118th ANNIVERSARY of the 2d ARMORED CAVALRY

Germany 1954

ALWAYS READY
The Second Armored Cavalry has served our country with honor and devotion through 118 years of stirring history. The valiant courage of those soldiers who have served before you is reflected in the forty-seven battle streamers won by the regiment in the wars fought by the United States since 1836.

Today, as part of the United States Forces in Germany, your regiment demands from you the same devotion to duty and to country that has always been given by American soldiers. By your cheerful and willing acceptance of the many tasks required of you, you have served your country well in preventing the evil spread of Communism into Western Europe. You are to be commended for your outstanding performance of duty.

[Signature]

JOHN C. F. TILLSON III
Colonel, Armor
Commanding
TODAY AND EVERY DAY—FROM NOW UNTIL THE MISSION IS COMPLETED—THE SECOND ARMORED CAVALRY STANDS READY
The Border Mission...

Nowhere in the world today are American soldiers performing a more vital military task than are the troopers of the 2d Cavalry who daily man the border between the free world and the Soviet iron curtain.

When the curtain dropped down on the zonal frontier of Western Germany, the forces of the West found it necessary to place military units on the border to keep this sensitive area under constant surveillance. It is significant that in the American Sector three Armored Cavalry Regiments perform the time honored and traditional cavalry mission of guarding the last outposts of the free world. Together with its sister regiments, the 6th and 14th, the 2d Armored Cavalry stands against the rising tides of aggression.

The border mission has been a source of satisfaction to the regiment. Because the job is one of such extreme importance it serves to build esprit and enhance unit pride in the men who proudly serve under the Toujours Prêt Symbol. The trooper of the 2d Armored Cavalry derives a distinct feeling of pride in the knowledge that his regiment is entrusted with a mission that is one of immediate urgency.

Life on the border is not the easiest that a soldier encounters. It is, to a large degree, a semi-combat existence with long hours and an abundance of hard work.

Constantly alert, and ready at a moment's notice to repel an invader, is the daily fare of the border trooper.

Two Dregon troopers get a look through the curtain. Building at left is Volks Polizei Headquarters. At right is Communist Youth Building. Note blown out bridge to the front of Troopers.
Although he is superbly equipped and has fair living conditions, he sometimes finds himself thinking that perhaps he would have had an easier time of it had he been assigned to a unit that was not on the border. And when, during the winter months, the icy blasts sweep down from the North there aren't just a few Cavalrymen wishing they were pulling duty under the blazing sun of the tropics.

Despite wind, rain, blizzard and sometimes a feeling of downright loneliness, patrolling and observation post duty must go on—and there is no time and a half for overtime. While other units participate in routine training, the Cavalrymen doggedly man the border.

In one year's time, the jeep-mounted patrols of the Second covered 2,013,940 miles along the fringes of the Iron Curtain. They spend 3,256 man hours daily at their duties on the border.

This past Christmas, for the first time since the regiment assumed operational control of its border sector, newreel and TV cameras were pointed at the troopers doing their routine tasks during the holiday period. These films, later shown over Stateside Television shows and in newreels throughout the land helped portray to the American Public the vital job that men of this regiment are doing every day.

It's a lonely job and you don't get extra pay for the risks you take, but to the men of the 2d Cavalry, who seldom talk about it, it is one of the most gratifying.
Dragoons of three Nations...

On Organization Day 1953 the Dragoons of the 2d Cavalry Regiment were extremely pleased to have as their honored guests, representatives of the French 2e Mecone Dragoons (French 2d Dragoons) and the British Queen's Bays Regiment (British 2d Dragoon Guards), probably marking the first time in history that the Dragoon Regiments of three nations met in one location to exchange friendly greetings.

Heading the French delegation was Lt Col Andre Daronge, Commanding Officer of the French Dragoons and Lt Col W. A. B. Manger who led the British counterpart. The French color guard was present but because of the then impending Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen's Bays Standard was in London.

During their visit with the United States 2d Armored Cavalry, the British and French guests visited all battalion installations and participated in various Organization Day ceremonies and events.

Climaxing the meeting, the delegation returned to Nurnberg where in a ceremony broadcast over Armed Forces Network, the British and French Commanders were made honorary members of the American 2d Dragoons. Again this year it is anticipated that French and British Dragoon representatives will be present as the Regiment celebrates its 118th Birthday helping to forge another link in the chain of friendship between the Dragoons of three nations.
The Regimental Crest
of the Second Armored Cavalry

Its Symbolism • • •

The Fleur-de-Lis
The 2d Cavalry was the only Cavalry Regiment to participate in World War I as "Cavalry". The Fleur-de-Lis is the historic emblem of France where this action took place.

The Green Palmetto Leaf
In 1836 for its first campaign, the 2d Cavalry moved to the Florida Everglades to engage the hostile Seminole Indians. The green leaf of the palmetto tree which was common to these swamps commemorates the first campaign of the Regiment.

The Scroll and Motto
The motto Toujours Prêt translated from the French means "Always Ready." It indicates that the Regiment is always ready to go whenever and wherever it is needed.

The Background Shield
Originally called the 2d Dragoons, the Regiment wore an eight pointed star as a cap ornament. Representing the very earliest history of the 2d Cavalry, the star forms the background of the crest.

Ours to wear Proudly
Provisional Battalion

Sound off!

Lt. Col. Archie G. Birkner
Regt. Exec. Officer

The heart of a regimental headquarters is its Provisional Battalion. In this center of work the innumerable details of administration and tactical assignments are worked out.

Sharing the technical, administrative and operational fields are personnel of Headquarters and Service Companies, the Medical Detachment and the 92d Army Band. Personnel working as a team give continuous and invaluable aid towards the functioning of the 2d Cavalry Regimental Combat Team.

Although the Provisional Battalion is the administration center, troop training is by no means neglected. To achieve and maintain the necessary standards of a combat ready unit, troops are engaged in a steady schedule of field problems, range firing, road marches and physical training. In the field, the merit of this strenuous training program is clearly noticeable.
Morale, the mainstay of the Army, is carefully maintained. Excellent facilities, including two enlisted men’s clubs, special services club and library, the post theater, gymnasium, PX and snack bar all function for 2d RCT members. Well-equipped company day rooms and a comprehensive athletic program do much to uphold the good morale already existing in the Regiment.

This active, regimental nerve-center is housed in Merrell Barracks in Nurnberg, Germany. Men of the Provisional Battalion have proved their ability to operate with accuracy, speed and success when necessary. With such a corps of personnel supporting the 2d Cavalry RCT, confidence in the future of the unit is assured.

The Pictures: Opposite page, upper left, reading clockwise from the top: Sgt. Wallace and Mc Jones of Real Air Section perform 12-hour maintenance on L-19; Hq personnel use 2.5 rocket launchers at Grasdów; Sgt. Dahm of Medical Detachment tandosy Pfc. Brown Service Company in the process of hauling tons of foodstuffs to DP camps during “European Community Christmas” project; Sgt. Babin of the Regimental Band probably has more brass to polish than any man in the regiment.

This page reading clockwise from the top: Hq Co T-41 waits patiently for toy to light before firing on Grasdów; Range: the Regimental Band at Biedmich; Pfc. Odle operating radio at Regimental NCS; Pfc. Thomas Kellner of Service Company wields an acetylene torch at Regimental Maintenance Shop; former Regimental Sgt. Major Brekaway examines battle streamers with Sgt. Major Smith, his successor.
The year was notable for the intensive training program and field problems all over Germany. Training was rugged but there were lighter moments such as during "Keystone II" when B Company ran out of gas and was being hit by a superior aggressor force. There was no alternative for Capt Vester and his men but to capture the aggressor supply train and force them to gas the company, thus permitting them to continue on and rout the main body of the enemy.

A high point during the spring training was a visit by Major General James M. Gavin, former Commanding General VII Corps at the end of the Battalion Test at Grafenwohr. As A and B Companies jumped off in the attack of the final morning, the squads found a Major General moving out with them. After the problem was over, General Gavin complimented the troopers on their exceptional gunnery and later referred to the 2d Cavalry as the "keen cutting edge" of the VII Corps.

Much of the spirit and color of any unit is in the story of the individual soldier. A prime example is the case of Pfc "Maintenance Bill" Brogdon. During a maneuver, Brogdon and his Platoon Leader made a daring raid to recapture one of their vehicles. Brogdon spent the night on a hill expecting his Platoon Leader's momentary return. When Brogdon finally made his way back to the company, he was asked by incredulous buddies, "But what did you do out there all night?" "Pulled maintenance on my jeep," was the ready reply.

The battalion was first in athletics this year with...
Tank Company winning the 2d Armored Cavalry Commander's Trophy two times in a row. Individually also the men received many firsts in sports such as Cpl Ronald Gordon of C Company winning a gold medal at the VII Corps swimming meet at Straubing and Cpl Larry Doyle's 3000 meter run in the Corps Track Championship.

In September of 1953, Lt Colonel Elvin L Lee assumed command of the battalion. He succeeded Colonel W. O. Baker who had led the unit since the time of its move to Binlach.

A good example of the generosity of the men of the 1st Battalion was shown twice this year. At Christmastime the battalion held a carnival and raised over $2000 for clothing and a party for the needy local German children. Again in February, the battalion topped all units in USAREUR and many posts in the ZI with a contribution of $3,610 to the March of Dimes. As a result, a one hour program was broadcast over AFN Nurnberg featuring men of the 1st Battalion, Members of the Communications Section, the Air Section, Tank Company and the Medics were interviewed for posterity.

All in all, the battalion has lived up to the standards set by their predecessors, the troopers of the 2d Dragoons 118 years ago and stands ready at the border of the free world.

THE PICTURES: Opposite page, upper left, reading counter clockwise from the top: Cpl Moses, Sr Wilhelm, and Sr Pengel all of Td Co utilize a one burner stove to heat C rations during a field problem; Col W. O. Baker says farewell to 1st Bn. Young men at right seem unimpressed; Lt Moses bids Sr Wilhelm an maneuvers situation during 1st Bn FTX in Trockau area; Baker Co recon section moves east with heavy camouflage near Grafenberg; 1st Bn Hq Co T-41 in postmortem debrief during "Keystone II."

This page reading clockwise from the top: Td Co does it again and Capt Stuha receptions Regimental Commander's Athletic Trophy from Col Tilman as Lt Col Lee looks on; Pvt Murray disassembles M-1 blindfolded while Lt Fluck times him; Accompanied by Maj Rice and Lt Col Lee, the Regimental Commander inspects 1st Battalion Troopers at Christiansen Barracks; 2nd Bn's Lt Dean Tecco instructions neutral stand while Td Co NCOs argue at tactical point that arose during firing phase; Charlie Co RPC takes the high ground and observes toward aggressor lines during company test.

Lancer—Fort Jesup, La—1863
2nd Battalion

Sound off!

In keeping with its border operational commitments and its conformity to regimental training policy, the 2d Battalion of the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment has completed a traditionally full and busy year both in garrison and in the field.

Throughout the year the 2d Battalion has participated in numerous CPX's, FTX's and maneuvers. Well remembered, in the battalion, are the exploits of F Company under Capt Eugene A. DeSerrido, on Monte Carlo, when they spearheaded through the aggressor lines to capture a Battalion CP and an Engineer Company. On Harvest Moon, Companies D and E were outstanding as they rushed around the VII Corps left flank to take the Blacklandia Forces completely by surprise.

Maneuvers were not the only highlight of the training year. The 2d Battalion also showed its worth on its battalion test. Grafenwahr and Belsen were the scenes of many memorable accomplishments, and training conducted there will long be remembered.

Though many of the older and more experienced troopers have rotated to the Zone of Interior, the new soldiers in the battalion have quickly become proficient through their intensive training program. It has carried them
through individual, crew, section, platoon, company, and battalion phases and as a result, it can be truthfully said that every man in the 2d Battalion has a definite pride in the accomplishments of the unit. This pride has led to high morale and the ability of all members to function as a team in the accomplishment of an assigned mission under the able leadership of Lt Colonel Ialand E. Hole.

Not only have the Bamberg troopers been well represented on all regimental teams, but Company Level athletics have had excellent participation and enthusiasm that is hard to equal. Through touch-football, bowling, basketball, and softball, the battalion has always been one of the top contenders for regimental titles on company level.

Located in Bamberg, the members of the 2d Battalion know well the role they play in the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment. They have continuously strived to do their best and have never failed to make the maximum effort.

THE PICTURES: Opposite page, upper left, reading counter clockwise from the top: Russell and Sanders "chow down" tried chicken after Fox Company has spent three days on C rotation; Ed Sn open house finds the local citizens examining an M-47 German kinder dunk mildly for the Easter eggs at "D" Company's party in Coburg; Easy Company's Lemley blocks a layup by 37th AIB during company level basketball; Sgt. Chavez and Cpl. Diaz-Santos fire an illuminating shell from 81 mm mortar during night firing demonstration.

Concluding a year of intense activity, the 3d Battalion is able to look back with pride on its many accomplishments in the fields of operations and training as well as recreation. Field exercises and maneuvers provided the opportunity to demonstrate the lightning fast striking power of the battalion. During FTX Monte Carlo in October 1953, H Company gained the distinction of being the only unit to reach the Corps Objective. Breaking through in a dawn thrust, they outran the slower moving defenders and created real havoc and harassment deep within aggressor lines.

One month later, during FTX Harvest Moon, the 3d Battalion, in a cleverly executed deception role, successfully used its multiple communications system and many vehicles to simulate a force several times as large. Stationed at Pond Barracks, Amberg, the 3d Battalion spent three two-week periods in a major training area: once in Hofenfels in August 1953 and twice in Grafenwoehr in November 1953 and March 1954. Tank Company compiled an impressive record on each of these occasions, proving themselves an indispensable part of the battalion.

The 3d Battalion did much to foster and improve German-American Relations. In May 1953, an Armed Forces Day, over 1500 Germans toured the post during an "open house," and later in the month, on Organization Day, the battalion conducted a mounted parade and review through the streets of Amberg. This parade was witnessed by German, French, British and American officials. These events not only acquainted the townspeople with the facilities of the battalion but also impressed them with its capabilities as a threat to any aggressor.
Christmastime was an occasion of much celebration and did a great deal to gain the approval of the German people. The men of the battalion opened their mess halls and day rooms to more than one hundred youngsters from an orphanage located in the Amberg vicinity.

A vigorous athletic and recreational program was conducted throughout the year, made possible by the enthusiastic cooperation and participation of all personnel. Special recognition must be paid to 1 Company whose representatives captured the honors in every sports competition that was conducted.

During February 1954, Individual Proficiency Tests were held within the battalion. Company G outscored all other companies by ten points and received a rating of excellent.

Early in April 1954 Lt Col John R. Lane left for assignment with Seventh Army Headquarters. He was succeeded as Battalion Commander by Lt Col William M. Delaney who was formerly with Headquarters VII Corps.

Rotation has taken its toll of the men of the 3rd Battalion but they, as well as their replacements, can review proudly the activities and experiences of the past year as they have fulfilled their mission as a bulwark of freedom.

THE PICTURES: Opposite page, upper left, reading counter clockwise from the top: The reviewing stand at Amberg on Organization Day 1953 while 3d Bn passes in review; "T" Co personnel scramble to mount their T-18 as L-5 flak overhead; Sgt Wormley coaches Pvt McClune on George Company lane on Robansteila transition range; Genklasau, Hunter and Thompson wash off the Tannenlake tank after a day of Tank-Infantry platoon problems; Alfredo of "T" Co is a simulated casualty, Zimmerman and Sgt Myers of Medical Detachment treat him.

This page, reading clockwise from the top: 271st Infantry squad leader uses outside intercom phone to point targets for Tank Company at Tannenlake; Pfc Kolinski and Sgt Wilson encounter track trouble as they lighten the drive sprocket prior to re-mounting track; Bird's eye view of the Pond Barracks quadrangle during Organization Day 1953; Amberg streets are almost too narrow for this T-41 of Hq Co. Harris coaches Riley as he fires at Robansteila.
The Sports Front... Forward march!

Eugene Ricci bounces out a single against the 1st Div Arty to help the Dragoons win the game, 3-1, 29 May 1953.

Traditionally prominent in the field of sports, the 2d RCT, during 1953 and 1954, presented the most inclusive athletic program in the history of the Regiment.

With the coming of Spring, the cry "Play Ball" was heard throughout the regiment, and Coach Del Holmes began rounding his Dragoon squad into shape. In the opening game, a non-conference tilt with the 159th Infantry Regiment, the 2d RCT Nine dropped an 11 inning thriller, 11-10, but came back in the second part of the double header to pull out a 3-2 win on the strength of Len McCarrick's steady hurling. The Dragoons started off the league play with a bang as they took two out of three games from both the 18th Infantry Rangers and the 1st Division Special Troops, but found themselves on the losing end of the 26th Infantry series as they dropped three straight contests. After this discouraging outing, the 2d RCT boys pulled themselves together to win four of the next six games, but couldn't regain their early season form and finished conference play in fourth place.

Winding up the season in a blaze of glory, the 2d RCT Track and Field Team compiled a total of 95 points to edge the 6th RCT Unicorns and take the VII Corps Track Championship. There were many stellar performances turned in by the Dragoon squad, especially in the sprint events, where Charlie Spears and Enoch Evans dominated. Other point getters were Kenneth Barbour and Vernon Dix as the 2d RCT thirclads swept onto the championship.

In mid-September, football season was ushered in and hopefuls from throughout the organization donned practice tags in preparation for the opening of the 1953 gridiron scramble. The September 12th opening game did little more than add experience to the Dragoon aggregation as they dropped an exhibition tilt to a more experienced 6th Cav Unicorn club, 34-0. League play began the following week and the first two games proved to be heartbreakers for the 2d RCT boys, being edged out by the 26th Infantry Blue Spaders, 7-2, and losing the second to the 18th Infantry Yangords, 7-0. The Cavalrymen bounced back with a vengeance in their next meeting, traveling to Schweinfurt to trample the 16th Infantry Rangers, 14-7, and following up with a 38-12 mauling of the Nurnberg Tigers. Closing out the Conference race, the Dragoons journeyed to Wurthel and ran roughshod over the 142d FA Group, 21-0, racking up their third win against three losses for third place in league standings. Dave Nance carried the backfield load for the Dragoons, playing consistent ball all season long as did line stalwarts Harry Michener and Jim Schwab.

Basketball took over the sports spotlight during the winter months as double round robin competition got under way on both Regimental and Company levels. The 8th through the 11th of March brought representatives of each battalion together in the double elimination Company Playoffs. "B" Company of the 371st AIB emerged victorious and qualified to play in the VII Corps Championships. Regis Atwood and Charlie Andrews were their mainstays as they triumphed over such powerhouses as the runnerup 2d RCT Medical Detachment. Highlighting the tournament was the selection of Ernie Diano of the Medics as the Most Valuable Player and the picking of an All-Star Team, including Atwood and Andrews of the 371st AIB, Stan Bell from Easy
Company, 2d Bn, Diama of the 2d Cav Medics, and Jim Jurina of Tank Company, 1st Bn.

In Regimental competition the Dragoons were in for a good season as they opened with two victories over the Nurnberg Tigers, 70-62 and 66-37. Hopes were dimmed slightly the next week as they dropped two to the 18th Infantry Vangards, but the Cavalry Cagers quickly bounced back to championship form to rack up four straight wins before bowing to the 26th Infantry Blue Spaders and slipping to second place at the end of the first half of Central Conference competition.

In second half play it was once again the 26th Spaders who proved to be the Dragoons’ downfall as they became victors in two nip and tuck ball games, to shelve the 2d RCT Club into the third spot in second half standings. The mid-season addition of Bud Feeman, former Baldwin-Wallace ace, was a great help to the quintet as he averaged nearly twenty points per game to top the team’s scoring averages. Other outstanding basketballers were Ron Crow, Dan Monckton and Gayle Wolf who, in addition to Feeman, carried the load for the Dragoons throughout the season.

Berchtesgaden and the VII Corps Ski Tournament was the highlight of the winter sports. A strong entry from the 2d RCT capped runnerup honors, trailing the winning 6th RCT 943.56 points to 1052.75. Standout of the meet was slender, will-of-the-wisp Knut Pietou. Carrying the Dragoon banner, he placed first in the cross-country, won second place in the slalom, took first in the downhill and won both the Alpine Combined and the Three-Way Combined, tallying a neat 298.91 out of a possible 300 points, easily garnering the individual laurels.

Fullback Don Hagaman (95) of the 2nd Arm Cav “Dragoons” goes around end to pick up 11 yards and a first down as Ralph Kessler (38) of the 26th Inf “Blue Spaders” tries in vain to tackle him.
Perhaps the most successful of all the athletic teams to represent the 2d RCT was our Boxing Team. Under the excellent training and supervision of 1st Lt Billy J. Cole and Cpl Johnny Allen, the Dragoon Mittmen went through the entire season without a single team loss. Heading the squad was Ambrosio Martinez, a stylish welterweight. Chalking up nine straight he scored eight KOs, blasting six of those opponents to the canvas in the first round. Many other outstanding performers were also developed during the season, including Walt Givens, Billy Thweatt, Al Marden and William Black.

The VII Corps Championships culminated the season and Flyweight Billy Thweatt captured the title as did Al “Sugar” Murden in the Featherweight bracket. In the runnerup spots were Featherweight Henry Williams and Heavyweight Ken Jeffries. At the conclusion of the tourney, Lt Cole and Cpl Allen were named coach and trainer respectively for VII Corps Team in the USAREUR Finals. In addition, ten of the Dragoon Biffers were selected for the Corps Team.
Lighter Moments . . .

At ease!

Pfc Ron Frank is a young man who came to the 2d Cavalry in June of 1953 via the University of Southern California. His cartooning has won considerable praise throughout the zone and is of particular interest to the troopers of the 2d Cavalry since they frequently see themselves and their situations reflected in his work. Being possessed with an acute sense of the humorous, Frank is frequently observed on field problems and CPXs with pencil and sketch book in hand noting down impressions for subsequent cartoons.

While at USC, Frank organized the card stunts performed by the student cheering section at the university's football games. These scenes have frequently been flashed across the nation's television screens.

Though still in the amateur cartoonists bracket, the 2d Cavalry's "Bill Mauldin" may someday make a splash in the bigtime.

Sometimes I'm sorry I'm the best equipped soldier in the world!
Ruffles & Flourishes

During the year, the Regiment was visited and inspected by a number of distinguished high ranking officers of the United States and NATO powers.

Not all are shown on this page due to lack of space.

One of the most frequent visitors was Major General James M. Gavin, former Commanding General of the United States VII Corps and now G-3 of Army Ground Forces. "Jumpin' Jim," as he was affectionately known to his troops, was a familiar figure during field problems and testing phases. The General's remarks were mostly favorable and it was he who, referring to the 2nd Cavalry, coined the title "the keen cutting edge of VII Corps."

Major General Henry L. Hodges has recently replaced General Gavin and has paid his initial visit to the RCT. Soldiers of the 2nd are glad to learn that their new Corps Commander is a cavalryman who, in 1927, commanded Headquarters Troop of the 2d Cavalry at Fort Riley, Kansas. We shall look forward to seeing more of Major General Hodges.

Other visitors included General Marcel Carpenter, Chief of Allied Land Forces Central Europe, who paid a visit to the regiment in January and Lt General Anthony C. McAuliffe, Commanding General Seventh Army, who visited in November. From far off Turkey came Brigadier General Kamal Akman, who commands the 29th Turkish Infantry Division.

Lt Gen Anthony C. McAuliffe, CIG, Seventh Army, accompanied by Col John C. F. Tilton, upon arriving at Wurzel Barracks for his inaugural visit to the regiment, 12 Nov. 1976.

Maj Gen Henry L. Hodges, Commanding General VII Corps, emerges from the War Room during his inaugural visit.

Maj Gen Gavin discusses tactical point with Lt Col Hole and Lt Col Walker (caption).

Reviewing the Honor Guard at the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment is General Marcel Moutier Carpenter, Chief of Allied Land Forces Central Europe.
Combat Readiness...
it’s Teamwork that counts

The Regimental Combat Team is a highly mobile unit possessing striking power that, in an assault, would carry it far beyond the range of the more conventional type units.

Characteristics of the RCT are rapid mobility, armor protection, heavy fire power, and a complex and highly developed communications system.

To have these combat potentials is one thing; to have soldiers capable of operating the equipment is something else. In the final analysis, it means that every man in the team must be a skilled technician. To weld the men of the Regimental Combat Team into a capable fighting force is a task calling for continual emphasis on training, which must be carried on despite operational commitments.

Through regimental and battalion operations and training sections, the training programs are projected. The responsibility for training within the troop units lies primarily with the Company Commanders who must put these projects into effect.

Specialized training is given at USAREUR, Seventh Army, and VII Corps Schools. This contributes greatly toward providing Cavaliersmen of the 2d with an up-to-date “know how” in the field of modern arms. Other schools held at regimental and battalion level add their weight to the well rounded curricula.

Realizing that lessons learned through practical application are the most valuable, the 2d RCT spends much of its time in the field. Field Training Exercises, Command Post Exercises, Range Firing, and Battalion and Company Tests take up a large share of the soldier's time. Weather conditions ranging from turbulent to temperate are inconsequential when the unit is engaged in these maneuvers.
During the year, the RCT participated in two excellent training problems, FTX Monte Carlo, a Seventh Army maneuver, and FTX Harvest Moon, a VII Corps exercise. Both of these problems tested the mettle of the RCT and proved that their striking power is tremendous.

Counter Thrust I, a CPX held in February, will probably go on record as the year’s coldest, with temperatures dropping into the sub-zero bracket. Though water froze in canteens and rations had to be thawed out before eating, only two mild cases of frostbite were incurred by men of the regiment, testifying to excellent training in “cold weather discipline.”

Combined arms training reaches a highly developed state as it is practiced by the 2d RCT. Realizing the need for cooperation and coordination, infantry and artillery support the armor in most of the training phases.
Combined Arms...

OF THE 2nd CAVALRY REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

THE 371st AIB, THE 70th AFA BATTALION, AND
THE 3d ARMD MEDICAL COMPANY

Speed, striking power, and maneuverability are primary requisites not only of the regiment itself, but also of the units supporting it. Ideally suited for the job of rounding out the 2d Regimental Combat Team are the 371st Armored Infantry Battalion, the 70th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, and the 3d Armored Medical Company. These organizations combine with the 2d Cavalry to form a perfectly balanced team which is "combat ready" at all times.

Coordination and cooperation are also of the utmost importance. Sharing the Merrell Barracks Kaserne in Nurnberg, Germany, these units not only live together, but in addition, plan and train together.

Using their special knowledge and skill as armored infantrymen, the members of the 371st add the supporting element of ground troops thus creating one of the most awesome potentials in the modern army of today—the Tank Infantry Assault. Training and conditioning are particularly essential to such a unit. In order to keep themselves in "combat ready shape" the members of the 371st engage in a year round program of field exercises and maneuvers, many times in conjunction with the tank units of the 2d Cavalry. This on-the-ground experience combined with knowledge gained in the classroom molds the battalion into its constant state of readiness, well capable of its motto "Attack."

Maneuverability and long-range support is the job of the 70th Armored Field Artillery Battalion. Living up to their motto "We Move," the artillerymen complete the offensive potentiality of the "Team." Perhaps the greatest problem of this organization is maintaining the precision
and accuracy necessary to artillery operations and at the same time be capable of the mobility that is necessary in effectively supporting a fast-moving tank-infantry unit. Field exercises as well as garrison training are organized with this in mind and the result has proven that they are ready and capable of fulfilling their mission.

The need for on the spot medical assistance has long been recognized as one of the instrumental aspects of modern military operations and supplying a fast moving regimental combat team with this type of care is easily one of the greatest tasks ever undertaken by the men whose job it is to care for the sick, wounded and injured. In the 2d Regimental Combat Team this responsibility rests in the hands of the 3d Armored Medical Company. Ever present on field problems and maneuvers, the Medics are in a constant state of readiness to meet every occasion whether it be routine or emergency.

The 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment is secure in the knowledge that should the need arise, the combined arms of the 2d RCT, Armor, Artillery, Infantry, and Medical will be prepared to meet the threat of any attack.

THE PICTURES: Opposite page, upper left, reading counter clockwise from the top: Infantrymen of the 371st AIB storm a strongpoint with help of 81mm thrower; Capt Pike and Capt Hunt check firing data while Lt Col Hastings, CO of the 70th FFA looks on; Lt Osmandsen inspects surgical equipment of Sgt Callaway and Cpl Perez after 3d Armored Medics return from the field; Pfc Leveque, "D" Co, 371st, scoops out a foxhole to protect himself from simulated mortar bursts; Charlie Battery of the 70th crosses a stream and moves into position.

This page, reading clockwise from the top: Pfc John Gallahger, "B" Co, 371st returns suppressive fire as his unit moves ahead in deep snow; Armored artillerymen of the 7th move up; "D" Co, 371st, teams up with a 3d Hs tank and pushes into a wooded area; On the way! 3d Armored Medics removing simulated casualty from bow gunner's position.
History of the 2nd Armored Cavalry

Pass in review!

The 2d Armored Cavalry has the enviable status of being not only one of the oldest regiments in the United States Army today, but also of being one of the most decorated. The 2d Regiment began making history in the year 1836 when it was created as a mounted regiment to fight the Seminole Indians troubling settlers in Florida.

Since its organization in 1836 the 2d Regiment has taken part in every war that the United States has fought, and has seen over a half century of fighting against hostile Indians. It has not only traveled completely around the world but has also traveled from the Equator to the Arctic Circle. It has fought Seminole Indians in Florida, Apaches in the Southwest, in the Rockies, and Moros in Jolo, Philippine Islands. It has taken part in every engagement of the Mexican War, prevented Civil War in Kansas and guarded the Mormon Prophet in Utah. It fought with McClellan on the Chickamauga, charged with Sheridan in the Shenandoah, landed with Shafter in Cuba, fought the Moros in the Philippines, slashed with saber and horse through World War I and lately its tanks added steel to the spear that Patton drove through France and Germany in World War II.

The Regimental Standard of the 2d Armored Cavalry is decorated with forty-seven (47) streamers for battle participation of the regiment against the armed enemies of the United States. Each ribbon streamer bears the name of a major engagement famous in the history of our country. In addition, elements of less than battalion strength have fought in fourteen other officially recognized campaigns or engagements; thus crediting the Regiment with a total of fifty-one battle honors. Throughout its history the 2d Regiment has performed its mission with efficiency and dispatch in living up to its motto "Toujours Prêt" (Always Ready).

SEMINOLE INDIAN WARS

In 1836 the settlers of Florida, troubled by the Seminole Indians, petitioned the Federal Government for help. In answer to their request for troops, President Andrew Jackson on May 23d signed the Act of Congress which created this regiment known as the Second Dragoons, with the official birthday designated as May 23, 1836. History established that within three months after the regiment was formed two of its noncommissioned officers had distinguished themselves in conflict with the Indians. Sergeants Smith and Johnson of Company "D" showed remarkable courage and presence of mind in breaking up an ambush by Seminole Indians of Weliko Pond, Florida, on August 10, 1836, before the arrival of the rest of the company which was then able to drive the hostiles from their position without loss. Later, in 1840, during the Everglades Expedition under Lt Col Horney, the celebrated Seminole Chief Che-Ki-Ra, was singled out by Private Hall during skirmish on December 7. Private Hall pursued him for several miles with great tenacity and finally overtook and killed him.
At the completion of the campaign in Florida, when the Seminoles were driven into the swamps of the Everglades, the 2d Dragoons moved to the Southwest Territories to commence a long period of service in overcoming marauding Indian tribes, who were hindering the movements of American settlers into that territory. This service transformed the regiment into one of hard-bitten riders and fighters by the year 1866 when the war with Mexico began. It is interesting to note that the United States Army numbered but 2,300 effective just prior to that conflict, including the now veteran 2d Dragoons.

WAR WITH MEXICO

The 2d Dragoons were particularly outstanding in this conflict. The reader can judge by the part they played in overcoming the handicap of our nation's initial unpreparedness.

On May 9, 1846, at Resaca de la Palma, Texas, an inspired charge by Captain C. A. May's Squadron of the 2d Dragoons broke the enemy line of superior forces and drove them back across the Rio Grande River. The citation reads, "During the charge Corporal McConley (Company E) and four men passed through the lines, killed the Mexican lieutenant, and put the rest to flight." Some months later, at Buena Vista, Mexico, the skillful maneuvers of the 2d Dragoons delayed the advance of larger enemy forces decisively until friendly reserve units had arrived upon the field. The American forces were so outnumbered and had so long a line to hold that the 2d Dragoons had to attack first on one sector, and then on another, as the Mexicans enveloped the American positions.

Such was their training and discipline that this was successful, and several Mexican advances in various parts of the field were checked. The 2d Dragoons were also outstanding in the battles of Cerro Gordo, Molino del Rey, and Chapultepec. In recognition of this General Scott chose them as his escort for the triumphal entry into Mexico City. Following the Mexican War the 2d Dragoons returned to the Southwest to continue fighting hostile Indians until the outbreak of the Civil War.

CIVIL WAR

The regiment was redesignated the 2d United States Cavalry Regiment, formed into twelve troops of about 70 men each, and was initially committed at the battle of Bull Run on July 2, 1861. Here Sergeant Sachs of Troop "K" captured the Confederate General, George H. Stewort, as the 2d Cavalry enveloped the left of the enemy lines.

During the year 1862 the regiment participated in action at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and in the Peninsula Campaign at Yorktown. Sergeant Stine and Sergeant Hallock were cited for the manner in which they carried out their duties in furnishing the rear guard for a withdrawal across the Chickahominy River at Gaines Mill. Sergeant Martin Hagen was cited for his performance in covering the withdrawal of Union forces across the Rappahannock at Fredericksburg, Virginia, in December 1862. The history
of the 2d Regiment is filled with stories of the heroism of its noncommissioned officers in battle.

During April and May 1863 the 2d Cavalry participated in Stoneman's raid through Virginia, a type of action which was to gain the acclaim of the military men of Europe. Next followed action in Northern Virginia culminating in the fateful battle of Gettysburg on July 1-3, which destroyed the offensive power of the Confederate Army. When Lee began his retreat the 2d Cavalry beat him to the Potomac and destroyed his bridges in an engagement at Williamsport, Maryland, on July 6. This left Lee facing the Union Army with a flooded, bridgeless river at his back.

The next important action involving the regiment occurred in the Wilderness Campaign in May 1864 when General Grant became the Union Commander and attacked overland toward Richmond. During the first weeks of June it participated in the carnage at Cold Harbor. Action followed at Petersburg, Virginia, and Winchester, Virginia, where, on September 19, 1864, First Sergeant Conrad Smith went to the assistance of his regimental Commander whose horse had been killed under him in a charge, placed the officer behind him under heavy fire from the enemy and returned him to his command.

The last year of the Civil War is a story of the supremacy which Union forces had reached by late 1864. The 2d Cavalry continued to paint colorful history in this period. Following the Civil War the 2d Cavalry went to the Northwest to fight Indians hindering the movement of settlers into the area. These campaigns protected the wagon trains moving to the West and Northwest by quelling Indian uprisings. The most famous engagement was the elimination of the Sioux tribe, which had annihilated the sister Seventh Cavalry Regiment led by General Custer, at the battle of Little Big Horn. Five years after this action, the regiment spent six months exploring unknown regions in Alaska. Almost continuous field service kept the regiment at a high peak of efficiency for emergency duty.

WAR WITH SPAIN

The war with Spain in 1898 found the 2d Cavalry at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, ready again. They were selected by General Shafter for the Santiago Campaign and departed the United States from the port of San Francisco to join Teddy Roosevelt's famous "Rough Riders." The 2d Cavalry fought at El Caney, San Juan Hill, and Aguadares, Cuba, in early July. This was followed by the Puerto Rican Campaign in July and August.

After the war with Spain the 2d went to the Philippine Islands where it participated in the Cavite campaign against Philippine insurgents during July 1905. They were back in the Philippines fighting the Moros in 1910 at the battle of Tiparos Hills on February 14 near Pindar on the island of Mindanao. Then followed the fights with the Moros on Jolo Islands, such as the engagement at Mount Baguoo on December 3, 1911, and near Mount Vef in January 1912. The Moros were excellent fighting men, and the campaign against them in the tropics was severe.
Assigned to duty in the United States in June 1912, the 2d Cavalry performed patrol duty along the Mexican border. In 1915 the regiment joined General Pershing’s Punitive Expedition into Mexico. By some remarkable riding and fighting it helped to run to earth the elusive Mexican General, Pancho Villa.

**WORLD WAR I**

In April 1918 the 2d Cavalry landed in France and was in the Toul Sector three weeks after landing. The 2d gained the unique distinction of being the only American Cavalry unit to remain mounted and reach the firing line. In July and August 1918 the regiment fought in the Aisne-Marne offensive. In August and September 1918 detachments of the regiment fought in the Oise-Aisne offensive, but the greatest commendation was received by the 2d Cavalry for action in the reduction of the St. Mihiel Salient, September 12-16, when seven troops of the regiment were attached to the American 1st Division of the IV Corps, making the main attack of the American First Army in France. The 2d Cavalry next participated in the bitter fighting of the Meuse-Argonne in September and November 1918.

Following the armistice the regiment remained with the Army of Occupation in Germany at Coblenz until August 1919, when it returned to the States for duty at Fort Riley, Kansas. From 1919 to 1939 the 2d Cavalry performed peacetime duty as a school training regiment at the Cavalry School under the guidance of such men as Generals Patton, Truscott, Keyes, and a host of others.

**WORLD WAR II**

In December 1942, the regiment became the 2d Cavalry Group Mechanized. Following training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the regiment embarked from the New York Port of Embarkation in April 1944 for the European Theater of Operations. After disembarking in Scotland preparations were made for the impending assault on the German forces entrenched in Normandy. The 2d was assigned to the Third Army of Lieutenant General George S. Patton, Jr., the Army with which it was to fight through France and Germany for the remainder of the war in Europe.

On July 19, 1944, the regiment landed in Normandy, France, under the command of Colonel Charles H. Reed, who commanded the regiment during its training and throughout the war in Europe. Following the breakthrough at Avranches the 2d Cavalry Group was first committed on August 2 in the vicinity of Peugeres, having been attached to the 4th Armored Division for the purpose of protecting an extensive open flank. Heavy enemy resistance was first encountered in the vicinity of Vitre followed by encounters at Pouance, Segre and St. Mars La Jaille. The German forces were completely disorganized during this period and scattered groups of enemy were destroyed at several localities. On the night of August 5, elements of the regiment had reached the Loire River. A bold combat patrol, commanded by Staff Sergeant Roy, crossed the Loire that night, the first Americans to reach the south bank of the Loire.

The type of action following the breakthrough in Normandy was particularly suited for employment of mechanized Cavalry units. The story of the regiment’s part in the fight is one built chiefly around the excitement and surprises which widely deployed troop and platoon elements encountered in crowding a disorganized and retreating enemy who, nevertheless, on occasions, muster groups at unexpected places and fight with skill and tenacity. The great mobility of the regiment and its excellent communications is evident from the details of combat action. It could deploy its forces quickly over a wide frontage, yet assemble quickly at a rallying point when heavy enemy resistance was encountered. Mobility, firepower and shock action were the keynote of the 2d’s combat action throughout the war in Europe and particularly during the period immediately following the breakthrough in France and the “Chase” across Northern France.

The beginning of the Rhineland Campaign on September 15, 1944, found the regiment—making an attack on Luneville, near Nancy, France. By September 17 the town had been secured, but on the morning of the 18th, the German 11th Panzer Division struck back. The next two days saw fierce fighting as the entire 5th Panzer Army launched a powerful attack to reduce the Nancy Salient, the “nose” of which was at Luneville. Early warning by the 2d Cavalry and additional valuable time gained by the 2d’s vigorous delaying action at Luneville, coupled with the smashing defense of the 4th Armored Division, ground the German attack to a halt, and permitted a powerful attack on the German flank by XV Corps.

In October, the 2d was assigned the mission of protecting the south flank of the 26th Infantry Division on the boundary between the United States Third and Seventh Armies. The 2d seized several key terrain features in attacks during October and November 1944 when the Third Army was jockeying for position in preparation for its Saar offensive in November.

December 22, 1944, found the regiment moving from the Saargemines bridgehead to the north for the battle of the Ardennes. On December 23, the 2d took up positions along the Moselle River in the vicinity of Moulton, Luxembourg. Here the 2d successfully held its positions against elements of the 11th Panzer Division attacking the Saar-Moselle triangle. On January 25, 1945, the Ardennes Cam...
Campaign was officially declared completed and the "push to the Rhine" phase of the Rhineland Campaign began.

During February the regiment continued to defend its position along the Moselle River in Luxembourg. On March 2, 1945, the regiment was attached to the 76th Division in preparation for the Third Army's drive to the Rhine. Following two weeks of action with the 76th in the bridgehead between the Saar, Kyll, and Moselle Rivers, the regiment was given on March 16 the mission of protecting the XII Corps left flank in the vicinity of Boppard. By March 18 the 2d had closed to the banks of the Rhine, ending in a highly successful attack on the town of Bingen.

The campaign of Central Europe, which now followed, was a typical Cavalry campaign somewhat on the order of the mad dash across France. Long jumps, spotty resistance, and then short, sharp, bitter fights followed by another long jump, characterized the campaign. The 2d continued to carry out active reconnaissance and covering missions in the sector of the XII Corps, Third Army, throughout this campaign.

THE OCCUPATION

Peace in Europe on May 9, 1945, found the 2d Cavalry drawn up on the restraining line Pilsen-Nepomuk in Czechoslovakia, the deepest penetration reached by the Third Army when the stop-order preventing further forward movement came down on May 7.

The 2d became the 2d Constabulary Regiment in May 1946 serving in the occupation first as a police force. In September 1947, the 2d moved from Friesing to Augsburg and in December 1948 it was redesignated the 2d Armored Cavalry (U.S. Constabulary) and the 2d, 42d and 48th Squadrons became the 1st, 2d and 3d Battalions.

In October 1951, the 2d Armored Cavalry moved from Augsburg to its present stations in Nurnberg, Amberg, Bamberg and Bindlach.

Today the 2d stands ready to meet any threat which should arise in Western Europe ever mindful of its famous motto which through the years has been lived up to by many before them, that of "Toujours Prêt!"—Always Ready.

[Credit: Photographs supplied by the Public Information Office, 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment. Photo credits are due Sg t Gerald Kingsby, Public Information Officer. Cover design by Margaret Holcomb. The Public Information Officer wishes to thank the Production and Art Departments of the Stars and Stripes for their assistance in making this booklet possible.]
INDIAN WARS

SEMINOLES

LITTLE BIG HORN

MONTANA 1870, 1875, 1879, 1880

CHEYENNES

NEZ PERCES

BANNOCKS

NEW MEXICO 1852, 1854

KANSAS 1869

WYOMING 1866, 1867

MEXICAN WAR

PALO ALTO

RESACA de la PALMA

VERA CRUZ

CERRO GORDO

CONTRERAS

CHURUBUSCO

MOLINO del REY

CHAPULTEPEC

TAMAULIPAS 1846

MONTEREY

BUENA VISTA

TEXAS 1846

VERA CRUZ 1847

NUEVO LEON 1847

CIVIL WAR

PENINSULA

CHANCELLORSVILLE

VIRGINIA 1863, 1864

GETTYSBURG

MARYLAND 1863

WILDERNESS

SPOTSYLVANIA

COLD HARBOR

PETERSBURG

SHENANDOAH

ANTIETAM

FREDERICKSBURG

MANASSAS

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

SANTIAGO

WORLD WAR I

ST. MIHIEL

MEUSE-ARGONNE

AISNE-MARNE

WORLD WAR II

NORMANDY

NORTHERN FRANCE

RHINELAND

ARDENNES-ALSACE

CENTRAL EUROPE

RYUKYUS

LEYTE (with arrow head)

SECOND TO NONE

At nature's length in the Florida swamps, the orange of the 2nd Dragoon was first bloomed in battle.

Created in mud by a stroke of Andrew Jackson's pen as our nation struggled for the right to live, they have never since ignored the call for men of valor.

From Mexico's dust to the mud of the Rhineland, from Bloody Shiloh to the jungles of the Philippines; preserving the Cassino Villa or beating the Med Dog of the Third Reich, to his knees, they were, in war, true fighting men of their country, proud ambassadors in peace.

Their name has changed. As the 2nd US Cavalry Regiment they fought for survival of the Union at Gettysburg, avenged Custer's fate at the Little Big Horn and endured to harrow Kaiser Wilhelm at the Marne and Meuse.

It was the 2nd Cavalry Group Mechanized that tore through France, with Patton, fought the Panzers to a standstill and helped to roll them back to destruction.

As Constabulary, beneath the lightning-bolt they held a war-torn Germany from chaos by gentle strength and upright example; a supporting hand to the weak and a relentless foe to those who fed on war's debris.

The orange gave way to the gold and green and the horse to a thing of fire and flame and steel, groomed to keep a peace so dearly won, but more than a century is there to proclaim that where the cause is worthy, where the fighting is fiercest, where the need is greatest, the 2nd Armored Cavalry is always there, Always Ready.

J. Alborough

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