

Regimental History

135th INFANTRY

15 May 1943 to 31 October 1943

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R E G I M E N T A L H I S T O R Y

FOR PERIOD

15 May 1943 to 31 October 1943

SECTION II

ASSIGNED STRENGTH OF 15th INFANTRY REGIMENT
BY MONTHS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Warrant Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
30 June 1943	142	4	3101
31 July 1943	174	4	3300
31 August 1943	177	4	3134
30 September 1943	169	4	2980
31 October 1943	144	4	2853

STATION LISTSECTION III

11 May 1943 to 31 October 1943

135th Infantry Regiment, 34th Infantry Division

11 May 1943

135th Infantry

603594 (11 miles west of Tebourba,
Tunisia) (Maps: GSGS 4225, Tunisia)27 May 1943

135th Infantry

712884 (Vic. of Ferryville, Tunisia)

31 May 1943

135th Infantry

800925 (On SE shore of Lake Bizerte,
Tunisia)3 June 1943

135th Infantry

865834 (31 Kms SE of Bizerte, Tunisia)

13 June 1943

1st Battalion

Detached Service to 34th Division
Special School 1½ miles N of Tebourba
Tunisia.

3rd Battalion

Bizerte, Tunisia

20 June 1943

Company F.

Detached Service to 34th Division
Special School 1½ miles N of Tebourba
Tunisia.23 June 1943

Company F

865834 (31 Kms SE of Bizerte, Tunisia)

24 June 1943

2nd Battalion

On Maneuver with 3rd Division

26 June 1943

2nd Battalion

865834 (31 Kms SE of Bizerte, Tunisia)

27 June 1943

Company K

Ferryville, Tunisia

28 June 1943

1st Battalion

865834 (Kms SE of Bizerte, Tunisia)

1 July 1943

Companies C. and G

Mateur, Tunisia

10 July 1943

1st Battalion

D-6702

14 July 1943

2nd Battalion
Company G.

D-6702
Mateur, Tunisia

18 July 1943

1st Battalion
2nd Battalion
Company G1

(865834 (31 Kms SE of Bizerte, Tunis
865834 " " " " " "
865834 " " " " " "

20 July 1943

Regimental Headquarters
Headquarters Company
Antitank Company
m. Medical Detachment
Band
1st Battalion

1 Mile SW of Ain M'Lila, Algeria
" " " " " "
" " " " " "
" " " " " "
En route, via train
" " " " " "

21 July 1943

Regimental Headquarters
Headquarters Company,
Antitank Company
Medical Detachment
Cannon Company
2nd Battalion

1 Mile W of Beni Msour, Algeria
" " " " " "
" " " " " "
" " " " " "
En route, via train
" " " " " "

22 July 1943

Regimental Headquarters
Headquarters Company
Antitank Company
Medical Detachment
Service Company
3rd Battalion

1½ Miles SW of Affreville, Algeria
" " " " " "
" " " " " "
" " " " " "
En route by truck
En route, via train

23 July 1943

Regimental Headquarters
Headquarters Company
Antitank Company
Medical Detachment

1 Mile W of Relizane, Algeria
" " " " " "
" " " " " "
" " " " " "

24 July 1943

Regimental Headquarters
Headquarters Company
Antitank Company
Medical Detachment
Band
1st Battalion

322909 (2 miles S of Ain el Turck,
Algeria)
(Maps: GSGS 4232, Algeria)

(Section III - Position List - continued)

25 July 1943

Service Company	315899 (2 miles S of Ain el Turck, Algeria)
Antitank Company	298898 (2½ miles SW of Ain el Turck, Algeria)
Cannon Company	
1st Battalion	316914 (2½ miles S of Ain el Turck, Algeria)
2nd Battalion	309904 (2½ miles S. of Ain el Turck, Algeria)

27 July 1943

3rd Battalion	304904 (2½ miles S of Ain el Turck, Algeria)
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3 August 1943

Regimental Headquarters	Aboard USS "Barnett"
Headquarters Company	" " "
Medical Detachment	" " "
1st Battalion	" " "
Band	Aboard USS "Funston"
2nd Battalion	Aboard USS "Funston"
3rd Battalion	Aboard USS "Lyons"

8 August 1943

Regimental Headquarters	322909 (2 miles S of Sin el Turck, Algeria)
Headquarters Company	
Medical Detachment	
Band	
1st Battalion	316914 (2½ Miles S of Ain el Turch, Algeria)
2nd Battalion	309904 (2½ Miles S of Ain El Turch, Algeria)
3rd Battalion	304904 (2½ Miles S of Ain el Turch, Algeria)

17 August 1943

135th Infantry	318998 (3 Kms NW of Slissen, Algeria MAPS: GSGS 4180, ALGERIA)
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2 September 1943

Antitank Company	284928 (1 Km SW of Ain el Turck, Algeria)
Cannon Company	284928 (1 Km SW of Ain el Turck, Algeria)

(Section III - Station List - continued)

3 September 1943

135th Infantry (less Anti-Tank & Cannon Cos) 284928 (1 Km SW of Ain el Turck, Algeria)
MAPS: GSGS 4232

15 September 1943

Regimental Headquarters	Aboard HMS "Aronda" at sea
Headquarters Company	" " " " "
Service Company	" " " " "
Antitank Company	" " " " "
Cannon Company	" " " " "
Medical Detachment	" " " " "
Band	" " " " "
1st Battalion	" " " " "
2nd Battalion	Aboard HMS "Empire Trooper" at sea
3rd Battalion	Aboard HMS "Durbin Castle" at sea

21 September 1943

135th Infantry 832142 (Vic. of Paestum, Italy)
(Maps: GSGS 4229, ITALY)

28 September 1943

2nd Battalion 930600 (10 Kms E of Montemarano, Italy)

30 September 1943

Regimental Headquarters	921579 (10 Kms E of Montemarano, Italy)
Headquarters Company	" " " " " " " "
Band	" " " " " " " "
Medical Detachment	" " " " " " " "
Service Company	926599 " " " " " " " "
Antitank Company	" " " " " " " "
2nd Battalion	948595 (12 Kms NE of Montemarano, Italy)
3rd Battalion	921579 (10 Kms E of Montemarano, Italy)
Cannon Company	832142 (Vic. of Paestum, Italy)
1st Battalion	832143 (Vic. of Paestum, Italy)

1st October 1943

Regimental Headquarters	730700 (Vic of Montefusco, Italy)
Headquarters Company	" " " " " "
Medical Detachment	" " " " " "
Band	" " " " " "
Service Company	" " " " " "
Antitank Company	" " " " " "
1st Battalion	860490 (Vic. of Piazza, Italy)
2nd Battalion	720650 (Vic. of Pratola, Italy)
3rd Battalion	730700 (Vic. of Montefusco, Italy)

Section III - Station List - continued)

2nd October 1943

2nd Battalion 717654 (Vic of Pratola, Italy)

3rd October 1943

1st Battalion 724713 (Vic. of Montefusco, Italy)

2nd Battalion 690680 (Vic. of Tufo, Italy)

5 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters 705660 (Vic. of Prata, Italy)

Headquarters Company " " " " "

Medical Detachment " " " " "

Band " " " " "

Service Company 740696 (Vic of Montefusco, Italy)

Antitank Company " " " " "

Cannon Company " " " " "

2nd Battalion 665700 (Vic. of Altavilla, Italy)

6 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters 545715 (Vic. of Montesarchio, Italy)

Headquarters Company 545715 " " " "

Medical Detachment 545715 " " " "

Band 545715 " " " "

Service Company 549705 " " " "

Antitank Company 560698 (Vic. of S. Martino, Italy)

Cannon Company 547711 (Vic. of Montesarchio, Italy)

1st Battalion 542723 " " " "

2nd Battalion 541730 " " " "

3rd Battalion 554704 " " " "

10 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters 392774 (Vic of M. Della Corte, Italy)

Headquarters Company 392774 (" " " " " "

Medical Detachment 392774 " " " " " "

Band 392774 " " " " " "

Service Company 452737 (Vic of Moianao, Italy)

Antitank Company 454744 " " " " "

Cannon Company 366790 (Vic of M.Della Corte, Italy)

1st Battalion 407834 (Vic of Melizzano, Italy)

2nd Battalion 375812 (Vic of Dugenta, Italy)

3rd Battalion 423845 (Vic of Frazzo, Italy)

14 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters 371841 (Vic of Squille, Italy)

Headquarters Company 371841 " " " "

Medical Detachment 371841 " " " "

Band 371841 " " " "

Section III - ()tion List - continued)

14 October 1943 (Continued)

1st Battalion	353863 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)
2nd Battalion	365845 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)
3rd Battalion	372849 (Vic of Squille, Italy)

15 October 1943

Service Company	380840 (Vic of Squille, Italy)
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16 October 1943

Service Company	376841 (Vic of Squille, Italy)
Antitank Company	383853 (Vic of Amorosi, Italy)
Cannon Company	363840 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)
2nd Battalion	345900 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)
3rd Battalion	349879 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)

17 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters	330911 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)
Headquarters Company	330911 " " " "
Medical Detachment	330911 " " " "
Band	330911 " " " "
1st Battalion	310940 " " " "
2nd Battalion	321924 " " " "
3rd Battalion	324916 " " " "

18 October 1943

Antitank Company	339881 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)
Service Company	331885 (Vic. of Ruviano, Italy)
Cannon Company	315925 (Vic of Ruviano, Italy)

20 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters	299980 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Headquarters Company	299980 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Medical Detachment	299980 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Band	299980 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Cannon Company	290010 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
1st Battalion	270034 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
2nd Battalion	286019 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
3rd Battalion	280035 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)

(Section III)tation List - continued)

21st October 1943

Antitank Company	282026 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Cannon Company	296012 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
1st Battalion	267053 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
2nd Battalion	285020 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
3rd Battalion	262046 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)

22 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters	270044 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Headquarters Company	270044 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Medical Detachment	270044 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Band	270044 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Service Company	299980 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)
Cannon Company	267050 (Vic. of Alife, Italy)

24 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters	235053 (Vic of S. Leonardo, Italy)
Headquarters Company	235053 (Vic. of S. Leonardo, Italy)
Band	235053 (Vic. of S. Leonardo, Italy)

25 October 1943

Medical Detachment	235053 (Vic. of S. Leonardo, Italy)
1st Battalion	225060 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
2nd Battalion	227063 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
3rd Battalion	245048 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)

27 October 1943

Regimental Headquarters	217073 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
Band	217073 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
Headquarters Co.	217066 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
Medical Detachment	217066 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
Service Co.	244044 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
Antitank Co.	221063 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
Cannon Company	217043 (Vic. of S. Angelo, Italy)
1st Battalion	186106 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)
2nd Battalion	185074 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)
3rd Battalion	183105 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)

29 October 1943

Regtl Hq.	173102 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)
Band	173102 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)
Antitank Co.	173103 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)
Cannon Co.	183078 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)
1st Battalion	168120 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
2nd Battalion	179005 (Vic of Raviscanina, Italy)
3rd Battalion	152128 (Vic of Pratelle, Italy)

(Section III Station List - continued)

31 October 1943

Regimental Hq.	170115	(Vic. of Ailano, Italy)
Headquarters Co.	170115	" " "
Medical Det.	170115	" " "
Band	170115	" " "
1st Bn.	173104	" " "
2nd Bn.	191135	" " "
3rd Bn.	157107	(Vic. of Pratella, Italy)

SECTION V: COMMANDING OFFICERS IN ENGAGEMENTS.

A. LANDING IN VICINITY OF SALERNO, ITALY.

21 September 1943:

Regimental Commander	Colonel Robert W. Ward
Asst. Regt'l Commander	Lt. Col. Edwin T. Swenson
Regt'l Executive Officer	Lt. Col. Charles B. Everest
Regtl S-4	Major Roland Anderson
Regtl S-3	Major John W. Carlson
Regtl S-2	Capt. Maurice W. Stacy
Regtl S-1	Capt. Emory J. Trawick
Regtl Surgeon	Major Jacob F. Karn
Commanding Headquarters Co.	Capt. Keith O. Van Krevelen
Commanding Service Co.	Capt. Allen P. Crowley
Commanding Antitank Co.	Capt. James F. Garfield
Commanding Cannon Co.	Lst Lt. Paul W. Blommen
Commanding Medical Det.	Capt. Vilhelm M. Johnson
Commanding 1st Battalion	Lt. Col. Robert P. Miller
Executive Officer, 1st Bn.	Major Robert V. Shinn
S-3, 1st Bn.	1st Lt. Frank Openshaw
Commanding, Hq.Co.1st Bn.	1st Lt. William E. Smith
Commanding Co A	1st Lt. John T. Lyons
Commanding Co B	Capt. Kimble E. Midkiff
Commanding Co C	Capt. Leslie W. Bailey
Commanding Co D	Capt. Arnold N. Brandt
Caommanding 2nd Bn.	Major Frank A. McCulloch
Executive Officer, 2nd Bn.	Capt. Ray J. Ericksen
S-3, 2nd Bn.	Capt. Robert E. McGraw
Commanding, Hq.Co.2nd Bn.	1st Lt. Joel M. Lewison
Commanding Co E	1st Lt. Joe H. Kimble
Commanding Co F	1st Lt. Alden S. Lance
Commanding Co G	Capt. Vincent F. Goodsell
Commanding Co H	Capt. Einer M. Lund
Commanding 3rd Battalion	Lt. Col. Garnet E. Hall
Executive Officer, 3rd Bn.	Capt. Donald C. Landon
S-3, 3rd Bn.	Capt. William L. Muir
Commanding, Hq. Co.3rd Bn.	1st Lt. Phineas F. Smith, Jr.
Commanding Co. I	1st Lt. Thomas E. Chegin
Commanding Co K	Capt. Emil Skalicky
Commanding Co L	Capt. Louis M. Smith, Jr.
Commanding Co M	1st Lt. John L. Bridgeman

B. CHANGES IN ASSIGNMENTS OF COMMANDING OFFICERS AND STAFF FROM BEGINNING OF ITALIAN CAMPAIGN.

12 October 1943:

1. 1st Lt. Paul W. Blommen, Cannon Company, evacuated to hospital sick; 2nd Lt. Dean C. Fellows assigned command of Cannon Company.

B. CHANGES IN ASSIGNMENTS OF COMMANDING OFFICERS AND STAFF FROM BEGINNING OF ITALIAN CAMPAIGN. (continued)

18 October 1943:

1. Capt. Kimble E. Midkiff, Company B, evacuated wounded; 1st Lt. Gibbs M. Privost assigned command of Company B.

21 October 1943:

1. Lt. Col. Edwin T. Swenson, Assistant Regimental Commander, evacuated to hospital sick.
2. Major Robert V. Shinn, Executive Officer, 1st Battalion, evacuated to hospital sick.
3. 1st Lt. Frank Openshaw, S-3, 1st Battalion, evacuated wounded.

24 October 1943:

1. Capt. William L. Muir died in hospital; Capt. Emil Skalicky, assigned S-3, 3rd Battalion.
2. 1st Lt. Irwin F. Hall assigned command of Company "K".
3. Major John W. Carlson, Regimental S-3, evacuated sick; Major Burton . Barr attached from Headquarters 34th Inf. Division for duty as Regimental S-3.

29 October 1943:

1. Capt. Emory J. Trawick, Regimental Adjutant, evacuated wounded.

(See Inclosure #1 - Roster of Commanding Officers at Termination of African Campaign).

INCLOSURE TO SECTION V.

ROSTER OF COMMANDING OFFICER AT TERMINATION OF AFRICAN CAMPAIGN ON
13 MAY 1943.

Regimental Commander	Colonel Robert W. Ward
Regimental Executive Officer	Major Charles B. Everest
Regtl S-4	Major Roland Anderson
Regtl S-3	Capt. John W. Carlson
Regtl S-2	1st Lt. Maurice W. Stacy
Regtl S-1	1st Lt. Emory J. Trawick
Regtl Surgeon	Major Jacob F. Karn
Commanding Headquarters Co.	Capt. LeRoy E. Dahlin
Commanding Service Co.	1st Lt. Allen P. Crowley
Commanding Anti-tank Co.	Capt. James F. Garfield
Commanding Medical Detachment	Capt. Vilhelm M. Johnson
Commanding First Battalion	Lt. Col. Robert P. Miller
Executive Officer, 1st Bn.	Capt. Robert V. Shinn
S-3, 1st Bn.	1st Lt. Leslie W. Bailey
Commanding Hq Det 1st Bn.	1st Lt. William E. Smith
Commanding Co A	Capt. Donald C. Landon
Commanding Co B	1st Lt. Kimble E. Midkiff
Commanding Co C	Capt. Charles A. Fanning
Commanding Co D	Capt. Arnold N. Brandt
Commanding 2nd Bn.	Lt. Col. Albert A. Svoboda
Executive Officer, 2nd Bn.	Major Frank A. McCulloch
S-3, 2nd Bn.	Capt. Ray J. Ericksen
Commanding Hq Det., 2nd Bn	1st Lt. Joel M. Lewison
Commanding Co E	2nd Lt. Joe H. Kimble
Commanding Co F	1st Lt. Harold G. Rainwater
Commanding Co G	Capt. Vincent F. Goodsell
Commanding Co H	Capt. Einer M. Lund
Commanding 3rd Bn.	Lt. Col. Garnet E. Hall
Executive Officer, 3rd Bn.	Major William F. Snellman
S-3, 3rd Bn.	Capt. Gerhard P. Kaske
Commanding Hq Det 3rd Bn.	1st Lt. Phineas F. Smith, Jr.
Commanding Co I	2nd Lt. Raynold S. Dobak
Commanding Co K	Capt. Emil Skalicky
Commanding Co L	1st Lt. Louis M. Smith, Jr.
Commanding Co M	Capt. Keith O. Van Krevelen

SECTION VI

LOSSES IN ACTION

A. LOSSES IN ITALIAN CAMPAIGN (To and including 31 October 1943)

1. Killed in Action

		10 October 1943		
1st Sgt.	Goodermont, Stanley R.		20707114	Hq.Co.1st Bn.
		13 October 1943		
*2nd Lt.	Harris, Vernon C.		0-1294661	Co E
		27 October 1943		
1st Lt.	Bowden, Nicholls W.		0-413708	Co G
2nd Lt.	Lieurance, Howard R.		0-1302833	Co E
2nd Lt.	Crump, Albert, Jr.		0-1294627	Co G
		30 October 1943		
Capt.	Trawick, Emory J.		0-492091	Regtl Hq

*indicates died of wounds after being evacuated to hospital.

2. Wounded in Action

		13 October 1943		
2nd Lt.	McCall, Leston R.		0-1291496	Co A
1st Lt.	Lyons, John T		0-407368	Co A
2nd Lt.	Sporbert, William O.		0-1292414	Co A
		15 October 1943		
Capt.	Midkiff, Kimble E.		0-452696	Co B
2nd Lt.	Curley, Michael J.		0-1299700	Co G
2nd Lt.	Klawitter, Arnold G.		0-2055401	Co F
		20 October 1943		
2nd Lt.	Bawden, Richard		0-1303834	Co H
2nd Lt.	Cragg, Walter		0-1301441	Co A
1st Lt.	Openshaw, Frank		0-407912	Hq.Co.1st Bn.
		27 October 1943		
2nd Lt.	O'Keefe, Maurice P.		0-1301869	Co E
2nd Lt.	Lucas, Lester B.		0-1291142	Co F
		30 October 1943		
2nd Lt.	Leadley, Robert A.		013113050	Cannon Co.

SUMMARY

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
Killed in Action:	5	40
Wounded in Action:	12	144
Missing in Action:		5

SECTION VII -- STATISTICS AND AWARDS, 15 May, 1943 to 31 October 1943.

A. Distinguished Service Cross.

1. VINCENT F. GOODSSELL, 0397136, Captain, 135th Infantry, for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. On 28 April 1943, Captain Goodsell led his company in an attack against Hill 490 Tunisia, observing a hostile group armed with machine guns moving into a position from which his battalion would be enfiladed, he personally led three of his men forward to intercept the enemy. The group was seen and brought under intense machine gun fire, but in spite of this and with complete disregard for his own safety, Captain Goodsell drove home his attack, killing or capturing the entire enemy group and their three machine guns. By these actions, he removed a serious threat to the success of the attack of his battalion; his aggressive leadership, determination and courage were an inspiring example to his men. Residence upon induction: Goodhue, Minnesota. (Authority: GO 64, Sec II, Hq. NAT OUSA, 28 July 1943).

B. Silver Star.

1. RAY J. ERICKSEN, 0401913, Captain, Headquarters, 2nd Bn. 135th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 29 April 1943, in the vicinity of Sidi Nsir, Tunisia, North Africa. During an attack on Hill 461 enemy artillery began to lay a very heavy barrage of artillery fire on the battalion lines. The location of the enemy gun could not be determined from the battalion OP. Capt. Ericksen, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, moved forward under heavy rifle fire to a position beyond the front lines thereby exposing himself to enemy fire. Capt. Ericksen remained in this position shouting the necessary information to the OP. Friendly artillery fire was effectively directed. In order to locate enemy positions, Capt. Ericksen had to stand up thereby completely exposing himself to intense enemy machine-gun and rifle fire. His devotion to duty and bravery were exemplary of the highest military traditions and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. (Medal No. 17198) (Authority GO 28, Para 1, Hq 34th Inf. Div., 16 July 1943).

2. GEORGE (NMI) MARTIN, 10600100, Sergeant, Company "E", 135th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 30 April 1943, in the vicinity of Mateur, Tunisia, North Africa. While his Battalion was holding an important high point the enemy was firing on them from the left flank where observation and emplacements were very good. Sgt. M. Martin, realizing that something had to be done immediately, took a patrol and advanced to the rear and flank of the enemy and was able to pin the German holding force down. He exposed himself to both enemy fire and friendly fire and was mistaken by friendly troops which concentrated fire on him; he stood erect and waved the aircraft recognition panel which was penetrated by four bullets. Sgt. Martin's brave and courageous act in the face of the enemy was exemplary and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. (Medal No. 24670) (Authority: GO 28, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf Division, 16 July 1943).

3. GORDON E. ANDERSON, 20707245, Private, Medical Detachment, 135th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on the afternoon of 9 April 1943 in the vicinity of Fondouk, Tunisia, North Africa. During a heavy bombardment on positions of Company "B", 135th Infantry Regiment, by German 88mm cannon fire, Pvt. Anderson, aid man assigned to Company "B", left the safety of his Fox hole and advanced through the enemy barrage and an unfamiliar minefield to administer medical aid to a soldier who had been severely wounded by enemy shell fragmentation. On this and several other occasions, Pvt. Anderson, by his utter disregard for his own personal safety and coolness in the face of terrific enemy fire, saved the lives of several of his comrades, and at the same time, by his heroic conduct inspired those who witnessed his deeds. The courage, coolness and devotion to duty of Pvt. Anderson in the face of grave danger were exemplary and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. (Medal No. 16457). (Authority: GO 37, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf. Div., 30 October 1943).

C. Soldier's Medal.

1. RICHARD R. PETERSON, 20708059, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 135th Infantry Regiment. For heroism not in action on ** June 1943, in Tunisia, North Africa. Sgt. Peterson, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, swam to the aid of a drowning comrade, who had lost control of himself in very rough water and brought the drowning soldier safely to shore. Sgt. Peterson's courage and selflessness brought credit to the Army of the United States. (Medal No. 4995)(Authority: GO 29, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf. Div., 17 July.)

2. ROBERT O. WILSON, 36307206, Private First Glass, Headquarters Company, 3rd Bn., 135th Infantry Regiment. For heroism not in action on 10 April 1943, in the vicinity of Fondouk, Tunisia, North Africa. After the enemy had withdrawn following an attack by our forces, PFC Wilson was sent out by his Company to meet the Supply Officer and act as a guide for the kitchen truck to his company area. While on this detail, PFC Wilson came to the scene where two soldiers were seriously wounded by enemy land mines and needed help to get out of the heavily mined field. Pfc Wilson immediately, and without hesitation or regard for his own personal safety, volunteered to accompany the rescue party into the dangerous area. Although it was almost dusk, the atmosphere hazy and visibility poor making it difficult to see trip wires, PFC Wilson without hesitation proceeded into the minefield and assisted in carrying out one of the wounded soldiers. PFC Wilson's courage and selflessness in the face of great danger were a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. (Medal No. 5091). (Authority: GO 39, Ha 34th Inf. Div., 2 Nov '43).

D. Citations.

D. Citations

1. Officers and Enlisted men of the Third Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Garnet E. Hall, 0238359. For outstanding performance of duty in action during the battle for Hill 609 in the vicinity of Mateur, Tunisia, North Africa on 29 April 1943. The battalion began the attack shortly after daylight following the artillery barrage, to the base of the sheer cliff of Hill 609. Under the heavy machine gun and mortar fire coming from the concrete reinforced caves and defiles, the battalion closed in, using grenades and bayonets. At one time the battalion was forced to withdraw and reorganize, but upon completion of this they again attacked, driving the enemy out of their positions and inflicting heavy casualties. They then held the position under enemy fire from an adjacent hill until it was captured. The superior courage and devotion to duty displayed by this battalion will always be worthy of emulation. (GO 21, Hq 34th Inf. Div., 11 June 1943).

2. CHARLES B. EVEREST, 0279391, Lieutenant Colonel, 135th Infantry for exceptionally meritorious service, as Director, Infantry Courses, 34th Division Schools, 20 May - 22 June 1943. Lt. Col. Everest planned, organized and coordinated the Infantry Courses of the Division Schools so intelligently that they were highly successful and attained the objectives desired by the Division Commander. The initiative, resourcefulness, intelligence and loyalty of Lt. Col. Everest in the exacting tasks of this work are most commendable. Residence at time of induction: Council Bluffs, Iowa. (Authority: GO 24, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf Div, 28 June 1943).

3. JACK H. RICHARDSON, 0391256, First Lieutenant, Company "C", 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on ** April 1943, in the vicinity of **** Tunisia, North Africa. While leading his platoon in an attack they were subjected to intense enemy artillery fire and became disorganized. Lt. Richardson led them to a defiladed area and reorganized the platoon and then led them to the attack under intense fire. During this attack Lt. Richardson was mortally wounded, as were three men of his platoon. He refused first aid until after the enlisted men had been cared for. His conduct and initiative while under fire so inspired his men that they carried on in the face of almost fatal enemy fire and completed their mission. Lt. Richardson's courage and leadership in the face of grave danger were exemplary and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. (Next of kin: Fred Richardson, Eyota, Minnesota) (Authority: GO 29, Hq 34th Inf Div, 17 July '43)

(SECTION III - CITATIONS AND AWARDS - continued)

4. MAURICE NATALI, 33100374, Technician 5th Grade, Service Co. 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on *** March 1943, near ** Tunisia, North Africa. T-5 Natali and two other men were sent to evacuate a 3/4-ton W/C which had struck a land mine and was laying in a waddi. They suspected there were more mines in the area but did not know the pattern of the mine field. In the face of this danger they towed the vehicle out of the waddi and onto the road. When they started to tow the vehicle, it struck another mine endangering the lives of all three men. They continued to pull the vehicle out of the waddi and upon raising the rear end of the vehicle, they found another land mine which had been dragged from the waddi with the vehicle by the under-carriage. On another occasion T-5 Natali was sent to evacuate two 2½-ton cargo trucks which had struck land mines in advance of the front lines. During this time he was subjected to heavy enemy mortar fire. T-5 Natali's devotion to duty and courage were meritorious and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Residence at time of induction: 6441 Grays Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. (Authority: GO #22, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf. Div., 21 June 1943.)

5. HENRY E. ORRISON, 33098900, Technician Fourth Grade, Service Co., 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on ** March 1943, near ** Tunisia, North Africa. T-4 Orrison and two other men were sent to evacuate a 3/4-ton W/C which had struck a land mine and was laying in a waddi. They suspected there were more mines in the area but did not know the pattern of the mine field. In the face of this danger they towed the damaged vehicle out of the waddi onto the road. When they began to tow the vehicle it struck another mine endangering the lives of all three men. They continued to pull the vehicle out of the waddi and upon raising the rear end of the vehicle, they found another land mine which had been dragged from the waddi with the vehicle by the under carriage. On another occasion T-4 Orrison was sent to evacuate two 2½-ton cargo trucks which had struck land mines in advance of the front lines. During the removal of the vehicles he was subjected to heavy mortar fire by the enemy. T-4 Orrison's devotion to duty and courage were meritorious and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Residence at time of induction: Waterford, Virginia. (Authority: GO 22, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf Div., 21 June '43).

6. EARL E. FICKEN, 20708302, Technician Fifth Grade, Service Co., 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on *** March 1943, near ** Tunisia, North Africa. T-5 Ficken and two other men were sent to evacuate a 3/4-ton W/C which had struck a land mine and was laying in a waddi. They suspected there were more mines in the area but did not know the pattern of the mine field. In the face of this danger they towed the damaged vehicle out of the waddi onto the road. When they began to tow the vehicle, it struck another mine endangering the lives of all three men. They continued to pull the vehicle out of the waddi and upon raising the rear end of the vehicle, they found another land mine which had been dragged from

*SECTION VII - CITATIONS AND AWARDS- Continued)

7. GUSTAVE N. SUCK, 33110999, Staff Sergeant, Company "C", 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on ** May 1943, in the vicinity of *** Tunisia, North Africa. Sgt. Suck was in command of a patrol from Company "C", 135th Infantry which was sent to locate and destroy an enemy machine gun position. The patrol was pinned down by enfilade fire of another enemy position and remained under enemy observation and fire for fourteen (14) hours. During this time Sgt. Suck managed to drive off two enemy snipers by pistol fire. He also risked discovery of his position in order to direct mortar fire on other enemy positions, which aided materially in the final assault on Hill 531. Sgt. Suck's courage and leadership was exceptionally meritorious and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Residence at time of induction: 705 Valonia St., Pittsburg, Penn. (Authority: GO 22, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf Div., 21 June '43)

8. SAMUEL J. SGRO, 33100434, Corporal, Company "C", 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on ** April 1943, in the vicinity of *** Tunisia, North Africa. While his mortar squad was continuing the attack on *** under intense enemy artillery fire, Corp Sgro was wounded on the leg. In spite of this, he refused to be evacuated, and insisted on helping his already depleted squad by carrying a 60mm Mortar base plate, and a bag of 60mm Mortar ammunition. On the final attack was again seriously wounded by enemy artillery fire and had to be evacuated on a litter only after ordering his squad to recover the equipment he was carrying and to continue to attack. The courage and initiative of Corp. Sgro in the face of grave danger was an inspiration to his comrades and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Residence at time of induction: Linwood, Penna. (Authority: GO 29, Par 3, Hq 34th Inf Div, 17 July '43).

9. SPERO H. MAKRIS, 31049739, Sergeant, Company "A", 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on ** April 1943, in the vicinity of *Tunisia, North Africa. During an attack on strong enemy positions by the 135th Infantry Regiment, Sgt. Makris with utter disregard to his own personal safety and under heavy enemy artillery and machine-gun fire left the cover of this foxhole to move a wounded and shell-shocked comrade to a place of safety. This act undoubtedly contributed to the saving of the man's life. Sgt Makris' courage and leadership in the face of grave danger were outstanding and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Residence at time of Induction: Hartford, Connecticut. (Authority: GO 29, Par 3, Hq 34th Inf Div., 17 July 1943).

(SECTION VII - CITATIONS AND AWARDS - continued)

10. LOREN FREY, 37028874, Private First Class, Headquarters Co., First Bn., 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on ** October 1943, in the vicinity of ** Italy. Due to his alert mind and keen sight, Pfc Frey was responsible for the destruction of several enemy positions. Through his unusual power of observation he sighted an enemy pack train retreating up a mountain trail, a distance of approximately six miles. He immediately called the location of the target and was able to direct fire upon it. He also observed a machine gun nest located in a very obscure position between two houses directly in front of the Battalion CP. Shortly thereafter he detected and directed fire on a field piece located in the basement of a destroyed Italian home. These keen observations enabled the artillery to destroy two field pieces and one machine gun nest. The alertness, initiative, and keen observation of PFC Frey is a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Residence at time of induction: Goodrich, North Dakota. (Authority: GO 46, Par 1, Hq 34th Inf. Div., 26 Nov '43).

HISTORY OF THE 135th INFANTRY
REGIMENT

SECTION VIII: FROM: 17 September 1943 TO: 31 October 1943

Prior to leaving for the Italian campaign the regiment underwent a period of 2 weeks training at Fifth Army Invasion Training Center followed by 2 weeks at the Fifth Army Leadership and Battle Training Center in the SLISSEN area. At the conclusion of this training the regiment returned to an assembly area between BOU SFER and AIN ET TURCK and began preparing vehicles and equipment for loading aboard ship. The loading of vehicles and equipment started on 9 September 1943.

On 15 September 1943 personnel and unit baggage was loaded aboard three BRITISH ships. Colonel R. W. Ward was the OC of troops on the ARANDO, which had aboard the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Band, Medical Detachment, Service Company, Antitank Company, Cannon Company, First Battalion and the following detachments: 163rd Signal Photo Co; 180th Signal Repair Co; Headquarters 45th Brigade Antiaircraft; Detachment, 47th Quartermaster Company, (Graves); 44th Wire Intelligence Section. Major F. A. McCulloch was the OC of troops on the EMPIRE TROOPER, which carried the Second Bn. The DURBIN CASTLE carried the 3rd Battalion and the 185th Field Artillery Battalion. The ships moved to the outer MERS EL KEBIR harbor; the same port at which most of the regiment landed nine months previously; formed in convoy and sailed for an unknown destination. There were no incidents of importance en-route, although in the freighter convoy the WM. P. GERHARDT was torpedoed and sunk.

On the afternoon of the 20th September 1943 the convoy passed the coast of Sicily, came in sight of the southwest coast of Italy, and dropped anchor in the Gulf of Salerno northeast of PAESTUM on the 21st of September. The landing was made across the beach, in LCIs, LCTs and DUKWS, from the transports. The Battalions landed at various points along 2000 yards of beach in the vicinity of the SELE river. After an 8-mile, hot, dusty road march inland, the regiment went into the assembly area in the vicinity of 8316. The next four days were consumed in unloading the assembling vehicles and equipment, and road marches.

On 27th September the regiment was alerted for immediate movement to the front. Heavy rains and impassable roads delayed the movement forward as a combat team. On 28 September the 2nd Battalion and the 125th FA Battalion crossed the IP at road junction 8316 at 0530A enroute to the vicinity of 9360. On the 30th September the 3rd Bn., Headquarters & Headquarters Company, Antitank Company and Service Company, with the following Division troops attached for the movement Division Headquarters, and Headquarters Company, Signal Company, Ordnance Company, Artillery Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Reconnaissance Troop, 2 Companies of the 776th Tank Destroyer Bn., 2634th Quartermaster Company; crossed the IP at crossroads 8316 at 0730A for an assembly area in the vicinity of MONTEMARANO via the

via the route BATTIPAGLIA-EBOLI- OLIVETO - ALIBRITTO - LIONI - MONTEMARANO. The 1st Battalion and Cannon Co. remained behind to be moved on Division order. The column closed at 1700 hrs with the CP located at 921579.

On 1 October 2nd Battalion relieved the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry in the vicinity of PRATOLA at 7265. The balance of the regiment bivouaced in the area of MONTEFUSCO in the vicinity of 7370. That same day the 1st Battalion arrived at PIAZZA 8649. Colonel Miller came forward to contact the regiment. German documents picked up in the vicinity of the CP, oddly enough, indicated that the German 135th FLAK regiment had occupied the area shortly before our arrival. Documents recorded the Italian and Sicilian losses, Hitler's instructions for handling Italian ex-soldiers, "kills" of American planes in Sicily and Italy, and the naming of our A-36's "JABOS".

The 2nd Battalion was directed to hold its position and send security patrols west of the SABATO River. The regiment was assigned the mission of patrolling to the northwest. On 3 October 2nd Battalion after receiving artillery fire and slight small arms fire in the PRATOLA area moved on and secured a crossing of the river. The Battalion took no casualties from the shelling, although there were a number of civilians killed, the wounded were cared for by 2nd Battalion Medics. The 2nd Battalion made contact with the 3rd Division on the left and moved forward to TUFO (6968) where it was relieved by elements of the 3rd Division.

On 4 October the Division Commander assembled the Regimental and Battalion CO's and Executive Officers for a discussion of tactics employed by the Germans in this delaying action and possible countermeasures that could be taken. On 5 October the 2nd Battalion moved forward to the vicinity of ALTAVILLA preparatory to moving the regiment in south of MONTESARCHIO. On 7 October the 2nd Battalion had closed in the MONTESARCHIO area with the transportation of the regiment on the west side of the blown bridge north of ALTAVILLA. The bridge at the sulphur mine in the vicinity of 670684 was being rebuilt and the regiment marched from the vicinity of MONTEFUSCO to ALTAVILLA where it was shuttled to a bivouac area south of MONTESARCHIO. The regiment closed at 1500A, 7 October 1943.

On 8 October Colonel Ward, Lt. Colonel Everest, Lt. Colonel Miller, Major McCulloch, and Lt. Colonel Hall reported to Division Headquarters and received the plan for the relief of the 30th Infantry by the 135th Infantry. They went forward on reconnaissance to MONTE DELLA CORTE (3977) and contacted Colonel Rogers of the 30th Infantry. After orientation by Colonel Rogers the S-3's were ordered to bring the battalions forward in the order of 2nd-1st-3rd and the relief was to be affected by the similarly numbered battalions of the 135th Infantry relieving the 30th Infantry. Major McCulloch went forward to contact the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of (3781) and reconnoitered the area west of DUGENTA. Lt. Colonel Miller went to the 1st Battalion area in the vicinity of 4084 and Lt. Colonel Hall to the vicinity of FRAZZO (4483). The coordination of the relief was

left to the two Regiments concerned. A Third Division order was received for the withdrawal of all but one company of each battalion of the 30th Infantry which further complicated the night relief by the 135th Infantry.

The 2nd and 1st Battalions, in that order were detrucked after dark at CR (383776). The relief of the 2nd Battalion was effected without difficulty, in spite of some mortar and artillery fire around 0200A. Because of the difficulty of shuttling with organic transportation, the 1st Battalion did not arrive at the detrucking point until 0215A. Distance, darkness, and mud kept Lt. Colonel Miller from returning to meet his company commanders until 0200A. He oriented the company commanders in the Regimental CP and moved out at 0230A. By 0600A daylight had broken and neither Lt. Colonel Miller nor his troops had arrived at the CP of the 1st Battalion. Bad roads, rain, and a black night made it extremely heavy going. The 1st Battalion did not arrive in the rear of their area until 0745A. By 0830A, however, the relief had been effected in daylight but the positions occupied could not be readjusted until darkness.

On the 9th October the 2nd Battalion reconnoitered positions in the vicinity of LIMATOLA preparatory to sending one company to relieve elements of the 15th Infantry. They were directed to hold the LIMATOLA area until passed through by elements of the 168th Infantry. The 2nd and 1st Battalions were given the mission of reconnoitering the VOLTURNO River between 358818 and the junction of of the VOLTURNO & CALORE Rivers (3986) for possible night crossings.

On the morning of the 9th the bridges of S. AGATA 94276) had not been repaired. The 3rd Battalion was forced to detruck there for the 10-mile march to the vicinity of FRAZZO. They detrucked at S. AGATA at 0915A and moved out.

Captain Ericksen made a reconnaissance of the LIMATOLA area, but the order to send one company to that area was rescinded. The 3rd Battalion completed their relief at 1600A.

The next three days were spent in night patrolling of both sides of the river and denying the Germans observation from SOLOPACA 4687. Wire Communication during the period was difficult to maintain and intermittent shelling of the DUGENTA - AMOROSI (3989), road, and the positions the battalions occupied, limited the supply of the battalions by vehicles, to 3 or 4 1/4-tons each night. The rear CP of the 1st Battalion at (415829) was shelled on the afternoon of the 10th. A direct hit on Executive Officer Major Shinn's 1/4-ton, killed 2 and injured 3. Most of the fire apparently came from tanks and self-propelled guns in the vicinity of AMOROSI. After our artillery got into position the enemy shelling was less intense. The 2nd Bn. had several night encounters with enemy patrols. Our patrol were successful in selecting three points as suitable river crossing one of which was a former ferry crossing and another an old dam that might take a few vehicles.

On 11 October Colonel Ward, Lt. Colonel Everest and Captain Stacy went to Division Headquarters for the plan for crossing the VOLTURNO River. It was understood that the Army plan was for the VI Corps on the right to seize the high ground North of the river, thus taking the pressure off the 10th Corps so that it could cross the river and the canal north of it. The plan of the VI Corps was that the 3rd Division on the left, and the 34th Division in the center would cross the river and drive north while the 45th Division on the right from a position north of the CALORE River was to drive west through TEESE and S. SALVATORE to the VOLTURNO River. The crossing was to be made simultaneously by all elements of the Fifth Army on the night of the 12th -13th October. The 34th Division with the 168th Infantry on the left, the 135th Infantry on the right, and the 133rd Infantry in reserve, supported by 8 battalions of artillery, was to cross between a point 1½ miles northwest of LIMATOLA and the junction of the VOLTURNO-CALORE Rivers; and secure a bridgehead north of LIMATOLA.

At 1330A Colonel Ward assembled his battalion and separate unit commanders for the regimental order. The regiment was to cross between (360820) and the junction of the rivers at (3986), with the 1st Battalion and "E" Company of the second Battalion in the assault. The 1st objective was the capture of the high ground northeast of SQUILLE (Hill 111) and the capture of Hill 131 by "E" Company, with the 3rd Battalion in reserve. The 1st Battalion's plan was to cross with two companies at (390860) and one company at 385844. "E" Company was to cross at (358818). The 2nd Battalion was to be prepared to pass through or around the 1st Battalion and secure the objective (Hill 283) (350864).

The 1st Battalion's 2nd objective was Hill 283 with the mission of relieving pressure on the 168th Infantry on our left and lending every possible assistance to its advance. Steep, muddy river banks would necessitate the supply of units by rope and improvised rafts until a bridgehead could be secured by bridge construction by the Engineers.

The attack jumped off at 0200A night of 12-13 and at 1250A "E" Company had effected its crossing and started prisoners back. By 0600A "B" Company had reached its first phase line across the river. The balance of the 2nd Battalion crossed the river and after neutralizing enemy positions that had been by-passed north of SQUILLE, the Battalion was reorganized and prepared to go forward to the 2nd objective. The Regimental Forward Command Group crossed the river and set up northeast of SQUILLE at 0345A on 14 October. That morning at 0400A the 1st Battalion took their objective, Hill 283. Elements of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion moved 4 guns to the top of the hill, and with selected hull-down positions, they could fire over the hill. There were several threatened counter-attacks on the positions of the assault battalions, but none of serious proportions developed.

The 2nd Battalion went to the ridge above RUVIANO (3489) and sent patrols into the outskirts of the village without contact on the night of the 14th. The morning of the 15th General Caffey came to the Regimental OP above RUVIANO and plans were made for the clearing of the town and taking the high ground northwest of RUVIANO. By 1400A on the afternoon of the 15th the 2nd Battalion had combat patrols on the north side of RUVIANO which encountered stiff resistance. Low flying enemy planes swept over our positions and dropped their bomb load north of AMOROSI. By 1730A two companies of the 2nd Battalion had moved up the ridges toward the objective at (2391) after serious engagements with enemy patrols and snipers on the outskirts of the town. One patrol was led into a machine gun trap by an Italian in civilian clothes. The 3rd Battalion moved up behind the 2nd with mission of protecting the right flank from the vicinity of (3392). The 1st Battalion went into an assembly area north of the town and received considerable artillery shelling all during the night. In the meantime the Antitank Mine Platoon and the Engineers had worked up along the road on the west bank of the VOLTURNO to the vicinity of (3690) and 1/4-ton trails were broken forward from here, past the blown bridge by-passes, to get ammunition and water in under cover of darkness. That night the regimental wire was carried forward the new CP set up before dawn at (330905). The 2nd Battalion obtained complete tactical surprise in this operation by maneuvering the battalion into a striking position behind its patrols before the Germans were aware of its presence.

Prior to the opening of the road supplies were ferried across the VOLTURNO at (385845) by an improvised man-operated rubber float. The selected bridge crossing was delayed by intense artillery shelling and dive-bombing on the 13th and 14th and one selected site was abandoned.

By the morning of the 17th October the 3rd Battalion, in the vicinity of (3194) had contacted patrols of the 168th Infantry on the left in the vicinity of ALVIGNANO (2894). The 2nd Battalion was in position on the hill at (3394) and patrolling was immediately started to determine likely spots for the second crossing of the VOLTURNO. The 1st Battalion during the day had been heavily engaged by enemy fire from the vicinity of (289955). Two German Companies were estimated to be in position there and the 1st Battalion request for artillery fire finally neutralized the position. The Battalions were directed to clear the enemy from the river line between (340940) and (300970) the morning of the 18th. On the evening of the 18th, one battalion of the 133rd Infantry got over into our Sector and pushed on across the river. Took up position on the north side of the river near the blown bridge at (270985). That night we were ordered to secure a bridgehead in our area with one battalion prepared to back it up with another battalion if the situation demanded. Tanks, armored vehicles and much movement in DRAGONI were observed and the threat of an armored counter-attack cancelled the order for a bridgehead. We were ordered to secure and hold the south bank of the river.

An excellent patrol report on the night of 18-19 October determined the condition of the river banks and the selection of a hard bottom where vehicles could be crossed. On the morning of the 19th the 3rd Bn. was ordered to cross the river, carrying their wire with them, and secure a bridgehead. The crossing was effected in the vicinity of (30497)). The 1st Battalion crossed and went into position on the left of the road running to ALIFE (2803), with the 3rd Battalion on the right followed by the 2nd Battalion. The ground was low and swampy, cut with deep swift canals perpendicular to the route of advance. The regimental CP was set up in the vicinity of (3098). The attached company of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion was confined to the road, and by daylight had by-passed several blown bridges and arrived in the vicinity of (286019). The mission of the 3rd Battalion was to go around the right of ALIFE, and the 2nd Battalion behind it was to take up positions in the vicinity of (282024) and protect the right flank of the regiment. The 1st Battalion was to skirt the left south edge of town. In this flat ground south of the town the 1st Battalion first encountered the demoralizing German rocket gun.

By daylight on the 21st of October the 3rd Battalion was in position in the vicinity of (262046) and the 1st in the vicinity of (26603). Having been unable to cross the road to the northwest it had pulled back to higher ground in that vicinity. The 2nd Battalion was still in position in the vicinity of (285020). At noon on the 21st, 14 enemy tanks were reported in the vicinity of (246015), having slipped in on our left flank on the north side of the river. The 125th Field Artillery Battalion did some excellent shooting and the Cub OP reported five tanks definitely out with direct hits on two. During the night of 21-22 October the Germans were able to work in and salvage them. Heavy shelling came in all day over the entire area intermittently.

On the 22nd October the 133rd Infantry moved forward on our left flank to positions northwest of ALIFE AND the 2nd Battalion was moved to the vicinity of (246036) with the mission of patrolling to the river; protecting the left flank of the 133rd Infantry and maintaining contact with the 3rd Division across the river.

During the night of 22-23 October the 3rd Battalion moved forward to the high ground in the vicinity of (260050) unobserved. The regiment held in place for 24 hours. The regimental CP was moved from (282032) to (270044).

At 0740A on the 24th of October the Regiment was alerted for movement to an assembly area in the vicinity of (2403). On the 25th October at 0730A the Regimental Commander, Executive Officer, Battalion Commanders and S-3's went forward to an OP at (210075) for a reconnaissance of the area west of S. ANGELO (2106). The plan was for the 2nd Battalion on the left to pass through the 2nd Battalion of the 133rd Infantry to a line of Departure running from

(185060) to (195070) and secure the road running southwest of ALIANO at (1710). The 3rd Battalion on the right was to pass through the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry keeping in the mountains to the northwest of RAVISCANINA and secure the objective, Hill 559, at (1711). The 1st Battalion was brought up in the rear of the 3rd Battalion prepared to pass through or around and secure the 3rd Battalion objective. The attack was scheduled to jump off at 0530A.

There had been no opportunity for a physical ground reconnaissance forward of the 133rd Infantry position. Guides led the 2nd Battalion to a line of departure 1500 metres in rear of the selected line. The attack jumped off at 0530A. The 3rd Battalion progressed slowly over the difficult wooded mountains, and the 2nd Battalion was caught in the vicinity of (182078) when the fog lifted. One company was able to work its way around to the north end of Hill 235 and the balance of the battalion was pinned down all day by enemy fire from the wooded hill in front.

By 0830A 26 October the 3rd Battalion was on a line running NE to SW through 180100. The Army and Corps Commanders visited the Regimental OP and observed the terrain and front of the leading battalions. The 2nd Battalion endeavored to maneuver one platoon around the left flank, but it was repulsed and badly shot up. During this engagement "A" Company of the 2nd Chemical Warfare Battalion was attached to the 2nd Battalion and was effectively employed in shelling Hill 235 with high explosive shells. At 1400A that same afternoon the second Regimental OP reported troops in positions facing the southeast along the line (181078)-180077) - (175074). This line ran through the reported positions of the 2nd Battalion and they were thought to be our own troops. At 1500A the 3rd Battalion reported they occupied Hill 559 (170110) and that they would push on to Hill 432 north of it. Just as darkness was falling the 135th FA Battalion did some good shooting on the road running southwest from ALLANO. Two large fires started in what appeared to be enemy ammunition trains.

At 0800A 27 October the troops thought to be from the 2nd Battalion, and who later proved to be Germans, were observed going west over Hill 235. That night "A" Company of the 191st Tank Battalion had come up behind the 2nd Battalion, with the plan of moving around the right flank and the north end of Hill 235. The Battalion was set for another attack at 1500A when 3 enemy tanks were observed from the Regimental OP on the left flank of the 2nd Battalion. Shortly thereafter, nine other tanks appeared coming from the southwest into the position of the 2nd Battalion. Our artillery and tanks engaged them scoring three direct hits and stopping the movement and advance of the German tanks. On the preceding night our own tanks were unable to cross the terrain and get into position to lead the 2nd Battalion's attack.

Enemy tanks got within 100 yards of the leading elements of the 1st Battalion which made very close shooting for the artillery. However, they were able to withstand the shelling until nightfall when they were able to reorganize. During the day the 1st Battalion attempted to work through and around the north flank of the 3rd Battalion to cut the North-South road in the vicinity of PRATELLA (91511). Strongly held machine gun positions in the rugged terrain prevented this, and at dark the 1st Battalion consolidated their position on Hill 559 and the 3rd Battalion on the high ground North-east of AILANO, vicinity of (178105). Early that night at least 15 tracked vehicles, thought to be tanks, came down the road between the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Four traps had been laid with Bazooka guns and when the vehicles passed all four guns failed to fire.

The Antitank Mine Platoon set out with mines on foot over the mountains from Hill 528 (2107) and arrived in the 3rd Battalion area at daylight. It was impossible to get mines in place until after daylight.

Three of the tanks of "A" Company, 191st Tank Battalion, in support of the 2nd Battalion, were disabled, one turned over, one hit a mine, and one was struck by enemy shell fire. Failure of radio communication complicated the liaison between the Tank Battalion and the Regiment.

By nightfall the determined opposition from Hill 235 was finally appreciated. The plan for the 28th was that the 168th Infantry would come in behind the 2nd Battalion, jump off at 0900A with one battalion from the vicinity of (179085), and drive to the southwest across Hill 235. The 2nd Battalion was to assist by the fire of all of its weapons. After Hill 235 had fallen another battalion of the 168th Infantry was to drive for the road net and ridge in the vicinity of (169093). The 3rd Battalion 135th Infantry was to come down out of the hills and clean out the town of AILANO, assist by fire the advance of the north battalion of the 168th Infantry, reassemble north of the town, and drive for the high ground west of PRATELLA. The 1st Battalion was to hold in position on Hill 559 and protect the right flank of the regiment. When the fire of the 2nd Battalion was masked by the 168th Infantry, it was to assemble west of RAVISCANINA and be in position on Hill 605 (195108) by daylight. The attack of the 168th Infantry was to be preceded by a 30 minute artillery preparation which was to include the town of AILANO.

At first light the 2nd Battalion advised that patrols during the night had encountered no enemy and that small "feeler" groups had moved around rather freely since dawn and had drawn no fire. It was their opinion that the Germans had evacuated the position during the night and this was substantiated by reports from PWs. At the scheduled time, however, the artillery preparation came down and at 1000A the request went forward to cease all firing. The 168th Infantry proceeded to its objective without opposition and the 2nd Battalion pulled back into the assembly area. The 3rd Battalion

had the objective limited to Hill 325 (155108), and had two reinforced companies on the hill by 1845A. They encountered intermittent artillery and mortar fire but no small arms. The 1st Battalion suffered two casualties during the night probably from our own protective fire. During the morning our Air Corps bombed PRATELLA and road leading out of it to the northwest. During the night of 28-29 October elements of the 504th Para-troup Regiment passed through our positions on the AILANO - VALLE Road. During the night the engineers opened up a jeep trail from RAVISCANIA to AILANO which allowed 7 jeeps to get through to supply the battalions. After 0200A on the 29th the main PRATELLA Road was opened for heavier vehicles.

On the 29th the 2nd Battalion was ordered to protect the right flank and block the road from VALLE to AILANO. The 1st Battalion was to move to the shale nose of Hill 432 (1712) and support by fire if necessary the advance of the 3rd Battalion on Hill 320 (154127). The 3rd Battalion was to move west from Hill 325 clear the town of PRATELLA and drive northeast to secure the nose of (154127). First Battalion patrols found PRARA unoccupied by the enemy. The 3rd Battalion moved through PRATELLA and on to the objective. They ran into scattered machine gun nests at dark which they neutralized with mortars and patrols.

For the preceding two days Battalions in the hills had encountered many booby traps and mines from which both the 1st and 3rd Battalions sustained casualties. Shortly after noon on the 29th the Regimental Adjutant, Captain Emory J. Trawick, sustained injuries from a booby trap in the vicinity of (177107), which proved fatal on the 30th of October.

On the morning of the 30th the 3rd Battalion, 133rd Infantry, moved forward to relieve our 3rd Battalion, the relief, however, was not effected until late in the day because of enemy artillery fire. The night of 30-31st October, the 2nd Battalion moved two companies to the high ground east of PRATA, and the road net was secure from small arms fire for the passage of the 168th Infantry through us on the right of the PRATA-CAPRIATA Road and the 133rd Infantry on the left. The 1st Battalion guided the 168th Infantry through the PRATA area and on the 31st the Battalions were pulled back into an assembly area, the 3rd Battalion on the south slope of Hill 325, the 1st Battalion on the south slope of Hill 559, and the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of (1913).

During the entire operation most of the supply was by hand carry, at night, varying from 1000 yards to 4 miles, and most of it through mountainous terrain, difficult to negotiate on foot in daylight. With the exception of the shuttle by organic transportation from ALTAVILLA to MONTE DELLA COURTE, most of the advance, including the two river crossings, was accomplished on foot at night over made roads and demolished bridges through mined and booby-trapped areas. Many times it was possible to feed only one meal at night and one of the round trips for water and food consumed 11 hours.

During this period many key individuals were evacuated, including Lt. Col. Swenson, Asst. Regt'l Cmdr; Major Carlson, S3, Major Shinn, Ex Off. 1st Bn; Lt. Bloomen, CO Cn Co; & Lt. Houser, S-2, 2nd Bn Captain Muir, S-3 3rd Bn, was evacuated after the first river crossing with malaria and jaundice and died within 24 hours.

On four different occasions we had no means of identifying Italian agents passing through our lines, and they were accordingly held up in the exercise of their missions in passing through the lines. We were however, able to get valuable information during the period from prisoners of war, some of whom gave accurate sketches of enemy positions; and information from escaped British prisoners who had been captured at TOBRUK proved valuable. Sabotage of our wire lines was frequent, but there was no definite proof that our lines had been tapped.

The planning of the 1st VOLTURNO River crossing was the first time the Battalion commanders felt they had had adequate time for reconnaissance and planning for an operation.

Reconnaissance, combat, and contact patrols from each battalion gave very creditable performances during this phase. Maps of the area were difficult to read and the mountainous country made the reading of the best maps difficult.

Damp, rainy weather, with fog till mid-morning, further complicated the operation. Men fought during the day and marched a good percentage of many nights. Raincoats for those who were fortunate enough to keep them with them provided the only protection at night. The officers and men of the battalions were without their bedding rolls from the night of 12-13 October to the 31st.

During this phase of the operation the Regiment had a total of 609 evacuated. The Regiment was hit hard during the operation with diseases and injuries. Following is a breakdown of losses:

Killed in action or died of wounds	5 Officers	40 Enlisted men
Wounded in action	13 Officers	147 Enlisted men
Missing in action		9 Enlisted men
Hospitalized for diseases and injuries	19 Officers	376 Enlisted men

Regimental History

135th INFANTRY

1 November to 30 November 1943

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R E G I M E N T A L H I S T O R Y

FOR PERIOD

1 November through 30 November 1943

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SECTION II

ASSIGNED STRENGTH OF 135TH INFANTRY REGIMENT
FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1943

<u>Date</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Warrant off.</u>	<u>enlisted men</u>
1 Nov.	147	4	2890
2	147	4	2878
3	147	4	2860
4	149	4	2867
5	160	4	2870
6	160	4	2862
7	160	4	2919
8	161	4	2925
9	158	4	2900
10	159	5	2872
11	160	5	2977
12	158	5	2961
13	156	5	2946
14	156	5	2938
15	156	5	2918
16	157	5	2910
17	158	5	2911
18	156	5	2880
19	156	5	2869
20	155	5	2872
21	155	5	2906
22	152	5	2892
23	152	5	2886
24	151	5	2877
25	154	5	2829
26	153	5	2814
27	151	5	2801
28	150	5	2781
29	146	5	2771
30	146	5	2762
	149	5	2762

SECTION III - STATION LIST

1 November 1943

Regimental Headquarters	170115 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
Headquarters Co.	170115 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
Medical Det.	170115 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
Band	170115 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
Service Co.	244044 (Vic of S. Leonardo, Italy)
Antitank Co.	173103 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
Cannon Co.	183078 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
1st Battalion	173104 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)
2nd Battalion	191135 (Vic of Prata, Italy)
3rd Battalion	157107 (Vic of Ailano, Italy)

3 November 1943

Regimental Headquarters	143173 (Vic of Fontegreca, Italy)
Headquarters Co.	143173 (Vic of Fontegreca, Italy)
Medical Detachment	143173 (Vic of Fontegreca, Italy)
Band	143173 (Vic of Fontegreca, Italy)
Antitank Co.	152173 (Vic of Fontegreca, Italy)
Cannon Co.	127183 (Vic of Capriati, Italy)
1st Battalion	142179 (Vic of Fontegreca, Italy)
2nd Battalion	133181 (Vic of Capriati, Italy)
3rd Battalion	133176 (Vic of Capriati, Italy)

4 November 1943

Service Co.	152128 (Vic of Pratella, Italy)
3rd Battalion	119230 (Vic of Ravindola, Italy)

5 November 1943

Regimental Headquarters	100248 (Vic of Roccaravindola)
1st Battalion	093239 (Vic of S. Maria Oliveto)
3rd Battalion	107255 (Vic of Roccaravindola)

8 November 1943

Service Co.	144163 (Vic of Fontegreca, Italy)
Antitank Co.	099239 (Vic of S. Maria Oliveto)
Cannon Co.	102242 (Vic of Roccaravindola)
Band	100248 (Vic of Roccaravindola)
1st Battalion	102278 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
2nd Battalion	096292 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
3rd Battalion	088296 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)

SECTION 11 - STATION LIST - continued

9 November 1943

Regimental Headquarters	191284 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
Band	191284 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
Headquarters Co.	100284 (Vic of Roccaravindola)
Medical Detachment	100284 (Vic of Roccaravindola)
Antitank Co.	091284 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
Cannon Co.	097272 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
1st Battalion	094278 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
2nd Battalion	096291 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
3rd Battalion	088295 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)

11 November 1943

Headquarters Co.	091284 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
Medical Detachment	091284 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
1st Battalion	079289 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)

12 November 1943

Service Company	109267 (Vic of Roccaravindola)
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14 November 1943

1st Battalion	070300 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
2nd Battalion	055299 (Vic of Selvone, Italy)
3rd Battalion	080301 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)

17 November 1943

Regimental Headquarters	097292 (Montaquila, Italy)
Medical Det.	097292 (Montaquila, Italy)
1st Battalion	055299 (Vic of Salvone, Italy)
2nd Battalion	070300 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
3rd Battalion	080301 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)

21 November 1943

Service Co.	095235 (Vic of S. Maria Oliveto)
1st Battalion	080301 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)
3rd Battalion	055299 (Vic of Selvone, Italy)

26 November 1943

2nd Battalion	055299 (Vic of Selvone, Italy)
3rd Battalion	070300 (Vic of Montaquila, Italy)

SECTION IV - NARRATIVE HISTORY OF THE 135th INFANTRY REGIMENT,
(1 November 1943 to 30 November 1943)

MAPS: ITALY, sheets 161 I and 161 IV, 1/50,000 - GSGS 4229

The regiment remained in the area NE of AILANO for two days while the advance of the 133rd and 168th progressed through CAPRIATI. During these two days the men received their past two months' pay and got some well-deserved rest with the comfort of their blankets. The regiment was out of light artillery range for the first time since the 13th of October. Enemy activity was limited to a few reconnaissance planes and the bombing of artillery positions in our rear.

On 3 November plans for the movement of the regiment to an area between FONTEGRECA and CAPRIATI were prepared, and the battalions, in the order 1st, 2nd- 3rd, moved out after dusk for the 9 mile march. The CP opened in the new location in the vicinity of FONTEGRECA (143173) at 2315A.

The current plan was for the 133rd and 168th to cross the VOLTURNO the night of the 3-4 November, and secure the high ground on the north bank. On the 4th enemy bombs fell in the vicinity of the 3rd Battalion area. Antitank Company cleared a number of S-Mines from their area. The location of enemy mines seemed to be peculiarly marked by felling a small tree in the direction of the fields. On this day the 3rd Battalion was ordered to relieve the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, in the vicinity of RAVI DELLA CAPPELLA (122125). The AT guns and Chemical mortars attached to the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry were to remain in position until the following day. The 3rd Battalion completed the relief at 1845A. the next morning the 3rd Battalion was ordered to patrol the E bank of the VOLTURNO north to the 27-grid line to determine enemy positions and installations and clear out any small pockets of resistance. One gun position was located and an enemy patrol of 10-men was observed moving NE toward MACCHIA. The area in rear of the Regimental CP was again bombed causing some casualties in the supporting artillery. During daylight of the 5th the 1st Battalion began the regiment's third crossing of the VOLTURNO under intermittent artillery fire just south of ROCCARAVINDOLA. That night the 2nd Battalion closed into an assembly area south of S. MARIA OLIVETO receiving some enemy small arms and mortar fire. The following morning the 3rd Battalion crossed the river and closed at 0315A, 6 October, in the flat ground just E of ROCCARAVINDOLA.

On the 5th Lt. Lawson and a squad of the I & R platoon searched the body of a German Battalion Commander, killed the night before; his driver, motorcycle and side car and obtained an overlay showing the current German defensive positions in the sector. The information secured influenced the entire subsequent Corps' plan.

The Regimental CP forded the river, crossed through the mined area and opened at daylight in the vicinity of 095240. The cannon Company succeeded in getting one platoon across the river but small arms and artillery fire prevented their going into position immediately. Antitank Company forded the river with one platoon and went into position at ROCCARAVINDOLA, The Antitank Mine Plat. removed 60 S-Mines surrounding the building occupied by the Regtl CP. The 1st and 2nd Battalions suffered a number of casualties from personnel mines. Enemy aircraft was active over the area on the 6th but did no bombing or strafing of our troops. Artillery fire was intense and the 2nd Bn. was subjected to small arms fire in the vicinity of S. MARIA OLIVETO, which had not been cleared. The Germans seemed to have done an excellent job of mining the area. All likely bivouac areas and covered avenues of approach were heavily mined, and the canalized approaches to the enemy were effectively interdicted by artillery and mortar fire.

The 1st Bn. went up to relieve the 1st Battalion, 168th, in the vicinity of Hill 558 (085256) and were subjected to observation and fire, oddly enough from Hill 609, on the left flank. The 3rd Bn. sent patrols N along the MONTAQUILA Road to the vicinity of Hill 351 (100280) and observed the enemy occupying Hill 351 at the north of RAVINDOLA Gulch. While establishing communications across the river, Lt. Earnest C. Peterson was killed by artillery fire at the ford.

On the 7th November the 1st Battalion cleared Hill 558 and sent combat patrols to Hill 520 (090260). From the Regimental OP. Capt Stacy succeeded in directing fire that blew out two mortar positions on Hill 518. The plan for the 2nd Battalion to follow in support of the 1st was changed, and on November 8 a task force under command of General Gaffey, which included the Regiment, the 776th TD Battalion and the 191st Tk Battalion, was organized. The mission was to secure MONTAQUILA, The original plan for again crossing the VOLTURNO and attacking MONTAQUILA from the East was abandoned and plans made for an attack along the ROCCARAVINDOLA - MONTAQUILA Highway. Mine fields in the valley through this area were reported, and patrols had determined that unimproved roads and trails leading off from the main highway were mined.

On the night 7-8 November the 3rd Battalion moved under cover of darkness to the vicinity of Hill 351 (090280) and the 2nd Battalion moved into the vacated 3rd Battalion ROCCARAVINDOLA area, prepared to follow the 3rd Battalion at a thousand yards, containing Hill 231 on the left flank with one platoon and by mortar and Machine Gun fire. At daylight the 3rd Battalion attack was preceded by an artillery barrage reinforced by the fires of the TD and Tank Battalions in the assault on the town of MONTAQUILA. They were unable to proceed far until our own fires were lifted, and by 1000A the 3rd Battalion had the high ground West of the town. After daylight broke the position of the Tank and TD Battalions were observed and they received intense Battalion concentrations with a minimum of casualties and damage to material, 2nd Battalion receiving the shor

The 2nd Battalion in their advance were held up by personnel mines but by 1500A they had passed through the West edge of MONTAQUILA and taken up positions to the North West of town. The objective of the 3rd Battalion had been Hill 490. This prominence, however, actually controlled no terrain and the 3rd Battalion took up positions on Hill 864. They repulsed a minor counterattack and held for the night. During this operation the enemy appeared to be withdrawing West and North through FILIGNANO, after the defensive positions West of MONTAQUILA had been broken. On the evening of the 8th the 1st Battalion Aid Station had a shell burst on a tree limb directly above, it killed three and wounded 12.

On the 9th the 168th again took over the area in the vicinity of Hill 558 and Hill 609 and the 1st Battalion moved into position at the mouth of RAVINDOLA Gulch and relieving two platoons of the 2nd Battalion in that area. 3rd Battalion action was limited to mortar, machine gun and artillery fire. The Regimental CP at 09528 was subjected to intermittent shelling of about 4 rounds every 15 minutes. That night a strong enemy patrol broke through "L" Company's security, killing the platoon leader, Lt. Dailey, and killing or capturing 14 men. The Antitank Company received a direct hit on one gun but lost none of the crew. On the 10th MONTAQUILA and the road south of it received three battalion concentrations and intermittent shelling throughout the night.

The 10th, 11th and 12th were spent in patrolling north across the RICCHIARO and West towards MELNALLA and SELVONE. Routes through the mined areas were located by driving sheep and goats through the area, and the report of the large mine field north of RICCHIARO was confirmed. It had been reported that the Germans had spent 2 months in mining this area. Patrols to the West made no contact, but on the 12th the patrol from "K" Company succeeded in making contact with the 504th Paratroop Regiment on our right. The 1st Battalion had moved into position on Hill 864 and the 3rd Battalion organized Hill 635 (080300).

On 14 November 2nd Battalion moved West to the vicinity of Hill 710 (054300) and took up a defensive position outposting the road from MENNALLA to SELVONE. This position was precarious because Hill 1017 to the north and the Western nose of Hill 1036 to the South dominated the position and the Battalion was unable to make contact with the 504th Paratroop Regiment who were reported to occupy Hill 1017. A forward Regimental CP was set up in the vicinity of Hill 760 and an intermediary position and the Battalions were echeloned in depth from the OPL to MONTAQUILA. Counterattack plan for and breach that might be made through the forward position were prepared. On the 17th the 2nd Battalion was relieved by the 1st Battalion and moved back into an assembly area at MONTAQUILA. On the 17th the Cannon Company fired 936 rounds on known and suspected targets on Hill 1100 (035294).

The balance of the period to November 28 was devoted to patrolling and after each four days the front line Battalion was pulled back to MONTAQUILA and the other two Battalions moved up to the next forward position. At four different times patrols made contact and on two occasions prisoners were taken in the town of MENNEALA. Two of our patrols were challenged by German patrols in excellent English.

The position during the period was strengthened by our own vehicle and M-3 mines placed by the mine Platoon of the Antitank Company. The Regimental OP on Hill 1036 did some excellent fire direction and made accurate reports of enemy installations when the weather permitted observation. On the 28th a 30 man patrol from the 1st Battalion made contact with the Germans on Hill 760, just West of MENNELLA and returned after losing one man in a fire fight. That day the 81mm Platoons of the 1st, and 2nd Battalions were moved to the MLR to positions from which they could support the attack of the 168th in Hill 1100. The 2nd Battalion weapons plus the 81mm platoons of the 1st and 3rd Battalions and Cannon Company were to blanket the crest of Hill 760 and deny the enemy use of the draw West of Hill 760 and South of CERASUOLO. For these supporting fire 1100 rounds of 81mm mortar ammunition had to be carried by hand and by mules 6000 yards over a difficult, steep, rocky mountain trail. The rate of fire, beginning at 0600A 29 November, was to be one round of 81 mm mortar every six minutes and for the Cannon Company one round every four minutes continuing until the fires were masked by the 168th or, lifted on order. During this operation 1400 rounds of mortar ammunition and 1500 rounds of 75mm ammunition were fired. Still resistance in front of the 133rd and 168th limited the advance and the 3rd Battalion was alerted for a motor movement Via COLLI-SCAPOLI for support of, and attachment to the 133rd; and the 1st Battalion was alerted for movement via POZZILLI - FILIGNANO or the RAVINDOLA Gulch in support of the 168th. The 2nd Battalion was attached to the 168th for emergency employment.

During this period, except for the time the 1st Battalion occupied Hill 558, the assault on MONTAQUILA by the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, and the occupation of the forward positions in the MENNELLA-SELVONE Area, the majority of the men were able to have their rolls and hot meals. This was the first time the regiment in either the Tunisian campaign or the Italian campaign had had the assistance of mule pack trains. Trails through the mountainous mined areas were extremely hazardous and difficult. The recruited mule-skinners, however, did a good job with this new type of transportation in spite of the fact that mule shoe nails and pack equipment were very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain. On two different occasions the courage and valor of the individual skinner in leading and controlling their mules under heavy shell fire prevented the mules from stampeding or losing their valuable cargoes of food and ammunition. At one time the peak of the mule strength was 74 and at that time 45 of them were "non-combatants" because of the lack of mule shoe nails.

Communication lines were extended and of necessity followed the mule trails closely. Signal equipment had to be packed over the hills and sharp mule hooves and sliding men and animals on the slippery trails frequently took out our own wire lines.

It was impossible to secure socks until the end of the month and considerable foot trouble resulted. On the Battalions coming out of the MENNELLA - SELVONE area evacuated 40 men in 24 hours for various degrees and stages of Trench-foot. During this period the Cannon Company performed excellently and fired during the month 2361 rounds of ammunition.

On the 21st of November the first of the oldermmen and Officers from the standpoint of length of service overseas, were to be rotated under the newly adopted rotation policy of $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 of the command per month. On this initial roster there were 2 officers and 17 men.

(SECTION V, COMMANDING OFFICERS IN ENGAGEMENTS, Continued)

2 November 1943

1. 1st Lt. Donald J. Dodge, assigned Command of Company "D".
2. 1st Lt. Gibbs M. Prevost, assigned S-3, 1st Battalion.
3. 1st Lt. Joseph A. Slezak, assigned Commanding Officer Company "B".
4. 1st Lt. Phineas F. Smith, Jr., assigned as Regimental Adjutant.
5. 1st Lt. Thomas E. Chegin, assigned S-1 and Company Commander Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion.
6. 1st Lt. Harry Y. McSween, assigned command Company "I".

6 November 1943

1. Major Frank A. McCulloch evacuated sick; Capt. Ray J. Ericks assigned as Acting Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion.

8 November 1943

1. 1st Lt. Alden S. Lance, Commanding Officer, Company "F", promoted to Captain by Battlefield Promotion.
2. 1st Lt. Joe H. Kimble, Commanding Officer, Company "E", promoted to Captain by Battlefield Promotion.

9 November 1943

1. Capt. Kimble E. Midkiff, returned to duty, assigned as S-1 and Company Commander, 1st Battalion.
2. 1st Lt. William E. Smith, assigned Commanding Officer, Company "B".

15 November 1943

1. Major Frank A. McCulloch, sick absent returned to duty as Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion.

17 November 1943

1. 1st Lt. John T. Lyons, Commanding Officer, Company "A", promoted to Captain per authority contained in letter, NATOU.
2. Capt. Donald C. Landon, Executive Officer, 3rd Battalion, promoted to Major per authority contained in letter, NATOU.

18 November 1943

1. Major John W. Carlson, sick absent, returned to duty as Regimental S-3; Major Burton F. Barr returned to Hq 34th Inf. Division.

(SECTION V. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN ENGAGEMENTS, Continued)

19 November 1943

1. Lt. Col. Garnet E. Hall, relieved as Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion and assigned to Regimental Headquarters.
2. Lt. Col. Fillmore K. Mearns, O-21106, assigned and joined from Headquarters 34th Inf. Division for duty as Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion.

20 November 1943

1. Lt. Col. Robert P. Miller transferred to 32nd Replacement Depot on rotation basis to United States; Capt. Arnold N. Brandt, Acting Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion.
2. Capt. Vincent F. Goodsell transferred to 32nd Replacement Depot on rotation basis to United States.
3. 1st Lt. William E. Smith, Commanding Officer, Company "B" promoted to Captain per letter, NATOUSA.
4. 1st Lt. Phineas F. Smith, Jr., Regimental Adjutant, promoted to Captain per letter, NATOUSA.
5. 1st Lt. Thomas E. Chegin, S-1 and Commanding Officer, Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, promoted to Captain per letter, NATOUSA.
6. 1st Lt. Paul W. Blommen, absent sick in hospital, promoted to Captain per letter, NATOUSA.
7. 1st Lt. Joel M. Lewison, S-1 and Commanding Officer, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, promoted to Captain per letter, NATOUSA.

21 November 1943

1. Capt. Paul W. Blommen, sick in hospital to returned to duty as Commanding Officer, Cannon Company.

23 November 1943

1. Lt. Col. Percy L. Cardwell, assigned and joined as Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion.
2. Capt. Robert L. McAllister, assigned and joined as Commanding Officer, Company "G".

24 November 1943

1. Capt. Ray J. Ericksen, Executive Officer, 2nd Battalion, promoted to Major By Battlefield Promotion.
2. Major Frank A. McCulloch, Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion, promoted to Lieutenant Colonel By Battlefield Promotion.

27 November 1943

1. Major John W. Carlson, Regimental S-3, evacuated sick.

(SECTION V, COMMANDING OFFICERS IN ENGAGEMENTS, Continued)

28 November 1943

1. Captain Maurice W. Stacy, assigned as Regimental S-3.
2. 1st Lt. Louis H. Hauser, assigned as Regimental S-2.
3. Major Ray J. Ericksen, assigned command of 1st Battalion.
4. Capt. Robert E. McGraw assigned as Executive Officer 2nd Bn.
5. 1st Lt. Richard H. Sugars assigned as S-3, 2nd Battalion.
6. Lt. Col. Percy L. Cardwell relieved of assignment as Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion; assigned to Regimental Headquarters.

29 November 1943

1. 1st Lt. Harry Y. McSween, Commanding Officer, Company "I" promoted to Captain by Battlefield Promotion.

A. LOSSES IN ITALIAN CAMPAIGN, (From 1 November to 30 November 1943)1. Killed in Action

3 November 1943

*2nd Lt. Fischer, Franklin W. 0-1301124 Co. "E"

6 November 1943

*1st Lt. Petersen, Albert G. 0-375314 Hq Co.

9 November 1943

2nd Lt. Daily, Clinton F. 0-1296333

*Died of Wounds after being evacuated to hospital

2. Wounded in Action

6 November 1943

Capt Mihachik, Alfred D. 0-482573 Med Det

8 November 1943

1st Lt. Varon, David B. 0509099 Med Det

9 November 1943

1st Lt. Flynn, John P. 0-1292861 Co. "L"

3. Missing in Action

8 November 1943

2nd Lt. Thompson, Robert D. 0-477509 Co. "I"

SUMMARY

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Warrant Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
Killed In Action	3	0	24
Wounded in Action	3	0	105
Missing in Action	1	0	13

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR CITATIONS AND AWARDS AS FOLLOWS:

A. Distinguished Service Cross

1. HOWARD R. LIEURANCE, 2nd Lieutenant, O-1302833, Company "E", 135th Infantry Regiment, for extraordinary heroism in action. On the afternoon of 27 October 1943, in the vicinity of Ailano, Italy. Lt. Lieurance was mortally wounded and his platoon position was under fire from enemy machine guns 150 yards away and also under a barrage of artillery and mortar fire, he called his squad leaders and gave instructions for the attack, before becoming unconscious. The manner in which he conducted himself inspired his men and raised their morale considerably, adding immeasurably to the successful completion of the mission. The coolness and devotion to duty displayed by Lt. Lieurance is indeed a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Howard R. Lieurance, 1900 Mulberry St., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. (Posthumous).

2. VERNON C. HARRIS, 2nd Lieutenant, O-1294661, Company "E", 135th Infantry Regiment. For extraordinary heroism in action on 13 October 1943. 2nd Lt. Harris was the platoon leader of the leading element during the crossing of the Volturno river in the vicinity of Squilla, Italy, on the morning of 13 October 1943. Although the barrage of friendly artillery fire had not lifted 2nd Lt. Harris led his platoon across the river, through the friendly artillery fire and into the face of enemy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire and gained the objective. During the advance Lt. Harris was mortally wounded by shrapnel. Although in great pain, he directed his platoon in organizing the ground that they had already gained and shot flares into the air to mark his position. When the commanding officer of the Company arrived, Lt. Harris pointed out several enemy machine gun positions. His courage, devotion to duty, and highly meritorious conduct was an inspiration to his men and credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of Kin: Mrs. Nancy A. Harris, Route #3, Jackson, Tennessee. (Posthumous).

3. WILLIAM O. SPORBERT, 2nd Lieutenant, O-1292414, Company "A", 135th Infantry Regiment. For extraordinary heroism in action against the Armed Enemy on the 13th October 1943 in the vicinity of Dugenta, Italy. While the First Battalion was crossing the Volturno River, he led his platoon in placing a guide rope across the swift-flowing, treacherous river enabling the balance of the Battalion to cross. After reaching the far side, Lt. Sporberty ran into a mine and was thrown into the river. After being rescued and rendered first aid he set out to join his platoon. Enroute he entered the minefield to aid a wounded man and in so doing was seriously injured by a concussion mine. The conduct, initiative, leadership, and extraordinary heroism shown by Lt. Sporberty was an inspiration to his comrades and a distinct credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Home address: Mattituck, Long Island, New York.

B. Legion of Merit

1. ANTHONY F. VON RUDEN, 1st Lieutenant, O-1290506, Service Company, 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. In the vicinity of Raviscanina, Italy during the period from 26 October to 29 October 1943, Lt. Von Ruden kept this Battalion adequately supplied with food, water and ammunition, despite the almost unsurmountable conditions which faced him. He reconnoitered routes through the steep, rough, mountainous terrain and was constantly under enemy machine gun and sniper fire in doing so. He toiled unceasingly getting little or no rest, to organize pack trains, obtain local beasts of burden and generally unite them all into a smooth functioning plan to supply the Battalion. On numerous occasions he has ignored completely his personal safety to make sure the men of the Battalion were sufficiently supplied. Entered Service from: Los Angeles, California.

2. MAURICE W. STACY, Captain, O-383616, 135th Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services as regimental S-2, 135th Infantry. Through his outstanding sense of duty, conscientiousness and untiring efforts, has on numerous occasions by his example been responsible for securing and collecting valuable enemy information, documents and material. During the attack on Hill 235 he personally established and manned a forward observation post despite strong hostile patrol activity in the immediate vicinity, and accurately reported the enemy's main defensive positions. Later from the same observation post, he discovered, and directed artillery fire against twelve enemy tanks that were counter-attacking and over-running an infantry battalion. His untiring ceaseless efforts, thoroughness, and conscientious efforts have materially attributed to the success of his regiment both in the Tunisian and the Italian campaigns. Entered service from: Minneapolis, Minnesota.

3. EMIL SKALICKY, Captain, O-365412, Headquarters 3rd Battalion 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. For a continuous period of over seven months Captain Skalicky has performed the duties of Company Commander and those of a Battalion Staff Officer in a most exemplary manner. As a company commander during combat in Tunisia, Capt. Skalicky's leadership and fearlessness under fire was a real inspiration to his men. During a period of garrison and police duties in Ferryville, Tunisia, North Africa, in June and July 1943, Captain Skalicky commanded a re-inforced company. Through his tact and ability he did much to establish a mutual confidence in civilian-military relations. As a Battalion Staff Officer during the Italian campaign, Capt. Skalicky has displayed remarkable devotion to duty, and his untiring efforts and unerring estimate of difficult terrain have contributed materially to the successful completion of the Battalion missions. Home address: Owatonna, Minn.

SECTION VII CITATIONS AND AWARDS (Continued).

4. HAROLD E. REDDICK, 37026020, Corporal, Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. As corporal in a battalion wire section, Corporal Reddick, through his untiring efforts, personal bravery, and rare devotion to duty, has contributed in large measure to the continuity of the battalion wire communications, at times when uninterrupted communications were vital to the success of the Battalion missions. In every attack of his battalion, Corporal Reddick has accompanied the assault companies to lay wire, disregarding his personal safety. On many nights after a long and arduous day through difficult terrain, Corporal Reddick has spent the night in checking his wire for breaks in the line. The courage and persevering manner in which Corporal Reddick has performed his duties has been a fine example and real inspiration to the men of his battalion. Residence at induction: Butler, So. Dak.

5. DAVID W. GODWIN, 20706994, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. As a wire section sergeant, S/Sgt Godwin has contributed in great measure to the continuity of vital wire communications. On many occasions S/Sgt Godwin has walked back over miles of combat wire laid during the day to seek out and repair breaks. On several occasions he had to disregard enemy artillery fire concentrations to get through to the breaks in the wire. On the night of 14 October 1943, when his battalion was preparing to cross the Volturno River near Squille, Italy, a section of wire had to be laid across the river that entailed crossing through minefields with the enemy known to be operating on the far bank. On this occasion S/Sgt Godwin had his wiremen remain behind while he went forward alone to cross the river and establish the necessary communications. Staff Sergeants Godwin's deep devotion to duty, untiring efforts and perseverance at a job in spite of all difficulties has been a real inspiration to his wiremen and a fine example to the men of his battalion. Residence at induction: Minneapolis, Minnesota.

6. MARCEL DOIRON, 31289289, Private Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services on 19 and 20 October, 1943, in the vicinity of Alife, Italy. While the tactical vehicles of the 135th Infantry Regiment were crossing the Volturno River, several of the forward vehicles missed a sand bar which was the path for crossing the river. Pvt. Doiron and a comrade removed their shoes and trousers and assisted in the removal of these vehicles. Voluntarily the two soldiers waded back and forth across the river guiding the remainder of the vehicles across the sand bar. They worked unceasingly and enthusiastically in waist deep and almost

freezing water for eight hours without relief. They guided the entire column across the river without mishap. The initiative and devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Doiron were exceptionally meritorious and reflect the highest praise upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Residence at time of induction: Central Falls, R.I.

7. RALPH L. HARTSWORM, 20709341, Private First Class, Headquarters company, 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services on 19 and 20 October 1943 in the vicinity of Alife, Italy. While the tactical vehicles of the 135th Infantry Regiment were crossing the Volturno River, several of the forward vehicles missed a sand bar which was the path for crossing the river. Pvt Hartsworm and a comrade removed their shoes and trousers and assisted in the removal of the vehicles. Voluntarily the two soldiers waded back and forth across the river guiding the remainder of the vehicles across the sand bar. They worked unceasingly and enthusiastically in waist deep and almost freezing water for eight hours without relief. They guided the entire column across the river without mishap. The initiative and devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Hartsworm were exceptionally meritorious and reflect the highest praise upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Home Address: Appleton, Minnesota.

C. Silver Star

1. JENS NESS, 20709772, Private, Company "M", 135th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 21 November 1943 in the vicinity of Manella, Italy. Pvt. Ness, a member of his Battalion's Mule-Pack Team was called upon to pack vitally needed heavy machineguns through an open stretch of trail that was in full view of the enemy. Without regard for his personal safety and in the face of known danger, Pvt Ness led his animal out into the open area. The enemy immediately countered with an intense artillery concentration. With unusual coolness, courage, and determination, Pvt Ness continued forward, kept control of his frenzied animal that had been hit by a shell fragment, and brought his cargo and animal through. The conduct and bravery of Pvt Ness in the face of grave danger was an inspiration to his comrades and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. The home address of Pvt. Ness is: Appleton, Minn.

2. WARREN E. AIKEN, 17013181, Private, Company "M" 135th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 21 November 1943 in the vicinity of Menella, Italy. Pvt Aiken, a member of this Battalion's Mule-Pack Team, was called upon to pack vitally needed rations through an open stretch of trail that was in full view of the enemy. Without regard for his personal safety and in the face of known danger Pvt. Aiken led his animal out on the open path. The enemy immediately countered with an intense artillery concentration. With unusual coolness, courage, and determination, Pvt. Aiken continued forward, kept

control of his animal which was frenzied by the bursting shells, and brought his supplies and animal through. The conduct and bravery of Pvt Aiken in the face of grave danger was an inspiration to his comrades and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. The home address of Pvt. Aiken is De Queen, Arkansas.

3. DALE D. RADCLIFF, 35741675, Private First Class, Company "K", 135th Infantry Regiment, For gallantry in action on 21 November 1943 in the vicinity of Menella, Italy. Pvt lcl Radcliff, a member of his Battalion's Mule-Pack Team, was called upon to pack vitally needed rations through an open stretch of trail that was in full view of the enemy. Without regard for his personal safety and in the face of known danger, Pvt lcl Radcliff led his animal out into the open area. The enemy immediately countered with an intense artillery concentration. With unusual coolness, courage, and determination Pvt lcl Radcliff continued on. Wounded on the hand and wrist by a shell fragment he kept control of his frenzied animal, and brought the animal and supplies through. The conduct and bravery of Pvt lcl Radcliff in the face of grave danger was an inspiration to his comrades and credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Pvt. lcl Radcliff's home address is: Mond, West Virginia.

4. SONALD A. SIZELOVE, 39032591, Private, Company "L", 135th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 21 November 1943 in the vicinity of Manella, Italy. Pvt. Sizelove, a member of his Battalion's Mule-Pack Team, was called upon to pack vitally needed rations through an open stretch of trail that was in full view of the enemy. Without regard for his personal safety and in the face of known danger, Pvt. Sizelove led his animal out into the open area. The enemy immediately countered with an intense artillery concentration. With unusual coolness, courage and determination Pvt. Sizelove continued forward, kept control of his frenzied animal that was excited by the bursting shells, and brought his cargo and animal through. The conduct and bravery of Pvt. Sizelove in the face of grave danger was inspiration to his comrades and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Pvt. Sizelove's home address is: 39 E. 53rd St., Long Beach California.

5. OTTO A. STEINBACH, 38132826, Private, Company "M", 135th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 21 November 1943 in the vicinity of Mennella, Italy. Pvt. Steinbach, a member of his Battalion's Mule-Pack Team, was called upon to pack vitally needed 81mm Mortars through an open stretch of trail that was in full view of the enemy. Without regard for his personal safety and in the face of known danger, Pvt. Steinbach led his animal out into the open area. The enemy immediately countered with an intense artillery concentration. With unusual coolness, courage, and determination Pvt. Steinback continued forward, kept control of his frenzied animal that had been hit by a shell gragment, and brought his cargo and animal through. The conduct and bravery of Pvt. Steinback in the face of grave danger was an inspiration to his comrades and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Pvt. Steinbach's home address is Smithville, Route #2, Texas.

D. Citation

1. WALTER F. MALIZIA, 33101165, Technician Fifth Grade, Medical Detachment, 3rd Battalion, 135th Infantry Regiment. For heroism not in action. On the 9th day of November 1943 at about 1900 hours, with utter disregard for his own personal safety and under enemy shell fire, T-5 Malizia climbed the roof of a building in the vicinity of Montaquila, Italy, and extinguished a chimney fire which endangered the lives of American troops and civilians, and also threatened to expose the positions of troops in the vicinity. Acting on his own initiative, notwithstanding the flying shell fragments and the fire itself, T-5 Malizia succeeded in extinguishing the blaze, remaining at his post until relieved by his commanding officer. T-5 Malizia's home address is: 1401 Croton Ave., New Castle, Pennsylvania.

Regimental History

135th INFANTRY

1 December to 31 December 1943

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R E G I M E N T A L H I S T O R Y

FOR PERIOD

1 December to 31 December 1943

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SECTION II

ASSIGNED STRENGTH OF 135TH INFANTRY REGIMENT
DECEMBER, 1943

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>WARRANT OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED MEN</u>
1 December	148	5	2749
2	150	5	2741
3	149	5	2728
4	149	5	2726
5	148	5	2700
6	147	5	2696
7	148	5	2655
8	146	5	2619
9	144	5	2573
10	135	5	2467
11	134	5	2419
12	132	5	2349
13	139	5	2938
14	139	5	2962
15	139	5	2955
16	140	5	3149
17	138	5	3130
18	141	5	3141
19	141	5	3133
20	140	5	3115
21	140	5	3095
22	141	5	3126
23	141	5	3131
24	141	5	3125
25	142	5	3168
26	142	5	3168
27	142	5	3149
28	144	5	3132
29	145	5	3132
30	144	5	3127
31	144	5	3098

SECTION III - SECTION LIST - 1 December 1943 to 31 December 1943

1. December 1943

Regimental Headquarters	097292 (Montaquila, Italy)
Medical Detachment	097292 " "
Band	097292 " "
Headquarters Company	091284 " "
Service Company	095235 (Vic of S. Maria Oliveto)
Antitank Company	091284 (Montaquila, Italy)
Cannon Company	097272 " "
1st Battalion	080301 (Vic.of Montaquila, Italy)
2nd Battalion	055299 (Vic.of Selvone, Italy)
3rd Battalion	070300 (Vic.of Montaquila, Italy)

4 December 1943

Regimental Headquarters	055267 (Franchetti, Italy)
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5 December 1943

Headquarters Company	095235 (Vic. of S. Maria Oliveto)
Medical Detachment	095235 " " " " "
Band	095235 " " " " "

6 December 1943

Cannon Company	048264 (Vic.of Filignano, Italy)
1st Battalion	027294 (Monte Pantano)
2nd Battalion	044278 (Collemacchia, Italy)
3rd Battalion	035296 (Monte Pantano)

7 December 1943

Band	055267 (Franchetti, Italy)
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8 December 1943

1st Battalion	044278 (Collemacchia, Italy)
2nd Battalion	027294 (Monte Pantano)

9 December 1943

Headquarters Company	079219 (Vic.of S.Maria Oliveto)
Medical Detachment	079219 " " "
1st Battalion	079219 " " "
3rd Battalion	079219 " " "

SECTION III - STATION LIST (continued)

11 December 1943

Regimental Headquarters	079219	(Vic. of S. Maria Oliveto)
Cannon Company	079219	" " "
2nd Battalion	079219	" " "

12 December 1943

Regimental Headquarters	218069	(Vic. S. Angelo D'Alife)
Headquarters Company	218069	" " "
Medical Detachment	218069	" " "
Band	218069	" " "
Service Company	229053	" " "
Antitank Company	236051	" " "
Cannon Company	242046	" " "
1st Battalion	228061	" " "
2nd Battalion	243049	" " "
3rd Battalion	236053	" " "

30 December 1943

Regimental Headquarters	982154	(Vic. of S. Pietro)
Headquarters Company	010180	(Vic. of Venafro)
Service Company	010180	" " "
Antitank Company	010180	" " "
Medical Detachment	010180	" " "
Cannon Company	977165	(Vic. of S. Pietro)
1st Battalion	963161	(Vic. of S. Vittore)
3rd Battalion	957168	" " "

SECTION IV: - NARRATIVE HISTORY from 1 Dec 1943 to 31 Dec. 1943

December 1, 1943 found the Division deployed for attack with the 133rd Inf. on the right, the 168th Inf on the left, and the 135th Inf. in Division reserve. The first objective of the 133rd was CERASUOLO and of the 168th Inf. Hill 1100, otherwise known as Mt. Pantano. The 2nd Bn. 135th Inf. reinforced with additional mortars from the regiment, supported the Division attack from their position on the high ground to the east of and extending north and south between SELVONE and MENELLA. The remainder of the Regiment was in its reserve position in the vicinity of MONTAQUILA. The regimental CP was at MONTAQUILA.

At 0800A, 1 December 1943, the 133rd Inf. following a 30-minute artillery preparation jumped off to continue the attack with the 2nd & 3rd Bn's abreast and the 1st Bn. in support. At 0835A the 168th Infantry reported the 2nd Bn. in the vicinity of (027293) moving forward up the east slope of Hill 1100. Within a very short while all reports indicated that the 133rd Inf. was meeting intense opposition from the enemy; the opposition taking the form of heavy artillery and mortar fire. At 0100A the 133rd received a local counter-attack and succeeded in driving back the enemy. Initially, the 168th was reported making good progress, meeting only artillery fire which was harassing in nature. Later, at 1220A they reported receiving mortar fire and small arms fire, and that personnel mines had been encountered. The presence of the 577th Infantry, 305th Inf. Division, was confirmed by the 168th who took 5 PW's on Hill 1100. By evening the 133rd and 168th were engaged in stiff fighting, both having repulsed counter-attacks during the day. The initial objectives still had not been taken.

On 3 December 1943 General Ryder ordered that E Company, 135th, move from its support position in the vicinity of SELVONE to Hill 760 to relieve a Company of the 168th Inf. on that Hill. E Company was attached to the 168th. At this time the 2nd Bn. less E Company was relieved on its position by the 3rd Bn and returned to the vicinity of MONTAQUILA. The 135th was alerted to take over the 168th sector on Hill 1100 on 3 December, the relief to take place on the night 4-5 December 1943. This necessitated by the heavy counter-attacks experienced by the 168th on that day. On the 4th December Col. Ward, Capt. Stacy, and Lt. Hauser left for the CP of the 168th Inf. in the vicinity of FRANCHETTI. To make preliminary plans, become established, and be prepared to take over the CP of the 168th. At 1630A December 4 the 135th CP at MONTAQUILA was officially closed out and 1800A was operating from FRANCHETTI. During the night of 4-5 Dec. the 135th relieved the 168th on Hill 1100 in the following manner: 3rd Bn., 135th moved forward from their positions in the vicinity of SELVONE-MENELLA to Hill 1100 and occupied the North Sector, and at this time relieved E Company which in turn moved to the vicinity of the town of Pantano preparatory to rejoining its own battalion; the 1st Bn, 135th, marched from MONTAQUILA over the 135th Infantry Trail on Hill 1036, crossed over the SELVONE-MENELLA Road and took up its position on the southern sector of Hill 1100; the

SECTION IV: Narrative History - continued

2nd Bn less E. Company moved from the vicinity of MONTAQUILA, via RAVIN*DOLA gulch to the vicinity of COLLEMACCHIA, where it was placed in regimental reserve. The relief of the 168th was completed at 0500A, 5 Dec. and the 135th took up defensive positions on Hill 1100. The Regimental OP was established on 6 December. Cannon Company was in position to support the regiment at. Attached to the 135th Inf. was D Company of the 2nd Chem. Bn. which, prior to the relief, had been attached to the 168th.

The 135th Inf Cannon Company performed an excellent job with its harassing and interdiction fire. This finally provoked the enemy to the point where he retaliated with heavy concentrations of counter-battery fire in an attempt to neutralize the Cannon Company. The bulk of this fire fell in the vicinity of the Regimental CP.

While the 135th Inf. was occupying its defensive position on Hill 1100 the 45th Division on its left was meeting with only mediocre success in their offensive against a determined enemy who persistently counter-attacked in the same fashion as was previously experienced by the 168th on Hill 1100.

The sick rate experienced by the 135th Inf. while in this defensive deployment on Hill 1100 was abnormally high with a preponderance of trench feet existing. Casualties were exceptionally high from enemy mortar and artillery fire. Lt. Eicher, who had performed many creditable deeds as artillery observer with the 135th, was killed by an enemy mortar shell. The enemy did not escape unscratched as he received much counter-battery and harassing fires in return. He was known to have suffered heavily.

On 8 December the 2nd Bn was alerted to relieve the 1st Bn. on Hill 1100 and the Antitank Company was given the mission of relieving the 2nd Bn. of the responsibility of patrolling the main road at CERRETO. After the relief was completed the 1st Bn. occupied the regimental reserve position at COLLEMACCHIA.

On 6 Dec. the following French Staff Officers from the 2nd Moroccan Div. reported to the CP, 135th preparatory to relieving the 34th Div: Col. Joppe, Commandant Pons, & Col. Ponce. On the night of the relief of the 135th by the French, Col. Ward was visited by Col. Maumier con Droyer at his CP. Col. Ward's Regiment relieved Colonel Maumier con Droyer in Feb. 1943 at PICHON, TUNISIA. Arrangements were made for all ammunition on position, mules, and equipment exclusive of T/BA organizational equipment, to be turned over to the French. The first phase of the relief of the 135th by elements of the 2nd Moroccan Div. was completed on the night of 9-10 December 1943 at 0305A, 10 Dec. 1943, the 1st and 3rd Bn. of the 135th being relieved first. At this time the command of the sector passed to the French. The 2nd Bn's of the 135th relieved this night made a Road march through FILIONANO and POZZILLI to an assembly area in the

SECTION IV - Narrative History - Continued.

vicinity of S. MARIA OLIVETO. The 3rd Bn. arrived in the assembly area at 0615A and was the last of the 2 Battalions to arrive.

The following night, 10-11 December, the 2nd Bn. was relieved on position by elements of the 2nd Moroccan Div. The relief started at 2000A and was completed at 2140A. The 2nd Bn. closed into its assembly area at S. MARIA OLIVETO at 0230A. 11 Dec. 1943 Col. Ward remained with the French for 24 hours after the relief had been consummated.

At 2355A, 11 Dec. 1943, the regiment left its assembly area in trucks and traveled to S. ANGELO D'ALIFE, taking the road via VENA FRO. The last elements of regiment arrived at the bivouac area at 0545A. 12 Dec. 1943 and was rejoined by Col. Ward later that day. The regiment was located as follows while at S. ANGELO D'ALIFE:

Regimental Headquarters	-	218069
Antitank Company	↓	236051
Cannon Company	-	242046
Service Company	-	229053
1st Battalion	-	228061
2nd Battalion	-	243049
3rd Battalion	-	236053

During the period of inactivity at S. ANGELO D'ALIFE the Regiment went through a period of training and was reconstituted with both personnel and equipment. Also during this time the men were able to secure clean clothing and showers, which most of them had not had since coming up to the front. Entertainment was furnished for their relaxation & enjoyment.

Christmas Day the regiment was alerted for a move back up to the front and plans were immediately laid for the movement. At 0800A, 27 Dec. 1943, advance reconnaissance groups left the 135th area at S. Angelo D'Alife and proceeded by motor to reconnoiter the new area and get information from the 141st Infantry which was in position east of San Vittore. On 29 December 1943 at 0905A a further reconnaissance was made and the advance staff group of the regiment moved to the new sector preparatory to taking over responsibility for it that night. The relief of the 141st by the 135th began at dark 29 December 1943 and at 2200 the 3rd Battalion, 135th reported that they had physically relieved the 3rd Battalion 141st, on the front line position. At 2345A the 1st Battalion was in the process of relieving the 1st Bn., 141st. The position was organized by the 135th Recon Troops protecting the left flank of the Regimental position and all service and administration groups had displaced forward to the new area from S. Angelo D'Alife. The year ended with the Regiment poised to attack San Vittore.

SECTION V. Commanding Officers in Engagements continued.

6 December 1943

1. Capt. Robert E. McGraw, Executive Officer 2nd Battalion evacuated sick.

7 December 1943

1. 1st Lt. Gibbs M. Prevost, S-3, 1st Bn. evacuated wounded.
2. 1st Lt. Donald J. Dodge, Commanding Company "D" evacuated wounded.

10 December 1943

1. Capt. John T. Lyons, Commanding Company "A", evacuated sick.

18 December 1943

1. Capt. Robert E. McGraw returned to duty as Executive Officer 2nd Battalion.

24 December 1943

1. 1st Lt. Donald J. Dodge, returned to duty as Commanding Officer of Company "D".

25 December 1943

1. 1st Lt. Gibbs Prevost returned to duty as S-3, 1st Bn.

27 December 1943

1. 1st Lt. Joseph A. Slezak, assigned as Commanding Officer, Company "A".

28 December 1943

1. 1st Lt. Donald J. Dodge, Commanding Officer Company "D" promoted to Captain. Battlefield promotion, authority, Ltr. Hq. NATOUSA.
2. Major John A. Rice assigned and joined from 34th Division. Assigned as Assistant Regimental Executive Officer.

30 December 1943

1. Captain Leslie W. Bailey, Commanding Officer, Company "C", evacuated sick.

SECTION V:

COMMANDING OFFICERS IN ENGAGEMENTSA. Commanding Officers and Staff Officers, on 1 December 1943.

Regimental Commander	Colonel Robert W. Ward
Executive Officer	Lt.Col. Charles B. Everest
S-4	Major Roland Anderson
S-3	Capt. Maurice W. Stacy
S-2	1st Lt. Louis H. Hauser
S-1	Capt. Phineas F. Smith Jr.
Regimental Surgeon	Major Jacob F. Karn
Commanding Headquarters Company	Capt. Keith O. VanKrevelen
" Service Company	Capt. Allen P. Crowley
" Antitank Company	Capt. James F. Garfield
" Cannon Company	Capt. Paul W. Blommen
" Medical Detachment	1st Lt. Edmund F. Obremski
" 1st Battalion	Major Ray J. Erickson
Executive Officer	Capt. Arnold N. Brandt
S-3	1st Lt. Gibbs M. Prevost
Commanding Headquarters Company	Capt. Kimble E. Midkiff
" Company "A"	Capt. John T. Lyons
" Company "B"	Capt. William E. Smith
" Company "C"	Capt. Leslie W. Bailey
" Company "D"	1st Lt. Donald J. Dodge
" 2nd Battalion	Lt. Col. Frank A. McCulloch
Executive Officer	Capt. Robert E. McGraw
S-3	1st Lt. Richard H. Sugars
Commanding Headquarters Company	Capt. Joel M. Lewison
" Company "E"	Capt. Hoe H. Kimble
" Company "F"	Capt. Alden S. Lance
" Company "G"	Capt. Robert L. McAllister
" Company "H"	Capt. Einar M. Lund
" 3rd Battalion	Lt. Col. Fillmore K. Mearns
Executive Officer	Major Donald C. Landon
S-3	Capt. Emil Skalicky
Commanding Headquarters Company	Capt. Thomas E. Chegin
" Company "I"	Capt. Harry Y. McSween
" Company "K"	1st Lt. Irwin F. Hall
" Company "L"	Capt. Louis M. Smith Jr.
" Company "M"	1st Lt. John L. Bridgeman

B. Changes in Commanding Officers and Staff Officers during the month of December 1943.4 December 1943

1. Capt. Harry Y. McSween, Commanding Company "I", evacuated wounded.
2. 1st Lt. Reid B. Huff, assigned Commanding Officer Company "I"

SECTION VI -- LOSSES IN ACTION

A. LOSSES IN ITALIAN CAMPAIGN (OFFICERS) From 1 December 1943 to 31 December 1943)

1. KILLED IN ACTION

8 December 1943

Lt.

1st Lt. Perry, Warren S. 0-1287757 Co. "B"

2. WOUNDED IN ACTION

2 December 1943

1st Lt. Omholt, Elmer V. 0-1294351 At Co.

4 December 1943

Capt. Harry Y. McSween 0-410271 Co. "I"

5 December 1943

2nd Lt. Hamil, Jack H. 0-1303719 Hq.Co.1st Bn.

1st Lt. Anderson, Nils H 0-1294104 Hq.Co.1st Bn

1st Lt. Fotakis, Harry J. 0-1291098 Co. "D"

1st Lt. Prevost, Gibbs M. 0-381928 Hq.Co.1st Bn

8 December 1943

2nd Lt. Pritchard, John M. 0-456203 Co. "B"

1st Lt. Dodge, Donald J. 0-1291987 Co. "D"

S U M M A R Y

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Warrant Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
Killed in Action	1	0	23
Wounded in Action	8	0	94
Missing in Action	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	9	0	118

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ENLISTED MEN HAVE BEEN AWARDED DECORATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

A. Silver Star

CLINTON A. ALLEN, 201413379, Sgt., Co. "G". For gallantry in action in April 1943, in the vicinity of Tunisia, North Africa. On the afternoon of April 1943 during an attack on enemy positions, a German Machine-gun crew moved, under cover, in to a position on the right flank of Sgt. Allen's Company. From this position the enemy brought flanking fire upon the forward members of his company, who were engaged in preventing a German counter-attack. Sgt. Allen, armed only with a rifle and a hand grenade, began maneuvering toward the German machine gun nest. During this time he was observed by an enemy artillery OP and subjected to heavy artillery fire. Nevertheless, Sgt. Allen continued on without regard for his own personal safety, engaged three of the enemy, killed two of them and wounded the third, and officer. Although he was still under heavy enemy fire he carried the wounded enemy officer back to a covered position for interrogation. Sgt. Allen's leadership and courage in the face of grave danger was exemplary and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered Service from West Brattleboro, Vermont.

LLOYD B. THOMPSON, 20708895, Sgt., Co. "H". For gallantry in action on April 1943, in the vicinity of Tunisia, North Africa, acting as a guide, Sgt. Thompson, at great risk to his own personal safety, did on three different occasions lead carrying parties over a heavily mined and booby trapped path. Upon completing this he again went down the same path in search of a man of his platoon who had been wounded. In so doing Sgt. Thompson himself was wounded, but refused medical aid until he had succeeded in evacuating the wounded men. The leadership, courage and devotion to duty of Sgt. Thompson in the face of grave danger was an inspiration to his comrades and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered Service Rose Creek, Minnesota.

JOHN HAUCK, 32660727, Pvt. Co. "I". For gallantry in action on the night of November 1943, in the vicinity of Italy. Following the dispatching of Pvt. Hauck's platoon to the village of -- information was received that made it imperative that the platoon's mission be changed. The mountainous terrain was completely unfamiliar to him, but when Pvt. Hauck found a guide unavailable he set out alone over the hazardous trail. The danger of encountering enemy patrols was constant, moderate enemy artillery fire was falling on the path and in the darkness of the night any straying from the path presented danger from anti-personnel mines. In the face of these difficulties, and with the knowledge that his platoon was to interpret any movement as hostile, Pvt. Hauck continued forward and delivered his message. Pvt. Hauck's gallantry in the face of known dangers was an inspiration to his comrades and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered Service from Rhinecliff, New York.

B. Division Citation

DAVID C. FINCH, 20835650, Pfc. Med Det. 135th Inf. For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 27 Oct. 1943, in the vicinity of Ailano, Italy. During the attempt to outflank Hill 235 SE of Ailano the forward platoon of Company "E", 135th was pinned down by enemy mortar and small arms fire. Pfc Finch, attached as an aid man to the forward platoon, left the safety of a stream bed in which he had cover and crawled 30 yards across open ground to the aid of a wounded man. Although facing grave danger from enemy fire, he pulled the man to the safety of the stream bed. Pfc Finch's courage and quick action was highly meritorious and a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered Service from Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR CITATIONS AND AWARDS AS FOLLOWS:

A. Legion of Merit

1. VILHELM M. JOHNSON, Capt. Med. Corps, 0-419941, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as a battalion surgeon, 135th Inf. He was the battalion surgeon of the Bn which made the invasion landing in the city of Algiers on 8 November 1942 as a part of the Eastern Assault force. His technical skill materially contributed to the small number of deaths from battle wounds. In the fighting north of the Volturno River, he personally reorganized on Bn. medical section and its system of evacuation, which had become temporarily upset due to the loss of the battalion surgeon and two key men of the aid station from injuries received by an anti-personnel mine, the increasing number of casualties, and roughness of the terrain, which made their evacuation extremely difficult. This was done in the immediate vicinity of the aid station, ~~and under~~ under constant enemy mortar fire. He also personally reorganized, with the help of 3 enlisted men, another battalion aid station, and directed the evacuation of the wounded of the Bn. in the vicinity of Montaquilla, when an enemy artillery shell killed four men and wounded nine others of that aid station, including the assistant Battalion surgeon. His outstanding sense of duty, untiring ceaseless efforts, technical skill, organizational ability, conscientiousness have materially contributed to the successful medical service rendered to this Regiment. Entered Service from Daws, Minnesota.

2. PAUL F. LAWSON, 0-24529, 1st Lt., Hq. Co., 135th Infantry. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. 1st Lt. Lawson in the capacity of platoon leader of the I & R Platoon has distinguished himself by his initiative, coolness, and forethought both in the Tunisian and Italian Campaigns. In April at Fondouk, Tunisia, Lt. Lawson was first to identify the Russian 7.62 AT gun which the Germans were using, and identify the 1942 model German machine gun. In Italy his untiring search for

SECTION VII: Citations and awards, continued.

valuable enemy information resulted in securing the dispatch case of a German Bn Commanding Officer in which were complete plans of a German Division and for the supply of the winter line. His quick action in sending this information to the rear enabled the Army Commander to formulate his plan more accurately. Lt. Lawson by leading his aggressive patrols has time and again secured invaluable information as to the enemy's dispositions and plans. His aggressive leadership and cool fearlessness has been an inspiration to his men and is a credit to the Armed Forces of the United States. Home; LeRoy, Illinois.

3. MYRON A. CARRIGAN, 20707697, S/Sgt, Co. B, 135th Infantry. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. During the operations in the vicinity of Hill 609 in Tunisia S/Sgt Carrigan was instrumental in supplying his company with food, water, clothing and ammunition, despite heavy enemy machine gun and artillery fire. In doing so he performed duties above his rank. His devotion to duty and untiring efforts earned him a promotion to Supply Sgt. and the rank of S/Sgt. Again in Italy, during the period from the 26th to 28th of Oct. 1943, in the vicinity of Raviscanina, he toiled endlessly night and day in order that his company might be well fed and supplied. He personally organized and accompanied pack trains which made an 11-hour trip a-foot over a rough, rocky and treacherous trail. It was on this trip that he exploded a "S" mine resulting in fatal wounds. His untiring efforts and devotion to his duties won him the undying admiration of the men in his company. Home address at time of enlistment: Buffalo Lake, Minnesota. Next of kin John Carrigan, (Father) Buffalo Lake, Minnesota.

4. ALBERT L. BITZER, 20707696, S/Sgt, Co. "B", 135th Infantry. For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. During both the Tunisian and Italian campaigns, Sgt Bitzer faithfully dedicated himself to the task of keeping his company fed despite all obstacles. On 27 October 1943 he personally organized and led a carrying party to a distant position over a rocky, slippery and very treacherous trail. After hours of plodding slipping and sliding, the carrying party established a ration dump and then turned back. S/Sgt. Bitzer stayed with the rations until dawn and then set out to find his unit. After another long trek he was successful and immediately set out on the return trip leading a carrying party to the rations. Enroute he became the victim of an S mine but as he lay wounded he directed the party to the rations. Sgt. Bitzer's devotion to duty, his untiring efforts, and loyalty to his men was an inspiration to all the men of this company and a distinct credit to the Armed Forces of the United States, Entered Service from Hutchinson, Minnesota.

B. Silver Star

1. LEE C. SCHLEGEL, 33111473, Sgt. (then Corporal), Company "D", 135th Infantry. For gallantry in action on the morning of 7 November 1943, when he crawled up a slippery and treacherous rise then under enemy observation and shelling to aid three wounded men. Disregarding his own safety, he administered first aid and stayed with the wounded men until the barrage ceased. He made two trips with the litter squads evacuating the men and then returned to resume command of his squad. His display of courage, gallantry and unselfishness above and beyond the call of duty was an inspiration to all the men of his platoon. Home address at time of enlistment; Reading, Pennsylvania.

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T. E. HAMILTON
(December 1, 1944 to December 31, 1943)

The period of this report opens with the Regiment, with Companies C and D, 3rd Chemical Battalion attached, involved in heavy offensive action on Mt. PANAMA. This hill was the first objective of an attack which commenced on 29 November. The 1st Battalion had occupied the south eastern peak of the hill which had to this objective. For identification purposes, this peak will be numbered 1, and the remaining peaks, 2, 3, and 4 in a counter-clockwise direction.

During the day and night, November 30 to December 1, the 1st Battalion had repulsed several counter-attacks, the heaviest of which occurred during the night, and was finally beaten off by about 0430 hours, December. One company of the 1st Battalion and two from the 3rd Battalion, under the Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, were sent up to reinforce the 1st Battalion.

It was planned that on the morning of 1 December the 3rd Battalion should pass through the 1st Battalion and continue the attack. A heavy artillery concentration was ordered to cover hills 2, 3, and 4 and the slopes of the draws to the northwest, west and southwest. This was ordered to start at H - 1 hour and to continue until H hour, when it would lift and roll northwest at the rate of 100 yards every ten minutes. H hour was dependent upon the maintenance of communications and weather conditions - which had been extremely unfavorable with rain, snow, fog, and no visibility. For the close-in barrage planned, extremely accurate artillery registration was necessary. Throughout the day the visibility remained very poor, and this registration was not possible.

Casualties so far had been extremely heavy - mostly from intensive mortar fire. All three Battalion Commanders, Lt. Col. Langdon of the 1st Battalion, Lt. Col. Bird of the 2nd Battalion, and Lt. Col. (Wounded in Action) Sparks of the 3rd Battalion, had been seriously wounded and evacuated. Many other leaders, from company commanders to squad leaders were also casualties.

At about 1400 hours, 1 December, the decision was made to postpone the attack until the following morning. At this time the 1st Battalion was in position on Hill 1. The 2nd Battalion had F Company reinforced on Hill 895, with the remainder of the Battalion in the vicinity of COMBACRIA. The 3rd Battalion, less I Company, reinforced, was assembled in the draw between Mt. PANAMA and Hill 700. I Company, reinforced, was in position on Hill 700. During the night Company E was sent up to reinforce the 1st Battalion, whose strength had been considerably reduced through counter-attacks and heavy mortar fire.

At 0600 hours, 2 December, the 3rd Battalion, less I Company, reinforced, jumped off for the attack on Hill 2, following a one hour artillery preparation. By 1020 hours, Hill 2 was occupied by F Company, with little resistance. K Company, less one platoon was then sent to Hill 3, but as they were approaching Hill 3, a strong counter-attack was launched against Hill 2, from the direction of Hill 4. In order to hold Hill 2, it was necessary to commit L Company and to pull K Company back to Hill 2. The one platoon of K Company left on Hill 2 was pushed off, and a counter-attack by both companies was required.

to regain the hill.

During the night 3-4 December, G Company and I Company relieved A and B Companies respectively on Hill 1, and the 1st Battalion went into an assembly area in the vicinity of JOLLA to reorganize. I Company's positions on Hill 700 were taken over by a company of the 135th Infantry. In order to consolidate the Hill 1 position, A and B Companies were pulled back to the eastern slopes of Hill 2, extending the right flank of the 2nd Battalion on Hill 1.

Heavy counter-attacks by fresh troops were directed against this position on December 4, the night of 4-5 December, and December 5, but the position held. During the night 5-6 December, the regiment was reorganized, the 135th Infantry, and moved to a bivouac area near POUILLE.

As an indication of the fierceness of the fighting on T. P. HANO, the following is an extract of the report on ammunition expended for the period 29 November - 6 December:

8-round clip, 30 cal.	65 cases.	113,240 rounds
5-round clip, 30 cal.	40 cases	60,000 rounds
Machine Gun, 50 cal.	185 cases	231,250 rounds
Machine Gun, 50 cal. (AA)	20 cases	5,500 rounds
Shell, mortar, 60 mm	60 bundles	1,440 rounds
Shell, mortar, 81 mm (Smoke)	90 bundles	270 rounds
Shell, mortar, 81 mm (Light)	1144 bundles	6,864 rounds
Shell, mortar, 81 mm (heavy)	62 bundles	160 rounds
Grenade, fragmentation	119 cases	2,975 rounds
Grenade Rifle	8 cases	60 rounds
Shell, mortar, 75mm	1250 bundles	7,500 rounds

On December 6, the regiment moved to HOUFA, where it remained until December 9. This period was used for reorganization, rest, showers, and recreation, all of which were badly needed and greatly appreciated. During the night of 9-10 December, the Division was relieved by the French 2nd Moroccan Division and moved to the S. A. GELU area.

The battalions and separate companies, except Headquarters Company, were bivouacked south and east of town. Headquarters Company and the Regimental CP were in the town. The stay in this area was of immense benefit to the Regiment. Receiving of replacements, selection and training of new non-commissioned officers, hot showers with clothing exchange, nightly movies or live shows, trips to the Napes rest camps, and an opportunity for the men to rest and relax away from the front were some of the many benefits enjoyed during this period. Training was carried on daily except Sunday. On one occasion the regiment was assembled for a talk by the commanding officer and the Division commander, at which time nearly one hundred decorations were awarded.

A fairly large castle in S. A. GELU was taken over as a recreation hall. The "Dungeon Theatre" was used for movies, and the lower rooms fitted out for reading, letter writing, cards, and ping-pong.

...the... from... the... were, and our
good... still a long way from
home, to... the... the front.
under the... a chair was assembled,
and after... of the... singing
Christmas... on Christmas Eve.

However, all good things must sometime come to an end, and the night
of 28-29 December found our regiment moving to the front again. At the close
of the period covered by this narrative, we were in an assembly area in the
vicinity of...

On 29 December our regimental commander, General (then Colonel) F. B.
Eutler, was relieved from the regiment and assigned as Assistant Division
Commander. He was succeeded by Col. Mark A. ... Jr. As has already been
stated, all of the battalion commanders had been wounded and evacuated during
the I.F. ... engagement. The 1st Battalion was now commanded by Lt. Col.
Simon Castile, the 2nd by Lt. Col. John L. Powers, and the 3rd by Lt. Col.
Mark F. ... Col. Powers had formerly been regimental S-3, while Colon-
els Castile and ... joined the regiment direct from the States.