CO distinguished itself when it was the 13th AOB's best advance company in the 7th Arm. During the latter part of the summer the 12th sent the only advance units to support the 7th Army tank warfare at Belen-Holme. In December the battalion, moving in step with the pace of modern warfare, introduced wheeled maintenance in the form of tractor outfitting for rapid repair of vehicles and quickly repairable tires. Since since 12th units again heading for Belen-Holme, this time to support the Division's Spring race.

Supporting the Division with everything from food and bedding to showers in the field is the job of the 2d QM Bn. When the Division moves out, maintenance of the battalion's units is up to the maintenance of the gallons of gasoline necessary to keep the armor rolling and the thousands of gallons of water necessary to keep the men of the 1st Armored clean and healthy.

In December the battalion added its contribution to the Division's program of spreading the spirit of Christmas by giving in games, conducted a Santa Claus by helicopter to the orphans of St. Antonio Kinderheim.

BOTH the 12th AOB and the 2d QM Bn received words of praise from Maj Gen L. L. Olson, then CG, for their excellent work during the fall FTX's.

The 8th AMB, whose main concern is the health of the Division, spent most of its time

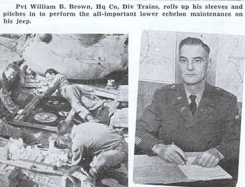
working through its own field exercises and supporting those of other Division units. Last August the battalion introduced as part of its training course the extensive use of films to teach anatomy, physiology, and practical medicine. In May, the doctors and medics of the battalion carried through the Division-wide check of shot records necessitated by the outbreak of typhoid in Darmstadt.

Every year thousands of men come into the Division to replace other thousands who have left. To the 50th Regt. Co falls the immense job of breaking their men down into various 2d Armored Div units and carrying through their initial processing.

In March, the company introduced a new program for welcoming the new replacements into the Division, complete with music by the 3d Armored Div Band.

Providing a proper welcome to newcomers to the Division was far from the only job of the 3d Armored Div Band. Parties, reviews, and numerous special occasions all were high-lighted by the group's martial strains. In April the Band gave a series of concerts to be played at the various camps in the Division. May saw the Band travel to Holland to take part in the 100th anniversary commemorating the liberating of the town of Brumsum by units of the 1st Armored Div in WWII.

In June, Col Lindwahr was replaced by Col Paul A. Ritsher, who joined 2d Armored from the States to take over the job of Train Commandant.



Working against the clock, four men of Co B, 12th AOB, installed a new M-1 tank engine in one and one-half hours to set a Division record during the unit's tests.

Col George F. Lindwahr, 7th Train CO (February, 1951—June, 1951)



Major Sgt James E. Crump (left) of the 10th Regt Co hands out linen to replacement Pvt Lester C. Traxx and Richard C. Smith. Below, men of the 8th AMB show the care used in loading wounded personnel on a jeep.



When the repair work is done, spray the paint on for a new finish. Pvt Lawrence F. Minter, Co A, 12th AOB, applies his artistic touch to a P-100 truck. Below, Pvt Henry J. Kestlin wears a sack of bread into the arms of Sgt Richard D. Twigg. Distribution to the four men halls served by the Supply Co, 2d Armored QM Bn.



A platoon of tanks from Co B, 5th Tn Bn, rumbles across the Rhine-spanning bridge thrown up by the 11th AEB on May 15. The structure stretched over 1000 feet of water and was completed in 4 hours and 40 minutes. The Rhine is the largest river crossed with the new-type bridge, called the MTR. It can be constructed safely with manpower and without heavy equipment, and has a safe bearing load capacity of 15 tons per section at normal stream velocities.

Troops had Activity-Filled Year

BAD KREUZNACH—For the men of the 1st Armored Div, the 11th AEB, the 50th MP Co, the 10th Armored Sig Co, and the 10th Armored Co, known collectively as Division Troops—the year just past 1951 has been filled with construction and communications, policing and paper work.

Typical the list of notable events was the arrival of Maj Gen Clark L. Bueffer to take over as the 11th commanding general of the 2d Armored Div. On Thursday, Jan. 20, 1951, Gen Bueffer formally assumed command, as Maj Gen L. L. Doan, former Div CO, left Bad Kreuznach passing through the area with formations of more than a thousand Division troops on his way to his new assignment.

Gen Bueffer's first major job in the Division was to carry through the AGI, which this year carried on in conjunction with the INSM for the first time. The new plan had been proposed by the NCO Council in the fall to relieve some of the heavy burden of annual inspections and had been agreed to by Gen Doan.

THE other key staff changes in the Div Troops chain of command took place in June. Col Adolph A. Boyle, formerly commander of CIA, took over the post of Division Chief of Staff from Col George A. Mather. Col Mather returned to the 2d to become President of the Army Maintenance Board at Ft. Knox, Ky.

The final staff change when Maj Gene Johnson, formerly 8th Div Trainee, replaced Zilg as Hermon H. Morrison, who became Headquarters Commandant and Commander of Div Troops.

It was a busy year for the builders of the 11th AEB. Though their major effort went into bridge-construction, their varied activities also included repairing roads, building parking lots, and going through a series of combat tests. They helped construct German-American relations when they went to the aid of the town of Oppenheim, and they built a bridge and bag to shore up the shaky dikes along the Rhine.

In August the engineers of the 11th AEB set a new record in bridge building when they spanned the Rhine with an M4 pontoon type bridge in four hours and 40 minutes. When United Fruit got under way in September, the 11th AEB again set a new record when they brought into extensive use for the first time the Self-Propelled Assault Bridge and the wheeled L-24 Landing Bridge.

THE Division's NCO Academy continued to turn out new leaders for the Division, training about 20 men in every eight week cycle. The training covered such varied topics as map reading, leadership, administration and management, physical training, weapons, and character guidance.

During one of the numerous inspections undergone by the 11th Armored Sig Co's Main Train No. 1 in Mainz, Pfc Carl L. Ring arranges a radio inspection display and layout.

The engineers completed the year with another first as they made the initial spanning of the Rhine with the recently developed M375 bridge.

To the 50th MP's went the continuous job of maintaining order in the areas occupied by military personnel. But the MP's worked as troops as well as police. In December the men of the "Five-o'clock" demonstrated their abilities as soldiers when they pulled down a superior rating badge on the 91st score they received in their field problems. Later in the spring the 50th sent a contingent of its men along to support the firing on the range at Helms-Balder.

To the men of the 14th Armored Sig Co goes the credit for the excellent communications nets set up during the Division FTX. Early Frost and the V Corps FTX Indian Summer. The 14th also marked the year in a very different way when, shortly after Christmas, they "adopted" the blind children of the Sophomachus Mission on a year-long basis as their personal charity.

In Headquarters CRA set up a mobile unit and sent it up to Helms-Balder, where a new platoon arrived to join the 29th Tn Bn while it was firing on the tank ranges there. The personnel office spent much of the time after the war in working out the details of the new MOS and Specialist-NCO systems. Conversion of the 11th AEB to a maintenance unit in the Division was completed by the 11th's dual assignments as maintenance of the training program, while GA supervised the Division's supply lines. In March Headquarters units moved out in unadorned their own FTX.

Pfc Gregorio Martinez (above) of Div 7th Co explains the 73 mm rocket fire in an absorbed German youth. Martinez was part of the Helms-Balder force when they were captured during the firing exercise there. Here, BELVO, radio relay operator Pfc John L. Morris of the 10th Sig Co takes two calls at once during March field training near Bad Kreuznach.

Members of the 50th MP (above) stay busy both in garbion and in the field. Here members of the company check a vehicle in the Helms-Balder area where they were captured during the firing exercise there. This year, BELVO, radio relay operator Pfc John L. Morris of the 10th Sig Co takes two calls at once during March field training near Bad Kreuznach.

Members of the 50th MP (above) stay busy both in garbion and in the field. Here members of the company check a vehicle in the Helms-Balder area where they were captured during the firing exercise there. This year, BELVO, radio relay operator Pfc John L. Morris of the 10th Sig Co takes two calls at once during March field training near Bad Kreuznach.



In February's fog and cold, units of the 6th Tn Bn and the 10th AEB hold tank-infantry platoons back in Bambsheim. An Aggressor machinegun, manned by Pfc John Bowen (left) and Cpl John Ivulis, Co A, 2d Recon Bn, prepares to make life uneasy for the units being tested.



Maj Herman H. Morrison (September, 1951—June, 1951)

11th AEB engineers move bulk deck sections into place as they prepare to fit in another four-foot unit of the MTR bridge during the Rhine bridge operation near Lehms.



Members of the 50th MP (above) stay busy both in garbion and in the field. Here members of the company check a vehicle in the Helms-Balder area where they were captured during the firing exercise there. This year, BELVO, radio relay operator Pfc John L. Morris of the 10th Sig Co takes two calls at once during March field training near Bad Kreuznach.



THE FOUR SEASONS
Top Shots of the Top Sports
 July 1954-July 1955

Top Stories of the Year

Maj Gen L. L. Doan Reassigned

First Three Graders' Passes Highlight Prestige Moments

Gen Clark Ruffner New CG; Combined Review Tomorrow

ADKREUZNACH—The Chief Wheelman is leaving Gen L. L. Doan, the 17th CG of the 2d Armd Div in a new assignment in the 21st next Thursday. His Maj Gen CLARK R. Ruffner, former Commandant of the 1st Div in the Korean fighting, is being reassigned to the 1st Div in the Korean fighting.

17th AEB Wins USAREUR Soccer Crown

Zoom Zoom Tallies All Goals in 3-1 Conquest of 1st Div II

BY GENE RUFFNER
 ADKREUZNACH—Second Armd Div's 17th AEB is the champion. The Exhomen boosters' victory over the 1st Inf Div's 2d Bn (The Sportsbar here Saturday.) Zashadivsky, of the foot feet, to give the division its second USAREUR championship. 2d Armd won its first title in 1951 when Co A, 57th Tr Bn, was EUCOM company-level softball winner.

Wheelsmen Finish in Second Spot in Little Camp Perry Competition

GRAFWENHOER—Holl on Wheels marksmen tallied up an impressive series of victories in the "Little Camp Perry" USAREUR shootoffs here, May 9-13, as they placed competition, copped second place in the USAREUR squad to compete in All-Army USAREUR squad which will compete next month at all from all other overseas and continental Army units.

2d Armd Div Association Reorganized

Old Wheelsmen Convene, Plan Future Events

NEW YORK CITY—The 2d Armd Div Association has been reorganized. The new group will meet on July 10 at the New York City Hotel.

Acey, Mickles, Scott Take Titles

Div Ties 7th With 3 Champs; Runnerup to 1st Inf Team

in bronze leaves WUEZBURG—North Herb Mickles displaying his best form since early in the year and Wild Acey and Jim Scott carrying have fought for the 2d Armd title against the 1st Inf team in the final bouts of the three USAREUR titles. The 2d Armd won a second place in the 1st Inf team in the final bouts of the three USAREUR titles. The 2d Armd won a second place in the 1st Inf team in the final bouts of the three USAREUR titles.

Piktuzis Wins Stripes MVP Poll

DARMSTADT—George Piktuzis, the 2d Armd Traveler baseball club's great pitcher, is the winner of the Stripes of 1954-1955 USAREUR MVP Poll. Piktuzis pitched 100 innings for the Travelers.

IN THE WORLD of Army athletics, four sports stand out as the ones that draw the most attention and create the most enthusiasm among both spectators and players.

There are many others that are important, but the top Army sports correspond to the top civilian ones, and if soccer, softball, volleyball and the rest, are important and necessary, they still do not compete with the four seasons—baseball, football, boxing and basketball.

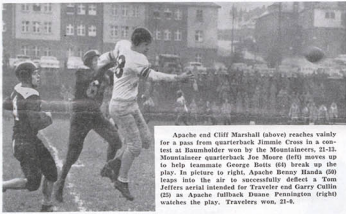
For sports photographers, Army play yields the same results as professional. The players do the same thing, strike the same poses, are caught in the same positions—and the camera only rarely comments on the caliber of play.

As everywhere, certain pictures are standard. During the baseball season there are thousands of futile swings and misses or slides into second base with the shortstop high in the air, throwing towards first over the hurtling body of the runner. Such shots are standard and almost classic.

A few lucky pictures capture all the similar plays in one, as, on this page, does the shot of last year's Traveler star, Lou Markle, crossing the plate after hammering out a home run, and being greeted by jubilant teammates (right).

There are the lucky shots which come rarely to the good photographer, as the one of Chuck Reilley (center, bottom) moving in for a layup with four legs driving like pions.

Or the leaping grace of a linebacker balling a pass out of the hands of an expectant end, high in the air waiting for the catch.



Apache and Cliff Marshall (above) reaches vainly for a pass from quarterback Jimmie Cross in a contest at Bannabolder won by the Mountainers, 21-13. Mountainer quarterback Joe Moore (left) moves up to help teammate George Batts (left) break up the play. In picture to right, Apache Bronny Hanks (left) leaps into the air to successfully deflect a Tom Jeffers aerial intended for Traveller end Gary Cullin (left) as Apache fullback Deane Pennington (right) watches the play. Travellers won, 21-0.

Churning four legs, or so it seems, in his drive to the basket, Traveller ace star Chuck Reilley moves in for two points in a game against the Mountainers in Bad Kreuznach. Despite Reilley's efforts, the Travellers dropped their first game of the season after 13 consecutive wins, 76-68.

Grinning Nick Zayas takes a hard punch from Isaac Miller of V Corps in the Northern Regional lights held at Mainz, but came back to take a strong decision from the V Corps light middleweight.



In the Div lightweight championship bout, Bill Scheuch of the Mountainers fell to the ground against the Apache Simon Jones, but he came back to take the title by decision in what was his first bout since the service fight.

MVP Piktuzis Led Travelers To '54 Rhine Conference Title

The story last year was Piktuzis. Probably one of the two or three most publicized players in USAREUR, George Piktuzis rose from the ranks of the "good" pitchers in Army baseball Division to become the main strength of a blazing southern fast ball, a 12-1 won-lost record and a no-hitter, to win the *Stars and Stripes* most valuable player poll, a flight to the states, tickets to the world series, and a spot on the Los Angeles Angels.

Slimer George took all the headlines except that he won for the Travelers-Rhine Conference Kings. Of course, there is a lot more to the Travelers than just Piktuzis. One of the closest games in USAREUR, the Central Association nine featured such outstanding diamond stars as shortstop Al Schynpinski, who walloped the ball for a 399 clip, Dick Strunk, a 363 hitter who batted in 44 runs with seven homers, Jack Meiser, number two pitcher who reeked up on 9-2 record, and Ed Wierke, a 6-1 hurler.

There were many others—all top-tier—but the publicity, with merit, went to Mr. Strikeout.

In the first half of the Rhine season, the Travelers were nosed back by the 311th Engr group in a playoff game, but they came back to take the second half by two full games, three ahead of the Engrs.

In USAREUR play, the Travelers looked like world beaters. Fire-balling George struck out 20 batters in the first game of the quarter finals to rack up an 8-1 victory. In the second game, Bob Meiser twisted a six hitter and won, 9-2.

But, after Piktuzis spun a five hit, 6-1 victory over the VII Corps Jayhawks, the Travelers ran into their first bad luck, and it was enough to eliminate them from a title shot.

The second game against the Hawks was dropped, 8-4, and 2d Armf fans were tense but confident before the deciding contest. In one of the most dramatic games of the season, VII Corps jumped off to a 3-0 lead against Meiser, and the coil went out again to let "George" do it. And for a while he did. By the eighth inning he was ahead 6-3 and spinning shut out ball.

Ironically, a wild throw by Piktuzis was the difference in the eighth when the Hawks roared back with three runs and the semi-final victory. Thus, it was the man who had carried them most of the way who lost the biggest game of the season.

Around the 2d Armf last season there were many top-notch ball players, all overshadowed by Piktuzis and the Travelers.

Ralph Burdick of the fourth place Mountaineers clubbed of a 420 clip to wind up second in Rhine batting, and Jim Stasny of the Bulldogs hit for 393.

One of the loop's standout pitchers was Bob Brennan of the Apaches, who ran up a 2 win 4 loss record.

The big names of '54 are gone from 2d Armf baseball now, and are winning headlines in the states with pro teams.

Piktuzis has been faring well with the Los Angeles Angels. Strunk and Schynpinski are beginning their careers in the high minors.

But other all, the story last year was Piktuzis.



Ups, Downs For Dugs Marked Div Fight Year

On October 23, 1954, the first novices stepped into a Division ring to suffer the wounds of the fight game. For better or six months, novices and veteran pugns belted one another's brains around the ring until the sad news finally came that the 2d Armf had been eliminated from the All-Army bouts late in April, 1955.

It was a season of great success and disappointment as Herb Mickles continued his unbeaten string for enough to gather his second straight USAREUR welterweight championship.

Heavyweight Jim Scott also proved himself the best in USAREUR by slugging his way to the heavyweight title, while dynamic Walt Avey captured the bantam crown.

But the Division squad which Mountaineer coach Jack Monroe took through USAREUR was even stronger than even three titlists would indicate, though many experienced boxing fans, and it certainly shouldn't have finished runner-up to the 1st Division. Or so they thought.

From the novice's viewpoint, it was evident that the Division was loaded. Clint Perry and Bruce Durham of the Mountaineers, bantam and lightweight respectively, showed a lot of class for inexperienced boxers, and went on from the novice to the Division title.

The Apaches nose out the Mountaineers for the team victory in the novices, but in the open bouts the

Mountaineers won by a safe margin, with the Travelers runners-up.

With five of the ten titles to their credit, the Mountaineers reeled up 11 points, while the Travelers were managing only 40.

Aside from Perry and Durham, the Hillman won with light welter Bill Schenk, Mickles and Scott. The Travelers scored with Avey or featherweight Nick Taylor light middle, Jim Harrison, middle, and Allan Douglas, light heavy.

The Apaches won only with flyweight Mike Gonzales.

The worst moment in the season's fighting was for 1st-170er who lost the instant when fly Ballinger, one of the two or three best in the Division, dropped to Avey or featherweight, a 10-0 bell from the 1st 1st's Ed Bradwell during the Northern Regionals.

The other big surprise of the CCB hosted Regionals was the exciting victory of Nick Zayas over V Corps' Isaac Miller.

In the USAREUR finals, it was evident that Mickles looked like a little stealer. Although he won handily, he won with little distinction. Only Scott and Avey were mentioned in the long weeks looking like the tops.

And thus, after the ups and downs of a long season, the news came that Mickles, Scott and Avey all had tumbled in their first All-Army bouts.

An era in 2d Armf boxing has ended.



Finches Foiled Div Teams With Undefeated Season

With two high-powered elevens—the Travelers and Mountaineers—sparking Division football, the 2d Armf could do no better than place and show in the 1954 Rhine League gridiron season.

The season was a team called the 42d FA Finches, who, led by star back Eibert DuBarron, ran through the season undefeated. In their two weeks were the crucial ones in the race for the Rhine trophy.

In the opening game against the Finches, the Travelers were barely nosed out, 12-7, on a muddy Bulldozer field in the last four minutes of play.

The Mountaineer contest was even closer as the DuBarron-sparked Finches squeaked by 12-7 in a forested field pour.

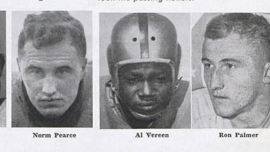
None of the three leading teams dropped a game until the last week of the season when the two Div gallants clashed in Baumholder on another muddy field.

Wading through the sticky afternoon, the Travelers managed to stop the hard driving Mountaineer backs—Chuck Working, Ron Palmer and Bob Morris—while at the same time utilizing a brilliant 65 yard run by star fullback Al Vereen for a score.

The Div title went to the Travelers that day, with the Rhine trophy in hand. Last year's champions, wound up in fourth place after Bob Tonell, their great 60-0 yard rushing play, was traded to the San Francisco 49ers of the National Football League.

Norm Pearce, guard, and Al Vereen, won attention on the All-Army second team football squad as season's end.

Ron Palmer was the league's individual rushing title, averaging 11 yards a carry, while Tom Jeffers, Traveler quarterback, took the passing honors.



17th's Zoom Zoom Topped Them All

The hoopla rarely went to the "lusbalters." It's a game for Germans, perhaps, and it doesn't go in the U.S.

But a man named Zoom Zoom, Danny Wierke, is the imagination of the 17th. Div sports fans last summer and led his 17th AEB soccer squad to a USAREUR title—the only one crown won by an Div team during the year.

Dynamic "Zoom Zoom" booted home 35 of the 47 Engr goals during the season which after eleven straight wins for 17th. He won the Div outstanding performer award during the season.

The assignments for the 17th came in the final playoff game for the USAREUR title against an 18th Inf Regt team which had caught up with the second undefeated.

The lead team jumped ahead to a one goal deficit early in the game, but the amazing Zoom Zoom took over from that point.

Seventy minutes into the game he tied it up, and then booted home two more goals within three minutes to cop the contest for 17th, 3-1.

Of course, as Danny would have been the first to admit, the team was not all Zawadzowskis.

After the final game he was quoted as saying, "I may have made many of the goals, but I never could have done it if weren't for the guys on the team."

"If there's a big reason why we won the championship this year, it's just that we had no disputes. If we made a mistake, nobody squawked. We just did it over again and tried harder."

The goalie was Phil Tandler, a newcomer to soccer, who allowed only seven goals through the entire season.

Chuck Reilley, the basketball whiz, was another standout for the 17th. Back of him were Mike Devine, Roger Zarler, John Leonard, Ron Enger and Chico Morris.

The Cinderella team was captained by little Zoom Zoom with the big nose. Ukrainian born, he won his American citizenship after the season was over.

And his happy coach of the lusbalters was 2d Lt Frank Axtowski.

The classy Zawadzowsky has 27½ ended the '54 season ended, but he has won himself a permanent spot in the 2d Armf all-time record book.

First Dog Title Since 1953 Won by Medics Volley Squad

Starved for a Division championship, the 2d Armf Bulldogs had gone from mid-1953 until April 1955 without having won a Div title of any kind.

But in April, a surprise Co A, 48th AMB volleyball team came on to take the Div crown in playalls held in Baumholder.

Proving themselves a worthy representative of the 2d Armf, the Medics swept undefeated through the Northern Regionals, which were also held in Baumholder.

Moving into the winner's bracket in the double elimination USAREUR tourney hosted by CCA in Mannheim, the 48th squad found the going a bit rougher.

The team they had bested in the Northern Regionals, the 775th All Sec, came back to trounce them for their second and final loss, 9-15, 14-4, 13-7.

TWO LEAPING Co A volleyballers attempt to smash the ball over the net during a game held in Mannheim during the USAREUR company-level volleyball championship held at CCA in Mannheim last May. The Medics bowed to the 775th All Sec, 9-15, 14-4, 13-7.

Travelers Topped Cagers

It was evident from the start that the best that 2d Armf basketball could present in its regimental level season was not good enough.

Except for a few undeniable standouts, Chuck Reilley and Lloyd Baker of the Travelers, Eunice Hammond of the Bulldogs and Warren Armon of the Mountaineers, there was nothing to indicate that any Div team could go through to the USAREUR championships.

This proved, sadly, to be the case.

The Travelers rolled through the first ten games of their 2d Armf season undefeated before coming a cropper, too late, in the two contests with the run-up.

The most exciting part of the season was the individual scoring race between Hammond and Reilley, which ended in a six point victory for the Travelers. When all the baskets were tallotted, Reilley had 306 points and a 25.5 point per game average, and Hammond had 300 points, with a 25 points per game average.

In Augsburg, where the Travelers played in the USAREUR tourney, they added Dean Van der Wal to their roster with 45 points in two contests. But, though Reilley continued his red hot shooting pace by racking up 23 and 39 points in the two games he played, the Travelers tumbled down, first 112-77 to the 11th Regt team, and then 90-89 to the 9th Div Arty team.

For the loop All-Army team, the coaches selected Armon, Reilley, Baker, Hammond and Warren Armon. Charles Kirk of the Apaches.



At Vereen, star guard for Hq Co, Div Traveler, scored, came down from the ground during the unsanitary championship game held in Mannheim.

In a Nutshell

The Travelers won the Div tennis title, led by Bill Stutter's smashing 6-1, 6-3, 6-3 victory over Nain Warburton for the individual crown.

In softball the 12th AIB took the Div title and went on to drop two to the 540th MP Bn in the USAREUR playoff.

Another traveler victory came in the Div golf tourney in Oarmisch, where Bob Weathers stroked a 72 in the final day of play and won by 11 strokes over Apache Chuck Dopper.

It was Hq Co, Div Train, in the Div football championship, when they won a 6-0 victory over a stubborn Co A, 12th AIB team.

The Trainmen were beaten out of the USAREUR quarterfinals when they tied the 9th Div Regt Co 6-6, but lost on penetration statistics.

Trains did it again in company-level basketball after having its 59 game winning streak broken when they lost the Western Assn title to the 142d Arm Sig Co.

The Trainmen avenged the defeat by trouncing the Signalmen, 56-49, in the payoff contest.

The six man Apache bowling team, which entered the USAREUR roll-alls in Heidelberg, finished a strong second.



Bob Brennan, Norm Pearce, Al Vereen, Ron Palmer



usarmygermany.com

“... Audacity, audacity, audacity.”

George S. Patton, Jr.

Source: US Army Heritage and Education Center