Activity: 511 Days of Combat: From Sicily to Munich with the Fighting Thunderbirds

Guiding question: What was the contribution of the 45th Infantry Division to World War II?
Overview
Using interactive technology from the American Battle Monuments Commission, primary source newspapers, cartoons, and sketches from the 45th Infantry Division, and secondary accounts of the campaign from historians and archivists, students will follow the path of the 45th Infantry Division from Sicily to Munich. Students will examine key battles in which the 45th Infantry Division fought, and discuss how this experience impacted the soldiers.

Historical Context
The invasion of Sicily was the first foothold into mainland Europe for the Allies. The four amphibious invasions the 45th Infantry Division participated in provided vital information for Allied command. The bitter fighting in Italy kept the battle-hardened Germans engaged and prevented them from shifting troops north when the Allies invaded Normandy. Though often overlooked or dismissed in favor of battles in Northern Europe or the Pacific, the campaigns in the Mediterranean allowed the Allies to push the Germans out of Italy and southern France and link up with troops from northern Europe to advance into Germany. The liberation of the Dachau Concentration Camp provided Allied command the opportunity to invite reporters into Germany to document the Nazi atrocities.

Objectives
At the conclusion of this lesson, students will be able to

- Describe the role the 45th Infantry Division played in the Mediterranean Theatre;
- Analyze and compare primary and secondary sources from World War II to understand the role of the 45th Infantry Division and the importance of the Mediterranean campaign;
- Understand the importance of the Mediterranean theatre and how it contributed to the outcome of the war; and
- Understand the importance of the liberation of Dachau and how it shaped the purpose of the war for the men in the 45th Infantry Division.
Standards Connections

Connections to Common Core

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6 Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author’s point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8 Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

Connections to C3 Framework

D2.His.1.6-8. Analyze connections among events and developments in broader historical contexts.

D2.His.3.6-8. Use questions generated about individuals and groups to analyze why they, and the developments they shaped, are seen as historically significant.

D2.His.11.9-12. Critique the usefulness of historical sources for a specific historical inquiry based on their maker, date, place of origin, intended audience, and purpose.

D3.2.9-12. Evaluate the credibility of a source by examining how experts value the source.

Documents Used  ★ indicates an ABMC source

Primary Sources

45th Division News, August 17, 1943
45th Infantry Museum Archives

45th Division News, February 22, 1944
45th Infantry Museum Archives

45th Division News, September 6, 1944
45th Infantry Museum Archives
45th Division News, May 13, 1945
45th Infantry Museum Archives

45th Division News, July 10, 1945
45th Infantry Museum Archives

Brummett Echohawk
Drawing, A Factory Charge, February 11, 1944
Brummett Echohawk Collection, 45th Infantry Museum

Bill Mauldin, Cartoon, Bath in 15 Minutes
Bill Mauldin Collection, 45th Infantry Division Museum

Photograph, Dachau: Dead Awaiting Cremation 30 Apr 45
45th Infantry Division Museum, Dachau Collection

Photograph, Allied Forces Land in Southern France, 1944
National Archives and Records Administration (SC-1781)

Secondary Sources

45th Infantry Division
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Bernard Fox Fallen Hero Profile and Eulogy ★
American Battle Monuments Commission
http://abmceducation.org/understandingsacrifice/soldier/bernard-fox#overlay-context=user

Liberating Rome Interactive ★
American Battle Monuments Commission

“The Liberation of Dachau”
45th Infantry Division Museum
http://45th.45wp.com/Dachau

Naples-Foggia Campaign Interactive ★
American Battle Monuments Commission
The Sicilian Campaign Interactive ★
American Battle Monuments Commission

World War II: A Visual History ★
American Battle Monuments Commission

Materials

- Computer with internet capability to access ABMC Interactives
- Projector
- Soldier Dossier Cards
- Newspaper Article Rubric

Lesson Preparation

- Set up classroom technology and test all online resources before class.
- Divide the class into groups of two to four students each.
- Print and divide the Soldier Dossier Cards so that there is one for every student in the class.
- Print or make available electronically one copy of the primary source documents for each student.

Procedure

Activity One: Sicily (30-45 minutes)

- Project the Sicilian Campaign Interactive on the board and play the prelude video for the class.
- Explore The Sicilian Campaign together as a class or divide into small groups to explore the timeline with a group or individual device.
  - Teacher Tip: If students click on the “45” within the legend on the battle map, they can focus on only the maneuvers of the 45th Infantry Division for each time period in the campaign.
  - Teacher Tip: If students explore the timeline individually or in small groups, headphones are recommended for the short videos that accompany each time slot.
- Distribute (or share digitally) the 45th Division News, from August 17, 1943, and Bill Mauldin’s cartoon, Bath in 15 Minutes.
  - Ask the students to read the article “Germans Leaving Island of Sicily” from August 17, 1943, in the 45th Division News and explore the remaining articles in the paper.
○ Direct students to the Bill Mauldin cartoon on the last page of the newspaper and compare to Mauldin's cartoon, *Bath in 15 Minutes*.

○ Ask students, *Do these cartoons match the tone of the newspaper? Why or why not?*

- View the Aftermath video on *The Sicilian Campaign* timeline together as a class.

- Ask students, *How does the historical importance of the invasion differ from the perspective from the newspaper?*

- Ask students to synthesize, *How did the 45th Infantry Division contribute to the invasion of Sicily?*

- Students whose soldier died during the 1943 Sicily campaign can read aloud the name, rank, and date of death of their soldier and post the Soldier Dossier Card at the front of the classroom to note those who lost their lives in this phase of the campaign.

**Activity Two: Anzio (30-45 minutes)**

- Project the *Liberating Rome Interactive* on the board or share the link with students to examine the site on their own device.

- Explore *Liberating Rome* through the tab marked 5-20 June 1944.
  - *Teacher Tip:* If students click on the “45” within the legend on the battle map, they can focus on only the maneuvers of the 45th Infantry Division for each time period in the campaign.

- Distribute (or share digitally) the Activity Two documents.
  - Ask the students to explore the February 22, 1944, edition of the 45th *Division News*.
  - Project or distribute Brummett Echohawk's drawing *A Factory Charge* that highlights a charge the 45th Infantry Division participated in during the Battle of Anzio.
  - Ask students,
    - *How is the battle presented in the two primary sources compared to the digital timeline?*
    - *How do the battle sketches done by infantryman Brummett Echohawk compare to cartoonist Bill Mauldin?*

- Ask students to synthesize, *How did the 45th Infantry Division contribute to the invasion of Anzio?*

- Students whose soldier died during the Spring 1944 Anzio campaign can read aloud the name, rank, and date of death of their soldier and post the Soldier Dossier Card at the front of the classroom to note those who lost their lives in this phase of the campaign.
  - *Teacher Tip:* It is important for students to understand that reinforcements were continually added to each regiment, especially after fierce battles. More than half of the soldiers on the Soldier Dossier Cards will have lost their lives by the end of the Anzio campaign. If you feel students will lose focus after the death of their soldier, split students into groups and when
you pass out the Soldier Dossier Cards, distribute the Soldier Dossier Cards where every group has at least one soldier who survives through the liberation of Dachau.

**Activity Three: Operation Dragoon (20 minutes)**

- Project the *World War II: A Visual History Interactive* on the board or share the link with students to examine the site on their own device.
  - From the timeline, click the “1944” button and then, “Southern France Campaign.”
  - View the footage of the invasion of southern France.
- Distribute (or share digitally) the Activity Three documents.
  - Ask the students to explore the September 6, 1944 edition of the 45th Division News.
  - Project photograph *Operation Dragoon*.
  - Ask students, *Why does Operation Dragoon receive less coverage than the other campaigns? Was it less important than Sicily or Anzio?*
- Ask students to synthesize, *How did the 45th Infantry Division contribute to Operation Dragoon?*
- Examine the Fallen Hero profile and play the eulogy video for Technical Sergeant Bernard Fox.
- Students whose soldier died during Operation Dragoon (August to October 1944) can read aloud the name, rank, and date of death of their soldier and post the Soldier Dossier Card at the front of the classroom to note those who lost their lives in this phase of the campaign.

**Activity Four: Liberation of Dachau (30 minutes)**

- *Teacher Tip:* The following activity contains graphic images and descriptions of Holocaust victims and survivors. Viewer discretion is advised.
- Project the “45th Infantry Division” page from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum onto the board or share the link with students to examine the site on their own device.
- Project “The Liberation of Dachau” page from the 45th Infantry Division Museum onto the board or share the link with students to examine the site on their own devices.
- Project the photograph *Dachau: Bodies Awaiting Cremation April 30 1945*.
- Distribute (or share digitally) copies of 45th Division News from May 13, 1945.
  - Ask students, *How is the description of the liberation of Dachau treated in comparison to the other events from the newspapers?*
- Ask students to synthesize, *How did the 45th Infantry Division contribute to the liberation of Dachau?*
- Students whose soldier died during the campaign to liberate Dachau (April 1945) can read aloud the name, rank, and date of death of their soldier and post the Soldier Dossier Card at
the front of the classroom to note those who lost their lives in this phase of the campaign.

**Activity Five: Munich (15-30 minutes)**

- Distribute (or share digitally) copies of 45th Division News from July 10, 1945.
- Ask students to compare July 10 edition of 45th Division News to previous issues.
- Ask students,
  - Does the tone of the paper change from the first issue to the last?
  - Soldiers were ordered to leave Dachau and continue marching to Munich just two days after liberating the camp. What is the emotional toll on soldiers to leave behind those at the camp and continue fighting?
  - After 511 days of fierce combat, how or why does the liberation of Dachau become the defining act of the 45th Infantry Division?

**Assessment (50 minutes)**

- Students will write a newspaper article in the style of the 45th Division News and reflect on the 511 days of combat for the division.
  - Teacher can assign an article tied to the Soldier Dossier Card each student carried throughout the lesson or have students reflect on the entire campaign in the writing piece.
- The Newspaper Article Rubric can be used to score the article.

**Methods for Extension**

- Students with more interest in the Italian campaign can explore the ABMC Interactives beyond the scope of the 45th Infantry Division’s involvement.
- Students who are interested in the liberation of other camps during World War II can read Hell Before Their Very Eyes by John C. McManus.
- Students can read more about Lieutenant Colonel Felix Sparks in The Liberator: One World War II Soldier’s 500-Day Odyssey by Alex Kershaw.
- Students can explore the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website.
- Students interested in the Holocaust can read Once by Morris Gleitzman.
- Students interested in the 45th Division News can research Ernie Pyle and investigate how war reporting changed during World War II.
- The American Battle Monuments Commission maintains U.S. military cemeteries overseas. These cemeteries are permanent memorials to the fallen, but it is important that students know the stories of those who rest here. To learn more about the stories of some of the men and women who
made the ultimate sacrifice, visit www.abmceducation.org/understandingsacrifice/abmc-sites.

Adaptations

- Teachers can adapt the project for advanced learners by requiring students to find and evaluate at least one additional primary and secondary source for each campaign.
- Teachers can condense the activities by using only the ABMC Interactives or only the 45th Division News to cover each stage of the campaign.
- Teachers can have students draw a cartoon in the style of Bill Mauldin or a sketch in the style of Brummett Echowhawk as an alternative to writing a newspaper article.
- Teachers can change the final assessment to a group activity and have students design the front page of a newspaper instead of writing one article. Students can design and publish a digital newspaper using free online digital publication resources.
- Teacher can read aloud newspaper excerpts or record newspaper articles as needed for students.
# Newspaper Article Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Advanced</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Emerging</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Headline</strong></td>
<td>Article has a headline that captures the reader's attention and accurately describes the content.</td>
<td>Article has a headline that accurately describes the content.</td>
<td>Article has a headline that does not describe the content.</td>
<td>Article is missing a headline.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Details</strong></td>
<td>The details in the article are clear and supportive of the topic.</td>
<td>The details in the article are clear but need to be developed more.</td>
<td>Most details in the article are clear.</td>
<td>The details article are neither clear nor related to the topic.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Who, What, When, Where and How</strong></td>
<td>Article adequately addresses the five W's (who, what, when, where and how).</td>
<td>The article is missing one of the five W's.</td>
<td>The article is missing two of the 5 W's.</td>
<td>The article is missing three or more of the five W's.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Sentence</strong></td>
<td>Lead sentence grabs the reader's attention and focuses the reader on the topic.</td>
<td>Lead sentence tells most important details.</td>
<td>Lead sentence is not clearly connected to the article.</td>
<td>There is no clear lead sentence in the article.</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling &amp; Grammar</strong></td>
<td>No spelling or grammatical errors.</td>
<td>No more than two minor spelling or grammatical errors.</td>
<td>No more than three spelling or grammatical errors.</td>
<td>Multiple spelling or grammatical errors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Soldier Dossier Cards

Private Luis Blanco

Unit: 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: New York
Date of Death: July 29, 1943
Awards: Distinguished Service Cross, Purple Heart

Private Woodrow Wilson Thomas

Unit: 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: West Virginia
Date of Death: April 13, 1944
Awards: Purple Heart

Technical Sergeant Robert Blaine

Unit: 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: Colorado
Date of Death: June 1, 1944
Awards: Purple Heart

Private Jose Aragon

Unit: 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: New Mexico
Date of Death: March 28, 1944
Awards: Purple Heart
Soldier Dossier Cards

**Technical Fourth Grade John Ayers**
- **Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** Missouri
- **Date of Death:** February 19, 1944
- **Awards:** Silver Star, Purple Heart

**Private William Campbell**
- **Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** Virginia
- **Date of Death:** March 28, 1944
- **Awards:** Purple Heart

**Second Lieutenant Alva Conley**
- **Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** Oklahoma
- **Date of Death:** February 19, 1944
- **Awards:** Silver Star, Purple Heart

**Private Joseph Wiener**
- **Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** New York
- **Date of Death:** February 21, 1944
Private Zeno Babarski

Unit: 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: Wisconsin
Date of Death: June 4, 1945
Awards: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Private Charles Finley

Unit: 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: Illinois
Date of Death: February 19, 1944

Sergeant John Bone

Unit: 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: Oklahoma
Date of Death: September 13, 1943
Awards: Purple Heart

Private First Class Patrick McGee

Unit: 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
Entered Service From: Oklahoma
Date of Death: February 23, 1944
Awards: Purple Heart
Soldier Dossier Cards

Second Lieutenant Eugene Swierkocki

- Unit: 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
- Entered Service From: New York
- Date of Death: June 4, 1944

Private First Class Timothy Kalagher

- Unit: 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
- Entered Service From: Pennsylvania
- Date of Death: February 16, 1944
- Awards: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Private Francis McCummings

- Unit: 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
- Entered Service From: Maryland
- Date of Death: February 29, 1944
- Awards: Purple Heart

Private Warren Verner

- Unit: 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
- Entered Service From: North Carolina
- Date of Death: February 18, 1944
- Awards: Purple Heart
Activity: 511 Days of Combat: From Sicily to Munich with the Fighting Thunderbirds | Handouts

Soldier Dossier Cards

**Technical Sergeant Bernard Fox**

**Unit:** 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division  
**Entered Service From:** New York  
**Date of Death:** August 18, 1944  
**Awards:** Bronze Star, Purple Heart with 3 Oak leaf clusters

**Private Virgil Deems**

**Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division  
**Entered Service From:** Oklahoma  
**Date of Death:** September 5, 1944  
**Awards:** Purple Heart

**Private William Lenakis**

**Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division  
**Entered Service From:** Ohio  
**Date of Death:** August 29, 1944  
**Awards:** Purple Heart

**First Lieutenant Neil Mcphail**

**Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division  
**Entered Service From:** Ohio  
**Date of Death:** August 30, 1944  
**Awards:** Air Medal with oak leaf cluster
Soldier Dossier Cards

**Staff Sergeant George Harris, Jr**
- **Unit:** 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** California
- **Date of Death:** August 19, 1944
- **Awards:** Bronze Star, Purple Heart

**Staff Sergeant Ephriam Rutherford**
- **Unit:** 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** Colorado
- **Date of Death:** October 30, 1944
- **Awards:** Bronze Star, Purple Heart

**Technical Fifth Class Frank Ebeling**
- **Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** Texas
- **Date of Death:** April 26, 1945
- **Awards:** Purple Heart

**Private Daniel Devlin**
- **Unit:** 171st Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division
- **Entered Service From:** Pennsylvania
- **Date of Death:** September 30, 1944
- **Awards:** Purple Heart
Soldier Dossier Cards

First Sergeant Herbert Carlton

**Unit:** 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division

**Entered Service From:** Oklahoma

**Date of Death:** October 17, 1944

**Awards:** Purple Heart

Lieutenant Colonel Felix Sparks

**Unit:** 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division

**Entered Service From:** Texas

**Date of Death:** September 25, 2007

**Awards:** Silver Star

Private First Class Brummett Echohawk

**Unit:** 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division

**Entered Service From:** Oklahoma

**Date of Death:** February 13, 2006

**Awards:** Bronze Star, Purple Heart
45th Division News, August 17, 1943, p. 1

45th Infantry Museum Archives

Bob Hope May Entertain 45th

Bob Hope, the comedian who traveled the road to Zanzibar, said the Road to Munich, is on its way to Sicily now, it was announced this week.

This isn't your usual schedule, but one you can hope for.

Germans Leaving Island of Sicily

As Germans poured out of Sicily by every available means—even rowboats!—the last act of the drama of Sicily poured heavily today.

How many troops Germany will be able to lobby across the channel in the mainland is a factor to be considered. Because in spirit of mercy of mercy love, love the Mother Earths are often with Allied planes bombarding the mainland.

Meanwhile, the German delaying action goes on. The American forces taking part in the invasion, moved in to take the town of Enna, the capital of Sicily, and Patton moved to the east of the island. It had been announced earlier that 10,000 prisoners have been taken in the battle.

Italian Officer Costs Bob a Nickel

There were two things about the action that surprised the American forces. The first was the number of enemy planes—100 and 150—seen and the second was the number of enemy ships. The German forces were not aware of the number of American forces.

The Italian officer was ordered to pay a nickel for a cup of coffee. He refused and was arrested. The American officer then paid the nickel and the Italian officer was released. He refused to get in the American forces.

Peeples Pair Are Alive, Anyhow

The Peeples were not expected to be alive, but were found safe and sound, on the island of Sicily.

Hobert Tolentino

No Monkey Business

Out of the war-torn island of Sicily, Hobert Tolentino, a Peeples servant, was found alive.

Palermo Radio

Alas, U. S. Talent

Radio Palermo, once sponsored by the American Expeditionary Forces, is now a part of the American occupation forces on the island of Sicily.

45th Infantry Museum Archives
Mules Differ In Character, Soldiers Find; Compare Betsy with Shiftless Beasts

By Bill Barrett

This is the story of 20 mules and what happened when they started handling equipment for a heavy-warfare company of infantry. When the 45th Division was in Sicily, the mules had a real kick and their experience with a German ace.

The 45th Division News, August 17, 1943, p. 2

Quoth the Dogface... By Bill Mauldin

This week, for all practical purposes, it's been called the end of the American involvement in Italy. The fighting in the north of Italy is over, and the last American soldier will soon be on his way back to the States.

German Stems A Big Gun Shy

The 45th Division News, August 17, 1943, p. 2
The Boys Feel Kindly About Our Medics

Two groups went to the field, and both came back with stories of praise of the Medics. One of the groups is a Medic, and he has a lot of building about him, but it is not necessary to his story. The other is an ordinary man, though like Slim, and almost in the U. S. had thought all of the Medics on the same department. So here's to the Medic Patrol:

Take it from the fighting doctors, the Medics are the life. There are two medals for which all will go to their home. One in a supporting role, a small group of strncmps passed on with airs and broad and deep, their child's in the darkbrown.

There was a talk of the latest and the present, and in the end, we were to go to the field. As usual, they made a show of the show, and they were made to wear their hats with arms and broad and deep, and the child's in the darkbrown.

They seemed to find a path in the fright, the uncanny, and the other in the field. The man's in the darkbrown.

In the end, we found a path in the fright, the uncanny, and the other in the field. The man's in the darkbrown.

We found a path in the fright, the uncanny, and the other in the field. The man's in the darkbrown.

Memory Lapse Saves a Life

Forgiveness is a bad thing generally, but once in a while, it can save a life. On November 17th, 1943, a soldier named Bill Olsen was killed in action near the town of Oosterhout, Netherlands.

Dead Germans Are Astounded

It was hard to say which stop was the more astounding. The Germans who wake up to see American soldiers surrounding their homes or who see what they thought was a dream come true the next day. The group consisted of boys, by the way, and they were not as American as one might have supposed. They were more like the ordinary men, though like Slim, and almost in the U. S. had thought all of the Medics on the same department. So here's to the Medic Patrol:

Casket, Wheels, Dwarves Help Issue the News

With stories of the fighting, Thunderbirds being failed to every enemy in the Union, the 9th Infantry News has come to be the source of all the Medics on the same department. So here's to the Medic Patrol:

In the end, we found a path in the fright, the uncanny, and the other in the field. The man's in the darkbrown.
Grenades, Crawford, Are Dangerous!

Fighting Thunderbirds

Soviet Drive On Smolensk

Winnie, F.D.R. Met Last Week

German Soldier

Laughs and Dies

45th Division News, August 17, 1943, p. 4

45th Infantry Museum Archives
Bill Mauldin, *Bath in 15 Minutes*

Bill Mauldin Collection, 45th Infantry Division Museum

“It ain’t th’ glammer I’m jealous of—it’s jest that they’re within fifteen minutes of a bath!”
45th Division News, February 22, 1944, p. 1

45th Infantry Museum Archives
45th Division News, February 22, 1944, p. 2

45th Infantry Museum Archives

By Bill Hear

One Purple Heart a Day Is Enough for Jagoda, Doc

45th Division News, February 22, 1944, p. 2

45th Infantry Museum Archives

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Activity: 511 Days of Combat: From Sicily to Munich with the Fighting Thunderbirds | Handouts

45th Division News, February 22, 1944, p. 3

45th Infantry Museum Archives

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<tr>
<th>Page 1</th>
<th>Jerries Mistake Lenz</th>
<th>Artistic Engineers Dread White Signs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For Drowsy-Kommandant</td>
<td>Courage Men! Rolls’Em Come!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>These GI’s Better Walk Next Time!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gerry walked over.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The motor had remained in this spot about fifteen minutes.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Suddenly the motor gave a start and the motor itself started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gerry walked over.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The motor had remained in this spot about fifteen minutes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This page contains articles about military life during World War II, focusing on the experiences of soldiers during combat operations. The articles describe various events and incidents, including a mistaken identity involving Lenz and Drowsy, the challenges faced by engineers in creating signs, and the everyday work of soldiers on the front lines.

**Jerries Mistake Lenz For Drowsy-Kommandant**

Sergeant Herb Trishak of the 45th Infantry, who was wounded in the last days of the campaign, was in charge of the motor on this trip. He had heard the Jerries yelling at him to move, and was amazed when they turned out to be the soldiers from the 45th. He was delighted to find that they were just as friendly as the Jerries of the past.

**Artistic Engineers Dread White Signs**

The need for distinctive white signs was discussed by a group of engineers who had been working on the project. They were concerned about the visibility of the signs in the dark, and the possibility of them being mistaken for German signs.

**Gerry’s Better Walk Next Time**

After the war, the engineers discussed how the signs would be used in the future. They decided that they would be painted in a new color and placed in more strategic locations.

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American Battle Monuments Commission | National History Day | Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media
**45th Division News, February 22, 1944, p. 4**

45th Infantry Museum Archives

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**Now Fork Over Those Shoes, Screams Lt.**

It's still a mystery as to how the CO of the 511th, Lt. James C. Dyer of Oklahoma, lost his shoes.

As Dallas radio stations broadcast around-the-clock reports of the invading forces, the Thunderbirds were busy attacking, dodging the fire of Nazi tanks and every weapon they had. Lt. Dyer was among those who had to leave his shoes behind.

**STAR SPANGLED BANNER By Bill Mauldin**

**Pin-Up Girl**

(Continued from page 4)

...but not at the very girls who support the war in Syria, by their marriages in Los Angeles and later divorce in Rome.

They're not girls who would feel ofamer's care for them.

**Lesson: Don’t Jump Commands**

It is a pretty hard thing to jump Commands. A soldier is a living, breathing, thinking individual, and he is not to be treated as a machine.

**attachment details**

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American Battle Monuments Commission | National History Day | Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media
Brummett Echowhawk, *A Factory Charge*, February 11, 1944

Brummett Echowhawk Collection, 45th Infantry Museum
45th Division News, September 6, 1944, p. 1

45th Infantry Museum Archives

Thunderbirds Infantry Company Wins Distinguished Unit Badge

Company F of the 45th Infantry Division engaged in fighting in support of the Allied advance. The thunderbirds were last in action during the Sicilian campaign. They are now engaged in mopping up operations in Southern Italy. The thunderbirds were last in action against German forces during the Sicilian campaign. They are now engaged in mopping up operations in Southern Italy.

Antwerp Freed, Report British Enter Holland

Rolling through Belgium with undiminished speed, British forces took Antwerp, famed Belgian port. German forces apparently left in haste, because the city was undamaged and Allied authorities predicted easy path for the British forces. The British and Canadian forces took Antwerp, famed Belgian port. German forces apparently left in haste, because the city was undamaged and Allied authorities predicted easy path for the British forces.

Another Peril of Warfare: Ripe Tomatoes In The Pan

Tomatoes were sold to Army and Navy hospital patients. They also sold to the public.

Krauts Want Plat

A photo of German soldiers in the street of a town. They are holding a sign that says, "We want peace!"

Captured Krauts Saw Themselves in the PW enclosure, and wonder if they wanted to wind up in this predicament. They thought the 45th was in Italy, and now...

A Silly Question: How do you turn a pencil to get your writing surface facing up?

Hans tells pair he's a German

Most Germans want to find their way back to Germany.

Clerk Wins Combat Badge In Tucker's Task Force

Tucker's Task Force is an Allied command under American control. The stripe on the sleeve is a recognition of the work done by Tucker's Task Force.

Quick Swim Nearly Fatal For MP Pox

A MP was injured in a quick swim. He was taken to the hospital and treated for injuries.

Another Peril of Warfare: Ripe Tomatoes In The Pan

Tomatoes were sold to Army and Navy hospital patients. They also sold to the public.
You know the drill. They kill with rocks, can live on grass. They kill with rocks, can live on grass.

**They Kill With Rocks, Can Live on Grass**

By Bill Barrett

You've seen them in your TV programs. You've seen them in movies. You've seen them on the news. They're the Thunderbirds, the elite squad of the Fighting Thunderbirds. They're the best of the best, the cream of the crop, the elite of the elite.

They're one of the most decorated units in the United States Army. They've been in every major battle of World War II, from Sicily to Munich. And they're still going strong today.

Their story is one of perseverance and victory. They've overcome countless challenges and obstacles to achieve their goal of being the best. And they've done it all with a smile on their faces.

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**Thunderbirds and Frenchman Take 200 Knuts**

By Morten Mehl

A Frenchman and a Thunderbird are about to make history. They're going to take 200 knuts, which is a unit of weight in the metric system, and use it to break a world record.

The Frenchman, a seasoned athlete, has been training for months to prepare for this challenge. He's ready to take on the Thunderbird, who's ready to take on the challenge.

The two will face off in a race to see who can lift the 200 knuts in the shortest amount of time. The Thunderbird has been training for this challenge his entire life, and he's ready to prove his worth.

The Frenchman, on the other hand, is a seasoned athlete with a track record of success. He's ready to face the Thunderbird and show him that he's not the only one who can lift massive weights.

The world will watch as these two titans go head to head in a battle of strength and determination. The Thunderbird is ready to prove his worth, while the Frenchman is ready to show the world that he's not to be underestimated.

**Foot In His Face Doesn’t Please Will**

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**They Never Believe Will**

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Eleven U.S. Airmen Find Safety at 45th

By Bill Harck

When a Japanese fighter pilot shot down four American bombers over Trenchino in Italy, the airmen found refuge in a camouflaged antiaircraft gun in the nearby hills. The pilot, Sepp Dietrich of the 11th Austrian Air Force, was killed in the attack.

_Fighters Bury Bodies at 45th_ by William J. O’Rourke

The 45th Division was charged with burying the bodies of the American airmen killed in the battle. The division’s medical corps worked tirelessly to dig graves and perform the solemn task.

_Casey Pats Cash for Vicky Water_ by William J. O’Rourke

Water became a precious commodity for the troops in the Italian campaign. The division’s medical corps worked tirelessly to dig graves and perform the solemn task.

Sleepytime Boy Almost Slumber Through Landing

By Robert Perkins

Life for Patch Is All Cat Plug And No Cigarrador

_Is GI Fighting, Sick, Ill? Sometimes Nobody Knows!_

_Fetches Tanks_

_Holy Chit Chat_

_Oliver Chicago Firsts Mooted_

_45th Division News, September 6, 1944, p. 3_

_Garde on Guard For First Time_
Photograph, *Allied Forces Land in Southern France, 1944*

National Archives and Records Administration (SC-1781)
45th Division News, May 13, 1945, p. 1
45th Infantry Museum Archives

Dachau Gives Answer To Why We Fought

By Bill Harrer

The Americans who first went into Dachau set the record straight. They were there to make sure that the Germans never forgot.

Munich Is the Largest City 45th Ever Has Captured

By Fred Sheridan

Munich, the capital of Bavaria and one of the prewar big-city capitals of the world, is now under American control. The city was captured without a fight.

Good Hausfrau Wanted Less Shaving

Cpl. John E. Wagoner, 45th Infantry, left his shaving kit and other necessaries in a building he had captured.

Sinatra Honored, Adela Later On

Airmen called for their favorite crooner's hit song, "The Lady is a Tramp." They were told the lady was not available, but a later on was promised.

45th Station On the Air, It's a Job

The 45th Division has been on the air to many places during the course of the war. The 45th Division News, which has been heard in many places, has been on the air.

A & P Plantion Are Reigned

A & P Plantion, which has been under the control of the 45th Division, has been declared a success.

Rolling Kitchen Rolls No More

The rolling kitchen has been declared a success by the 45th Division.
Imprisoned Jerries Spurn Rescue Offer

By George Tapscott (Newspaper Correspondent)

It was near the end of the war in Europe when a group of German soldiers was interned in a camp near the town of Stettin. The camp was surrounded by barbed wire fences and guarded by American soldiers. The German soldiers were prisoners of war and were held in a compound with no windows or doors, except for a small hole in the wall. The compound was tightly guarded and no one was allowed to enter or leave without permission.

On the morning of May 13, 1945, a group of American soldiers entered the compound and began to search for the prisoners. They found that the prisoners had not been moved to a new location and were still held in the same compound.

The prisoners were told that they would be released and allowed to go home. However, they refused to leave the compound and said that they would rather remain in captivity than go back to their homeland.

The American soldiers were surprised by the prisoners' determination to remain in captivity. They had expected the prisoners to be eager to leave the camp and return to their homeland.

The American soldiers were impressed by the prisoners' courage and their willingness to remain in captivity. They decided to honor the prisoners' wish and allowed them to remain in the compound.

The prisoners were later released and allowed to go home. They were grateful to the American soldiers for their kind treatment and for honoring their wish to remain in captivity.
Dachau Prison Shows Why We Fought

From the 45th Infantry Museum Archives

Published in the Dachau concentration camp, their eyes on the horizon of new life, 45th Division soldiers viewed the liberation of Dachau on May 13, 1945. In a somber, tearful moment, they understood the horrors of the Holocaust.

This liberator was in operation from day one and still had houses in it.

Prisoners of all those camps where they were held had escaped, and before they could take a stand, they had been captured. In the meantime, there were others who had escaped from the camp, but they were not allowed to leave the camp. They were taken to another camp where they were kept under guard.

The main part of the prisoners were taken from the old camp, in which they had been held, and then sent to a new camp where they were kept under guard. The new camp was not far from the old one, but it was much better.

There were two young boys who were held in the old camp, but they escaped and made their way to the new camp. They were very glad to see the liberated prisoners and were very happy to be free.

The news of the liberation reached the camp, and the prisoners were very happy. They were allowed to leave the camp and go to the place where they were to be housed. They were very happy to be free, and they were very glad to see the people who were liberating them.

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Impossible Story, Pfc. Commanded Battalion In Action

This is the sort of story any GI would laugh at as a magazine joke. Yet CI was the battalion commander of the 45th Division in Sicily and North Africa, and he actually fought in the battles of World War II. He was captured by the Germans in Italy and was held prisoner for 5 years. He was then released and returned to the United States, where he now lives in New York City.

Karl Holz Died From Tank Fire, Lieutenant Says

Staff Sgt. Karl Holz, 23, of Chicago, was killed by a tank shell in the battles of Sicily and Italy. He was posthumously promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

Kraut General Isn’t Whipped

It’s hard to imagine a more formidable enemy than the German General. But the 45th Division faced him in Sicily and Italy and emerged victorious. General Kraut, the German commander, was captured by the Allies in Sicily.

Maine Cowboy Gets Horse Laugh

A Maine cowboy, logging in Alaska, caught a horse laugh as he was cutting down a tree. The horse, named Sadie, gave a good laugh when the cowboy tried to cut off a limb that was hanging from the tree.

There’s No Point To This Story

The 45th Division, under the command of Maj. Gen. John Younghill, was sent to Sicily to reinforce the European Theater of Operations. The division fought in the battles of Sicily and Italy, and emerged victorious.

U.S. Officers Greet Patrol In Village

When a U.S. officer arrived in a small village in Italy, he was greeted by the villagers with food and drink. The officer was pleased with their hospitality and said that he would return to visit them again.

Artillery Artful You’re Artists

The 45th Division’s artillery units were highly skilled and well-equipped. They provided crucial support for the division’s ground forces.

Div. Arty. Air OP Captures a Stork

The division’s artillery units were also skilled at capturing animals. One unit was able to capture a stork during a mission.

Capt. Acts As First Scout, Didn’t Plan It

Capt. Jack Johnson, of the 45th Division, was asked to be the first scout on a mission. He didn’t plan to be the first scout, but he was surprised to find that he was.

Bush Fighter Technique Bags Well Armed PW’s

The division’s bush fighters were skilled at capturing and bagging well-armed prisoners when they encountered them in the field.

Keena Totes Pal On German Bike

A German soldier was captured by the 45th Division and presented to Keena, a member of the division. Keena named the soldier “Pal” and took him on a tour of the division’s camps.

Some Of The News From The 45th Division

- Capt. Jack Johnson, of the 45th Division, was asked to be the first scout on a mission. He didn’t plan to be the first scout, but he was surprised to find that he was.
- The division’s artillery units were skilled at capturing animals. One unit was able to capture a stork during a mission.
- The division’s bush fighters were skilled at capturing and bagging well-armed prisoners when they encountered them in the field.
- A German soldier was captured by the 45th Division and presented to Keena, a member of the division. Keena named the soldier “Pal” and took him on a tour of the division’s camps.
- During the first few days after fall of Munich German soldiers were captured in civilian clothes. The majority protested their capture much though when questioned by GI’s. Here is one example given by Capt. Charles Donohue, Co. E, 175th Inf. Capt. Donohue, wearing khaki and T-shirt, said: “I was never a soldier in my life.”
**Activity: 511 Days of Combat: From Sicily to Munich with the Fighting Thunderbirds | Handouts**

**45th Division News, May 13, 1945, p. 5**

**45th Infantry Museum Archives**

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**45th Bags Well Known Krauts, Generals, in Germany**

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**DP's Are GI's Released from Kraut Cages**

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**Unit Takes Prisoner Every 50 Seconds**

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**Psychological Warfare Does As It Should**

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**45th: 511 Days of Combat: From Sicily to Munich with the Fighting Thunderbirds | Handouts**

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**45th Infantry Museum Archives**
Last Big Fight
Pitted 180th Inf.
Against SS Men

When some of the men of March 18th were beginning to take it easy, the Third, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Squadrons of the Fighting Thunderbirds were fighting a war just as hard and as necessary as the ones they had been engaged in. The men of the Third and Fourth Squadrons, who had just returned from their first combat, were now ready to take part in another battle. The Fourth Squadron had fought a short and bloody battle, while the Third had been engaged in a longer and more severe one. The men of the Fifth and Sixth Squadrons were just as eager to join in the fray, but they were held back by orders from headquarters.

DSC's Given
Three Men
Of 17th Inf.

(Continued from Page 3)

The fighting continued on the front lines, and the Third and Fourth Squadrons were finally ordered to move forward. They fought a short and decisive battle, and then withdrew to rest and regroup. The Fifth and Sixth Squadrons were also ordered to advance, and they fought a more prolonged and bloody battle. The men of the Seventh Squadron were the last to join in the fray, and they fought a short and decisive battle.

Artificer, Supply Sergeant
Are First Into Town

In this case, the enemy was more agile and the fighting was more intense than expected. The men of the Third and Fourth Squadrons were forced to retreat, while the Fifth and Sixth Squadrons held their ground and drove the enemy back. The Seventh Squadron was the last to join in the battle, and they fought a short and decisive battle.

Radioman, Major Save
Six Soldiers

On June 2nd, a German force was discovered in the vicinity of the battlefield. The men of the Third and Fourth Squadrons were ordered to advance and engage the enemy, while the Fifth and Sixth Squadrons retook their positions and held their ground. The Seventh Squadron was the last to join in the battle, and they fought a short and decisive battle.

Guardian Angel
Works Up Suck
With This Loan

In this case, the enemy was more agile and the fighting was more intense than expected. The men of the Third and Fourth Squadrons were forced to retreat, while the Fifth and Sixth Squadrons held their ground and drove the enemy back. The Seventh Squadron was the last to join in the battle, and they fought a short and decisive battle.

New Supermen
Begin Upfax

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Photograph, *Dachau: Dead Awaiting Cremation 30 Apr 45*

45th Infantry Division Museum, Dachau Collection
45th Division News, July 10, 1945, p. 1

45th Infantry Museum Archives

Thunderbirds Came Out of Storm
To Invade Sicily July 10, 1943

45th Helped
Finish Hitler
And Mussolini

Two long and eventful years have passed since the 45th Division, born
from the merging corps of the United States, thundered its way out of a
never-to-be-forgotten amphibious landing at the island of Sicily.

Two years and before they
raided the native hills of Italy,
when America waded nose to
nose with the enemy, day
and night

The mission of America,
to crush the power of
Hitler and Mussolini

The story of America, the story of how
the 45th Division helped win
the War against the Airplane

Two years with the 45th

45th Infantry Museum Archives

(Continued on Page 2)
An Introduction

Editorial

To the 5th, 6th, and 16th Armored Divisions.

Read the "Famous, Fighting, and Are 45th's Press Words" in the 45th Division News, July 10, 1945, p. 2. They will almost certainly be something of a surprise to you. They will also be something of a surprise to your nearest and dearest. For a long time you have been accustomed to the idea that you are the only person who can do anything worth doing. The idea that you are the only person who can do anything worth doing is a comforting one. It is a great comfort to know that you are the only person who can do anything worth doing. It is a great comfort to know that you are the only person who can do anything worth doing. It is a great comfort to know that you are the only person who can do anything worth doing. It is a great comfort to know that you are the only person who can do anything worth doing.

News Published First Allied Paper In Sicily

With the release of the 45th Division News, reports of the Allied forces in Sicily can now be published in English. During the past year, the 45th Division News has been publishing reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The News also contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The News also contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The News also contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The News also contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily.

The division news is published by the 45th Division News, which is the official newspaper of the 45th Division. The news is published by the 45th Division News, which is the official newspaper of the 45th Division. The news is published by the 45th Division News, which is the official newspaper of the 45th Division. The news is published by the 45th Division News, which is the official newspaper of the 45th Division.

In contrast to the division news, the 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily.

UNION HISTORIES ARE ON THE WAY

One of the two dozen division news stories in the 45th Division News, which is the official newspaper of the 45th Division, is "Famous, Fighting, and Are 45th's Press Words." The news article was written by Edward A. H. and published by the 45th Division News, which is the official newspaper of the 45th Division.

OTHER NEWS FROM THE 45TH DIVISION

In addition to the division news stories, the 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily. The 45th Division News contains reports of the Allied forces in Sicily.

Additional news stories in the 45th Division News, which is the official newspaper of the 45th Division, include "Famous, Fighting, and Are 45th's Press Words," "UNION HISTORIES ARE ON THE WAY," and "OTHER NEWS FROM THE 45TH DIVISION."
45th Division News, July 10, 1945, p. 3

45th Infantry Museum Archives

A Chronological History of the 45th Division in Combat

Sicily, Italy, France, Germany:
A Long Hard Road to Victory

Italy

July 10, 1943 - The 45th Division lands in Italy.

Sept. 1943 - The 45th Division participates in the invasion of Sicily.

Oct. 1943 - The 45th Division moves to the Italian Front.

Anzio

Jan. 22, 1944 - The 45th Division lands in Anzio.

Feb. 1944 - The 45th Division participates in the Battle of Anzio.

France

Aug. 1944 - The 45th Division participates in the invasion of France.

Germany

March 1945 - The 45th Division enters Germany.

Maj. Gen. Robert T. Frederick Sends Note to Old, New Men

TO THE HIGH POINT MEN OF THE 45TH DIVISION

It is difficult to express my feelings of joy and pride in the high point moment you have brought to our division.

Your efforts and the efforts of your comrades in arms have brought our division to the high point of victory.

The victory we have achieved is due in no small part to the efforts of all of you.

Robert T. Frederick
Major General, USA
517th Lost Battalion Wrote Heroic Chapter In Division's Story

One of the bravest chapters in the history of the 517th is written first by the men of the 517th. It will be told by them, through their own experiences and the stories told by their comrades. The events that have already taken place have been written down in the history books. The men of the 517th were among the first to see the new German states emerging from the ashes of war. The men of the 517th were among the first to realize the importance of the new states. They were among the first to see the new states as the future of Europe. They were among the first to see the new states as the future of the world. The men of the 517th were among the first to see the new states as the future of the world. The men of the 517th were among the first to see the new states as the future of the world.

One Invasion 45th Managed Was a Flop!

Invasion of Sicily, July 10, 1945, p. 4

45th Infantry Museum Archives