

C COMPANY

1ST BATTALION 350TH INFANTRY

IN

THE FINAL BATTLE
IN ITALY

88th Infantry - Division

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FOREWARD

COMPANY " C ,, 350 TH INFANTRY

In memory of the final days of the European War, and to record the noble part played by Company « C » in the final victory, we have prepared this history.

There were many acts of heroism and sacrifice, some of which are recorded in the following pages, and many more which are not mentioned. So it is to our Comrades, the real heroes who paid the supreme sacrifice, that we dedicate this history.

CHARLES H. DORNACKER,
Captain, Infantry, Commanding.

COMPANY « C » 350 TH INFANTRY

APO - 88 U. S. ARMY

2nd April 45 to 16th

The Company spent all of it's time in training and preparing for the Final push in Italy. Included in this program was special river crossing operations on the Arno River, in the vicinity of Pisa. All the men familiarized themselves with the latest type of amphibious equipment such as Assault Boats, Barges, Rafts, and Ducks (water crossing vehicles). All insignias were removed from the men's clothing and from all vehicles so that when the Blue Devil Division was ready for the final blow, German Intelligence wouldn't know where the hard hitting, battle-wise veterans of the 88th Infantry Division would hit them in the coming offensive.

16th April 45

Company « C » attacked toward Monterumici, Italy. The 1st Battalion was committed and Company « C » was part of the attacking element which had the task of taking the high ground around the village of Di Sopra and the cemetery to

the right of Di Sopra. The Company moved out of La Valle after dark and started up to Di Sopra in the face of small arms and heavy machine gun fire from the cemetery and the village of Di Sopra. Despite strong resistance, the company then assaulted and secured the high ground in the village of Di Sopra.

17th April 45

The entire Company moved out at dawn to assault the cemetery north of Di Sopra and finally succeeded in placing one platoon on the objective and they consolidated their positions. In this operation, which was fiercely opposed by the enemy, the Company lost two officers. They were Captain Charles P. Lynch Jr. Comp. Commander and Lt. Angelo R. Polcari. Captain Lynch was the son of our former Regimental Commander, Colonel Lynch. This action also took the lives of seven enlisted men; Pvt J. M. Bradshaw, S/Sgt J. E. Brown, Pvt Y. J. Leatherwood, S/Sgt K. Pepper, Pfc W. M. Krauleidis, Pvt L. D. Rhodes, and Pvt A. Martinez. 1st Lt. Charles E. Herbert, Executive Officer, then assumed temporary command of the Company. The successful assault on the cemetery resulted in the taking of forty five prisoners, and inflicted severe casualties upon the enemy. After digging in, the Company was subjected to severe mortar and machine gun fire all day long. About 1630 hours, 1st Lt. Charles H. Dornacker, now Captain, joined the company and

assumed command. The following men were wounded in the previous actions; Pfc Weymer, Pfc Dziadus, Pfc Fullerton, S/Sgt Slack, Pvt Rafferty, T/Sgt Gutman, Pfc Hart, Pfc Iannantunno, Sgt Maxwell, Pfc Bootle, Pfc Bradshaw, Pfc Vedder, Pfc Keel, Pfc Miller, Pfc Tupa, Pvt Kayser, and Pfc Frago.

18th April 45

The 1st Battalion continued the attack down Monterumici Ridge. Company « C » was in Battalion reserve. On the night of 18th April the Company occupied Mt. La Rocca.

The enemies line was finally broken!

19th April 45

We continued forward, mopping up all resistance from Mt. La Rocca to Mt. Mario, where our Battalion was pinched out by a unit of the Sixth S. A. Armored Division.

20th April 45

The Company then bivouaced in the vicinity of Mt. Mario, Italy, and endeavored to get some badly needed rest.

21st April 45

We then moved down from Mt. Mario at 1130 hours, reached the Po Valley at about 0630 hours, and then bivouaced in the vicinity of Battibido.

22nd April 45

At 0001 hours Company « C », this time in Regimental reserve, began another movement, leaving Battibido at 0600 hours and advancing as far as Crevolecore, Italy, into an assembly area.

23rd April 45

On this day, we again continued forward shortly after midnight. At 0500 hours Company « C » went through a unit of the 351st Infantry to attack as part of a task force spearheading with tanks. The Company was divided, one part going off in mopping up operations, and the other as part of a task force, under the command of Colonel J. C. Fry, to the Po River. We advanced twenty nine thousand yards in a straight line taking many prisoners and suffering no casualties.

24th April 45

The Company was reformed as a whole and was put into Battalion control in preparation for the crossing of the Po River. At 2300 hours the Company loaded up on Alligators, «water crossing vehicles », and crossed the Po River successfully, hot on the heels of the retreating « Krauts », who by this time were completely disorganized.

25th April 45

Moving into the town of Pieve Di Coriano at 0200 hours, we remained there until 0730 hours and then continued forward on foot towards Verona, mopping up everything in our way.

26th April 45

Still moving rapidly, we crossed the Adige River at 1900 hours and entered San Martino where some prisoners were taken. We suffered one WIA, Pvt Whitebody.

27th April 45

Leaving San Martino, we continued along Highway 11. At 2000 hours, tanks joined us and formed a task force which moved all night through stiff enemy opposition. One man was wounded, T/Sgt Russin, and a large group of prisoners were taken.

28th April 45

Company « C » passed through Baker Company at 0630 hours; and took up the attack on Vicenza, and engaged in heavy fighting with the desperate « Krauts ». Two men were killed in this action; S/Sgt Hoyda, and Pvt Holmes. Four others were wounded: Pfc Greenberg, Pfc Mason, Pfc York, and Pvt Kruse. The city was finally captured at 1000 hours after inflicting heavy casualties upon

the enemy force. At 2000 hours we continued forward from Vicenza.

29th April 45

Company « C » arrived, sometime after midnight, at San Pietro in Gu where it found itself completely surrounded by the die-hard «Krauts». Setting up a hasty defense, the Company engaged the enemy in fire fights. At 0530 hours the enemy launched a fierce counterattack, supported by tanks and captured vehicles loaded with fanatical Krauts. Company « C » held their ground and inflicted heavy casualties upon the enemy and took many more prisoners. In the morning we again moved forward on foot accompanied by Tank destroyers and entered the small town of Friola where we set up road blocks to guard all approaches.

30th April 45

Once again we continued forward, arriving at the town of Marostica at 1500 hours.

1st May 45 to 2nd

The Company, while in Marostica, performed guard duty and patrolled, for the purpose of rounding up all enemy personnel still remaining in the vicinity.

COMPANY " C. ", 350 TH INFANTRY

Killed in Action

Lynch, Charles P. Jr.	Capt.
Polcari, Angelo R.	2nd. Lt.
Hoyda, Chester V.	S/Sgt.
Holmes, Samuel C.	Pvt.
Martinez, Alejo	Pvt.
Krauleidis, Walter M.	Pfc.
Rhodes, Leo D.	Pvt.
Bradshaw, James N.	Pvt.
Brown, Joseph E.	S/Sgt.
Leatherwood, Y. J.	Pvt.
Pepper, Kenneth	S/Sgt.

Wounded in Action

Weymer, William L.	Pfc.
Dziadus, Tony	Pfc.
Fullerton, John M.	Pfc.
Kelley, Thomas W. Jr.	Pfc.
Slack, Clayton H.	S/Sgt.
Raftery, James V.	Pvt.
Gutman, Aaron	T/Sgt.
Hart, Wayne A.	Pfc.
Iannantunno, Joseph N.	Pfc.
Mc Dade, Ralph P.	Sgt.
Cheremie, Telemaque Jr.	Pfc.
Liddell, John W. Jr.	Pfc.
Malec, Raymond J.	Pfc.
Maxwell, Max R.	Sgt.
Vedder, Ralph E.	Pfc.
Bradshaw, Albert H.	Pvt.
Bootle, Mack C.	Pfc.
Ferris, George W.	Pfc.
Guerra, Joe L.	S/Sgt.
Lane, William W.	Pvt.
Wenge, Leslie E.	S/Sgt.
Keller, Norman T.	Pfc.
Keel, Harlon B.	Pfc.
Miller, Elwood L.	Pfc.
Tupa, Charlie L.	Pfc.
Kayser, Sam J. Jr.	Pvt.
Fragoso, Robert V.	Pfc.
Whitebody, John	Pvt.
Rusin, Albert	T/Sgt.
Kruse, Kenneth C.	Pvt.
Mason, Charles R.	Pfc.
York, Homer D.	Pfc.

Awards of Bronze Stars

Dornaeker, Charles H.	Capt.
Herbert, Charles E.	1st. Lt.
Bair, Thomas E.	1st. Lt.
Jackson, Harry H.	1st. Lt.
Nedoroscik, Andrew T.	1st. Sgt.
Rusin, Albert	T/Sgt.
Skogan, Donald E.	T/Sgt.
Libordi, Frank A.	S/Sgt.
Gilmore, Alexander R.	S/Sgt.
Long, Julius V.	S/Sgt.
Pietrowski, Charles S.	Sgt.
Custer, Robert J.	Sgt.
Neuman, Walter	Sgt.
Galligan, Thomas F.	Tec. 5
Hale, Kenneth E.	Pfc.
Mc Glenaghan, Robert S.	Pfc.
Whitney, George W.	Pfc.
Schaefer, Carl F.	Pfc.
Lane, William W.	Pvt.
Halloran, Michael J.	Pfc.

Awards of Silver Stars

Jackson, Harry H.	1st. Lt.
Mc Dade, Ralph	Sgt.
Gathright, Johnnie	Pfc.
Fields, Richard E.	Pfc.

COMPANY - C - 350 TH INFANTRY

Roster of Officers who were present
on the 16 th of April

1. Charles P. Lynch	Capt.	—	C. O.
2. Charles E. Herbert	1st. Lt.	—	Ex. O.
3. Harry H. Jackson	2nd. Lt.	—	Plat. Ldr.
4. Angelo Poleari	2nd. Lt.	—	Plat. Ldr.
5. Thomas E. Bair	1st. Lt.	—	Plat. Ldr.
6. Joseph N. Bearden	Capt.	—	Plat. Ldr.
7. James C. Kesterson	1st. Lt.	—	Plat. Ldr.
8. Charles H. Dornacker	1st. Lt. to		Capt. C. O.

COMPANY - C - 350 TH INFRANTRY

Roster of Enlisted Men who were present
on the 16 th of April

Allison, William H.	Pfc.
Anderson, James R.	Pfc.
Anthony, Luther L. Jr.	Pfc.
Arbogast, Olla W.	Pvt.
Baioni, Ned	Pvt.
Baker, Houston S.	Tec. 5
Bayer, Frederick W.	Sgt.
Bishop, Richard L.	Tec. 5
Berry, Tom	Pvt.
Bialon, George B.	Pfc.
Blalock, Ila A.	Pvt.
Boaz, William T.	Pvt.
Bohannon, Gasken L.	Pvt.
Bolton, William H.	Pvt.
Bootle, Mack C.	Pfc.
Borelli, Paul	Pvt.
Boudreaux, Andrew A.	Pvt.
Boyle, Lloyd W.	Pvt.
Boles, William L.	Pvt.
Bradbury, George K.	Pvt.
Bradbury, Harold E.	Pvt.
Bradley, John D.	Pvt.
Brewer, John C.	Pvt.

Bucks, Robert L.	Pfc.
Burke, Clyde F.	Pfc.
Burns, Elliot Jt	T/Sgt.
Cahill, Louis G.	Pfc.
Cassese, Gerald A.	Pvt.
Cavanaugh, Robert A.	Pfc.
Charbonneau, Robert J.	Pvt.
Chase, Ronald D.	Sgt.
Cheramic, Telemaque Jr.	Pfc.
Coyle, Willard P.	S/Sgt.
Crisp, Clarence	Pfc.
Crowe, Robert C.	Pvt.
Custer, Robert J.	Sgt.
Dervis, Michael R.	Pfc.
Diggs, Benjamin T.	Pvt.
Dimeo, Nick Jr.	Pvt.
Duignan, John J.	Pfc.
Finch, Glen D.	Pfc.
Flaherty, Francis B.	Pfc.
Bradshaw, James M.	Pvt.
Fuglewicz, Leo	Pfc.
Fulcher, Norris Q.	Pfc.
Brown, Joseph E.	S Sgt.
Galligan, Thomas F.	Ter. 5
Garbarino, Augustus R.	Sgt.
Leatherwood, Y. J.	Pvt.
Gathright, Johnnie	Pfc.
Gilley, Jetharo	Pfc.
Gillman, Wilbur H.	Pfc.
Gilmore, Alexander R.	S Sgt.
Grace, Michael J. Jr.	Pfc.
Greenman, Robert E.	Pvt.

Pepper, Kenneth	S Sgt.
Grega, Joseph A.	Pvt.
Guarino, Angelo J.	Pvt.
Gutman, Aaaron	T/Sgt.
Hale, Kenneth E.	Pfc.
Franklin, Arthur	Pvt.
Mc Dade, Ralph R.	Sgt.
Iannantuano, Joseph N.	Pfc.
Halloran, Michael J.	Pfc.
Hardister, Robert E.	Pfc.
Raftery, James V.	Pvt.
Heimann, Frank L.	Pfc.
Hlavac, Lado	Pfc.
Holland, Preston E.	Pfc.
Hoyda, Chester V.	S/Sgt.
Huff, Fred Jr.	Pfc.
Huffstetler, Everett R.	Pvt.
Hughes, Kenneth H.	Pvt.
Humble, Lloyd R.	Pvt.
Krauleidis, Walter M.	Pfc.
Hunt, Earl H.	Pfc.
Imondi, Joseph A.	Pfc.
Jordan, Robert	S/Sgt.
Martinez, Alajo	Pvt.
Kaye, Julius	Pfc.
Keefer, Clarence L.	S/Sgt.
Rhodes, Leo D.	Pvt.
Kelly, George J.	Pvt.
Kelley, Thomas W. Jr.	Pfc.
Kidder, Lawrence R.	Pfc.
Kirkham, Lavaughan	Sgt.
Kneissel, James J.	Pfc.

Kosloski, William C.	Pfc.
Kramer, Linwood H.	Pfc.
Kruse, Kenneth C.	Pvt.
La Cava, Louis J.	Tec. 5
Lagace, Neary L.	Pfc.
Lamb, Charles A.	Pfc.
Lange, Robert V.	Pfc.
Lazier, Robert S.	S/Sgt.
Leake, Norman W.	Pfc.
Leighton, Andrew J.	Pvt.
Lennon, Richard F.	Sgt.
Le Sauvage, James R.	Pvt.
Lesnak, Frank	Pfc.
Libby, Ray A.	S/Sgt.
Libordi, Frank A.	S/Sgt.
Slack, Clayton H.	S/Sgt.
Lindberg, Alvin B.	Pfc.
Lollgen, William H.	Pfc.
Vedder, Ralph E.	Pfc.
Long, Julius V.	S/Sgt.
Lovell, William E. Sr.	Pfc.
Maxwell, Max R.	Sgt.
Lyvers, Joseph M.	Pfc.
Malec, Raymond J.	Pfc.
Maley, George F.	Pfc.
Marotta, Benjamin	Pvt.
Marquez, John	Pfc.
Marrs, William	Pvt.
Mason, Charles R.	Pfc.
Matzko, John F.	Pfc.
Mc Aneny, Joseph J.	Pvt.
Mc Bride, Mack	S/Sgt.

Mc Clenaghan, Robert S.	Pfc.
Mc Cord, Roy D.	Pfc.
Mc Cracken, William H.	Pfc.
Mc Donald, Leroy B.	Pfc.
Mc Elro, Orlando E.	Pvt.
Mc Ewen, Henry T.	Pfc.
Mc Inerney, Joseph G.	Sgt.
Mc Intyre, Gene M.	Pvt.
Mc Neely, James F.	Tec. 5
Mertzic, Paul P.	Pfc.
Morris, Chester W.	Pfc.
Mueller, Albert H.	Tec. 4
Munsey, Jack S.	Pfc.
Nedoroseik, Andrew T.	1st. Sgt.
Neumann, Walter J.	Sgt.
Ortegon, Mauro	Pfc.
Osborne, Joseph L.	T/Sgt.
Hoey, William R.	Pfc.
Fragoso, William R.	Pfc.
Paskvan, Cosmo D. Jr.	Pfc.
White, George W.	Pvt.
Penberg, Jerome R.	Pvt.
Pietrowski, Charles S.	Sgt.
Raby, Jessie D.	Pvt.
Rehfeldt, Wayne G.	Pvt.
Resendez, Valentin R.	Pfc.
Rubek, Adam J.	Pvt.
Rusin, Albert	T/Sgt.
Weymer, William L.	Pfc.
Tupa, Charlie L.	Pfc.
Sanders, Odell W.	Pfc.
Schaefer, Carl F.	Pfc.

Schmidt, George W.	Pvt.
Seaman, Lawrence B.	Pvt.
Sheehan, Francis X.	Cpl.
Slack, Clayton H.	S.Sgt.
Spivak, Lawrence	Pfc.
Stiepek, Wladyslaw	Pfc.
Strawn, Fred M. Jr.	Pvt.
Tate, John E.	Tec. 4
Thrift, Fredrick	Pvt.
Tuck, Ronald G.	Pvt.
Vornbaum, Frank J.	Sgt.
Waldo, Roy F.	Pvt.
Waldrep, Robert E.	Pvt.
Walters, Eithier O.	Sgt.
Walton, Parker B.	S.Sgt.
Warner, Albert E.	Pvt.
Weldon, Karl S.	Sgt.
Welk, Anton	Pfc.
White, George W.	Pvt.
White, Kenneth L.	Pfc.
Whitelbody, John	Pvt.
Whitley, David A.	Pfc.
Whitney George W.	Pfc.
Wilbur, Melvin	Pfc.
Willard, Cedric S.	Pfc.
Williams, Herbert H.	Pfc.
Worsley, Raymond A.	Tec. 5
York, Homer D.	Pfc.
Yulich, John	Pfc.
Zeiber, Charles G.	Pfc.

COMPANY - C - 350 TH INFANTRY

Roster of Enlisted men that joined
the Co 25 th April 1945

Holmquist, Sigurd J.	Pfc.
Conte, Anthony R.	Pfc.
Holt, Ralph H.	Pfc.
Tomamichel, John A. Jr.	Tec. 5
Viteretti, Antonio J.	Pvt.
Viverette, Lawrence S.	Tec. 5
White James M. Jr.	Pvt.
Schaeffer, Edwin G. Jr.	Tec. 4
Storz, Joseph W.	Pvt.
Hallman, Colie E.	Sgt.
Copps, Henry L. Jr.	Pfc.
Grandland Arthur L.	Pfc.
Hellemeyer, John N.	Pvt.
Grinstaff, Clarence	Pvt.
Grigsby, John W.	Pvt.
Harris, Robert T.	Pfc.
Kelly, Jimmie Jr.	Cpl.
Hoffman, Elmer O.	Tec. 5
Holbrook, Adrian	Pvt.
Hollinger, Samuel P.	Pfc.
Horner, Arthur I.	Tec. 5
Hubbard, Henry R.	Pvt.
Asen, Fred	Tec. 5
Lerch, Sylvester J.	Pfc.
Letford, Lawrence R.	Pfc.
Long, Wilbur E.	Pfc.
Lucarz, Frank J.	Pfc.
Lyberger, Joseph L.	Pvt.
Machtenies, Joseph J.	Pfc.
Piontak, Alphonse B.	Sgt.
Holmes, Samuel C. Jr.	Pvt.