FROM CORNROW TO HEDGEROW: THE NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD IN PEACE AND WAR, 1919-1945

Nicholas Andrew Tuma

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FROM CORNROW TO HEDGEROW: THE NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD IN PEACE AND WAR, 1919-1945

A Thesis

Presented to the

Department of History

and the

Faculty of the Graduate College

University of Nebraska

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree

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by

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This thesis examines the Nebraska National Guard from 1919-1945 and demonstrates how interactions between the troops and their communities were effectively leveraged by Guardsmen to increase the morale of their soldiers in peacetime as well as wartime. The thesis consists of an introduction, five chapters, and a conclusion. The introduction contextualizes the Nebraska National Guard in U.S. military policy and the reasons for its reorganization after World War I. Chapter one describes the reorganization and structure of the Nebraska National Guard. Chapter two examines the Nebraska National Guard in its communities: its personnel; how they were involved in their communities in both military and civilian contexts; the Guard’s activities after the beginning of World War II in Europe. Chapter three covers the Nebraska National Guard during training in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee after it was mobilized for one year of training in December 1940. Chapter four describes the Nebraska National Guard’s stateside training from 1941-1944 after U.S. entry into World War II. Chapter five chronicles the exploits of Nebraska National Guard units fighting in France, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands in 1944-1945, aided by Omaha World-Herald newspaper reporter and war correspondent Lawrence W. Youngman, whose articles and photographs allowed Nebraskans a first-hand look at what their friends and family members were experiencing in combat overseas in the Nebraska National Guard.
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Other materials came from the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene, Kansas (Ariel Turley, archivist), the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka, Kansas (Megan Burton, state archivist), the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri (Charles Machon, director), the Gage County Historical Society and Museum in Beatrice, Nebraska (Amy Neumann, collections manager), the Kenneth Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas, and the Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss Library at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Roberta V. Russo, the webmaster of a website dedicated to the 35th
Infantry Division, was very helpful in having arranged for the duplication of many documents from National Archives and Records Administration facilities in College Park, Maryland, and St. Louis, Missouri, that would not have otherwise been easily accessible. She also actively collects documents, photographs, and stories from family members and friends of veterans of the division and its supporting units.

I was aware that my great-granduncle, Longin J. Zoubek (1909-1992), had served in the U.S. Army during World War II, but midway through writing this thesis, I discovered entirely by chance that from 1942-1944, he was a member of Company G, 137th Infantry Regiment, a Kansas National Guard unit that fought alongside the Nebraska National Guard units I was analyzing. In July 2022, Executive Travel, of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the Nebraska National Guard Museum facilitated a group tour along the path that Nebraska National Guard units took through France, Belgium, and Luxembourg during World War II. I was lucky enough to participate, walking through some of the same battlefields that Zoubek fought on. The trip also provided valuable first-hand observations which were incorporated into the thesis.
Introduction

During World War II, an ongoing debate within the U.S. Army about the effectiveness of the National Guard, a force maintained in peacetime as a joint effort between the states and the federal government, reached a boiling point. In July 1944, Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, who since 1940 had exercised administrative control over the Army’s ground combat units in the continental United States as commander of General Headquarters and later the Army Ground Forces (AGF), wrote a memorandum titled “Recommendations for the Post-War National Guard” for the Chief of Staff of the Army, General George C. Marshall. McNair wrote that,

One of the great lessons of the present war is that the National Guard, as organized before the war, contributed nothing to National Defense. On the other hand, dependence upon this component as a great part of the Initial Protective Force of our nation was a distinct threat to our safety because of the belief of our people that the National Guard could enter a war and act with combat efficiency.

He contended that “The history of the National Guard, since its last induction into Federal service and until sweeping reforms were made, was one of unsatisfactory training, physical condition, discipline, morale, and...leadership.” Citing “the inadequacy of the National Guard in practically every essential,” McNair believed that it “was pregnant with disaster for the entire Nation,” and that “Our Constitution...gives ‘to provide for the common defense’ as one of six purposes of the Federal Government. It is the most vital of the six. It is not only improper, but dangerous, to share this great responsibility with the states.” McNair recommended “That the National Guard be dispensed with as a component of the Army of the United States.”

A War Department General Staff committee on the National Guard had been suspended by the Secretary of War in May 1942, with its functions assumed by the
department’s Special Planning Division. The division recommended that the National Guard’s federal mission should be eliminated and assumed by an “Army Reserve.” After McNair’s death in July 1944, his successor, Lieutenant General Benjamin “Ben” Lear, favored only a small number of National Guard units capable of a federal mission after the war if it was ruled that the component could not be legally abolished. In September 1942, Major General Ralph E. Truman, then in an inactive status after being relieved as commander of the 35th Infantry Division, a National Guard division originally made up of troops from Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, wrote to a fellow officer that

The powers that be in the Regular Army attempted to break the National Guard Divisions during the last war and they told us the National Guard would always be maintained…when this one started, but apparently they have about succeeded in wrecking the Guard… They called us friends and brothers…and as soon as an opportunity came they broke every promise they made… I have about [concluded] Hitler is a gentleman, when it comes to lying he cannot hold a light to some of the lies…by high ranking regular army officers or breaking faith.\(^5\)

The commander of the division’s 134th Infantry Regiment, of the Nebraska National Guard, Colonel Butler B. Miltonberger, was a personal friend of Truman. Miltonberger was a fierce advocate for maintaining the National Guard as a locally-based component of the Army, and was suspicious of the Regular Army’s motives when they dealt with the National Guard.\(^6\) Miltonberger first enlisted in the Nebraska National Guard in 1916, rising through the ranks to become commander of the 134th Infantry in 1941. He subsequently fought to maintain the identity of his unit for over four years during World War II, believing that its officers and enlisted men from his state were an asset to the unit, and not a detriment.

The Nebraska National Guard’s continuous interactions with communities both inside and outside its state in various forms during the interwar period and World War II
contributed to its success. Businesses and social organizations in Nebraska, many composed of men who were current or former Guardsmen or veterans of other branches of the U.S. military, played a key role in the organization of the 110th Medical Regiment, 35th Division Train (reorganized into the 110th Quartermaster Regiment in 1936), and the 134th Infantry Regiment after World War I, and helped maintain them throughout the interwar period. Nebraskans of all backgrounds and social classes enlisted in the National Guard. Performing their state mission, the Guardsmen aided their fellow citizens five times during instances of natural disasters or civil unrest in Nebraska from 1922-1935, leading their communities to form positive impressions of the National Guard. Prior to U.S. involvement in World War II, the Nebraska National Guard was inducted into federal service with the rest of the 35th Division on 23 December 1940 by executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt for one year of training.

While stationed at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, in 1941, interactions with communities both inside and outside of Nebraska continued, sometimes in unexpected forms. Unfortunately, world events soon interfered, and the United States was drawn into World War II in December 1941 after Imperial Japanese naval and air forces attacked the U.S. Navy’s Pacific Fleet anchorage at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Miltonberger’s thoughts on the effectiveness of maintaining the locality of National Guard units would be vindicated during World War II, as Omaha World-Herald newspaper reporter Lawrence W. Youngman went overseas to England and France as a civilian war correspondent to chronicle the exploits of Nebraska National Guardsmen and other soldiers from Nebraska and its vicinity, raising their morale. The Nebraska National Guard’s units, which initially had a disproportionate number of personnel from their
home state, overcame many challenges during the war, producing an enviable combat record. In January 1945, Miltonberger wrote to Truman that “I get along very well with everyone from [George S.] Patton on down but it is all because of the…record this Regiment has made, and I believe that the credit belongs to…the fine Officers and men who have placed it where it is.” In a handwritten note on the letter, Miltonberger commented that “I feel very strongly about the position that the [National Guard] should occupy in the New Army! I have some decided ideas on the subject. I suppose they will ‘rotate’ me some time & that is an assignment I would love to have—if you care to see what can be done I would appreciate it -BBM.”

A handful of published works on the Nebraska National Guard during the interwar period and World War II exist in various formats. Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Nebraska, 1939 (1938) and Nebraska Army and Air National Guard History, 1854-1957 (1957) are yearbooks that contain short histories of each unit.8 Combat History of the 134th Infantry Regiment in World War II (1946) and Biography of a Battalion: The Life and Times of an Infantry Battalion in Europe (1950) are combat histories published after World War II by unit veterans.9 Nebraska’s Militia: The History of the Army and Air National Guard, 1854-1991, by Douglas R. Hartman, is a general reference work on Nebraska’s military forces from their inception until after the 1991 Gulf War.10 Hartman also published articles on the experience of a Nebraska National Guard unit in Alaska, and on Lawrence W. Youngman.11 In 1988, Mary Cochran Grimes wrote an article about her father Robert L. Cochran’s role as Nebraska’s governor and commander-in-chief of its National Guard during the 1935 Omaha streetcar strike.12
Several men who served in the Nebraska National Guard before and during World War II, namely Joseph G. Blount, Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, Gordon E. Cross, Robert L. Fowler, and James G. Graff, wrote memoirs or journals that they published privately or that were published posthumously by relatives. Medical Soldiers: The Story of the 110th Medical Battalion (2020) is a unit history independently published by a veteran’s son. Two master’s theses explore specific topics relating to the Nebraska National Guard in the interwar period or World War II. Donald G. Curtis’ “An Examination of the Nebraska National Guard in the Interwar Years, 1919 to 1940” (1992) is self-explanatory, while Lindsey Bauman’s “‘A Bitter Wet-Dry Fight:’ How an Infantry Regiment Influenced the Nebraska Prohibition Vote of 1944” (2017) examines how soldiers of the 134th Infantry used their service to influence a domestic ballot initiative.

Current research on the Nebraska National Guard during the interwar period and World War II has several gaps because of subject or scope. There is a dearth of information on the ways that Nebraskans reorganized their National Guard after World War I and maintained it during the interwar period. Information is also lacking on how Nebraskans on the home front and in military service tried to maintain the distinctive character of the Nebraska National Guard during World War II. The yearbooks and unit histories only briefly contextualize the Nebraska National Guard within its communities. The introduction to Nebraska’s Militia states that, “Readers seeking an overview of the significant themes in Nebraska National Guard history and its place within the context of American history may not have the stamina or interest to appreciate the level of detail that characterizes much of the narrative.” The detail and sheer number of topics considered in Nebraska’s Militia unfortunately means the book only briefly discusses the
Nebraska National Guard’s reorganization after World War I, why Nebraskans chose to enlist in the Guard and who they were, and its role in state emergencies. Donald G. Curtis’ thesis focuses on four of the five Nebraska National Guard state deployments during the interwar period. It also gives brief overviews of how the Guard functioned on a day-to-day basis and how it prepared for induction into federal service in 1940, but it does not review its organization and maintenance in extensive detail. Compared to Curtis’ work, Bauman’s thesis and Grimes and Hartman’s articles discuss specific events or topics, rather than broader themes. Likewise, the memoirs and journals of Nebraska National Guard veterans only describe “their war” at an individual level.

An examination of how the Nebraska National Guard interacted with its communities during the interwar period and World War II would be incomplete without contextualizing it within the American militia system. Historian William H. Riker called the National Guard a “curious” and “unique” force, loyal to both its state and the federal government, saying that “the United States is the only great power that relies upon a corps with dual loyalties and dual commanders.” This is an artifact of federalism, in which power is shared between the states and the federal government, and the fact that many in the new nation distrusted the establishment of a large, standing military. Clause 15 of Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution empowers Congress to “[call] forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions,” while Clause 16 empowers Congress “To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia…for governing such Part of them…employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States…the Appointment of the Officers, and the…training…according to the discipline prescribed by Congress.”
The two Militia Acts of 1792 were each in force for two years. The first defined the president’s authority to call the militia, while the second prescribed standards for the militia. The militia was “free able-bodied white male [citizens]” aged eighteen to forty-five, who had to arm themselves. If the United States was threatened or invaded by “any foreign nation or Indian tribe,” there was an insurrection in a state, or “whenever the laws...shall be opposed or the execution thereof obstructed” and the impasse could not be resolved judicially, the president could call the militia for a maximum of three months per year. In 1795, a new act that had no expiration date amended the first Militia Act. In 1808, Congress appropriated $200,000 a year “for...providing arms and military equipments for the whole...militia,” dependent upon the number of men enrolled in each state’s militia. In 1855, the act was amended to distribute materiel corresponding to the number of Congresspersons in each state. In 1862, the maximum yearly period of service of the militia was extended to nine months per year.

State militias were “actually used as such during the War of 1812 and...the Indian wars of the frontier from the 1790s to the 1830s.” Their efficiency declined in the mid-19th century for various reasons. During the Mexican-American War (1846-1848) and the Civil War (1861-1865), the U.S. government mostly eschewed militia units in favor of volunteers, although many volunteers had been militia members. A secondary purpose of the militia was maintaining the existing social order; beginning in the 1870s, many states revived their militias to confront unrest from organized labor. Volunteers (as before, many of whom were former militiamen) were again used in the Spanish-American War and Philippine Insurrection (1898-1902). The U.S. Secretary of War from 1899-1904, Elihu Root, was influenced by Emory Upton’s book Military Policy of
the United States. Studding late 19th century European militaries, Upton advocated for a powerful general staff and a large, professional military backed up by reservists who would be trained through conscription. Historian Jim Dan Hill wrote that Root preferred to “leave the Guard units…to do home duties. He would welcome the adventurous volunteers from the Guard to become enlisted men and junior officers in the professionally-commanded formation of the Volunteer Army,” which the National Guard viewed “as both a challenge and a threat.”

The Militia Act of 1903 was a political victory for the Guard. Root expressed “a willingness to go along with” militia advocates, although he still distrusted them. The act, effectively repealing the earlier Militia Acts, defined the militia as all able-bodied citizen males aged eighteen to forty-five, and those who had declared their intention to become citizens. The “Organized Militia” was called “the National Guard, or…other designations as may be given,” with the rest called the “Reserve Militia.” The name “National Guard” comes from the Garde Nationale, the Marquis de Lafayette’s citizen militia raised during the French Revolution. In 1824, Lafayette applied the term to American militias during a visit to the United States, and it soon became popular. New York’s militia adopted the term during the Civil War. By 1896, only three states still used names other than “National Guard” for their military forces, and by 1916, only one. States could raise whatever kind of militia units they pleased, but their “organization, armament, and discipline” had to be the same as equivalent Regular Army units. The president could order the Organized Militia into service for up to nine months. The federal government provided weapons and associated items. Each year, units “furnished with material of war” had to participate in “practice marches or camp of
“instruction” for at least five days, “assemble for drill and instruction…or for target practice not less than twenty-four times,” and had to be inspected by a militia or Regular Army officer. Un fortunately, Organized Militia members only received federal pay when training with the Regular Army (something that had occurred unofficially since the 1880s) or when in federal service, with states paying men for time spent in drills and encampments. Hill wrote that by the time Root’s term ended, “the [War] Department [did] all within its power to make the…Bill both workable at the National level and fully acceptable to the Governments of the States.”

A 1908 amendment removed the nine-month limit on federal service and organized a board of militia officers (called the “National Militia Board”) to consult with the Secretary of War on the “condition, status, and needs of the whole body of the organized militia.” In 1912, U.S. Attorney General George W. Wickersham opined that the federal government did not have the authority to send the militia outside the continental United States. The National Guard subsequently faced hostility from both the War Department, Secretaries of War, and Congresspersons. On 25 April 1914, the Spanish-American War volunteer act was superseded by a new act that said the Army “shall consist of the Regular Army, the…militia while in the service of the United States, and such volunteer forces as Congress may authorize.” The president could not call for volunteers until they had summoned the militia. Militia units that offered themselves for service with at least three-quarters of their strength received priority over all others.

Spurred by the outbreak of World War I and tensions with factions in revolutionary Mexico, President Woodrow Wilson signed what Hill called the “the most comprehensive military measure in American history up to that point” into law on 3 June
1916. Under the National Defense Act of 1916, the U.S. Army consisted of the Regular
Army, “the National Guard while in the service of the United States,” the Officers
Reserve Corps (ORC), the Enlisted Reserve Corps (ERC), the Volunteer Army, and other
forces authorized by law. The Regular Army, “except in time of actual or threatened
war or similar emergency,” could have a maximum of 175,000 enlisted men. The
National Guard was to have a minimum of 200 enlisted men per Congressperson within
one year, increased each year thereafter not less than fifty percent until reaching 800 per
Congressperson. The name “National Guard” was required for the Organized Militia.
The National Militia Board was abolished, and the War Department’s Militia Division
was renamed the Militia Bureau. The Chief of the Militia Bureau was “ex officio a
member of the General Staff Corps,” but one colonel and one lieutenant colonel of the
National Guard could serve as their assistants.

Enlisted National Guardsmen had to serve six years; three active and three in the
“National Guard Reserve.” Each unit was to hold forty-eight drills and a fifteen-day
encampment each year. Enlisted men were paid one-fourth of the daily pay of their
equivalent grade in the Regular Army per drill, and were not paid if they attended less
than half the drills. Officers were paid a fixed sum per year: second lieutenants, $200;
first lieutenants, $240; captains and above, $500. When troops in excess of the Regular
Army were needed, the National Guard could be “drafted” into federal service. Drafted
National Guardsmen were discharged from the militia, and were “subject to such laws
and regulations for the...Army of the United States as may be applicable to members of
the Volunteer Army, and...embodied in organizations corresponding...to those of the
Regular Army or...assigned as the President may direct.”
The militia in Nebraska dates to 23 December 1854, when Territorial Governor Thomas B. Cuming ordered that two regiments be formed, “one north and one south of the river Platte,” to protect settlers from hostile Native Americans. The Nebraska Territorial Militia’s first major action came in 1855, when several units were sent on settler protection duty northwest of Omaha. Dubbed the “Catfish War,” a lack of threat meant militiamen spent most of their time fishing. In 1859, troops went to northeastern Nebraska Territory to help oversee negotiations after a band of Pawnee warriors had attacked settlers they believed threatened their villages. In 1861, after the outbreak of the Civil War, the territory raised the 1st Nebraska Volunteer Infantry Regiment and four troops of cavalry, the latter units called the “Curtis Horse” in honor of Union Army general Samuel R. Curtis. The 1st Nebraska Volunteer Infantry fought in the battles of Fort Donelson, Corinth, and Shiloh in 1862 and confronted pro-Confederate militias in Arkansas and Missouri before being mounted as cavalry in 1863 and sent to the frontier the next year. The Curtis Horse served alongside other cavalry troops from Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri as part of the 5th Iowa Volunteer Cavalry Regiment until the end of the war. The Nebraska Territory organized a second cavalry regiment in 1862, and after it was mustered out in 1863 many members reenlisted in a “veteran” cavalry battalion which was absorbed by the 1st Nebraska Volunteer Cavalry in 1865. The consolidated unit was mustered out in 1866. During the Civil War, nearly one-third of the Nebraska Territory’s military-aged males served in some capacity.

The Nebraska territorial legislature established the position of adjutant general in 1864. The position was abolished in 1871, and the Secretary of State handled military affairs. After the Civil War, “independent companies and semi-military units” were
responsible for the defense of the state, and the efficiency of the militia declined. Nebraska State Militia units saw only limited action against Native Americans from after the Civil War until the 1890s.\textsuperscript{71} Between 1875-1879, existing units and new companies were organized into two regiments.\textsuperscript{72} In 1881, the state legislature reorganized the Nebraska State Militia as the Nebraska National Guard, appointing a full-time adjutant general.\textsuperscript{73} The 1\textsuperscript{st} Infantry Regiment was formed from existing units, supported by an artillery battery that had been formed in 1878.\textsuperscript{74} A four-day annual encampment was required, held at a different location in the state each year if funds were available.\textsuperscript{75} In 1887, the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Infantry Regiment and Troop A, Cavalry, were formed.\textsuperscript{76}

After the explosion of the U.S. battleship \textit{Maine} in Havana Harbor, Cuba, the United States declared war on Spain in April 1898, believing the country responsible as Cuba was a Spanish colony. Congress again side-stepped the Militia Clause by declaring that during wartime, the Army would consist of the Regular Army and the “Volunteer Army,” the latter made up of militia members (who could volunteer as units) or other volunteers.\textsuperscript{77} President William McKinley called for 125,000 volunteers, and Nebraska National Guardsmen and volunteers formed the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} Nebraska Volunteer Infantry Regiments and Troop K, 3\textsuperscript{rd} U.S. Volunteer Cavalry.\textsuperscript{78} Under a second volunteer call, a third infantry regiment was raised.\textsuperscript{79} The 1\textsuperscript{st} Nebraska Infantry was engaged in the Philippines, another Spanish colony, and historian Thomas D. Thiessen wrote that the regiment “earned a reputation as one of the hardest fighting regiments…but at the cost of sixty-four men killed…or dead from disease or accident and 168 wounded. No other…regiment sustained losses as great during the…Spanish-American War or during the period when the First Nebraska served in the Philippines.” Private William W.
Grayson of Company D holds the dubious distinction of having fired the first shot of the Philippine Insurrection. The 2nd and 3rd Infantry Regiments and Troop K, Cavalry, remained stateside during their service.

In 1899-1900, the Nebraska National Guard reorganized the two infantry regiments, cavalry troop, and artillery battery. In 1902, a company of signal troops was organized in Fremont, and in 1903, a “hospital corps” was formed in Lincoln. From the late 19th century until 1912, the Nebraska National Guard also had other units, including non-regimental infantry companies, an engineer company, and a machine gun company. After 1912, only the two infantry regiments, signal company, and medical unit remained. In April 1913, companies of the 1st or 2nd Infantry north of the Platte River became part of the 4th Infantry Regiment, while those south of the river became part of the 5th Infantry Regiment.

In 1916, the Nebraska Adjutant General’s Office used funds it had saved from the federal appropriation for “promotion of rifle practice” to acquire 660 acres of land northeast of the town of Ashland on the Platte River in Saunders County, for a rifle range. 161 acres were surveyed for purchase later. The area had previously been used for annual encampments in 1908, 1909, and 1914.

After Woodrow Wilson called the entire National Guard into federal service in May and June 1916 for service on the Mexican border, Butler B. Miltonberger enlisted in Company E, 5th Infantry, in North Platte, on 25 June. After serving at Camp Llano Grande, Texas, the Nebraska National Guard was mustered out at Fort Crook, Nebraska, a Regular Army post south of Omaha, in February 1917. On 6 April 1917, the United States declared war on the German Empire, and Congress later authorized conscription. On 29 May, Nebraska adjutant general Philip L. Hall was ordered to organize the 6th
Infantry Regiment, resigning to command the unit. Major Walter E. Steele was appointed acting adjutant general. The Nebraska National Guard assembled at the Lincoln fairgrounds and was mustered into federal service on 15 July. Many states, including Nebraska, subsequently created state defense forces solely under governors’ control to replace their absent National Guards.

On 18 July, the War Department directed that certain troops from the National Guards of Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and the Dakotas form the 34th Division. Permanent divisions, experimentation on which started after the Spanish-American War, were codified into law in 1916. After U.S. entry into World War I, the War Department General Staff revised the infantry division’s structure, consulting with General John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF). The infantry division organization of August 1917 had a headquarters, two infantry brigades (each of two infantry regiments and a machine gun battalion), a field artillery brigade (three field artillery regiments and a trench mortar battery), and auxiliary troops (a third machine gun battalion, an engineer regiment, a field signal battalion, a “train headquarters and military police,” and ammunition, engineer, supply and sanitary trains). Its total strength was 27,120 officers and men. A new numbering system was instituted that erased distinctions between Regular Army, National Guard, and conscript units.

On 1 August, Steele was officially appointed adjutant general. He was authorized to organize a regiment of National Guard Reserve, designated the 7th Infantry Regiment. It was to be used “at the discretion of the Governor for the protection of Railroads, Bridges, Storehouses, Food Supplies, Munitions of War, Public Property, Armories, the quelling of insurrections and riots, or conditions that would require the use
of troops; and...bringing to trial persons found committing acts of treason, or...assisting
the Imperial German government.\textsuperscript{104} Camp Cody, New Mexico, was selected as the 34\textsuperscript{th} Division’s training site.\textsuperscript{105} On 5 August, the Nebraska National Guard was drafted into federal service. Steele resigned after being selected to serve in the 34\textsuperscript{th} Division, and assistant adjutant general James T. Hollingsworth became acting adjutant general.\textsuperscript{106}

From August to October, the division organized at Camp Cody.\textsuperscript{107} After the National Guard entered federal service, 501 of its officers were relieved for “physical disability,” 341 were reclassified by “efficiency boards,” and 638 resigned. Historian John K. Mahon wrote that, “it seemed to observant Guardsmen that the replacements...more often than not...straight from civilian life, certainly had less experience than their predecessors and certainly less aptitude.”\textsuperscript{108} National Guard units were significantly reorganized to form divisions.\textsuperscript{109} The breaking up, consolidation, or conversion of many historic units “incensed the states and the units themselves.”\textsuperscript{110}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Former state units</th>
<th>Reorganized as/assigned to</th>
<th>Division</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Machine Gun Company</td>
<td>127\textsuperscript{th} Field Artillery Regiment</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machine Gun Company</td>
<td>133\textsuperscript{rd} Infantry Regiment</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
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<td>5\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiment</td>
<td>134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiment</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
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<td>6\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Machine Gun Company</td>
<td>126\textsuperscript{th} Machine Gun Battalion</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ Co. (- Band), Supply Co., and 2\textsuperscript{nd} Bn.</td>
<td>109\textsuperscript{th} Engineer Regiment</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion, less Company D</td>
<td>109\textsuperscript{th} Train HQ and M.P.</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion, less Company I</td>
<td>109\textsuperscript{th} Supply Train</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company D</td>
<td>109\textsuperscript{th} Sanitary Train</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company I</td>
<td>109\textsuperscript{th} Engineer Train</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
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<tr>
<td>Band</td>
<td>Camp Funston, Kansas</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company B, Signal Corps</td>
<td>109\textsuperscript{th} Field Signal Battalion</td>
<td>34\textsuperscript{th}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hospital Company No. 1</td>
<td>117\textsuperscript{th} Sanitary Train</td>
<td>42\textsuperscript{nd}</td>
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</table>
The 34th Division was augmented with draftees sent from the Midwestern states.\textsuperscript{112} On 1 October 1917, Major Hugh E. Clapp was appointed Nebraska’s adjutant general.\textsuperscript{113} The 7th Infantry Regiment was organized in the fall, and Nebraska governor Keith Neville (1917-1919) was selected as commander.\textsuperscript{114} Unable to secure federal service, the regiment was mustered out in January 1918.\textsuperscript{115} During the summer, most of the 34th Division’s personnel were sent overseas as replacements for casualties in AEF units in France.\textsuperscript{116} The reconstituted division sailed for Europe in September and October, and was ordered “skeletonized” soon after it started to arrive, with most personnel transferred to other units. Amid a breakdown of the AEF replacement system, another reconstitution of the division was not contemplated and only a “record cadre” remained to maintain paperwork.\textsuperscript{117} Butler B. Miltonberger was transferred to the 4th Division, serving in the occupation of the Rhineland until July 1919.\textsuperscript{118} The 34th Division missed what Mahon called the “constant relieving of officers” in combat that “seemed to some…to be more a device to bring in favored regular army replacements than to improve command efficiency,”\textsuperscript{119} and “Many officers and men of some…Replacement Divisions…were resentful for decades because of the manner in which their units had been destroyed.”\textsuperscript{120} After the armistice, the 34th Division was demobilized in January and February 1919.\textsuperscript{121} The only Nebraska National Guard unit to see combat was the 166th Field Hospital, 42nd Division.\textsuperscript{122} The division was demobilized in May 1919.\textsuperscript{123}

In December 1918, Nebraska governor-elect Samuel R. McKelvie (1919-1923) selected Colonel Herbert J. Paul as Nebraska’s next adjutant general.\textsuperscript{124} Paul was born on 6 November 1873 in St. Paul, Nebraska, graduating from St. Paul High School and attending normal school at Shenandoah and business college at Burlington, Iowa. As a
civilian, he worked as an insurance salesman, collection agent, and court reporter. Paul enlisted in Company B, 2nd Nebraska Volunteer Infantry in April 1898 and was mustered out in October. In September 1900, he was elected captain of Company B, 2nd Infantry Regiment, in St. Paul. He advanced to major in February 1905, and colonel in January 1912 as regimental commander. Paul commanded the 5th Nebraska Infantry Regiment on the Mexican Border and in France during World War I. As McKelvie awaited his return from overseas, both Clapp and assistant adjutant general Charles W. Ervin resigned. McKelvie appointed Joseph A. Storch adjutant general until Paul returned. After Paul took office in March 1919, Storch became assistant adjutant general. Nebraska’s long military history, extending back to before it even became a state, would come to be utilized in the reorganization of its National Guard.
Chapter 1

Organization of the Nebraska National Guard, 1919-1940

After World War I, Nebraska’s adjutant general, Brigadier General Herbert J. Paul (1919-39), and his staff successfully navigated the monumental task of reorganizing the Nebraska National Guard from scratch in the early 1920s. The methods Paul chose to organize National Guard units across the state ensured that communities selected to have units would remain invested in their citizen soldiers and that supplies of manpower would consistently be available. Social and business organizations including town chambers of commerce and commercial clubs, community service and fraternal organizations, and newspapers assisted in finding recruits, and subsequently maintained the welfare of the units through various means. After Paul’s retirement in January 1939, his successor, Brigadier General Guy N. Henninger (1939-59), continued his legacy.

In the National Guard’s reorganization after World War I, divisional troops from Nebraska were grouped with those from Kansas and Missouri in the 35th Division. The division quartermaster train, one of its four infantry regiments, and initially, a portion of its medical regiment, were allotted to Nebraska. By late 1922, the War Department realized that Congress’ parsimony threatened the National Guard’s development. The Nebraska National Guard’s ultimate strength of 6,400 troops at four levels was cut to only those units in the 35th Division. By mid-1924, the Nebraska National Guard had completed these organizations, and in 1925, was allotted the remainder of the medical regiment. In the early to mid-1930s, Nebraska National Guardsmen would take key positions on the 35th Division staff. Throughout the 1930s, changes were made in the
organization of the 35th Division and the Nebraska National Guard to better prepare them for modern warfare.

In 1919, the Nebraska legislature appropriated funds to support the National Guard, but the money was only to be used to maintain the Adjutant General’s Office until federal support could be secured.128 Four competing bills concerning the size and scope of the postwar U.S. Army were introduced in Congress. Until the final bill passed, no serious effort was made to reorganize the Nebraska National Guard.129 This would have dire consequences amid heightened racial tensions in America after World War I. The Omaha Bee newspaper was favored by city political boss Tom Dennison, an opponent of reformist mayor Edward P. Smith.130 On 26 September 1919, the Bee sensationally reported that Agnes Lobeck, a white woman, had been assaulted by a black man.131 Lobeck identified the man as Will Brown, and he was taken to the courthouse. Lobeck’s claims were doubted by some after an examination of Brown revealed he was crippled by chronic rheumatism.132 Two days later, an angry mob overwhelmed the police, attacked the courthouse, and dragged Brown outside, brutally lynching him. Mayor Smith was nearly hanged while trying to disperse the crowd.133 Home Guard companies in Omaha had disbanded, and companies in the Lincoln area134 and Ashland, along with a group of ex-servicemen, could not respond quickly enough before Brown was murdered. Regular Army troops later arrived, but Herbert J. Paul wrote that “we will never be able to depend upon Federal forces in case of local disasters.”135

In January 1920, an organization called the “Nebraska Rifles” was inaugurated to serve until the Nebraska National Guard could be reorganized.136 Paul intended to form two twelve-company regiments, totaling 2,400 men. Amos Thomas, who had served in
the Nebraska National Guard from 1897-1904 and rose to lieutenant colonel during World War I, was named commander of the Omaha regiment. The other regiment was to have two companies in Lincoln and ten in other communities. The only Nebraska Rifles units ever officially formed were in Alliance, Clay Center, Fairbury, and Nebraska City, however. In March Thomas and two dozen businessmen and veterans met in Omaha, starting a campaign to organize several National Guard units. As the national defense legislation approached its final form, the Nebraska National Guard’s reorganization began. Interested parties gathered lists of potential enlistees, submitting inquiries to the Adjutant General’s Office on a first-come, first-served basis. Most Nebraska communities that would eventually get National Guard units had previous histories with National Guard and State and Territorial Militia units.

In August 1919, Herbert J. Paul had received an allotment of units from the Militia Bureau, of an infantry regiment, a Signal Corps company, and a field hospital company. The infantry regiment consisted of a headquarters, headquarters company, service company, howitzer company, three battalions, and an attached medical detachment. Each battalion had a headquarters, headquarters company, three rifle companies, and a heavy machine gun company. The rifle companies were lettered “A” through “C” in the first battalion, “E” through “G” in the second battalion, and “I” through “L” in the third battalion, skipping “J,” while the machine gun companies were lettered “D,” “H,” and “M.” The service company handled the regiment’s transportation needs, except medical. The “howitzer company” was equipped with U.S.-built French 37 mm infantry support guns and light mortars because the U.S. Army Ordnance Department lacked funds to develop an appropriate light howitzer.
Major Harry C. Stein, Nebraska’s United States Property and Disbursing Officer (USP&DO), responsible for federal property and funds given to the state, assisted Herbert J. Paul with much of the groundwork of organizing units. In March 1920, the town of Hartington was approved to have a National Guard company, and the American Legion post was consulted to find recruits. The pending national defense legislation contemplated allowing many National Guard units to receive federal recognition until 1 July 1921 with only fifty enlisted men, as opposed to the one hundred required by the 1916 act. This uncertainty caused some delay, but the unit was mustered into state service on 3 August and was federally recognized as the 3rd Company on 29 October 1920. Inspection for federal recognition ensured that units were properly organized, the officers and enlisted men were qualified according to the law and the National Guard Regulations, and that armories had adequate space for drill and storage of federal property. In April, Stein was appointed assistant adjutant general in place of Storch. Stein would serve alongside Paul for nearly twenty years.
In Scottsbluff, the American Legion post, Rotary Club chapter, and businessmen cooperated with recruiting a company. The nearby towns of Mitchell and Gering were each interested in having a platoon of the unit.\textsuperscript{181} The financial loss to Scottsbluff was a concern if this occurred, as it was assumed the Guardsmen would spend their pay in their own towns, rather than in Scottsbluff.\textsuperscript{182} On 29 June, Scottsbluff’s company was mustered into state service,\textsuperscript{183} and on 29 July, was federally recognized as the 1\textsuperscript{st} Company. Mitchell recruited a company of its own, and it was mustered into state service on 20 October.\textsuperscript{184} It was federally recognized as the 5\textsuperscript{th} Company on 29 December. On 6 July, a company was mustered into state service in Omaha, and it was federally recognized on 17 August as the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Company.

The national defense legislation, which was essentially amendments to the National Defense Act of 1916, became law on 4 June. The Regular Army’s peacetime enlisted strength was increased to 280,000, “except in time of war or similar emergency when the public safety demands it.”\textsuperscript{185} The National Guard’s position as the United States’ second line of land defense was solidified, while the “Organized Reserve” encompassed the ORC and ERC.\textsuperscript{186} The head of the Militia Bureau was to be a National Guard officer, and War Department General Staff committees concerning the National Guard were to have Guard representation.\textsuperscript{187} The National Guard was to have a minimum of 800 enlisted men per Congressperson (a total of 424,800), developed in five yearly stages until 1924.\textsuperscript{188} Troops were also allotted to the District of Columbia (2,400) and the territories of Puerto Rico (5,600), Hawaii (2,400), and Alaska (600), making 435,800. Nebraska was to have 1,600 men in 1920, 2,400 in 1921, 3,600 in 1922, 5,400 in 1923, and 6,400 in 1924.\textsuperscript{189} Guard or Reserve officers were to receive most spots on allocation
boards that placed National Guard units. Section 3(a) of the act said that “the names, numbers and other designations…and records of the divisions and subordinate units…that served in the World War…shall be preserved…as far as practicable.”

The requirements for a minimum of forty-eight drills and fifteen days of field training per year were unchanged. Original National Guard enlistments were for three years, but men who had served at least six months in the Regular Army or who completed one three-year National Guard enlistment could enlist for one year. Officers were federally recognized for five-year periods. They were paid one-thirtieth of the monthly base pay of Regular Army officers of the equivalent grade per drill, and were only paid if at least half the officers and sixty percent of the enlisted men of their units were present. Captains commanding units got an additional $240 per year, but no unit commander above that rank could receive more than $500. Enlisted men received one-thirtieth of the monthly base pay of Regular Army soldiers of the equivalent grade per drill, and had to attend at least sixty percent of the drills per month to be paid. Funds were not to be allocated to pay enlisted men for more than sixty drills per year. The “draft” provision remained, but was amended to read, “On the termination of the emergency, all persons so drafted…shall resume their membership in the militia, and if the State so provide [sic], shall continue to serve in the National Guard until…their enlistments entered into prior to the draft would have expired, if uninterrupted.”

On 29 April, Captain Paul R. Halligan of the Adjutant General’s Office met with Auburn’s American Legion post about organizing a National Guard company there. By the end of July, about half the men required had signed up, and Harry C. Stein helped the Auburn Commercial Club form a committee to secure the rest. The 6th Company was
mustered into state service on 1 December and federally recognized on 15 December.\textsuperscript{198}

On 17 September, Herbert J. Paul, “making the rounds of the state for the purpose of creating…interest in the organization of…units,” met with the Hastings Rotary Club chapter and a committee was appointed to consider the matter.\textsuperscript{199} In early December, a canvas of local businesses revealed enthusiasm among employees and recruiting offices were set up. Many ex-servicemen enlisted, and enough men signed up to muster the company into state service on 20 January 1921,\textsuperscript{200} and federally recognize it as the 9\textsuperscript{th} Company on 9 February. After some initial difficulties, a purpose-built armory was funded by subscription.\textsuperscript{201}

After the National Defense Act amendments, the Militia Bureau’s allotments of units to states were modified. On 4 November 1920, the adjutants general of the Seventh Corps Area (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, and the Dakotas), met in Omaha with the corps area commander to discuss the new allotment.\textsuperscript{202} Nebraska was to have divisional, corps, Army, and GHQ Reserve units.\textsuperscript{203} Nebraska, unlike some other states, did not have to alter any existing units.\textsuperscript{204} Some states’ divisional troops were shifted because the National Guard added three new infantry divisions.\textsuperscript{205} Nebraska’s divisional troops were assigned to the 35\textsuperscript{th} Division (nicknamed the “Santa Fe Division”), alongside those from Kansas and Missouri.\textsuperscript{206}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Infantry Regiment (134\textsuperscript{th})</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Medical Regiment Headquarters (110\textsuperscript{th})</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1 Sanitary Company (No. 130)</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1 Ambulance Battalion Headquarters</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1 Motor Ambulance Company (No. 130)</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1 Hospital Company (No. 130)</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1 Medical Laboratory Section (No. 110)</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 1 Medical Supply Section (No. 110)</td>
<td>Division Troops (35\textsuperscript{th} Division)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
As in World War I, U.S. Army infantry divisions continued as “square” divisions with four infantry regiments in two brigades, but developments in modern warfare changed their organization. The machine gun battalions were replaced by a light tank company. The trench mortar battery and 155 mm howitzer regiment were removed from the division artillery, with the latter assigned to corps level. The ammunition train served only the field artillery, with other units and the division supply train being responsible for ammunition supply. The signal battalion became a company, and the train headquarters and military police gave way to one military police company. The engineer regiment and train were combined, the sanitary train became a “medical regiment,” and the division supply service (the “Division Train, Quartermaster Corps,” and from 1925 called the “Division Quartermaster Train”) was partially equine-drawn. An ordnance company handled ordnance maintenance, and a “special troops” headquarters and staff administered the division headquarters, military police, motorcycle (courier), ordnance, signal, and tank companies. At war strength under the 1921 tables of organization, the division had 19,997 officers and men, and at peace strength, roughly 11,000.208

The 35th Division comprised the 69th Infantry Brigade (134th and 137th Infantry Regiments), 70th Infantry Brigade (138th and 140th Infantry Regiments), 60th Field Artillery Brigade (130th and 161st Field Artillery Regiments and 110th Ammunition

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Division Troops (35th Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Division Train, Quartermaster Corps (35th)</td>
<td>Division Troops (35th Division)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Field Artillery Regiment (127th) *</td>
<td>Corps Troops (VII Corps)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Air Service Observation Squadron (142nd) *</td>
<td>Corps Troops (VII Corps)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Signal Company (Company A, 117th Signal Bn.) *</td>
<td>Corps Troops (VII Corps)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Field Artillery Ammunition Train (142nd) *</td>
<td>Army Troops (Third Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Engineer Regiment, General Service (166th) *</td>
<td>Army Troops (Third Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Balloon Group (10th) *</td>
<td>GHQ Reserve Troops</td>
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Note: Units marked with an asterisk were placed on the “Deferred National Guard” list in 1923 and were contemplated for organization later; this never occurred (see page 32).
Train, 110th Engineer and Medical Regiments, 35th Division Train, Special Troops, and the 35th Division Air Service with the 110th Observation Squadron. When the non-Nebraska elements of the division were fully organized, the 137th Infantry and 60th Field Artillery Brigade came chiefly from eastern Kansas. The 138th Infantry from St. Louis and northeastern Missouri, and the 140th Infantry from southern Missouri. The 110th Engineers came from Kansas City, Missouri, the special troops headquarters, headquarters detachment, medical detachment, and 35th Tank Company from St. Joseph, and the division headquarters company and detachment from Warrensburg. The 35th Signal Company, 35th Military Police Company, and 110th Ordnance Company came respectively from Kansas City, Garden City, and Wichita, Kansas. The Division Air Service was from St. Louis.

Nebraska’s allotment for fiscal year (FY) 1921 was unchanged, and organization continued. In December 1920, the Union Pacific Railroad started recruiting an infantry company from its employees in Omaha. John M. Guild, a division safety agent, was elected the captain, Douglas F. Smith, a legal staffer, the first lieutenant, and David M. Marvin, the chief clerk of the general manager’s office, the second lieutenant. The company was mustered into state service and federally recognized on 25 January 1921. Union Pacific let National Guardsmen miss work to attend annual encampments without losing pay or vacation time. At the headquarters building, they had a furnished lounge room and enjoyed “extras” in the cafeteria, to the envy of other Guardsmen and employees. In December 1920, inquiries from Falls City about a National Guard company were favorably returned. On 14 December, Harry C. Stein spoke to the town’s American Legion post, and members decided to back his
efforts. Within three days, thirty men were interested in enlisting. On 29 December, McKelvie appointed Amos Thomas a colonel in the Nebraska National Guard and commander of the infantry regiment when it was organized. The Falls City company was mustered into state service on 11 January 1921 and federally recognized as the 7th Company on 28 January. On 31 August 1920, Stein established a recruiting office at the Beatrice Chamber of Commerce and secured twenty enlistments. On 8 September, the Beatrice Daily Sun wrote, “With more than 50 names…it seems probable that the National guard membership drive will go over the top with colors flying.” The unit was mustered into state service on 11 October, but was not federally recognized as the 4th Company until 26 January 1921.

On 19 January 1921, after a meeting of interested men, Ernest Meyer of the Grand Island American Legion post reported the “nucleus of a good company.” The 10th Company was mustered into state service on 4 March and federally recognized on 25 March, with Meyer as captain. Locating the regiment’s service company in York had been discussed since January 1921 and the possibility of having the regimental band, a part of the company, piqued the interest of prominent townspeople. The York Commercial Club hosted a banquet on 9 March for men interested in enlisting, and over 200 people attended. The 13th Company was mustered into state service on 7 April, and federally recognized a week later. Fairmont, with a population in 1920 of 785, was the smallest Nebraska community to obtain a National Guard unit; the 11th Company was federally recognized on 28 March 1921.

On 12 April, Adjutant General’s Office representatives met with the Seward Commercial Club and American Legion chapter about forming the final “line” company
of the regiment. Enough men for the company signed up, beating out Holdrege. Paul commented that he had always liked Seward, complimenting the Commercial Club president for convincing him that it was an ideal location. The company was mustered into state service on 24 May, and was federally recognized on 7 June. In late April, an effort was made in Lincoln to complete the city’s infantry and field hospital companies. Outdoor exhibits detailing the National Guard were set up, and there was “personal solicitation of desireable [sic] men.” The infantry company was federally recognized as the 12th Company on 26 April, and the field hospital on 23 May. It was expected that the signal company would be recruited that summer, but this never came to pass and the unit was placed on the Deferred National Guard list (see page 32) in 1923. In mid-May, Omaha was selected to host the regimental headquarters company. Paul, Stein, and their associates did not meet with success everywhere; efforts to organize infantry units in Albion, Columbus, and Fremont ultimately failed.

In June, Captain Emmett Powell of the Beatrice company made a personal request of the Adjutant General’s Office that his company be designated “Company C” when the infantry regiment was organized, the designation it had borne for many years beforehand. On 6 June, there was “a day of sport and recreation” in Fairmont, with “band concerts, military review and drills, address by Adjutant General Paul…athletic sports, a bag dance, and a feed for…the guard, who [were] served supper in Central Park, as guests of the Commercial Club.” A “special effort was made to secure recruits.” On 1 July, the companies of the infantry regiment were redesignated with letters. The regimental headquarters company and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalion headquarters companies were organized between 5-7 July in Omaha. Nebraska City (1920 population,
6,279), Gering,\textsuperscript{251} and Lincoln,\textsuperscript{252} respectively, with battalion commanders, staff officers, and the regimental commander federally recognized. The Medical Department Detachment was federally recognized on 25 July, completing the 1\textsuperscript{st} Infantry Regiment.\textsuperscript{254} In July, a “state detachment” of enlisted men was recruited in Lincoln to assist Paul and his officers with routine administrative, sanitary, supply, and transportation tasks.\textsuperscript{255} On 25 October, the 1\textsuperscript{st} Infantry Regiment became the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiment, regaining its World War I designation, and Field Hospital Company No. 1 became Hospital Company No. 130, 110\textsuperscript{th} Medical Regiment.\textsuperscript{256}

During World War I, the Ashland rifle range was unused, and Herbert J. Paul intended to reorganize the National Guard before working on the range.\textsuperscript{257} The Nebraska National Guard’s 1921 encampment was at Camp Dodge, near Des Moines, Iowa.\textsuperscript{258} The federal government paid for state authorities to buy rations for National Guardsmen, and many Nebraska National Guardsmen and citizens of their communities contributed to unit “mess funds” to pay for food not bought by the state. In July 1921 the secretary of the Hastings Chamber of Commerce wrote to the Hastings Daily Tribune that,

The boys will be in camp for two Sundays, and a mess fund that will enable them to purchase…other things for the table not furnished [and] will show them that they have the support of the community… Hastings has already distinguished itself by being the only city in the state to supply…an armory. It will be only fitting that the town which has shown its appreciation…to the extent of providing an armory, should provide a mess fund for this trip to camp.\textsuperscript{259}

Newspapers were a popular advertising medium, and the Beatrice Daily Express kept a running total of donations to the 1922 fund.\textsuperscript{260} In addition to individual contributions, dances and carnivals were commonly used to raise money.\textsuperscript{261} More unusual fare included the “human spider,” “Climbing Bill” Strother, who scaled the front of the Conant Hotel in Omaha.\textsuperscript{262} In July 1922, units from Lincoln, Seward, and York
held a two-day exhibition at Capitol Beach Lake in Lincoln, with demonstrations and fireworks shows. The profits went to the units’ mess funds.\textsuperscript{263} Paul applied to the War Department for aid in construction at Camp Ashland in 1922, and the money he received helped build target houses and target butts and improve the firing points. The 1922 encampment was held at the federal rifle range near Plattsmouth, Nebraska. The lack of commercial activity in Ashland associated with the camp concerned the town Chamber of Commerce, which “[stood] ready to cooperate in any way possible.”\textsuperscript{264}

In October 1921, the field artillery regiment was added to the Nebraska National Guard’s FY 1922 allotment, and Paul intended to place its units to share existing armories.\textsuperscript{265} In early 1922, McKelvie and the state legislature deducted $20,000 from the appropriations for the Adjutant General’s Office.\textsuperscript{266} Paul asserted he could organize the regiment for only $8,000, but soon found it impossible because of fiscal limitations and a lack of armory space.\textsuperscript{267} The artillery regiment was replaced with the division train and the portion of the medical regiment for the FY 1923 allotment.\textsuperscript{268} The division train consisted of a headquarters, headquarters detachment, medical detachment, two equine-drawn wagon companies, four motor transport companies, and two motor repair sections. In April 1921, motorcycle companies were reassigned to the division trains and a quartermaster service company (for manual labor purposes) was added to the special troops.\textsuperscript{269} Motorcycle companies usually were attached to the special troops to remain close to the division headquarters. In 1932, service companies were also reassigned to the division trains, but none were ever organized in any Guard division train before their reorganization as quartermaster regiments beginning in 1936.\textsuperscript{270} Division trains carried supplies that included thirty-five tons of small arms ammunition, thirty-four tons of food,
fifty-two tons of animal feed, and fifty tons of gas and oil. 128 tons of capacity was reserved for other purposes. The wagon companies could carry 155 tons, while the motor transport companies could carry 144 tons.\textsuperscript{271}

Holdrege was awarded a motor transport company in late November 1922, and the company was mustered into state service and federally recognized on 29 December 1922.\textsuperscript{272} In Lexington, pastor Victor M. Hovis was tasked with recruiting the first wagon company.\textsuperscript{273} It was hoped that enough men would enlist to complete the unit by the end of January 1923,\textsuperscript{274} but it was not mustered into state service and federally recognized until 23 March, with Hovis as captain. In addition to instruction in quartermaster-related topics including motor vehicle operation and maintenance and equine care, the division train drilled in topics also practiced by infantry units, such as riot control.\textsuperscript{275} Thus, Herbert J. Paul felt the division train was “of the same value to the State, in case of an emergency…as…an extra battalion of infantry.”\textsuperscript{276}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4: Federal Recognition of 35th Division Train Units, 1922-1923</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Headquarters Detachment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Department Detachment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterinary Section, Med. Dept. Det.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Transport Company No. 138</td>
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<td>Motor Repair Section No. 119</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wagon Company No. 119</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wagon Company No. 120</td>
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By late 1922, a lack of federal and state funds threatened the National Guard’s development. A War Department program issued on 23 January 1923 called for 250,000 enlisted men and the necessary number of officers to be recruited by 30 June 1926.

Eighteen infantry divisions, four cavalry divisions, 130 coast artillery companies (later
organized into battalions and regiments in 1923-1924), and twelve separate infantry regiments were to be at “peace strength, with certain modifications.” Combat units of corps, field armies, and the GHQ Reserve that were “organized or in the process of organization” on 23 January 1923, special allotments to states, and “certain units…to complete a balanced force” were to be at a further-reduced “maintenance strength” dictated by the Militia Bureau. Units in excess of the 250,000-man figure were withdrawn from the National Guard in July 1923 and allotted to the Organized Reserve as “Deferred National Guard” (DNG) units for potential later organization by the Guard.

In March 1923, Harry C. Stein visited Kearney to organize a wagon company, urging businessmen to let their employees attend the annual encampment. Attorney Ira D. Beynon was named the recruiting coordinator, and twenty-five men signed up within a week. Stein spoke to the Chamber of Commerce in Fremont, asking for support to organize a wagon company or a motor transport company. Kearney’s wagon company was federally recognized on 29 March, with Beynon as captain and Guy N. Henninger, the future adjutant general of Nebraska, as first lieutenant. By mid-April, the motor transport company was an “assured fact” for Fremont. By 7 May, the unit was nearly complete, and on 22 May it was mustered into state service and federally recognized. Holdrege was awarded the motor repair section, and it was mustered into state service and federally recognized on 9 May. Kearney was selected to host the 35th Division Train’s medical detachment, and it was mustered into state service and federally recognized on 7 June. Captain Marcus L. Poteet, formerly the 134th Infantry’s S-4 (supply officer), was promoted to major and made train commander, and the headquarters and headquarters detachment were federally recognized in Lincoln on 7 June.
In September 1922, orthopedic surgeon Dr. Hiram W. Orr was appointed a colonel in the Nebraska National Guard and commander of the 110th Medical Regiment, as Paul chose to organize the units in a top-down fashion. The medical regiment treated or evacuated the infantry division’s battle and non-battle human and equine casualties. It had a headquarters, headquarters detachment, and three battalions (sanitary, later renamed “collecting,” ambulance, and hospital), each with three companies. There was also the division surgeon’s office, a veterinary company, medical laboratory and supply sections, and a band. The collecting companies took casualties from the battlefield or aid stations and stabilized them for further movement. The ambulance companies transported casualties, while each hospital company could establish a 250-bed field hospital. The veterinary company treated or evacuated equine casualties. It was initially intended to locate all medical regiment units in Lincoln, with the possible exception of the ambulance company, as it was felt the city could support them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Location (1920 pop.)</th>
<th>Federal recognition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters</td>
<td>Lincoln (54,948)</td>
<td>29 June 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters Detachment</td>
<td>Lincoln (54,948)</td>
<td>29 June 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Laboratory Section No. 110</td>
<td>Lincoln (54,948)</td>
<td>4 March 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Supply Section No. 110</td>
<td>Lincoln (54,948)</td>
<td>29 June 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Company No. 110</td>
<td>Lincoln (54,948)</td>
<td>29 June 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band</td>
<td>Crete (2,445)</td>
<td>15 May 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance Company No. 130</td>
<td>Hastings (11,647)</td>
<td>5 April 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collecting Company No. 130</td>
<td>Columbus (5,410)</td>
<td>25 June 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Company No. 130</td>
<td>Lincoln (54,948)</td>
<td>23 May 1921</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On 28 March 1923, Stein discussed with Dr. Carroll D. Evans, Jr., about organizing Sanitary Company No. 130 in Columbus. Evans interviewed men to gauge their interest, and the Chamber of Commerce later appointed a committee to assist him. On 29 March, Hastings was awarded Ambulance Company No. 130. In east-central
Nebraska, Hastings was close to other towns including Lexington, Grand Island, Holdrege, and Kearney, and a unit there could respond quickly to emergencies anywhere in the state. The quota of thirty-eight men was filled within three days, and the *Hastings Daily Tribune* wrote that “In several instances requests were made by parents…to make room for their sons.” The company, deemed “much above the average,” was mustered into state service and federally recognized on 5 April.

Unfortunately, the end of war propaganda and a requirement beginning in mid-1923 for minors aged eighteen to twenty to have both parents or guardians’ consent to enlist “[made] it almost impossible to secure enlistments.” The executive officer of the 110th Medical Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel David C. Hilton, wrote that “It was so soon after the Great War that most everybody was sick of the Army” and “the average mother was likely to look upon us with suspicion… She thought it was all very nice…but she did not want her son to join the Army.” To drum up interest, Hiram W. Orr went on “a house-to-house canvas in Lincoln, [and] conducted meetings in railroad yards, shops, warehouses, factories, and colleges.” In 1922, Herbert J. Paul borrowed $10,000 for work on Camp Ashland to ensure it would be ready for the 1923 encampment. Trees were removed and sheep were used to keep the grass down. Semi-permanent mess halls, latrines, and bath houses were constructed, connected by 7,000 feet of pipe and fed by water tanks holding 9,000 gallons. The buildings, west of the camp’s main road, were to the east of a field used for drills and pitching of enlisted men’s tents. The firing ranges for various weapons, north of the field, faced northeast over the Platte River.

On 30 April 1924, Nebraska National Guard officers met in Crete with businessmen and Doane College administrators and students about locating the 110th
Medical Regiment Band there.\textsuperscript{324} Fourteen men immediately wished to enlist, and eleven more did so the next week, putting the band over the nineteen members required for federal recognition.\textsuperscript{325} On 15 May, after a dinner for band members, inspectors, and guests from the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club chapter hosted by the Crete Community Club, the band was mustered into state service and federally recognized as the first National Guard medical regiment band.\textsuperscript{326} On 1 June, the Headquarters Detachment, Medical Laboratory Section, Medical Supply Section, and Band were consolidated into the Service Company, 110\textsuperscript{th} Medical Regiment.\textsuperscript{327}

Organization of Collecting Company No. 130 did not begin in Columbus until May 1924, after Major John F. Presnell, the Nebraska National Guard’s Medical Corps instructor, visited the city. He had intended to also visit Norfolk, but found “such a lively interest” in Columbus that he gave the city the first opportunity.\textsuperscript{328} John N. Evans, Carroll D. Evans’ son, coordinated recruiting, with Presnell assisting.\textsuperscript{329} Interviews, telephone calls, and postcards were used to solicit attendees for a meeting held on 28 May.\textsuperscript{330} Unfortunately, “scarcely more than half a dozen” men appeared, but eight Guard officers discussed the collecting company’s role.\textsuperscript{331} By 3 June, Evans had managed to interest forty men.\textsuperscript{332} Collecting Company No. 130 was mustered into state service and federally recognized on 25 June, with Carroll Evans as captain.\textsuperscript{333} The 1924 encampment was only a month away, so two drills were held per week to increase the unit’s readiness.\textsuperscript{334}

Herbert J. Paul relied on an experienced group of officers to guide the Nebraska National Guard through its development as a military organization in the 1920s, who were “capable of imparting instructions of the utmost value.”\textsuperscript{335} Of the 104 Nebraska National Guard officers listed in the 1924 National Guard Register on an active status,
ninety-eight previously served in the U.S. military as enlisted men, officers, or both, either in the National Guard (Nebraska or other states), Regular Army, Navy, or Marine Corps. Five had served in Nebraska volunteer units during the Spanish-American War. Twenty-two enlisted or were commissioned in the 1900s, 1910s, or for the Mexican Expedition. Sixty-five saw their first military service during World War I (fifty-two in the Army, three in the Navy, one in the Marine Corps, eight in the Nebraska National Guard, and one in the Missouri National Guard). Six first enlisted in the Nebraska National Guard after the armistice, later being commissioned as officers.336

The organization of Collecting Company No. 130 completed the Nebraska National Guard’s allotment under the reduced manpower program, and in 1925, it would begin to assume the structure with which it would eventually enter World War II. The active units of the 110th Medical Regiment were originally shared between Kansas and Nebraska. After Kansas’ adjutant general rejected the allotment of the 128th Ambulance Company, Herbert J. Paul arranged for the entire regiment to be reallocated to Nebraska.337 In April 1925, Hiram W. Orr resigned, and Hilton succeeded him as regimental commander.338 In July 1925, the Secretary of War reconstituted the 110th Supply Train, the World War I supply unit of the 35th Division, and consolidated it with the 35th Division Train.339 On 5 January 1927, the division surgeon’s office was federally recognized in Lincoln.340 On 1 September, the 130th Hospital Company was redesignated the 166th Hospital Company to honor its World War I service.341 In December, the 110th Medical Regiment was also consolidated with its predecessor, the 110th Sanitary Train.342 In 1929, the War Department reassigned 155 mm howitzer regiments to infantry divisions.343 In 1931, the 142nd Field Artillery was organized in Arkansas and assigned to
the 35th Division. Division surgeon’s offices were also deleted from medical regiments, but the personnel were retained.

The National Guard’s funding stagnated during the interwar period because of the reluctance of state and federal legislators, the 1923-1924 recession, and the Great Depression beginning in 1929. Despite small increases in the National Guard’s total strength approved for 1929 and 1930, “a program of progressive increase in the maintenance strength…essential for more efficient training and…proper equalization among the States” never occurred.

Units were limited to their maintenance strength, and many were also incomplete. Between 1929-1939, the 35th Division averaged a strength of 7,739. Only the service companies of the 134th Infantry and 110th Medical Regiments were authorized over sixty-five men before 1939. The remaining units of the 110th Medical Regiment and 35th Division Train were also not authorized to be organized before 1936. The National Guard only started to approach half of its statutory minimum strength after getting additional funding beginning in the mid-1930s and as aggression from Imperial Japan and Nazi Germany threatened the United States.

In the early 1920s, there had been a verbal agreement between the adjutants general of Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska about selecting commanders for the 35th Division from the three states in that order. The deal soon broke down, resulting in ten years of deadlock. In April 1932, Missouri and Kansas agreed to select the division commander. Missouri nominated Brigadier General William A. Raupp, but Raupp’s proposal for a short delay in taking the position was rejected and Brigadier General Charles I. Martin of Kansas, commander of the 69th Infantry Brigade, became division commander instead. On 16 August, Amos Thomas succeeded Martin as brigade
commander, and three other Nebraskans were placed on the brigade staff. Robert G. Douglas was promoted to colonel in command of the 134th Infantry, with Clyde E. McCormick as lieutenant colonel and his executive officer.

The 35th Division staff was selected in 1932-1933, and Nebraska was allotted the G-1 (personnel officer), G-4 (supply officer), division quartermaster and his assistant, and division judge advocate and his assistant. Major Thomas Q. Thornton, Harry C. Stein (in addition to his other duties), Marcus L. Poteet, Captain Harry H. Ellis, Major Richard F. Stout, and Arthur F. Young were respectively appointed to these positions, being promoted accordingly; Ellis, Poteet, Stein, Stout, and Thornton to lieutenant colonel, and Young to captain. Stout had formerly been on the state staff, Thornton on the 134th Infantry staff, and Ellis the commander of the 137th Motor Transport Company, while Young was newly commissioned. Captain Guy N. Henninger of the 120th Wagon Company was made a major and commander of the 35th Division Train. On 15 June 1933, the National Defense Act was amended to eliminate the “draft” provision. National Guardsmen were made simultaneous members of their states’ National Guards and the “National Guard of the United States” (NGUS), a component of the Army at all times. Enlisted men could take correspondence courses to qualify for commissions in the NGUS, and after induction into federal service as officers, they would be assigned to war strength vacancies in their units. The Militia Bureau was renamed the National Guard Bureau, and the “Inactive National Guard” replaced the National Guard Reserve. On 1 October 1933, the VII Corps was reassigned from the Third Army to the Fourth Army.

In July 1934, Poteet replaced Stein as 35th Division G-4, with Stein demoted to major and returning to the state staff. Harry H. Ellis became division quartermaster.
January 1935, Charles I. Martin reached the mandatory retirement age of sixty-four and Amos Thomas became acting division commander. Herbert J. Paul felt that he, rather than Thomas, would become the next commander based on the agreement between Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. An unclear line of succession and the ambitions of various officers soon caused a free-for-all. Thomas sought support in Kansas and Nebraska, irritating Paul. A deal was brokered where Paul and Colonel Edward M. Stayton of Missouri would serve successively until they each retired for age. The adjutants general and governors of Arkansas, Missouri, and Nebraska agreed that Paul should be appointed, but the Seventh Corps Area commander, observing the ongoing play of politics, ended the controversy by submitting the recommendation himself. Paul was appointed a major general and 35th Division commander on 13 September. In March, the Nebraska legislature had raised the adjutant general’s retirement age to seventy.

Since 1930, the National Guard’s maximum strength had been limited to 190,211 officers and men, even though the peace strength of allotted units was 310,000. The War Department deemed an actual strength of at least 210,000 “essential.” For FY 1936, Congress appropriated funds for 5,000 more officers and men. 5,000 more were authorized for FY 1937. In 1937, funding for a third increment was authorized, put into effect in FY 1939. These funds were used to organize essential inactive units. A fourth increment was approved in 1939 and implemented in FY 1940. The 128th Ambulance Company, 110th Medical Regiment, was organized under the first portion of additional funding. Fairbury, McCook, and Norfolk all made an effort to receive the unit. It was federally recognized in Fairbury on 22 May 1936. Effective 1 April, Paul was ordered to reorganize the 35th Division Train into the 110th Quartermaster
Regiment, a fully-motorized unit. He arranged with the adjutants general of Kansas and Missouri for the whole regiment to be allotted to Nebraska for more effective training. Marcus L. Poteet moved from division G-4 to regimental commander (Harry H. Ellis being the new G-4), with Henninger as his executive officer. The regimental commander assumed the duties of the division quartermaster and their assistant.

### Table 6: Reorganization of 35th Division Train, 1936

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>35th Division Train unit</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>110th QM Regiment unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters (Kearney)</td>
<td>Lincoln (new)</td>
<td>Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QM Section, 35th Div. HQ (Missouri)</td>
<td>Lincoln (new)</td>
<td>Consolidated with HQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters Detachment</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>Headquarters Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QM Sec., 35th Div. HQ Det. (Warrensburg, Missouri)</td>
<td>Lincoln (new)</td>
<td>Division Platoon, HQ Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35th Service Company, QMC</td>
<td>Inactive</td>
<td>Service Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Department Detachement</td>
<td>Kearney</td>
<td>Medical Department Det.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New headquarters</strong></td>
<td>Holdrege</td>
<td>Headquarters, 1st Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>137th Motor Transport Company</td>
<td>Holdrege</td>
<td>Company A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138th Motor Transport Company</td>
<td>Fremont</td>
<td>Company B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New headquarters</strong></td>
<td>Kearney</td>
<td>Headquarters, 2nd Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119th Wagon Company</td>
<td>Lexington</td>
<td>Company C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120th Wagon Company</td>
<td>Kearney</td>
<td>Company D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New headquarters</strong></td>
<td>Inactive</td>
<td>Headquarters, 3rd Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New unit</strong></td>
<td>Inactive</td>
<td>Headquarters Det., 3rd Bn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119th Motor Repair Section</td>
<td>Fremont</td>
<td>Company E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110th Motorcycle Company (Kansas)</td>
<td>Inactive</td>
<td>Company F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On 14 September, Robert G. Douglas retired for age, and Clyde E. McCormick became commander of the 134th Infantry. On 1 January 1937, the 110th Medical Regiment’s collecting, ambulance, and hospital battalions received numerical designations and the companies were redesignated with letters.

### Table 7: Redesignation of 110th Medical Regiment Units, 1937

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous designation</th>
<th>1 January 1937 designation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110th Veterinary Company</td>
<td>Veterinary Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130th Collecting Company</td>
<td>Company C, 1st Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>128th Ambulance Company</td>
<td>Company D, 2nd Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130th Ambulance Company</td>
<td>Company F, 2nd Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>166th Hospital Company</td>
<td>Company I, 3rd Battalion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In March, the state legislature appropriated $10,000 to support a National Guard observation squadron, and the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce offered the town’s airport as a base. The unit depended upon appropriations to the National Guard, and Governor Robert L. Cochran (1935-1941) pressed Nebraska’s Congressmen. Unfortunately, the Secretary of War did not hold any hope for the unit at the time. On 6 November, Herbert J. Paul retired for age as 35th Division commander, replaced by Stayton. Missouri’s governor suggested that after Stayton retired, another Missourian be appointed with the understanding he would resign on 31 December 1940, and the position pass to Kansas and Nebraska for three years each. Stayton retired for age on 4 September 1938, and Colonel Ralph E. Truman of Kansas City, Missouri, division chief of staff, was selected as commander. Paul resigned as Nebraska’s adjutant general on 1 January 1939, writing to Cochran that “as I am now past 65, I feel that if I am ever going to get any rest and be free of responsibilities, that are sometimes a little hard to carry, it will have to be now.” He also wrote, “I know that…you will select a successor…who will carry on the good work the guard has been and is now doing.” Guy N. Henninger was named the new adjutant general, writing about Paul that, “Being a man of decision, rare judgment, and endowed with the propensities of always being firm in his treatment of all concerned, this organization has marched forward…and has made remarkable strides in [an] increased state of training and proficiency under his leadership.”

Henninger was born in Shelton, Nebraska, on 16 July 1895. He graduated from Shelton High School and earned an electrical engineering degree from the University of Nebraska. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in January 1918, attending the University of California’s School of Military Aeronautics. In February 1919, he was appointed a
second lieutenant in the Signal Officers Reserve Corps as a pilot upon his discharge, transferring to the Quartermaster Corps after joining the 120th Wagon Company. He studied law, being admitted to the practice in 1930. He served as the Buffalo County district court clerk for fourteen years, and had been county attorney. Harry C. Stein, who had been removed as state USP&DO in March 1938 (replaced by Major Walter E. McConnaughey), resigned as assistant adjutant general on 15 February 1939. He was succeeded by Captain (later Major) Howard R. Turner. In January 1939, under the third increment of National Guard funding, Henninger was authorized to organize the Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment, and Company F of the 3rd Battalion, 110th Quartermaster Regiment. In March, Company F was placed in Broken Bow and was federally recognized on 6 April. The Headquarters Detachment was federally recognized in Kearney on 22 May, and the battalion commander was from Fremont.

In 1929, the War Department studied converting its infantry divisions from the square to the “triangular” configuration, with three infantry regiments and no intermediate brigades. The Regular Army’s three active divisions were reorganized in 1939. Other changes included renaming the field artillery brigade the “division artillery,” reducing it to one 75 mm gun regiment and one 155 mm howitzer regiment (later changed to three 75 mm battalions and one 155 mm battalion) with no ammunition train, and reducing the medical and quartermaster regiments to battalions with third-echelon ordnance maintenance moved to non-divisional units. National Guard divisions remained “square,” but their infantry regiments were reorganized to match those in the triangular divisions. On 1 October, the Howitzer Company, 134th Infantry, became Company F, while the existing Company F became the Antitank Platoon of the
Headquarters Company. The howitzer company’s mortars were reassigned to the machine gun companies. In 1939, new National Guard medical regiment tables of organization directed that the third company (“C,” “F,” and “I”) in each battalion should be inactive in peacetime. On 1 December, Company C, 110th Medical Regiment was redesignated Company A, Company F as Company E, Company I as Company G, and the Service Company as the “Headquarters and Service Company.”

The division surgeon’s office was reorganized in Lincoln on 24 January 1940. On 15 January, authorization was received to organize Company B, 110th Medical Regiment. Norfolk, the largest city in Nebraska that did not have a National Guard unit at the time, was interested, and the Chamber of Commerce surveyed men it believed suitable. At a luncheon on 1 March, Henninger awarded the unit to the city. Writers at the *Star-Mail* in the nearby town of Madison wished the unit had been awarded to their town, indicating why they believed it was a better fit. Company B was federally recognized in Norfolk on 9 April. The *Norfolk Daily News* wrote that “Major Evans related how a similar…company was established in Columbus…that was ‘supposed’ to be placed in Norfolk, and said the new…unit would have to ‘hit the ball’ to make up for those sixteen years.” In the 1930s, the National Guard’s horse-drawn artillery was gradually motorized, and veterinary companies were removed from the medical regiment organization. The 110th Medical Regiment was reorganized in spring and summer 1940. On 1 May, the Veterinary Company became Company H, on 1 June, the three battalion headquarters were organized, and on 1 July, the Service Company’s Band Section became a separate unit. On 1 May, the 134th Infantry’s battalion headquarters companies were redesignated “detachments;” they would retake the
“company” designation during World War II as they were assigned additional subunits, namely an antitank platoon and a communications platoon.414

On 10 September, David C. Hilton retired, receiving an honorary promotion to brigadier general. Henninger wrote that under Hilton, the 110th Medical Regiment made “consistent progress until it was recognized by the War Department as one of the very best, if not the best, medical regiment in the National Guard…” Lieutenant Colonel Philip H. Bartholomew, his executive officer and the state health director, became regimental commander.415 The Service Company, 110th Quartermaster Regiment was federally recognized in Lincoln on 17 September.416 Nebraska would not get an observation squadron, as none of the ten organized in FY 1940 or 1941 were allotted to the state.417 The War Department continued altering the National Guard’s force structure to prepare it for modern warfare. On 4 September, the 35th Tank Company was relieved from the 35th Division and redesignated Company B, 194th Tank Battalion.418 The Army’s need for horse cavalry was reexamined, and most Guard mounted troops were converted into other units.419 On 1 October, Kansas’ 114th Cavalry and elements of its parent 24th Cavalry Division were converted into the 127th Field Artillery and assigned to the 35th Division, while the 142nd Field Artillery was reassigned.420 On 23 November, Thomas Q. Thornton resigned as 35th Division G-1, succeeded by a Kansan.421 On 2 December, the Antitank Platoon of the Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry, was made its own unit, increased in size, and redesignated the Antitank Company.422

Through support from the staff of their offices and their state’s citizens and communities, Nebraska adjutants general Herbert J. Paul and Guy N. Henninger successfully reorganized the Nebraska National Guard after World War I and maintained
its readiness during the interwar period. Town commercial clubs, chambers of commerce, colleges and universities, and organizations such as the American Legion and Rotary Clubs advocated for and coordinated the organization of units. Many Nebraska National Guardsmen who had served during World War I and earlier conflicts re-enlisted in the new units, and the Nebraska National Guard soon had a core of experienced officers to lead it and impart their expertise on the next generation of officers. Businesses cooperated with their employees to allow them to have time off for service in the National Guard, some doing so without making soldiers incur any financial penalty.

Because of the allotment of divisional units of the Nebraska National Guard to the 35th Division alongside troops from Kansas and Missouri, community interaction during the interwar period crossed state lines. State pride, politics, and personal ambitions seeped into military matters in the mid-1930s as the Nebraska National Guard’s two highest-ranking officers, Herbert J. Paul and Amos Thomas, became embroiled in a dispute over who would be the next commander of the 35th Division. Starting in the mid-1930s and continuing until 1940, Nebraska National Guard units experienced several reorganizations to keep up with developments in modern warfare, discarding their horses and mules in favor of motorized transport. Despite obstacles of a parsimonious Congress and state legislature and a stagnant economy during the Great Depression, the Nebraska National Guard gradually was able to develop into a force that could be relied upon in any state emergency that justified its use.
Chapter 2
The Nebraska National Guard in Community and State in the Interwar Period

The Nebraska National Guard between the First and Second World Wars was an organization rooted in community. As civilians, Guardsmen often occupied positions in the state that were highly visible to the public eye, and National Guard facilities were used for wholesome public functions. The Nebraska National Guard was used in an impartial, peaceful manner in resolving labor and agricultural disputes and providing aid after natural disasters five times between 1922 and 1935. The Nebraska National Guard’s presence in communities in its state, both as a military force and through the leadership exercised by many of its officers and enlisted men in their civilian activities, contributed to the trust that Nebraskans developed in their National Guard. During the Great Depression, many Nebraskans chose to donate their free time to serve in the National Guard despite the difficult economic conditions. Others enlisted for the few extra dollars they could receive from their service to get by.

As a force primarily maintained at the state rather than federal level, the Nebraska National Guard faced unique challenges relating to unit support, but citizens stepped up to help solve them. After Nazi Germany’s invasion of Poland in September 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the National Guard to expand, and Nebraskans responded. Mobilization of the National Guard became imminent after Denmark, Norway, the Low Countries, and France fell to the Nazis in spring and summer 1940. In August, Congress gave Roosevelt permission to order all reserve components of the U.S. Army to active duty for one year to bolster American national security. The Nebraska National Guard was increased in strength again, and the state’s citizens answered the call.
In November, Roosevelt ordered the 35th Division, of which the Nebraska National Guard was a part, into service on 23 December 1940 for one year of training.

**Maintaining the Nebraska National Guard**

The peace and prosperity of the 1920s and Americans’ revulsion of another war meant long-term maintenance of National Guard units by some of the smaller communities in Nebraska that had enthusiastically organized them immediately after World War I became difficult. To entice enlistments in Company M, 134th Infantry, Captain Erle B. Smiley often took its machine guns to the Seward County fairgrounds, inviting civilians to help shoot down trees on the banks of the Blue River.423 National Guard units that fell below their minimum maintenance strength for an extended period faced disbandment. When a unit was disbanded, its personnel were transferred to other units in the vicinity if possible, placed in the National Guard Reserve or Inactive National Guard, or discharged.424 In February 1923, Captain Donald Frazier, of Company D, 134th Infantry, indicated his duties interfered with his job managing an electrical supply store.425 A member of the Fairmont Commercial Club said Herbert J. Paul told him that “the…company had given less trouble than any other…in the state, and that if possible we should retain [it].” A committee was formed to find a new captain and men to enlist, but Paul had relocation in mind and the company was disbanded on 9 May.426

Company D was reorganized in North Platte, which had a population in 1920 of 10,466. As one of the larger communities in the state, it had more potential personnel to select from for the unit.427 The company was federally recognized on 11 May, with Butler B. Miltonberger as its first lieutenant. He assumed command of the company in November.428 Promotions in the Nebraska National Guard resulting from the selection of
the 35th Division staff made Miltonberger the senior captain in the 134th Infantry, and on 14 January 1933, he became a major and commander of its 1st Battalion. As a civilian, Miltonberger worked for the U.S. Post Office Department and the state engineer’s office. In May 1925, Captain Oscar Flau of Company A, 134th Infantry, resigned because the duties interfered with his job as deputy sheriff. First Lieutenant Harry R. Young, the county treasurer, became acting commander, but resigned after his promotion to captain. With the company’s disbandment rumored, the Nemaha County Herald postulated that a qualified commander could not be found. The paper did not detect resentment, but regretted the relocation of the unit, writing how it had “so long been a part of our civic life…reflecting credit upon the young men who have been identified with it…” Company A was disbanded on 13 July and reorganized in Nebraska City the next day. In early 1926, the Gering Chamber of Commerce voted to support securing the Howitzer Company, 134th Infantry, from Mitchell, after the latter place ran into difficulties securing enlistments. On 15 March, the Howitzer Company was disbanded and the Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, became the new howitzer company. The Minatare Free Press wrote that “Where the headquarters company will go is not stated yet. Perhaps Bayard, Minatare, or Bridgeport would like to get it. If so, they should be getting busy…or it will go to some eastern state point…” The company stayed in western Nebraska, being reorganized in Sidney (1920 population, 2,852) on 6 July 1926 and disbanded on 30 April 1928. Captain Bert C. Grasborg, a Union Pacific employee, had the unit reorganized in Omaha on 9 May. By early 1929, Holdrege risked losing the 137th Motor Transport Company and 119th Motor Repair Section because of a lack of interest, and Commercial Club representatives met with Herbert J. Paul. The 119th
Motor Repair Section was disbanded on 13 March and reorganized in Fremont on 2 April, as town officials had pledged to find skilled mechanics interested in enlisting.\textsuperscript{438}

In 1921, the Nebraska Adjutant General’s Office matched enlisted men’s federal pay from the annual encampment. From 1922-1924, it paid each man $1.00, and in 1925-1926, $0.50. Pay went back to $1.00 in 1927.\textsuperscript{439} Appropriations cuts meant no additional pay for three years in the early 1930s, but it resumed at $1.00 from 1935 on.\textsuperscript{440} In August 1931, the \textit{Omaha World-Herald} wrote that “Scores of young men and many who saw service in the world war applied for enlistment this year. Many…are men temporarily out of work, while others desired camp life as an economical vacation period.”\textsuperscript{441} In July 1932, Company H, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, had its full strength of sixty-four men, with forty-five on its waiting list.\textsuperscript{442} In November, the Adjutant General’s Office revealed that every unit was at full strength, with waiting lists of five to twenty men each. Enticements to joining the National Guard other than money included learning skills applicable in civilian life.\textsuperscript{443} In 1932, the Union Pacific Railroad considered ending its financial support of the Nebraska National Guard. After protests from several state adjutants general, the company agreed to “allow employes [sic] who attend the camp of the Nebraska National Guard this summer the difference between their…pay and the amount which they receive from the government and state.”\textsuperscript{444} As the encampment interfered with men’s jobs, pay at which was sometimes higher than what they could receive from the government, the absence rate increased during the Great Depression.\textsuperscript{445}

The economy also required the National Guard to conserve funds. In November 1931, five drills were dropped from the rest of the FY 1932 schedule to avoid a budget deficit, but were later restored.\textsuperscript{446} In FY 1934, the federal government paid out only
thirty-six drills, but the Chief of the Militia Bureau, Major General George E. Leach, wrote that “so great was the loyalty of the citizen-soldiers and so genuine their interest in their work,” that most states held twelve “free” drills. Regular Army inspectors’ opinion of the 119th Wagon Company had dimmed since 1930, but improved by the mid-1930s. In spring 1936, Captain Merton O. Bates expressed his intention to resign, complicating the unit’s reorganization into Company C, 110th Quartermaster Regiment. While a successful search was conducted for a new commander, Robert L. Cochran dispelled speculation from Lexingtonians that the unit was going to be relocated.

Providing suitable armories was a problem for the Nebraska National Guard during the interwar period. Herbert J. Paul unsuccessfully implored the state legislature to fund state-owned armories, repeating how difficult it was to secure private buildings at reasonable rents that could protect federal property, have space for training, and be made attractive to the officers and men. Company E, 134th Infantry, used nine different armories between 1920 and 1939. On 16 June 1933, the 110th Medical Regiment Band was disbanded in Crete with “scant” notice and moved to Lincoln. The rationale for relocating was that Saline County representative Frank Freeouf had failed to support the budget in the legislature, requiring armory rents to be reduced. In February 1934, the Hastings armory was destroyed by fire, and was later rebuilt using the original walls.

Beginning in the early 1930s, Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “New Deal” programs were intended to stimulate the economy, and as part of a national tour, he spoke in Fremont in September 1935. Seven Nebraska National Guard units assisted police with security. The purpose of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) was to “move from the relief rolls to work on…projects or in private employment the maximum number of persons in
the shortest manner possible.”\textsuperscript{454} WPA funds could be used on military projects, and Herbert J. Paul urged communities with National Guard units to apply for armories.\textsuperscript{455}

In September 1935, Nebraska received $1.2 million from the WPA, including $650,000 earmarked for armories.\textsuperscript{456} Unfortunately, the state WPA administrator claimed he “could not spare the money…for so much building with a low ratio of labor to material” and only approved armories in Falls City and Kearney and a concrete boxing arena at Camp Ashland.\textsuperscript{457} It was estimated that the arena would give seventy-eight people work for three months, and each armory twenty-two people for seven months.\textsuperscript{458} Nebraska National Guard armories also served their communities outside of military training. The new Kearney armory was opened on 25-26 January 1937 with a boxing tournament.\textsuperscript{459} The Chamber of Commerce held their annual banquet there on 22 February, and Paul attended the building’s dedication.\textsuperscript{460} In 1934, the city of Beatrice favored building a new auditorium. In 1935, WPA funding was secured, and the design included a basement armory with a drill hall that doubled as a banquet hall, a soundproof small-bore rifle range, lockers, showers, and storage rooms.\textsuperscript{461} The building was not finished until early 1940, however.\textsuperscript{462} On 7 January 1939, three fugitives from Ohio broke into the Omaha armory (the old fire station at 1202 Dodge Streets\textsuperscript{463}) to steal weapons. Butler B. Miltonberger and Captain Earl H. Kelso, who happened to be in the building at the same time, subdued Willard Brucks after a scuffle, but Brucks’ two accomplices escaped. Miltonberger was commended by Clyde E. McCormick, Amos Thomas, the Omaha police chief, and Robert L. Cochran for his bravery.\textsuperscript{464}

\textbf{The Personnel of the Nebraska National Guard}
The Nebraska National Guard’s officers and men ranged from key pillars in their communities to everyday next-door neighbors, and units’ personnel often mirrored the social hierarchy of their communities. Men’s leadership abilities as civilians and previous military experience often translated to leadership positions in the Nebraska National Guard. Walter H. Jurgensen, Nebraska’s lieutenant governor from 1933-1938, was a captain in the quartermaster section of the state staff from 1933-1937. Amos Thomas, an attorney, was president of the National Progressive Life Insurance Company, chairman of the Omaha Municipal Airport commission for ten years, and was assistant attorney general of Nebraska in 1920-1921. He was also a three-term state legislator from 1936-1942. Robert G. Douglas had been a teacher, and was the owner, editor, and publisher of the Benedict News-Herald and Osceola Record newspapers from 1901-1923. Clyde E. McCormick had been a postal clerk since 1899, and also served as a civil service examiner. In 1922-1923, Marcus L. Poteet was a member of the committee that helped fund a new football stadium for the University of Nebraska. The March 1927 issue of The Bulletin, 134th Infantry, was devoted to Company C. Businesses supporting the company were listed, with the names of Guardsmen who were employees. The issue also thanked Barney Drummond, the “genial landlord” of the company’s armory in the Kimball Laundry building. The Lincoln Star wrote that the 110th Quartermaster Regiment had “one of the highest averages in enlisted personnel in the entire National Guard… The educational average of one company, which…[had] a Ph. D. for a corporal, [was] one year of college work completed.”

Enlisting in the National Guard below the legal minimum age of eighteen was not uncommon. Warren C. Wood, the son of Asa B. Wood, the founder and publisher of the
Gering Courier newspaper, enlisted in the Howitzer Company, 134th Infantry, at fifteen in March 1924. After rising to company first sergeant, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in February 1932, becoming a first lieutenant in May 1939. Sixteen-year-old Rex D. Alshouse enlisted in Company M, 134th Infantry, in October 1927. Three years later when he was discharged, he had been promoted to sergeant. In 1929, fifteen-year-old LeRoy V. Olson accompanied his older brother Wilbur, a member of the Medical Detachment, 134th Infantry, to a drill. The younger Olson asked commander Major Rolland R. Ensor about enlisting, and remembered Ensor telling him, “Don’t let that [the age problem] bother you, get a note from your folks, come on down, and sign up.” Olson said, “I was young, but Major Ensor…made sure nothing happened to me.”

Burl M. Johnson, who enlisted in Company I, 134th Infantry, in November 1937 at fifteen, remarked, “I had three years of service…before I was old enough to join.”

Jacob R. Nanomantube, a World War I veteran, served in Company B, 134th Infantry, three separate times from the late 1920s to the late 1930s. In July 1938, he enlisted in the company for a fourth time, accompanied by his fourteen-year-old son Thurman, who successfully claimed to be eighteen. The pair served until discharged in October 1940.

In Omaha, Robert L. Fowler recalled receiving “government cheese” and “government butter” as a boy in the early 1930s. In 1937, the sixteen-year-old Fowler heard from his mother about a place where he could make thirty dollars in fifteen days. He intended to use the money to buy clothes for his last year of high school and said, “I had money enough left over to, I don’t know what, I can’t even remember whether I had a girlfriend then or not. I was going to say, ‘take a girlfriend to the movies,’ but I don’t think I even had a girlfriend then.”
Fowler’s mother told him to go to Kresge’s Department Store downtown and ask for Albert B. Osborne, commander of Company L, 134th Infantry. On 22 July, Fowler met with Osborne and the company first sergeant, Louis P. Burmester, at the armory. Fowler filled out his enlistment papers and “bluffed it out” even though Burmester, “a big, mean-looking guy,” said, “you sure don’t look eighteen.”

Robert’s younger brother James enlisted in Company L in July 1939.

Foreign languages spoken by men of the 134th Infantry included Danish, French, German, Italian, Polish, Spanish, and Swedish, among others, and Company L had many members who lived in South Omaha, a haven for immigrants.

Fowler said that, [W]e had a company commander, I think he was Irish, Kelso was his name. It was near St. Patrick’s Day, and I remember him…saying he had a whole company of Irishmen. Oh…probably thirty percent of our outfit was Italians, so he called them the Black Irish. Then we had…thirty percent that was probably Bohemian and Polish. And most of the guys in those days, well, they lived in South Omaha, so he called those guys South Omaha Irish, and the rest of them were halfway Irish, somehow… Basically what he was referring to, was the [company’s] nickname of Foreign Legion because we did have probably a greater variety of different nationalities…than any of the other units. [A]ll the other companies knew Company L by that nickname… Company L could also boast of the dependable Edward E. Moe, who was not absent or tardy to a drill from late 1926 until his discharge in October 1940. At the 1936 company banquet, Moe got a certificate from Herbert J. Paul, and in 1938, the company presented him with a gold watch.

The National Guard was racially segregated like the rest of the U.S. military and limited African Americans to a handful of units, none of which were organized in Nebraska.

Paul appreciated how high school and college students brought the Nebraska National Guard “to a much higher standard and…morale is all that could be hoped for.” Nearly all of the original enlisted men of Company D, 134th Infantry were North
Platte High School students. In 1939, five Holdrege High School seniors received leave from training at Fort Crook to play in the school’s Thanksgiving football game.

John L. Cantoni enlisted in Company L, 134th Infantry, in January 1939 while studying business at Creighton University, hoping to take over his father’s restaurant. Graduates of the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) programs at Creighton and the University of Nebraska often served as National Guard officers.

Richardson County, Nebraska, and adjacent Brown and Doniphan Counties in Kansas, contain the reservation of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska. In August 1940, thirteen of the eighty-three men in Company B, 134th Infantry, were Native Americans, including Jacob and Thurman Nanomantube. Melvin White Cloud, a great-grandson of Jim White Cloud, the chief of the Iowa tribe from 1865-1940, enlisted in the company in October 1940.

Service in the Nebraska National Guard was also a family affair. Two of Herbert J. Paul’s sons, Herbert D. and James R. Paul, served alongside their father in Lincoln units of the Guard.

In May 1935, the Howitzer Company, 134th Infantry, with sixty-four men, had twelve pairs of brothers on its roster. The Gering Courier said that “This is just another reason why the...company boasts a personnel equalled [sic] by few in the state, and perhaps a reason why such fine showings are made in annual inspections.” Many new members of the Nebraska National Guard in the late 1930s were sons of men who had gone with the Guard to the Mexican border and World War I. In Hastings, Elbert A. Dailey and John Eckerdt, Sr., enlisted in Company G, 5th Infantry, in 1916 and 1917; John’s son John Jr. and Elbert’s son Lewis enlisted in Company G, 134th Infantry in February and June 1940, respectively.

**Training and Command in the Nebraska National Guard**
The backbone of the Nebraska National Guard’s training during the interwar period was the weekly drills. The training programs for the state’s three major units lasted from the end of one annual encampment until the beginning of the next, focusing on securing proficiency in basic, specialty, and tactical training so that all could be demonstrated at the annual encampment.\textsuperscript{501} The 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry’s program exemplified the National Guard’s role:

(a) To maintain that stage of combat training which will enable each unit to be prepared at all times for immediate service in minor emergencies; for use by the State and Federal Governments; in the suppression of domestic disturbances, insurrections, or flood and tornado relief.
(b) To provide a first line component of the Army for use by the Federal Government and available for combat, which can be expanded to war strength upon the outbreak of war.\textsuperscript{502}

New recruits were trained in the basics of soldiering by the most qualified instructors before participating in drills with their units. The 110\textsuperscript{th} Medical Regiment’s Lincoln units used a separate “recruit detachment” for this purpose.\textsuperscript{503} During drills, all soldiers studied subjects including the Articles of War,\textsuperscript{504} military customs and courtesies, unit organization, and care of equipment.\textsuperscript{505} Infantrymen and quartermaster troops further mastered the care and use of their weapons, and trained in infantry tactics, riot control, and disaster relief.\textsuperscript{506} Medical troops learned human and equine anatomy and first aid. Work with live horses and mules was limited to the annual encampment, however.\textsuperscript{507}

The annual training at Camp Ashland increased the Nebraska National Guard’s combat readiness by allowing realistic application of the skills mastered during drills. Men served under continuous military discipline and used communal facilities. An athletic meet that promoted competition and team-building and increased morale and physical fitness closed each camp. Construction at Camp Ashland from the mid-1920s to
the mid-1930s used both state and federal funds. In 1924, the main road was resurfaced, a levee was built, and a swimming pool was dug. 1925 brought a new 30,000-gallon water tower and sewer system, and in 1926, new bath house-latrines. In 1927 and 1928, the camp got electric lights, and enlisted men’s mess halls and a headquarters building were built. In 1929 a recreation hall called “Memorial Hall” was built. In 1931, the drill field was expanded and new target butts and a warehouse were built. In 1934, concrete tent floors were poured for enlisted men’s tents.

Feeding nearly 2,000 men for two weeks was challenging, but benefitted Nebraskans in more ways than one. For example, in 1936, Harry C. Stein solicited various businesses for thirty-six tons of meat, vegetables, bread, coffee, sugar, flour, cornmeal, fats, 24,000 eggs, 2,700 gallons of milk, 204 cans of baking powder, 725 pounds of salt, 130 pounds of tea, and “case after case of pepper.” In addition, “Jams, macaroni, noodles, pickles, cheese, evaporated milk, prunes, corn syrup, peas, green beans, corn…cherries…peaches…pineapple, grapefruit…raisins, soda, beets, kraut, oatmeal…and many other items [were] furnished…” Unopened items were returned, but most leftover rations were donated to charitable institutions including Father Flanagan’s Home for Boys and the Tabitha Home orphanage and senior care center in Omaha, or the state orthopedic hospital in Lincoln. Mess funds continued to allow the purchase of other foodstuffs that the state did not provide.

Horses and mules for the camp for riding or pulling wagons or carts were rented from local citizens or borrowed from nearby Regular Army units. The mules acted like mules often do, and officers were amused as they watched men from the cities try to harness and ride the cantankerous animals. In 1930, a mule polo game was attempted.
The best rifle marksmen had a chance to qualify for the Nebraska National Guard rifle team that went to the annual National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, when funds were appropriated for the competition. In 1936, a three-day command post exercise (CPX) and mock battle was held during the second week of camp in which the “Blue” Nebraska National Guard forces aimed to capture the Platte River railroad bridge near Ashland from the imaginary “Red” forces, stressing defense against aircraft and mechanized forces. National Guard encampments and maneuvers gave Reserve officers opportunities for their required yearly two weeks of active duty training, and they were often attached to Nebraska National Guard units.

The athletic meet was the highlight of the camp. In 1929, each unit could enter a baseball, basketball, and “playground ball” team, two men for each track event, one man in each weight class in boxing and wrestling, and as many participants in each swimming event as they wished. The first five units to submit lists of participants got a point bonus (up to one hundred), and units earned ten points if they entered teams or had at least one man in all events or weight classes, plus an “entertainment” entry (“skits—songs—or any other entertainment”). Basketball teams, boxers and wrestlers got five points for entering and for each round they won. A semifinal win was worth ten points, while a finals win earned twenty-five. Swimmers and track athletes earned one point for third place, three points for second, and five points for a win. Units were proud of their athletic achievements, and used them as recruiting pitches. Beginning in 1930, soldiers at the camp could use a miniature golf course in their free time.

Nebraska’s governor reviewed the troops on “Governor’s Day.” Civilians were invited to attend, and crowds were routinely in the thousands. In 1925, Governor Adam
McMullen (1925-1929) said he “charged down the field on [his]…horse, looking as much as I could like Napoleon, [I] rode around the troops and took up my position…and the troops marched by and I reviewed my soldiers with great pride. It was a wonderful sight, those troops at their best. It was…the best camp ever held in the state.”528 In 1930, Governor Arthur J. Weaver (1929-1931) watched a demonstration of the Howitzer Company, 134th Infantry, and “himself took [the] lanyard and registered a hit on the…target” 600 yards away.529 Ribbons, medals, and trophies were given to individuals and units for military and athletic achievements. The 110th Medical Regiment unit with the best “paper work, kitchen inspection, and…drill” got the “Hilton Trophy,” while the Omaha Chamber of Commerce sponsored a trophy (a plaque from 1929 on) for the 134th Infantry unit with the “best efficiency in all…camp activities.”530 The “Fawell Trophy” (sponsored by a former Guardsman) recognized the best-drilled company at the camp.531 The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce’s “magnificent silver loving cup” went to the unit with the best overall athletic performance; “this nearly always [went] to Co. H, the Grand Island machine-gunners, who [were] strong on fighters.”532

In 1936, Camp Ashland hosted about 200 officers and men from the staffs of the 35th Division, division special troops, and 70th Infantry Brigade, along with the division headquarters detachment and company and 35th Signal Company.533 In 1937, the division trained at Fort Riley, Kansas, with other Fourth Army units, the first time it assembled in one place.534 The maneuvers’ purpose was “training in mobilization, concentration, and…operations…conducted under realistic conditions of modern warfare simulated to the greatest practical degree.”535 Troops assembled on 15-16 August. 17-21 August were division training days, with schools and a “division field exercise,” while 22 August was
a rest day. The 35th Division’s unit training focused on writing and issuing orders, combining infantry with supporting artillery and air observation, defense against air and mechanized forces, and operating logistical units in different tactical situations. From 23-26 August, the 35th Division maneuvered against a provisional cavalry division. On 27 August, there was a critique followed by more division training. The troops returned home on 28-29 August.

The Nebraska National Guard in State Emergencies, 1922-1935

Nebraska’s governors, the commanders-in-chief of its National Guard, used troops five times from 1922-1935 to response to civil unrest or natural disasters. In late 1921, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters union went on a nationwide strike. About four hundred union workers at the Morton-Gregson plant in Nebraska City walked out on 5 December. There were only occasional disturbances, but Nebraska federal judge Samuel Munger said that “it was only a question of time before the National Guard would be called in;” a brawl broke out between strikebreakers and workers on 25 January 1922. City authorities asked for help, and on 28 January, Samuel R. McKelvie declared martial law in the precinct of Otoe County containing Nebraska City, ordering out the National Guard. With Robert G. Douglas in command, Companies A, B, G, I, and M, detachments from the 3rd Battalion Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry, and Hospital Company No. 130, 110th Medical Regiment, and several officers and men ordered by name went to Nebraska City. The first troops arrived that afternoon.

Herbert J. Paul ordered all “pool halls” and “soft drink parlors” closed, and prohibited “assemblages in the streets.” Vagrants were subject to arrest. Civilians had to surrender all weapons and ammunition and could not comment negatively on “the United
States or state of Nebraska or their officers.”⁵⁴² A commission of officers tried people that were detained for violating the proclamation.⁵⁴³ Paul stated that “The conduct and appearance of…the command and their attitude towards persons with whom they come in contact is of extreme importance. Extreme care must be used to show no favors to either side…but duty must be performed firmly and courteously.”⁵⁴⁴ On 29 January, several assaults were reported, and Douglas ordered the streets cleared.⁵⁴⁵ Douglas, a state legislator, went to attend the session and Amos Thomas came to command the troops until he returned.⁵⁴⁶ The next day, the strike ended in Omaha, and in Nebraska City, things were “moving along smoothly and…the situation was well in hand.”⁵⁴⁷

On 2 February, the Nebraska City workers ended their strike, but it was said “the stay of the troops [would] be determined by the manner in which local conditions shape themselves in the next few days.”⁵⁴⁸ McKelvie did not intend to call off the troops until he felt that the police could deal with any issues.⁵⁴⁹ On 5 February, hundreds of people, including specially-invited members of the Chamber of Commerce, watched a weapons demonstration by the 134⁴ Infantry:

The machine gun demonstration…was in charge of Captain Smiley of M Company, Seward. The Browning Automatic Rifle…was demonstrated…by “Top’ Sgt. Alex Reiber [sic] of G Company, Hastings. Bayonet drill was demonstrated by Private Fred Sherman of G Company. The riot gun was amply explained and…shown by Corp. W.E. Snyder of G Company, while the…service rifle was shown by Lt. F.B. O’Connell of I Company, Lincoln. The 45-caliber automatic pistol…was explained by Lt. Runyon of B Company, Falls City.⁵⁵⁰

All student National Guardsmen were relieved to resume their studies.⁵⁵¹ Nearly two dozen men were tried by the military commission for drunkenness, possession of weapons or liquor, or unlawful assembly. Sentences ranged from reprimands and fines to nine months in the county jail.⁵⁵² On 6 February, the troops started home, beginning with
Company I. Company A left on 8 February, Company M (feeling “well treated”) on 10 February, and the detachment of the Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 134th Infantry on 12 February. Companies B and G and the detachment of Hospital Company No. 130 departed on 16 February as martial law ended and the military commission was dissolved. Paul was pleased with the operation, and Thomas felt “the morale and conduct of the troops…brought credit to the Nebraska National Guard.” Several men appealed their convictions, with two asserting to the federal district court of Nebraska that the military intervention was unwarranted and their sentences should not have extended past the time the military commission existed. Their argument was rejected, and the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals was also unconvinced.

On 8 May 1930, a tornado hit Hastings, killing one person and injuring several others. The mayor asked Arthur J. Weaver to mobilize Company G, 134th Infantry, and from 9-12 May, two officers and forty-four men who could be reached (many telephone lines had been knocked out) directed traffic and prevented looting. In late May 1935, heavy rains in Colorado, Wyoming, and southwestern Nebraska caused the Republican River, which flows west to east through south-central Nebraska, to begin to rise. On 30-31 May, the river’s wrath forced people to flee, with several reported drowned. The next day, two villages in Dundy County were swept away amidst severe storms, with the death toll estimated at anywhere from fifty-two to 250. On 1 June, with Cochran out of state, Walter H. Jurgensen declared an emergency, mobilizing the National Guard.

Herbert J. Paul was ordered to “immediately take charge…and render all possible assistance and aid, using whatever troops…necessary.” With Guy N. Henninger in command, the Headquarters and Medical Detachments, 137th Motor Transport Company,
and 119th and 120th Wagon Companies of the 35th Division Train and the 130th Ambulance Company, 166th Hospital Company, and a detachment of the Service Company, 110th Medical Regiment, responded. The *Holdrege Citizen* reported how Guardsmen assisted in “the more sensational rescue work” by wading into the water with ropes tied around their waists or using small motorboats, including “a family taken from the wreck of their house, lodged on a tree in the roaring stream, west of Alma.”

The medical units established aid stations. Seventy-eight people were rescued, and several bodies were recovered. On 3 June, Company D, 134th Infantry, was alerted in case the Platte River flooded, but the company was stood down the next day. On 4 June, the National Guard returned home and civilians took over the relief operation. Twenty-one officers and 237 men were used, which cost the state $4,878.38.

The Omaha Traction Company, which ran streetcars in the city and neighboring Council Bluffs, Iowa, had clashed with organized labor since 1909. On 20 April 1935, 268 workers went on strike after the company refused their demands. The company fired them, hired strikebreakers to run the streetcars, and four days later, “the first two cars were sent out…with thick wire covering the windows…armed guards on board, and escorted by police cars.” Tensions continued until three nights of rioting began in South Omaha on 12 June, in which two men were killed and many people were injured. After threats were made against the streetcar company’s stockholders, local businesses, and the police, and “an unusual number of weapons and ammunition” were purchased early on 15 June, city officials realized the police could not handle the situation. Cochran again happened to be out of state, so Jurgensen declared martial law and ordered out the
National Guard. The *Omaha World-Herald* wrote that “Street cars, the object of the mobs’ fury, were sent to the barns before dark.”

Herbert J. Paul proclaimed that “all persons who have…given aid or…supported the lawlessness” could “return to peaceful occupation” if they would not associate with “any lawless person or persons.” Alcohol sales were banned between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. “All assemblages in the streets and parks of…Omaha and its suburbs and subdivisions” were prohibited, civilians could not defame the troops, and vagrants were subject to arrest. A military commission was established. Paul warned the troublemakers to disperse, threatening to use “sickening” and “knockout” gases for riot control. The first troops went into South Omaha around 9 PM on 15 June, and by nightfall, 650 had arrived. By noon the next day, 103 officers and 1,273 men from every Nebraska National Guard unit except the two regimental bands, the 130th Collecting Company, and the 110th Veterinary Company, were in the city.

The troops were billeted in the armory and various public buildings. The *Omaha Daily Bee-News* wrote that the Guardsmen’s presence was felt with “details assigned to car barns, bridges, and power centers,” and roving truck patrols to respond quickly to trouble. Streetcar service resumed, and Robert L. Cochran, who had hurriedly returned to Omaha, vowed that the troops would not be used as strikebreakers. Jurgensen, who briefly was commander-in-chief of the Guard, reverted to one of Herbert J. Paul’s subordinates upon Cochran’s return. As the occupation’s scale would require an emergency legislative session to deal with funding, Cochran ordered that negotiations begin so “peaceful and normal” streetcar service could resume on 21 June. On 17 June, Cochran rejected the streetcar company’s proposal, and the
cars went back in their barns.\textsuperscript{579} Alcohol sales resumed, but five troublesome bars remained closed.\textsuperscript{580} Streetcars started running again on 18 June, and the arbitrators reconvened the next morning.\textsuperscript{581} A temporary settlement allowed the strikers to return to work at their old wage, and the troops dispersed on the 21\textsuperscript{st}.\textsuperscript{582}

Ten men were charged by the military commission for violating the alcohol policy. Eight were found guilty, and each punished with fines and ten to fifteen days in jail.\textsuperscript{583} Two other men each received thirty days in jail for defaming the troops. “A large number of other matters were investigated, on which no charges were filed.”\textsuperscript{584}

Robert L. Cochran’s daughter called her father’s order for the Omaha Traction Company and striking workers to negotiate while using the National Guard to maintain peace “so unusual…when three western governors…recently used their militias to force strikers into submission.”\textsuperscript{585} “Not a shot was fired” during the occupation, and the National Guard was commended by labor leaders, newspapermen, and veterans for its impartiality and professionalism.\textsuperscript{586} The state had to pay $34,339.46, and the Adjutant General’s Office appreciated how Cochran tried to avoid unnecessary expenses.\textsuperscript{587} Captain Fred C. Petersen of Company D, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, thanked North Platte businesses for letting his soldiers miss work, and Amos Thomas recognized Miltonberger and his battalion for the…manner in which [you] functioned while on emergency duty…. You were assigned a very difficult area to police, which required tact, judgment and skill to properly handle, and I do not recall receiving a single complaint from the manner in which any members of your command functioned, and the proof of the efficiency…is…there was never the slightest trouble…in your area.\textsuperscript{588}

Starting in 1931, Nebraska irrigation officials tried to gain control of the headgates of Scotts Bluff County’s Mitchell Irrigation District on the Platte River, just inside the Wyoming border.\textsuperscript{589} In August 1935, amid the court fight, the District was
ordered to close its headgates so more senior appropriators could get water first. Their refusal was met with blockage of their canal with a sandbag dam south of the village of Henry. The state sued the District for contempt of court, and some unruly farmers dug a ditch to divert water around the dam. The District voted against the state’s ultimatum, and Robert L. Cochran declared martial law in the county on 28 August. Company E and the Howitzer Company, 134th Infantry, protected state workers tending the dam and watched for trespassers. A military commission was established, but there were no disturbances or arrests and the Scottsbluff Daily Star-Herald wrote that “no difficulty in the future [was] anticipated.” The peacefulness let Company E return to Scottsbluff on 31 August. Guardsmen were replaced by sheriff’s deputies as martial law ended on 4 September, and the Howitzer Company went back to Gering. Fifteen officers and 115 men were used, which cost the state $3,639.69.

The Nebraska National Guard Prepares for Federal Service, 1939-1940

On 1 September 1939, Nazi Germany invaded Poland, beginning World War II in Europe. Seven days later, Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed a limited national emergency, ordering an increase in the size of the U.S. military. The Regular Army’s enlisted strength was increased to 227,000, augmented by Reserve officers ordered to active duty, while the National Guard’s enlisted strength was increased to 235,000, “with…increases in commissioned strength as is essential for command.” The fourth increment of 5,000 officers and men was included in this figure. Seven more days of annual training and twelve more drills were to be completed before 31 January 1940. On 21 September, Adjutant General Henninger was authorized to add 225 men to the 134th Infantry, and “less than five hours after the York News-Times…[announced]
that...30 men would be received by the York unit...18 men completed their enlistment."

John G. Holzenberg, a veteran of Company C, 134th Infantry, from 1925-1928, reenlisted in September 1939. Interwar War Department policy discouraged men who had dependents from enlisting or reenlisting, and in 1939, National Guard officials obeyed new, stricter, regulations. In Hastings, the *Morning Spotlight* wrote that “a number of married men sought admittance, but were turned down.” On 30 September, the National Guard had 204,219 officers and men.

After Richard F. Stout died unexpectedly on 15 October, Arthur F. Young was made division judge advocate (according him a lieutenant colonel’s rank), with Maurice B. Nye commissioned a captain as his assistant. On 19 October, Henninger was notified to plan the additional training. Fort Crook was selected as the site. Robert L. Cochran urged employers and educators to allow men’s absence without penalty. Captain Dean E. Coonley of Company C, 134th Infantry, said that businesses should “cheerfully and honestly make every effort” to give time off, and “the necessity to have a...force competent to afford the protection of our homes and businesses...calls for a sacrifice on the part of all concerned.”

Because of limited accommodations, the Nebraska National Guard trained in two groups, from 26 November-2 December 1939 and 27 December 1939-2 January 1940. Walter E. McConnaughey made sure the first group got a proper Thanksgiving dinner. Officers of the 35th Division, 69th Infantry Brigade, 110th Medical Regiment, and 110th Quartermaster Regiment attended classes at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, from 3-9 December 1939. Infantrymen trained in military intelligence, marches, scouting and patrolling, and small-unit tactics. Quartermaster troops were instructed in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles and defense
against air and mechanized forces. Medical troops applied their skills during a field exercise with the 134th Infantry, treating mock casualties at two aid stations while emphasizing defense against air attacks and chemical weapons.615

Increased National Guard funding for FY 1941 allowed for sixty drills and participation in major three-week Army maneuvers planned for summer 1940.616 The Omaha World-Herald urged businesses to accommodate the absence, writing that “If their men know that their jobs will not be jeopardized…they will devote more energy toward training, learn more, and return…with renewed vigor.”617 In April and May 1940, Nazi Germany invaded Denmark, Norway, the Low Countries, and France in succession.618 George C. Marshall held a staff meeting to discuss preparedness. On 20 June 1940, bills proposing the first peacetime conscription in American history were introduced in Congress. France surrendered five days later.619 Congress appropriated funds to increase the Regular Army to 280,000 enlisted men, and later to 375,000.620 Both Roosevelt and Marshall desired to mobilize the National Guard, with the latter weakening his objections to conscription.621 Marshall wanted to use the National Guard to defend U.S. interests in the Western Hemisphere, free Regular Army units for emergency use, and train draftees should conscription become law.622 The Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Major General John F. Williams, wanted National Guard units at their maximum allowed strength by the end of June. The National Guard had 241,612 officers and men by that date, and the shortfall of enlisted men was only 7,349, or an average of two per unit.623 The officer allotment of the Nebraska National Guard’s three regiments was increased to peace strength, and infantry battalion commanders were authorized promotion to lieutenant colonel.624 On 29 July, Roosevelt asked Congress for
permission to order the Army’s reserve components to active duty, and a resolution (SJR 286) was introduced the next day.625

Personnel turnover in the National Guard increased as mobilization loomed.626 Men under the rank of staff sergeant with dependents627 or employed in national defense jobs628 were urged to resign. Men with less than four months left in their enlistments would be discharged at induction, so they were asked to apply for discharge and reenlist for three years. If discharged at induction, they could reenlist without losing their rank, but it was required to be in the “Army of the United States” (AUS) without specification of a component, rather than the National Guard.629 Men whose enlistments expired in federal service would return home, and if they desired to reenlist, it also had to be in the AUS.630 Underage enlistments were scrutinized,631 medical examinations were readministered, and officers’ qualifications were checked.632 Between 23 July 1940 and the inductions of their respective units, 96,043 officers and men were discharged from the National Guard.633 The number was entirely made up and Williams praised the “recruiting ability…loyalty…and energy of all members of the National Guard,” but many new soldiers had to be quickly trained.634 Between 23 July and 22 December 1940, five officers and 327 men left the Nebraska National Guard because of dependents, three officers and twelve men for “physical disability,” and five officers, one warrant officer, and 443 men for “other reasons.”635 Arthur A. Aaron had first enlisted in the Nebraska National Guard in 1916, later serving in the infantry and engineers in the occupation of the Rhineland until 1923. After considering current world conditions, he enlisted in Company M, 134th Infantry, in August 1940.636
From 4-24 August, the 35th Division participated the Seventh Corps Area concentration of the Fourth Army maneuvers near Camp Ripley, Minnesota. The maneuvers involved about 45,000 troops in three infantry divisions with supporting infantry, artillery, cavalry, and air forces. After three days of preparation, the “Blue” force (the 35th Division, Minnesota’s 92nd Infantry Brigade, and Arkansas’ 153rd Infantry Regiment) attacked Camp Ripley, which was defended by the “Red” force (the Regular Army 6th Division and the National Guard 34th Division). A critique followed.637 The Nebraska Adjutant General’s Office was only able to pay enlisted men $0.40 a day at Camp Ripley instead of $1.00 because of a decrease in appropriations, increase in the size of the National Guard, and longer training.638 In mid-August, Camp Joseph T. Robinson, an Arkansas National Guard facility north of Little Rock, was announced as the 35th Division’s training station.639 SJR 286, allowing the president to order the Army’s reserve components and retired Regular Army soldiers to active duty for one year, became law on 27 August. Like the Selective Training and Service Act, it contained a provision for Congress to allow the president to extend the period of service.640 Reservists could not serve outside the Western Hemisphere except in U.S. territories and possessions, and their civilian jobs were safeguarded.641 Roosevelt issued an executive order inducting the first increment of National Guard units, and 63,646 officers and men reported for duty on 16 September.642 Units were inducted at existing strength, and could enlist men for one-year terms in the AUS to reach peace strength before leaving for training.643 Federal legislation explicitly allowed states to create state defense forces.644

The conscription act also became law on 16 September.645 Under the Selective Training and Service Act, men aged twenty-one to thirty-five were liable for impartial
selection (draftees soon became colloquially known as “selectees”) for one year of service in the Army followed by service in a reserve component for ten years, until they turned forty-five, or were discharged. The Navy initially was not included in the act. If Congress declared that national security was threatened, the president could extend the one year of service.\textsuperscript{646} Selectees could not be “necessary men” working in the “national health, safety, or interest,”\textsuperscript{647} have dependents,\textsuperscript{648} or otherwise be deferred, and had to be physically, mentally and morally fit.\textsuperscript{649} Except in wartime, not more than 900,000 selectees could be in service at a time.\textsuperscript{650} Like SJR 286, the act included territorial restrictions on service and protection for men’s jobs.\textsuperscript{651} On 19 September, the War Department announced that the 35\textsuperscript{th} Division would be inducted into federal service on 25 November.\textsuperscript{652} In September and October, Nebraska’s state staff of seven officers,\textsuperscript{653} state detachment of six men,\textsuperscript{654} and Guy N. Henninger were inducted into federal service to support implementing conscription in the state, with Henninger made state director of Selective Service.\textsuperscript{655} Men wishing to beat the draft by enlisting for a year in the Regular Army were disappointed when their attempts were rejected, but one-year enlistments in the AUS for the Regular Army were allowed beginning in late September.\textsuperscript{656}

The setting of a definite date for the Nebraska National Guard’s mobilization increased the urgency of the decision many men had to make about remaining in their civilian activities or leaving for military service. Ten officers were county officials, one was a postmaster, and one was a state legislator.\textsuperscript{657} Sergeant Dean E. Grass of York was school superintendent in Doniphan, in Adams County.\textsuperscript{658} The University of Nebraska let students who entered military service pause their classes, while seniors at the Nebraska State Teachers College in Kearney got their diplomas if they had less than a semester
remaining. About eighty-five students at the University of Nebraska were National Guardsmen, including five athletic department staff and ten athletes involved in fall or spring sports. Nearly two dozen Guardsmen attended the Nebraska State Teachers College. Eleven members of the 134th Infantry went to the University of Omaha; four left school after hearing the National Guard could be mobilized, while seven chose to attend until inducted. Other Guardsmen went to Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Hastings College, and the Nebraska State Teachers College at Peru. In Omaha, Staff Sergeant Lysle I. Abbott convinced five of his friends to enlist. The “six musketeers” went to Dundee Elementary School and Central High School together, and the five felt that by enlisting, they could avoid the uncertainty of the draft and advance more readily in rank. Ward R. Schick said he “wanted to get [his] year of service over with,” and enlisted in Company D, 134th Infantry, with his friends. First Sergeant Willard G. Cole, a member of Company K, 134th Infantry, for eleven years, was joined by his sons Robert and Earl in September 1938 and September 1940, respectively. In mid-October, the Nebraska Adjutant General’s Office prohibited further discharges for business or educational reasons.

On 16 October, men were required to register with their local draft boards, and all one-year enlistments in the AUS were stopped. Thereafter, enlistments could be made in National Guard units before induction in the Inactive National Guard to bring them from maintenance to peace strength, with active and inactive Guardsmen inducted together into federal service. Nebraska’s Inactive National Guard was constituted on 1 November and publicized in newspapers statewide. Inactive enlistments could boost the 134th Infantry’s strength from a maximum of 1,290 enlisted men to 1,805, the 110th Medical
Units touted the advantages of the National Guard to draft-eligible men, such as picking their branch of service or unit or serving with their friends. Nebraska City Guardsmen placed advertisements in store windows, many of which said, “This firm recommends single men of good character to join the local National Guard company.” To shelter soldiers before winter, National Guard training camps had to be completed on short notice, a “construction man’s nightmare.” Work did not start at Camp Robinson until mid-September, and on 7 November, Henninger learned the 35th Division’s induction had been postponed. On 30 November, Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8605, inducting the 35th Division, 110th Observation Squadron, and 153rd Infantry Regiment into federal service on 23 December 1940.

The Nebraska National Guard played a significant role in the sociopolitical life of its state during the interwar period. The Guard’s various forms of “presence” in its communities ensured its success. Many Nebraska National Guardsmen, especially officers, had key roles in local and state business and politics. Their occupations ranged from legislators, lawyers, doctors, and judges to clerks, blacksmiths, cobblers, students, teachers, and grocers. Underage enlistment was often overlooked, and fathers, sons, and brothers served side by side. Weekly drills and the annual encampment at Camp Ashland, Nebraska, brought federal and state money into communities, especially during the Great Depression. Unit armories also served a social purpose, hosting banquets, wrestling matches, and dances. Businesses and business organizations supported the Nebraska National Guard. Most workplaces permitted their employees time off to attend the annual
encampment, which was as much a sporting event as it was a demonstration of military training, with trophies and medals awarded for athletic and military achievements.

The trust and understanding between the Nebraska National Guard and its state’s citizens was strengthened when it assisted during natural disasters and civil unrest five times between 1922 and 1935. In January and February 1922, National Guardsmen kept order during a meat packers’ strike in Nebraska City, while in May 1930, they assisted tornado victims in Hastings. In June 1935, they rescued flood victims in south-central Nebraska and maintained peace while the governor mediated a streetcar workers strike in Omaha, while in August and September, they intervened in a water rights dispute in Scotts Bluff County. During the Great Depression, Nebraskans continued to serve their state in the National Guard, many motivated by the money they could receive for their service. Relief for the underfunded National Guard started to come in the mid-1930s from Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal, and as tensions in the world grew with the rise of Nazi Germany and the Imperial Japanese Empire. In August 1940, Roosevelt ordered the reserve components of the U.S. Army to active duty for one year. In his biennial report to the governor for 1939-1940, Guy N. Henninger wished

To express his appreciation to our Commander-in-Chief, to the officers and enlisted men of the Nebraska National Guard, to the scores of Chambers of Commerce and public service organizations, and to the thousands of loyal and patriotic citizens who have readily cooperated…with their help, energy, and moral support, thereby materially aiding in bringing about a bigger and better Nebraska National Guard with its present high state of efficiency.681
Chapter 3

Adopted Sons of Arkansas: The Nebraska National Guard at Camp Robinson, 1941

In December 1940 and January 1941, nearly 3,000 Nebraska National Guardsmen prepared for the trip to Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, for one year of training. Nearly twenty years of uninterrupted peaceful interactions with their communities had cemented the Nebraska National Guard’s positive reputation with its state’s citizens. This would pay dividends during the troops’ training, as National Guardsmen and civilians were brought together in various ways. Soon after arriving at Camp Robinson in January and commencing basic training, men from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and other Midwestern states, part of the United States’ first program of peacetime conscription, were assigned to the 35th Division to bring it to full strength. Throughout 1941, War Department officials, unit commanders, and relatives and friends at home made continuous efforts to make the transition from civilian life to life on active duty as smooth as possible for both the National Guardsmen and conscripts.

Nebraska National Guard units participated in major maneuvers in Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana in summer and fall 1941, earning several commendations. As many National Guardsmen and conscripts savored their early release from active service in fall 1941 while others soldiered on, two threats a world away were close to becoming very real. Nazi Germany conquered Poland, Denmark, Norway, the Low Countries, and France in 1939 and 1940, and invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941. The Imperial Japanese Empire continued aggressive actions in China, southeast Asia, and the Pacific, and on the morning of 7 December 1941, its forces attacked the U.S. Navy’s Pacific Fleet anchorage at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Now at war with Japan and Germany, the officers and
men of the Nebraska National Guard faced an uncertain future, but were as prepared as it was possible to be for what lay ahead.

On the morning of 23 December 1940, the three officers of Nebraska’s 35th Division staff detachment, four officers of the 69th Infantry Brigade headquarters, seventy officers, one warrant officer, and 1,576 men of the 134th Infantry Regiment, thirty-eight officers and 562 men of the 110th Quartermaster Regiment, and twenty-eight officers, one warrant officer, and 446 men of the 110th Medical Regiment reported to their armories. In Kansas and Missouri, the other 9,330 personnel of the 35th Division also obeyed the call. The Lincoln Star wrote that, “In some towns the fire sirens sounded to summon the guardsmen; in others they met at the pre-arranged time in a central location.”

Quarters had to be improvised because of inadequate armories; Lincoln units used the Central Hotel at 12th and P Streets, while Omaha units used the old Clarkson Hospital at 21st and Howard. In some communities, city or school auditoriums became barracks and men were fed at local restaurants, being allowed to go home to sleep each night.

Many men enlisted only days before mobilization, requiring intensive drill.

Robert L. Fowler, now a corporal, recalled hijinks that undoubtedly upset his officers:

By this time, we thought we were real soldiers. Of course...some of us thought we was good at manual of arms and the fancy stuff... One of them was an ’03 bolt operated [M1903 Springfield bolt-action rifle]. We had a deal...you popped right and brought it up to inspection arms, then you flipped it over with the bolt open. Holding onto the knob, you spun your rifle, and then as you brought it back into the port position, you shoved the bolt home and down. On the ’03 rifle, there was a little lever back there [on the bolt]. In one position, it would lock down [safe]. Another position, it was used for firing. And another...was used to take [the bolt] out to get it clean. And so we used to sneak up on a guy that was going to be doing this...and we’d put it on cleaning position [laughs]. So we did this to one guy, and he was up on top of the stairs...the stairs was halfway up here to a landing and then halfway up this way, and there was windows right here on this [middle] level. That rifle went down those stairs and out through that window,
and then two stories down to the ground [laughs]. There was a little bit of static on that one, because that was government property that was being abused…

Eighteen Nebraska National Guardsmen holding NGUS commissions were inducted as officers. Most had previously reached noncommissioned officer (NCO) rank.

Historian Michael E. Weaver, studying the Pennsylvania National Guard, criticized the loss in enlisted leadership this process could cause if key men held commissions. He wrote that “these…men would leave the enlisted ranks for the officer corps…during mobilization and the influx of…recruits in need of the guidance of experienced sergeants,” and also questioned the leadership abilities of some of these new officers.

Enlisted men were given final medical examinations (officers would be examined after arriving at camp), clothing and equipment were issued, and paperwork was cleared up. The number of men medically disqualified was “unusually low.” In the 134th Infantry, only fifty-two men were discharged. Some units solicited their communities for funds for purchases at camp, while other units were given money as gifts. On 31 December, detachments of the 110th Medical and Quartermaster Regiments left to prepare Camp Robinson for the troops. On 2 January 1941, the rest of both regiments followed. A detachment of the Service Company, 134th Infantry, left on 4 January, and the rest of the regiment two days later. In Nebraska City, 2,000 people braved snow and cold to see off the Headquarters Detachment, 1st Battalion, and Company A, 134th Infantry, while in Beatrice, 3,000 attended a parade in honor of Company C.

When the troops arrived at Camp Robinson, essential facilities were completed, but workers were still putting the finishing touches on the post. Private Patrick Weishapl, of Company B, 110th Medical Regiment, observed that, “As the train puffed into camp, we could see hundreds of men working with diesel powered shovels, caterpillars, trucks
Some men were tasked with digging rocks out of the dirt so slate sidewalks could be laid. According to historians Lenore Fine and Jesse A. Remington, the expanded Camp Robinson was described as an “ideal layout,” having “a compact arrangement of regimental areas; short roads and utilities lines; a centrally located storage depot; and an unusually good concept for landscaping and site development.” There were tented sleeping quarters, latrines, bathhouses, mess halls, and recreation buildings. The University of Nebraska football team accepted an invitation to the 1941 Rose Bowl, and Guardsmen who were players and coaches could request leave to participate. Unfortunately, an unaware Private Francis S. Greenlie, of Company G, 134th Infantry, obediently reported to his unit. He recalled how “there were other fellows on the team…in the Guard and they were smarter than me. They didn’t report and…didn’t get into trouble.” The Cornhuskers lost to the Stanford Indians, twenty-one to thirteen.

The 35th Division’s training schedule was written by the division staff following War Department guidelines and supervised by Regular Army personnel. After arrival, there would be two weeks of “housekeeping.” Thirteen weeks of basic training would start on 20 January with two weeks of instruction in military fundamentals, followed by eight weeks of company, two weeks of battalion, and one week of regimental training. During this period, more experienced Guardsmen would form cadres for training units to instruct the selectees that would arrive beginning in February. Starting on 19 May, twelve weeks of progressive unit training as combat teams would prepare the division for major maneuvers in the summer and fall. Because of shortages of personnel and
housing, the enlisted strength of National Guard infantry regiments was temporarily limited to 2,660 rather than the normal wartime figure of 3,325.707

During basic training, forty-four hours a week were devoted to instruction in military customs and courtesies, care of clothing and equipment, close-order708 and extended-order drill,709 guard duty, physical exercise, marches, and bivouacs. Other topics included first aid, defense against chemical attack, and the principles of marksmanship. Later parts of the training included instruction in specific military occupations. Four hours a week were for inspections, and four additional “free” hours allowed training to be shifted around in case of bad weather.710 Camp Robinson soon would become known for its incessant winter and spring rains, resulting in seas of mud.711 Captain Merven F. Myers of Company B, 134th Infantry, told the Falls City Journal that, “I have been…surprised at the enthusiasm and zeal with which the boys have entered upon this training. They never seem to be tired and never loaf—just hit the ball all the time.”712 Myers also thanked Falls Citians for their monetary assistance, which let the company buy an electric washing machine.713 Men from Companies A and B, 110th Medical Regiment were transferred to form the cadre for Company C, from Companies D and E for Company F, and from Companies G and H for Company I.714

The Nebraska National Guard’s morale at Camp Robinson was positively affected by a favorable allocation of manpower. The War Department tried to ensure National Guard units received their initial selectee “fillers” from in or near their home states.715 On 14 January, the 35th Division headquarters requested 3,206 selectees from Missouri,716 2,884 from Kansas,717 2,062 from Nebraska,718 and 994 from Arkansas.719 The Arkansans were intended for the 153rd Infantry, attached to the division for administration and
training. Nebraska’s Selective Service call of 2,062 men was by far the state’s largest thus far. Douglas County’s ten draft boards were directed to call a total of 408 men, while in contrast, the Arthur and Hooker County boards were to summon only one man each. 1,148 men were intended for the 134th Infantry Regiment, 552 for the 110th Medical Regiment, and 362 for the 110th Quartermaster Regiment. Schedules called for twenty-nine men from Richardson County to enter service at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on 10 February, 115 from nine counties in the Nebraska panhandle at Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyoming, from 7-10 February, and 1,918 from the state’s eighty-three other counties at the National Guard armory in Omaha from 5-28 February. After several days at the Fort Leavenworth reception center for processing, they would go on to Camp Robinson. Ralph E. Truman intended to send men to units from their home states, saying, “I think these men will be happier…than if we just scattered them anywhere…Furthermore, a lot…probably are already acquainted with soldiers from their localities who are now in camp.” The division expected to get 7,109 men before 25 February. Some or all of the selectees in several Nebraska counties volunteered for induction before they would have otherwise been called. As older men were medically disqualified or deferred because of their occupation or dependents at a higher rate, most selectees before U.S. entry into World War II were in their early twenties. Roy G. Jorgensen, of Cozad, Nebraska, assigned to Company E, 134th Infantry, wrote to the Cozad Local about his early experiences in the Army:

Tuesday morning, February 18, we bid farewell…and pulled out of the station at Lexington…headed for Omaha. During the first part of our journey we stayed awake and had lots of fun; however…most of us had a wink or two of sleep before arriving at Omaha at 9 a.m…. In Omaha we were kept in a group and were confined in the Armory building in that city. During the morning we
underwent a physical examination. Time passed slowly that day due to the fact we had nothing to do.

Finally, we were finger-printed and went through the procedure of being “sworn in” after which someone piped up “We’re in the Army now.” After that we were loaded up and “trucked” back to the depot and soon found ourselves on a train headed for Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. We arrived...at nine o’clock that evening—a very weary group of young men. As soon as our names were checked we were taken to the barracks. Here we spent our first night on army cots... These barracks are large...made to accommodate about fifty men each.

The next morning after breakfast...we had our first lesson on making a bed. While most of us were slow on catching on, we grasped the idea after a few trials and many errors. During that morning we also took a mental examination. This was for the classification of the individual and consisted of mental arithmetic problems, a vocabulary test and the counting of blocks...in arrangements of different sizes and shapes. During our stay...we got our first taste of army life, and to some of us it didn’t taste too good. This probably was because of the sudden change...to life in the army.

The next day we were issued our uniforms, and care was taken to see that they fit perfectly—and we appreciated this. We also received our vaccination for small pox and our first shot for typhoid... We were ordered to send our civilian clothes home—so this was done. On Friday...we boarded the train for Camp Robinson... The trip took about eighteen hours. We were provided with sleeper cars, and good food, so we all enjoyed the trip. There were about 300 of us, so we had a special train.

Upon arriving...we were surprised to find a camp almost entirely different than the one at Fort Leavenworth. This camp is much larger and is divided by streets and allys [sic], such as a regular town. Instead of the houses...here we found tents. These are our living quarters, and they are about eighteen feet square, have wooden floors, and are boarded up partway on each side. We have a small gas stove...and we also have electric lights. Each tent accommodates five men. Since coming to Camp Robinson, we have been doing some drilling, as well as attending classes. We have had some training in manual of arms, and find it all very interesting. We are getting used to army life now and have learned to like it.

Hoping this finds you Cozadites O.K., I am,

Sincerely,
Private Roy G. Jorgensen,
Co. E, 134th Inf.  

At the peak of reception, over 300 selectees arrived at the camp each day, met by the bands of the regiments to which they were to be assigned. Dear Old Nebraska U,” the University of Nebraska’s fight song, was one of the 134th Infantry Band’s fixtures. Based on population density, induction, and assignment schedules, some Nebraska units
got many selectees from in or near their hometowns, while others did not. The 134th Infantry let its new men pick their units so that they potentially could serve with men they knew.\textsuperscript{733} Private First Class Lester P. Schick of the regimental band observed how “A very careful effort is being made...to attach each new man to whatever company he wishes,” and that “the effort is being made to show...every consideration possible, and to make them feel at home.”\textsuperscript{734}

Clyde E. McCormick held meetings in the regimental recreation hall where he introduced himself and his staff to the new men, let them choose their units (provided they were not already filled), and turned them over to guides who took them to their quarters. Below a picture of a reunion of three selectees and three Guardsmen who had known each other, the \textit{Omaha World-Herald} wrote, “Scenes like this were reenacted many times at Camp Robinson, Ark., as many old friends were reunited.”\textsuperscript{735} On 19 February, Company A, 134th Infantry, got seven men from towns in adjacent Cass County, one from Broken Bow, and because some Iowans had also been inducted at Fort Leavenworth, one was from Corning, Iowa.\textsuperscript{736} Nineteen men came the next week, but most were from Kansas. Thirty-four from Otoe County and southeast Nebraska arrived on 28 February and 2 March.\textsuperscript{737} Based on their civilian jobs or skills and the Army’s immediate needs, some February selectees were not assigned to Camp Robinson at all. The \textit{Seward Independent} wrote that, “Many had planned on...a home town reunion, and will now have to readjust their plans in accordance with the wishes of Uncle Sam, under whose guidance they have...submitted themselves.”\textsuperscript{738} Many men sent to Company M were from central and eastern Nebraska towns such as Crete, Dwight, Grand Island, Hastings, Loma, and Madison; only one was from Seward, as the county’s other selectees
had gone to Camp Roberts, California. Nonetheless, Schick wrote, “A group of trainees came in…and probably thought…that they were back in Nebraska.”

Kansans assigned to the 134th Infantry went to units from southeast Nebraska.

Bill Schock, a Falls Citian assigned to Company B, wrote, “The new men are from Topeka, Leavenworth, and Kansas City…with a few…from…Nebraska. The only familiar face…was that of ‘Buck’ Dougherty of Dawson…who came in with a contingent from Auburn….” Similarly, a few Nebraskans ended up in Kansas or Missouri units of the 35th Division.

Lawrence J. Friedlan, of Company A, 110th Medical Regiment, wrote how some Columbus-area men ended up in the 134th Infantry:

Platte County selectees arrived in camp last week. However, none of them were assigned to Company A. Pvs. Edgar Rankin and Richard Neumarker were assigned to the medical detachment…134th Infantry. Pvs. Walter Placek, John Weilgus [sic], Louis Maier, Eddie Skorupa, Ralph Kopetzky, and Ray Valasek are all with Company K…134th Infantry. Pvs. LeRoy Langan and Earl Soulliere of Platte Center are also in Company K…134th. Pvt. William McDaniel was assigned to Company L…134th.

Fortunately, men could apply to transfer to the unit of their choice if openings appeared. In addition to the large February group, some Nebraskans in the state’s much smaller Selective Service calls for January, March, and April 1941 were also sent to Camp Robinson. Until the end of April, draft boards sent replacements when ordered for men rejected in previous calls. Some Nebraskans replacing those rejected in January, February, and March also were assigned to the camp.

In March, the Army opened “replacement training centers” (RTCs) that trained new inductees in soldiering and military occupations in each branch. By the end of the year, all soldiers were intended to be trained there before being assigned to units. The delayed manning of the 35th Division annoyed Truman, and he wrote to Major General
Samuel T. Lawton, of the 33rd Division, that “We have all of our selectees now, with the exception of about 1,100.” Truman told Lawton to try and “get [his] selectees at the very earliest possible date. I regret…that mine were not here when we arrived in Camp.”

Like Truman, many Nebraska National Guardsmen wondered where their selectees were; some units did not approach full strength until late April or early May. By the end of June, the 35th Division had 6,960 out of a planned 8,070 selectees.

The draft cast a wide net, and many selectees were among the sixty-one percent of Nebraskans that lived in rural areas. The selectees included brothers Carl W., Harry P., and Louis J. Saali, from Peru, Nebraska, cousins Marvin J. and Clifford L. Geiken, from Gothenburg, and second cousins John G. and John H. Meints, from Gage County. Floyd E. Whittaker, a farmer from Gage County, was offered a deferment, but refused it to protect his younger brother if the draft age was lowered.

More unusual situations included those of Privates Alex Tatara and Christian W. Zeissler, both of Omaha. As a child, Tatara went with his father to the latter’s native Poland. After serving briefly in the Polish Army, he came back to the U.S. in 1939. Zeissler, born in Russia to German parents, was not a U.S. citizen and hence could not receive government pay; his father had died before he could finish his son’s original citizenship application, and the younger Zeissler’s first papers had not yet arrived! Five years after his arrest during the Omaha streetcar strike, Victor M. Tanga ended up assigned to the 134th Infantry.

The new men were quarantined for two weeks while completing their typhoid inoculations. Recruits were quartered with their parent units, but learned the fundamentals of Army life with their training units each day. Because of promotions made to accommodate the new men, Robert L. Fowler became a sergeant.
passing examinations over a prescribed amount of training, men’s parent units assumed full custody. To inform communities about what their soldiers were doing, the 35\textsuperscript{th} Division headquarters G-2 (intelligence) press section ran a correspondence program, and each unit had one or more men who wrote “official” business to hometown newspapers. Corporal George B. Near of Company A, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, who had worked for the \textit{Nebraska Daily News-Press}, was personally invited by Ralph E. Truman to work in the press section. Following a tradition that started in 1939 at Camp Ashland, an anonymous soldier of Company A, 110\textsuperscript{th} Medical Regiment wrote to the \textit{Columbus Daily Telegram} under the pen name “Lil’ Abner,” although other soldiers also contributed.

To bring units to full officer strength after arriving at training stations, National Guard unit commanders could promote existing officers and select qualified enlisted men to be examined for temporary AUS commissions. Other vacancies were to be filled by officers of any component, principally Reservists. The 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry held a preparatory school for enlisted men interested in commissions. Truman was reluctant to use Reserve officers to fill vacancies. He proposed to Ben Lear, commander of the Second Army to which the 35\textsuperscript{th} Division was now assigned, an officer candidate school (OCS) in the division to train more of his men as officers. Lear rejected it, asserting it would delay the division’s progress. The 35\textsuperscript{th} Division’s Reserve officer quota from the Seventh Corps Area was delayed, but was filled by mid-June. The officers included John E. Davis, a 1935 University of North Dakota graduate, and future governor of the state (1957-1961). Eighteen Nebraska National Guard officers were separated from service for medical or other reasons while at Camp Robinson. In July, the War Department opened officer candidate schools for each branch.
Forming units out of men from the same areas and then assigning them raw recruits also from the same areas did have downsides. John F. Williams wrote that National Guard units “had to postpone a great deal of their own training and…devote a great proportion of their effort to…recruit training…[retarding] the higher training of the…organizations as combat units.” In a survey conducted of men in one National Guard and two Regular Army divisions, fifty-two percent of the privates in the National Guard divisions said that “bootlicking or politics” determined promotions, while twenty-six percent said they were made because of “ability.” The percentages were almost opposite among the privates in the Regular Army division. The survey also said that “Selectees were less critical…but those in the National Guard division checked ‘bootlicking’ more…than those in the [Regular Army] divisions, and selectee privates from the home state of the division were almost as critical as the National Guard privates.”

Selectee Private Edward Svik, from Clarkson, Nebraska, wrote that

There is very little opportunity for a selective to advance, as the National Guards…have filled the non-commissioned and commissioned vacancies of the expanded companies. Also the soldiers that are in for three years are prior to the selectees which are in for only one year and which to me seems only enough time to get the main fundamentals of a soldier’s duties. I was placed into the 134th Infantry Rifle Company not because I chose it, but because I was placed into it. However, I like it and am getting along swell. I believe I will like it more and more as we go on.

On 26 February, tragedy struck the 134th Infantry when eighteen year old Private First Class Earl O. Briant of Company C died of a pulmonary embolism after a routine appendectomy. On 14 March, nearly 1,000 of the 134th Infantry’s selectees took to the firing range for the first time, conducting target practice with small-bore rifles. The 134th Infantry’s method of distributing supplies soon became a model for the 35th Division’s other regiments. Ralph E. Truman’s staff conducted surprise inspections so
that his men would not be anxious when they were inspected at the end of their basic training. Corporal Danny Walker of Company H, 134th Infantry, wrote to the *Grand Island Daily Independent* in mid-March, saying that, “In the shower room today, I overheard a heated argument on politics. The discussion pertained to (of all things) the coming election in…Grand Island. Which goes to show the boys are still thinking about home.” In April, the Nebraska legislature appropriated $4,000 to purchase recreational and entertainment items for the state’s soldiers at Camp Robinson, and permitted the governor to create a state defense force. Merven F. Myers required his men to turn in a letter home to him by noon each Wednesday, or be barred from the mess hall. Truman was proud of the work his soldier-correspondents did “keeping the home town folks in touch with their boys,” and arranged for journalism classes to be taught. The Omaha Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsored a train so mothers from Nebraska could visit on Mother’s Day, and Truman invited all fathers for Father’s Day. When soldiers were given passes, “Little Rock became a veritable ‘boom town.’” Walker wrote that

Moving picture theaters, skating rinks, and dance halls do a land office business. One might think that twenty thousand or so men seeking relief from a month of “forward march” and “about face” would be…a little hard to handle. But the great majority…have just a boisterous good time, there is very little trouble and the citizens of Little Rock have not found it necessary as yet to go into hibernation after a soldiers’ payday.

Amos Thomas, one of the “older, more experienced and most influential” members of the state legislature according to Nebraska governor Dwight P. Griswold (1941-1947), had been allowed leave from his brigade to attend the session, but instead had been “‘shuttling’ between Lincoln and Little Rock since [the] opening of the…session.” On 29 April, he was relieved for “inattention to duty” and replaced by Colonel Per Ramee, a Regular Army officer who oversaw the 35th Division’s training and
who had instructed the division staff since 1939. On 23 May, Clyde E. McCormick was reassigned to Second Army headquarters and Butler B. Miltonberger became commander of the 134th Infantry. Miltonberger had completed the Infantry School’s National Guard Officers course in 1927 and the Battalion Commanders and Staff Officers course in 1941, and said that he “competed successfully against…a lot of opposition as I was a junior Lt. Colonel. A great many of the [Regular Army] colonels…would [have] liked to have that regiment. Anyway, I kept it.” Miltonberger was imposing, at six feet, three inches tall and over two hundred pounds, and Francis S. Greenlief “thought he was a tough, mean S.O.B. I thought he was the toughest man that I knew, in retrospect I think that is exactly what a rifle platoon leader ought to think.”

The National Guard’s induction allowed it to hone its skills with the Regular Army in large-scale maneuvers. Divisional, corps and field army training in Arkansas and Louisiana, California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Texas and New Mexico, and Washington in the spring and summer would precede much larger exercises in Louisiana and the Carolinas in the fall. The Army planned for the 35th Division to participate in the Second Army-VII Corps maneuver in southern Arkansas alongside the 27th and 33rd Divisions and auxiliary troops in the second half of August. After reorienting, 350,000 troops of the Second and Third Armies, “more than the strength of the standing Army a year ago,” would clash during the second half of September in northern Louisiana. Historian Benjamin Franklin Cooling wrote that, 

A thorough enemy "scenario" had been prepared. It was based on a hypothetical war between Red KOTMK (Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, and Kentucky) and Blue ALMAT (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee) forces. KOTMK…formerly included Arkansas and Louisiana. ALMAT had conquered this territory from KOTMK in 1918. The existing international
situation…indicated that KOTMK planned to renew warfare…to recover these lost provinces.801

On 21 April, Truman was ordered to send parts of five 35th Division units to support the Second Army-VII Corps maneuvers in Tennessee in June.802 The 110th Medical Regiment formed a composite battalion of men from Companies D, G, and H.803 The 110th Quartermaster Regiment’s composite battalion had a transport company (“A”), a supply company (“B”), a “depot platoon,” and a “gas and oil platoon,” assembled from men of Companies A and F, the Headquarters Company, and the Service Company.804

The 35th Division finished its basic training early in May. On 14 May, the 110th Quartermaster Regiment held a ceremony where the National Guardsmen reviewed the selectees, and Marcus L. Poteet “accepted” the new men as members of the regiment. The Lexington Clipper wrote that,

As a symbol of the acceptance…the colors were entrusted to the hands of new privates. Sgts. David Jeffrey and Wm. Shores turned over the colors to Pts. Ralph White and Edson Witte and the color guards, Pts. Lorens Woodside and John Van Ausdeldn, turned over the…colors to Pts. Wm. Donald and Donald Delap… As a symbol of acceptance by the officers…Col. Marcus Poteet pinned the regimental insignia…on Pvt. Bob Myer. Following this…the entire regiment passed in review for Col. Poteet and his staff.805

After an inspection, the 134th Infantry received the best overall rating at Camp Robinson, and the 110th Quartermaster Regiment was judged to be the regiment that was most ready for field service.806 Twenty percent of 35th Division troops were given one-week furloughs starting on 16 May. Trains went to Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, and Wichita, and buses to other locations.807 The 110th Quartermaster Regiment’s newsletter wrote that “Some units split the…leaves so twice as many could go. Others held lotteries, with every fifth man drawing a lucky number.”808 The governors of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska were invited to watch the division march in review on 22 May,
but Dwight P. Griswold was unable to attend. During the advanced training period, eight hours a week focused on correcting weaknesses identified during basic training. On 9 June, members of the 134th Infantry fired their new M1 Garand semi-automatic rifles for the first time. In late June, Amos Thomas and Clyde E. McCormick, along with several other 35th Division officers, appeared before the Second Army reclassification board, which could order their return to their positions, reassignment, or retirement. Thomas, considered an above-average officer, successfully appealed his relief, returning to active duty at a different post. McCormick was placed in an inactive status on 24 September, and retired shortly after.

As National Guardsmen are civilian soldiers, civilian issues did not entirely disappear while in military service. By summer, some soldiers were “just a wee bit tired hearing that their girl friends back home [were] running around with young men who haven’t been called to the colors as yet.” On 27 June, The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest, published for the troops at the camp, “[urged] the girls to aid national defense by boosting the soldiers’ morale.” An oath was printed for women to sign to “refrain from mentioning [their] dates with other men” and to “be honest with [soldiers] in camp.” If worse came to worse, as it often did, they were told to “not cause him mental anguish by simply stopping my letters to him. I will let him know, as quickly as possible, that there is someone else.” The 134th Infantry created the “Protective Society for Girls Back Home,” while some more pessimistic men of Company H, 140th Infantry (from De Soto, Missouri), formed the “Jilted Lovers Club;” “not all have been jilted—but they expect it.” After 35th Division soldier Merrill Panitt,
a former United Press correspondent, wrote an article distributed by the Newspaper Enterprise Association, the “Keep ‘Em Happy Clubs” gained national attention.817

On 6 July, an incident occurred that would earn the 35th Division a lasting nickname. The 110th Quartermaster Regiment’s provisional battalion had performed well in the Tennessee Maneuvers.818 While returning to Camp Robinson through Memphis, some of the soldiers hooted and hollered at some attractive women on a golf course and a man accompanying them, who tried to stop the convoy. The man turned out to be Ben Lear. Soon after the troops got to Camp Robinson, they were ordered to return to Memphis. The next day, an incensed Lear, described by historian Christopher Gabel as “a stickler for spit and polish who criticized freely and abrasively,”819 meted out the punishment. On 8 July, each man marched fifteen miles of the 150 miles back to the camp on foot.820 Private Josiah Shurtleff, from Humboldt, Nebraska, described the march as “not bad,” but several men collapsed in the 97 to 115-degree heat and “Yoo-Hoo” Lear received some criticism for his “torturous” discipline of the “Yoo-Hoo Battalion.”821

The “Yoo-Hoo Battalion” endured friendly ribbing from the 250th Coast Artillery Regiment, California National Guard, which sent them a letter reading, in part, “Out here in this wild and woolly West, our fighting men are fighting men, not pantywaists. We tear off 15 miles before breakfast. We challenge you to a 15-mile hike on any terms you name. Out here the girls yoo-hoo at us.”822 On 7 August, two of the 134th Infantry’s drill fields were renamed in honor of Earl O. Briant and Corporal Orville E. Southwell, another soldier who died unexpectedly during a routine appendectomy.823 In early August, about 150 small recreation halls for company-size units were completed.824 The 134th Infantry ordered that they be furnished; mothers of Company I men bought them a
radio, while the Hall County Military and Naval Aid Committee sent Company H $300 for “a lounge chair in one corner…tables, chairs, writing desks, lamps, a radio, and games.” Trucks from Company F, 110th Quartermaster Regiment drove to Custer County to pick up a couch, tables, lamps, rugs, and a pool table donated by people from Ansley, Arnold, Broken Bow, and Callaway. In August, the 35th Division was redesignated the “35th Infantry Division,” following War Department instructions that divisions’ designations reflect their primary branch of service.

Many Regular Army officers felt that hometown considerations in National Guard units led to things such as reluctance to remove underperforming officers, resulting in inefficiency. In May, Lear told Per Ramee that he impress upon his men that “You are not Nebraska, Missouri, or Kansas. You are the 35th Div. in Federal Service. You do not owe allegiance anyplace but here. Your loyalty is here—thoroughly and completely. It can’t be any other way. I don’t give a damn if you go home unpopular or not, it matters only whether or not you are popular with me.” Lear, a Spanish-American War veteran, related to Ramee a story of an officer in his Colorado volunteer unit who enforced discipline, becoming resented by his men and a social pariah when he returned home.

In June, George C. Marshall wrote to National Guard division commanders explaining how the coming months would be critical in their units’ development. Efficiency varied from “excellent to poor,” but Marshall felt the average was “far too low” and identified issues in training and discipline that needed to be immediately corrected.

The first increment of National Guard units was scheduled to demobilize on 15 September, and the first selectees who had completed their year of service would go home starting in mid-November. Fears intensified that this personnel loss and turnover
Marshall wanted men whose service was causing hardship to their dependents to return home, however. Two bills were introduced in Congress, and became law in mid-August. One bill declared the national interest imperiled, allowing Roosevelt to extend the service of all members of the Army for eighteen more months, and let soldiers with dependents leave active duty. The bill passed the Senate 44-28, but the divided House only 203-202. The other bill released selectees who had turned twenty-eight on or before 1 July 1941 and prior to their induction from active duty, and deferred draft registrants of this age. Regulations subsequently let National Guardsmen be released for age. Some men felt betrayed, threatening to go “Over the Hill in October” (desert) after their original year of service, but the desertion rate in October was lower than any of the previous six months. A priority list, more sympathetic towards civilian soldiers than Regular Army men, governed the release of troops.

Per Ramee compared his 69th Infantry Brigade to the famous New York National Guard “Fighting 69th” (165th) Infantry Regiment, boasting that his men could “out-hike, out-dig, and out-shoot big city men. I’ll pit either of my regiments against the old 69th, and we’ll show them where the fighting men of this army come from.”

Shortly before the maneuvers, the 35th Infantry Division formed a provisional antitank battalion from parts of its artillery and infantry antitank assets (including platoons from each of its four infantry regiments’ antitank companies), a company of the 110th Engineers, and other troops. The Second Army-VII Corps maneuver, with the 27th, 33rd, and 35th Infantry Divisions and other units, began on 17 August. The Red KOTMK forces were imaginary as the Blue ALMAT forces moved into their positions, then the 107th Cavalry Regiment
and a battalion of the 27th Infantry Division represented physical Red forces. From 18-19 August, “the Red Second Division theoretically broke up the…Blue cavalry harassing its advance” and the Reds formed a defensive line. “Stiff Red resistance…stymied the Blue attack” on 20 August. On 22 August, a Red counterattack struck the Blue forces, and the next day there was a CPX. On 25-26 August, the Blue forces practiced a retreat. A reorientation occurred, and on 28 August, the Red 27th and 35th Infantry Divisions attacked the Blue 33rd Infantry Division. The 134th Infantry played a critical role in the last part of the exercise, flanking the 33rd Infantry Division in a sixty-mile motorized march and “demolishing” the Missouri Pacific Railroad line six hours ahead of the deadline without any resistance.

On 29 August, Arkansas’ governor, Homer M. Adkins, proclaimed that the division’s “young stalwarts of Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas…have won a unique place in the hearts of Arkansans; their…adaptation of Arkansas ways, their…conduct, and their…camaraderie have endeared them to the people…who have taken them into their homes and hearts. Between the two maneuver phases, the VII Corps switched back to the Blue ALMAT side, moving south into Louisiana to join the Second Army while being pursued by a “Provisional Corps” of Red Regular Army troops. Scare stories about venomous snakes were dispelled, but 110th Medical Regiment soldiers devised a clever solution for the ubiquitous biting insects. A press release said that “Lt. Charles G. Ingham, of Norfolk, Neb., and his men advise covering the chiggers with fingernail polish—'the clear kind, if you don’t want to look like you have the measles.’ To keep the chiggers off…a thin coating of kerosene on the body does the trick, he advises. This suffocates the chiggers as they attempt to burrow in.”
During the first part of the Second Army-Third Army GHQ Maneuvers, Ben Lear’s Red army and Lieutenant General Walter Krueger’s Blue army would clash in a meeting engagement. Lear’s army had two corps, one with two armored divisions and one cavalry division, and the other with three infantry divisions. Each corps also had a cavalry regiment and other units. The 35th Infantry Division was one of two infantry divisions in reserve. Krueger’s army had three corps, each with three infantry divisions, a cavalry regiment, and other units. A cavalry division and two “antitank groups” were in reserve. For air forces, each commander had a bombardment wing and pursuit wing, and attached Navy aircraft. On 15 September, after “war” was declared, Lear’s army intended to advance southwest, crossing the Red River. His armored forces on his right would attempt to flank the Blue army. Krueger, alerted to Red movements, would move northeast three corps abreast to attack the Red army, pinning them against the Red River and capturing Alexandria, Louisiana. Despite all going to plan on 15-16 September, Lear postponed the armored attack scheduled for 17 September, allowing Krueger to re-orient his forces. The next day, Lear’s tanks were turned back and the Blue 37th and 38th Infantry Divisions overran part of the 6th Infantry Division. Lear evacuated his headquarters from Natchitoches, Louisiana, committing the 35th Infantry Division to defend the city. On the afternoon of 19 September, Lear removed the 6th Infantry Division from the line, replacing it with the 35th. The maneuvers were soon ended, as the outcome was no longer in question.

The 134th Infantry was commended for its performance. Major General Cortlandt Parker, commander of the 5th Infantry Division, wrote that the regiment “arrived promptly… Its elements participated most effectively in the assault on and encirclement
and capture of 150 officers and 2,200 men of the Blue forces. The spirit of cooperation, readiness for action, and the aggressive performance of this fine regiment are greatly appreciated.”

Eight men of the regiment were recommended for Soldier’s Medals for noncombat bravery after they rescued two other soldiers who were in danger of drowning.

The second phase of the maneuvers, from 19-28 September, tested the ability of Lear’s smaller Red Army to defend against a superior Blue attacker. Lear’s plan was to “retreat methodically…with four divisions on the line and three in reserve, never allowing the…Blue army a chance to bring its…strength to bear.” Miltonberger commended his Antitank Company, commanded by Warren C. Wood, for its “morale and attention to duty,” ranking it “near the top of…the 134th Infantry.” Lear complimented the 110th Quartermaster Regiment for its conduct during the maneuvers.

A “military Mardi Gras” with a parade, dances, and dinners that Adkins asserted would “make New Orleans’ famous Mardi Gras and Memphis’ celebrated Cotton Carnival look like hick town affairs” welcomed soldiers back to Camp Robinson. Dwight P. Griswold and Guy N. Henninger visited Nebraska soldiers before many went on furlough.

Involuntary personnel movement out of National Guard units was uncommon until fall 1941. National Guardsmen could initially only be transferred within National Guard units, but starting in September, they could be transferred regardless of component involved. Many who left voluntarily chose to try their luck at Army Air Corps aircrew training. A lack of funds during the interwar period and National Guard officers’ civilian commitments meant they lacked the same opportunities for professional military education as their Regular Army counterparts. Age, “a superficially objective reason to remove officers who were concurrently poor performers and…were not going to be able
to endure the physical rigors of extended combat,” also entered the equation.\textsuperscript{864} Senior Regular Army officers were as old as their National Guard counterparts, as officer promotion during the interwar period was based on seniority, with no “up or out” policy or fixed command tenure. The youngest of the eighteen National Guard division commanders was forty-seven years old and the oldest, sixty-three. The youngest of their fourteen Regular Army equivalents was fifty-three, and the oldest, sixty-two.\textsuperscript{865}

An age-in-grade policy was applied with the extension of service. Once officers in combat units reached the specified age for their rank, they were moved to administrative or staff positions if suitable jobs were found; many officers went to the Army Air Forces (AAF).\textsuperscript{866} Exclusive of these transfers, between July and November 1941, 1.3 percent of Regular Army officers were “removed from the active list by discharge or forced retirement,” compared to three-quarters of one percent of National Guard officers and one-fourth of one percent of Reserve officers.\textsuperscript{867} No prewar Regular Army division commander, and only two National Guardsmen, led a division in combat.\textsuperscript{868} Nevertheless, many National Guard officers, like Truman and Major General Henry D. Russell (commander of the 30\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division), believed that the Regular Army was molding the Guard to fit its preferences. Historian Bruce Jacobs wrote that, “It was patently clear…that their divisions provided a vehicle for the promotion of others. It is very hard to believe—although no evidence exists to sustain such a suspicion—that this was not the result of bias.\textsuperscript{869} In October, Lesley J. McNair delivered a scathing critique of several National Guard division commanders to Marshall.\textsuperscript{870}

On 4 October, the sixty-one year old Ralph E. Truman was reassigned to head the Second Army reclassification board.\textsuperscript{871} Fifty-three year old Major General William H.
Simpson, a Regular Army officer, replaced him. An embittered Truman resigned rather than accept different duties. Bennett C. Clark, a U.S. senator from Missouri, contended that Lear relieved Truman out of spite for a defeat in the recent maneuvers. With the induction of the last National Guard unit on 9 October, 20,455 officers, 221 warrant officers, and 279,358 enlisted men had entered federal service. On 23 October, Per Ramee was relieved, replaced as 69th Infantry Brigade commander by another Regular Army officer, fifty-three year old Colonel Benjamin C. Lockwood, Jr. After a tornado struck Dardanelle, Arkansas, west of Little Rock, on 26 October, 35th Infantry Division troops led by Major Dean E. Coonley of the 134th Infantry assisted with relief efforts.

Beginning in mid-September, the 35th Infantry Division received new men from infantry and field artillery RTCs such as Camp Roberts, California, Camp Wolters, Texas, and Fort Sill, Oklahoma, to fill existing vacancies and in anticipation of the release of 2,400 men in October and November for age or dependency. Soldiers were sent to RTCs for training regardless of their residence, but most of the division’s new men happened to hail from Midwestern states such as Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Officers in the 110th Medical Regiment were aggravated after receiving the infantrymen, having to take their weapons away and give them medical training. On 16 October, the first 35th Infantry Division soldier was released. National Guardsmen sent home remained on their units’ rosters while attached to the state detachments of their states, while selectees were transferred to the ERC. Deserving junior enlisted men soon expected promotions, as many units lost a high number of their senior NCOs and rated specialists. The War Department tried to preserve the National Guard’s territorial integrity, and in late November directed that
selectees sent to Guard units should be “as far as practicable…of the home state of the…unit concerned.” Guardsmen whose enlistments expired while in federal service or who had been released to state control, and selectees in National Guard units, could enlist or reenlist in the National Guard if their state’s adjutant general allowed it. The number of men in Guard units in federal service in a “National Guard” status was limited to the “peacetime maintenance strength authorized in current…tables of organization,” with Guardsmen under state control counting toward the total.883

On 10 November, Butler B. Miltonberger became the youngest colonel in the 35th Division.884 Because of the 134th Infantry’s performance during the Louisiana Maneuvers, elements were selected to march in the Memphis Armistice Day parade.885 After Lear heard of the regiment’s “excellent discipline and training in…road march and making camp” and “satisfactory appearance and conduct,” he commended it “for the progress shown in…training for combat proficiency.”886 The 35th Infantry Division’s provisional antitank battalion was reorganized with only field artillery personnel, and infantry antitank men were returned to their units.887 On 24 November, Guy N. Henninger named Philip H. Bartholomew the head physician of Nebraska’s Selective Service staff. The 110th Medical Regiment’s executive officer, Major Earl B. Brooks, left Camp Robinson to return to private practice.888 Lieutenant Colonel Hans Schaerrer of Missouri became acting commander of the regiment, succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel Lee R. Pierce, a New Yorker.889 On 30 November, the 35th Infantry Division’s strength was 16,212; nine Regular Army officers, 683 National Guard officers, 208 Reserve officers, nine National Guard warrant officers, fifty-six Regular Army enlisted men, 8,695 National Guardsmen, and 6,552 selectees.890 By December, eighty-five percent of
the division’s men had earned marksmanship qualifications, the best of any infantry division, and William H. Simpson intended for the unit to be combat-ready by 15 March 1942.\textsuperscript{891} On 4 December, the division was 2,819 men under its authorized maximum strength, and expecting to release 2,000 more by 1 March 1942, the headquarters requisitioned 5,000 selectees who would hopefully come from the Midwest.\textsuperscript{892}

On 7 December, Imperial Japanese forces attacked the U.S. Navy’s Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor. The next day, the United States declared war on Japan, drawing it into World War II.\textsuperscript{893} By orders from the War Department and the Second Army, the 35\textsuperscript{th} Division was ordered to move to Fort Ord, California, about one hundred miles south of San Francisco, for a “temporary change of station.”\textsuperscript{894} Sales of marriage licenses at the Pulaski County, Arkansas, clerk’s office reached an all-time high the day before the troop movement.\textsuperscript{895} Fifty-five 35\textsuperscript{th} Division officers, including eight from Nebraska, yet to be reassigned or leave active duty because of the age-in-grade policy were left behind.\textsuperscript{896} The 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry’s orders read, in part, “War has been declared on this country by the AXIS POWERS. The 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division…will move by rail, destination unknown. This regimental combat team will move at once by rail with all personnel, equipment, and transportation…destination unknown, and duration of movement unknown.”\textsuperscript{897}

Rae Wilson, the sister of Captain Denver W. Wilson, formerly of Company D, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, heard a rumor that her brother was on a troop train going west and scheduled to pass through North Platte. Having prepared drinks, food and gifts, Wilson and several other women were disappointed on 17 December when the train did not contain men from the 134\textsuperscript{th}. Wilson shortly decided that greeting troop trains should continue, and when the “North Platte Canteen” finally closed on 1 April 1946, it was
estimated that the material and physical support received from 115 Nebraska communities had helped serve over six million military personnel.898

During its training at Camp Robinson, Arkansas, in 1941, various forms of interaction with civilians raised the morale and performance of the Nebraska National Guard’s 110th Medical Regiment, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, and 134th Infantry Regiment, part of the 35th Division. In early 1941, drafted men from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and other Midwestern states were assigned to the division to bring it up to full strength. Men were, for the most part, assigned to units from their home states, and many of the National Guardsmen and “selectees” had been friends, classmates, coworkers, or neighbors. However, the character of National Guard units meant this process did have its downsides. Efforts were made to make the selectees feel “at home,” and both Army officials and civilians connected soldiers with their real homes in various ways.

The 35th Division staff set up a correspondence program, states and individual communities devoted funds to purchase items for their soldiers’ recreation and leisure, and special trains allowed families and friends to visit their sons in training. Thirteen weeks of basic training and twelve weeks of progressive unit training prepared the 35th Division for major exercises in Arkansas and Louisiana in August and September, with elements also supporting maneuvers in Tennessee in June. Effective, motivated leadership and high morale ensured that Nebraska National Guard units were recognized for their achievements. Anxious of completing their thirty months of service, extended as it was, and returning home, both Guardsmen and selectees were stunned when the United States was unexpectedly drawn into World War II.
Chapter 4

Wartime Training and Service Around the World, 1941-1944

Having distinguished themselves during training at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, and during maneuvers in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee in 1941, Nebraska National Guardsmen of the 110th Medical Regiment, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, and 134th Infantry Regiment, part of the 35th Infantry Division, moved to southern California for coast defense and anti-sabotage duties after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. In 1942-1943, the 35th Infantry Division underwent multiple reorganizations to prepare it for rapidly-changing modern warfare. In early 1942, the 110th Medical Regiment and 110th Quartermaster Regiment both became battalions. In late 1942 the 110th Quartermaster Battalion became the 35th Quartermaster Company and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company. The 134th Infantry Regiment survived the reorganization relatively unscathed. Despite continued turnover of personnel for various reasons, the experienced, motivated officers and men that remained ensured that Nebraska National Guard units succeeded during training in the United States from 1941-1944, earning many accolades.

The continued integration of the National Guard as a component of the United States Army greatly distressed many National Guard officers, including Colonel Butler B. Miltonberger, who wished to keep his 134th Infantry Regiment as intact as possible. Miltonberger took various steps to increase morale and state pride in his unit. Despite many Nebraska National Guardsmen’s transfer to other assignments, they would distinguish themselves in service in places around the world such as the Aleutian Islands, North Africa, Italy, Burma, and the South Pacific. Despite organizational changes and
turbulent personnel policies, Nebraskans with long service in the state’s National Guard units had risen to leadership positions by the time the 35th Infantry Division deployed overseas in May 1944, and were ready to take their men into battle as part of a well-trained combined-arms team.

In early 1942, National Guardsmen and selectees released to a reserve status were called back to active duty and returned to their former units if possible. The recorder of the 134th Infantry Regiment’s diary noted that “It is very interesting to observe their various reactions; however your recorder believes that most of them either openly or secretly are glad to be back serving their country with the armed forces.” After the outbreak of war, territorial restrictions on the use of reservists and draftees were removed. Liability for the draft was increased to men twenty to forty-four, and by late 1942, amended to eighteen to thirty-seven with the Navy also taking draftees. Soldiers in Nebraska National Guard units distinguished themselves immediately. In late 1941, Second Lieutenant Donald C. Sherrets and eleven men of the Antitank Company, 134th Infantry (ten of whom were Nebraskans), were transferred to the “transport guard detachment” aboard the U.S. Army transport ship President Johnson, manning antiaircraft guns. For their “attention to duty…appreciation of the importance of this mission, and…actions in hostile waters,” they were “deserving of special commendation” from the detachment commander. In January 1942, the 35th Infantry Division relocated from Fort Ord, south of San Francisco, to Camp San Luis Obispo, about halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles. Initially, it was decided not to convert National Guard infantry divisions into triangular divisions until they had left federal service, but this plan changed after U.S.
entry into World War II.\textsuperscript{903} On 3 February, the 35th Infantry Division was ordered to triangularize at the soonest practical date.\textsuperscript{904} On 18 February, the manager of the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce wrote to Butler B. Miltonberger, appreciating a sheet he had received that contained 1,378 signatures of the regiment’s men. He wrote that,

While Camp Robinson is beginning to fill up again, it is now a replacement training center and the boys come and go so rapidly we don’t have a chance to get acquainted with them as we were with the boys of the 35\textsuperscript{th}. To say we miss you does not express our sentiment. Due to your long stay here and our association in such programs as grew out of maneuvers and other experiences, no other unit coming here could replace you in our hearts or fill the void created when you left.

I think I can speak for all of us when I wish for you and all other units…the best possible record and experience which may grow out of the struggle in which we are all engaged, and our wish for your safety and an early Victory. Please extend to all of your men our appreciation and best wishes.\textsuperscript{905}

The 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division converted to a triangular division on 1 March. The elements of the reorganized division were the Headquarters,\textsuperscript{906} Headquarters and Military Police Company,\textsuperscript{907} 35\textsuperscript{th} Signal Company,\textsuperscript{908} 35\textsuperscript{th} Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop,\textsuperscript{909} 134\textsuperscript{th}, 137\textsuperscript{th}, and 140\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiments, the division artillery (the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery\textsuperscript{910} and the 127\textsuperscript{th}, 130\textsuperscript{th}, 154\textsuperscript{th}, and 161\textsuperscript{st} Field Artillery Battalions\textsuperscript{914}), and the 110\textsuperscript{th} Engineer,\textsuperscript{915} Medical, and Quartermaster Battalions.\textsuperscript{916} The 138\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, which had gone to Camp Murray, Washington, in January, and was moving to Alaska as shipping became available, was relieved from the division.\textsuperscript{917} The 130\textsuperscript{th}, 154\textsuperscript{th}, and 161\textsuperscript{st} Field Artillery Battalions, nominally equipped with 105 mm howitzers, retained 75 mm guns until enough of the new howitzers could be acquired to replace them. Likewise, the 127\textsuperscript{th}’s 155 mm howitzers were gradually replaced with a more modern model.
To create the 110th Quartermaster Battalion, the Service Company and Companies E and F became platoons in the Headquarters Company.\textsuperscript{918} Company A, a truck company with a service platoon, was formed from Companies A and C.\textsuperscript{919} The Medical Detachment remained unchanged.\textsuperscript{920} Company B became the 197th Engineer Company (Dump Truck) and Company D became the 136th Quartermaster Company (Truck), with both units relieved from the division.\textsuperscript{921} The rest of the regiment, save the headquarters, was disbanded.\textsuperscript{922} To create the 110th Medical Battalion, the Headquarters and Service Company became a detachment, Companies A, B, and E became Companies A, B, and C, and Company G became the Clearing Company.\textsuperscript{923} The band became the 35th Infantry Division Artillery Band. The rest of the regiment, save the headquarters, was disbanded.\textsuperscript{924} In his journal, Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer wrote how excess personnel were kept in a “replacement company” to fill vacancies in the battalion until their reassignment to other units.\textsuperscript{925} Company A supported the 134th Infantry, Company B the 137th Infantry, and Company C the 320th Infantry. The collecting companies took casualties from the battlefield or regimental aid stations to the clearing company. Men needing only minor treatment were handled in the company and returned to their units, while those requiring more urgent or complex care like surgery were moved to field or evacuation hospitals.\textsuperscript{926}

The 134th Infantry escaped the reorganization of the division basically intact, but Miltonberger wrote to Ralph E. Truman on 6 March that

\begin{quote}
I seem to be the only surviving National Guard Colonel left in the Division and I wish I could set down…the many heartbreaking things that have happened…since your departure. Of course we have a very fine Division Commander…but it seems that it is impossible to combat the system. I personally have nothing much to complain of except that my…regiment has been taking an awful beating but I confidently expect to pull through… You know my one and only ambition is to command this regiment in combat and I feel very strongly that we who entered
the service as National Guard should be given the opportunity to display our
worth as National Guard or discontinue the National Guard system entirely.927

In March, the Army was reorganized into the AGF, Services of Supply (later renamed the
Army Service Forces), and the extant AAF (of which the Air Corps was a part).928 The
134th Infantry’s duties in California generally consisted of beach patrols northwest of Los
Angeles watching for submarines (which frequently turned out to be sea lions), guarding
aircraft factories and oil fields against sabotage, and training at Ojai Country Club,
known as “Camp Lah We Lah His” after the regiment’s motto, a Pawnee Native
American phrase meaning “the strong, the brave.” The regiment instituted a plan of
rotating its battalions every few weeks so that each could experience each kind of duty.929

On 10 March, 209 enlisted men of the 35th Infantry Division who volunteered for
overseas duty, including many from the 134th Infantry, were transferred to the North
Dakota National Guard’s 164th Infantry Regiment, at Fort Ord.930 Sailing for the South
Pacific a week later, the 164th Infantry was attached to Task Force 6814, a group of
National Guard units sent to defend New Caledonia, a Free French-controlled island
northeast of Australia.931 The 164th Infantry was one of the first U.S. Army units to begin
offensive operations during World War II, entering combat on Guadalcanal, in the
Solomon Islands, on 25 October.932 While the 164th Infantry was stationed in Fiji in mid-
1943, some of its men, including several Nebraska National Guardsmen, volunteered for
the 5307th Composite Unit (also known as “Merrill’s Marauders”), a secret unit intended
to attack Japanese forces in Burma, helping to reopen a land route to China from India.933

In late April, the 35th Infantry Division was displaced from Camp San Luis
Obispo by the arrival of the 7th Motorized Division, and dispersed its units throughout the
Los Angeles metropolitan area. Monthly through December, the 110th Medical Battalion
handled 3,000 patients and accumulated 40,000 ambulance miles. The 134th Infantry became known as the “Hollywood Commandos.” In May, Major General Maxwell Murray took command of the division from William H. Simpson. Francis S. Greenlief was acting first sergeant of Company G, 134th Infantry, and was selected to attend the Infantry OCS at Fort Benning, Georgia. On 25 July, Second Lieutenant Frederick C. Roecker, Jr., a Washington National Guardsman who had graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in the class of 1942 but was later disqualified from aircrew training, was assigned to the 134th Infantry.

Historian Robert R. Palmer wrote that, in 1942, “three National Guard divisions, the 30th, 31st, and 33rd, became virtual pools for the Army Service Forces. The 30th declined from a strength of 12,400 in June 1942 to 3,000 in August; the 31st, from 15,200 to 7,200; and the 33rd, from 13,200 to 8,400. The 35th, 38th, and 44th suffered losses almost as great.” During maneuvers in September 1942, the 33rd Infantry Division had only 8,000 men, the 31st, 7,000, and the 30th, only 2,100. Morale in some National Guard units sagged, as sending men to other units meant combat service had to be postponed while they integrated replacements. Continuous transfer of personnel to fill task forces, create new units, and meet other demands disrupted the 35th Infantry Division’s training, delaying its progress towards moving overseas. On 8 June, the 134th Infantry was ordered to send men for new military police units: a first sergeant, two mess sergeants, three cooks, an armorer, duty NCOs (“We only have one such classification in the regiment, and [he] is now on special duty…with the MP platoon”), squad leaders (“They need over a 100…and request [we] make available as many as possible”), and “all the clerks…we can let them have.” Four days later, the regiment was told to send eight
men to Fort Lewis, Washington, to be sent to Companies I and M, 58th Infantry Regiment, which were on duty in Alaska.942

During the summer, Murray was asked by Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt, commander of the Fourth Army, to provide a battalion for a secret mission to Alaska to assist in retaking two of the Aleutian Islands, Attu and Kiska, which had been captured by Japanese forces.943 Murray went to the 134th Infantry, which offered its 2nd Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Frank Dunkley, a Kansas National Guard officer.944 The battalion, forming part of the “53rd Composite Infantry Regiment,” was reinforced by transfers from the 1st and 3rd Battalions and augmented by a provisional “cannon platoon,” platoons from the Antitank and Service Companies, an additional detachment of the Service Company, and a chaplain.945 On 13 August, the battalion sailed from San Francisco, stopping at Kodiak Island for a week of training.946 On 30 August, the 2nd Battalion landed on Adak Island, intended as a staging area for attacks on the Japanese-held islands.947 The battalion established outposts, helped construct and guard an airfield, and sent men for various special duties.948 On 23 September, Frank Dunkley became executive officer of the 53rd Composite Infantry Regiment, succeeded as battalion commander by Major (later Lieutenant Colonel) Clarence J. Stewart.949 After graduating from OCS on 25 August, Francis S. Greenlief was retained an instructor because of his excellent performance.950

In August 1942, responsibility for design and maintenance of U.S. Army motor vehicles was shifted from the Quartermaster Corps to the Ordnance Department.951 Third-echelon ordnance maintenance was also returned to infantry divisions, and their quartermaster battalions were split into an ordnance light maintenance company and a
quartermaster company. On 14 September, the Maintenance Platoon, Headquarters Company, 110th Quartermaster Battalion, became the 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company. The company could perform thirty percent of the third-echelon maintenance for the division’s weapons and vehicles in combat and sixty percent during quiet periods. The rest of the battalion later became the 35th Quartermaster Company, which received and issued rations, clothing and equipment, gasoline, oil, and lubricants, and carried the division’s reserve rations and gasoline. Marcus L. Poteet was reassigned, later commanding the 46th Quartermaster Regiment in North Africa and Italy, serving alongside several other reassigned Nebraska National Guard officers.

On 10 October, Maxwell Murray gave Butler B. Miltonberger a message from DeWitt, which read, “the operation participated in by the 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry, had been highly successful and was carried out in a most excellent manner and that the [battalion] was to be highly commended for its exemplary action…” On 25 November, Company C, 110th Medical Battalion, was relieved from the 35th Infantry Division and became the 675th Medical Collecting Company. On 27 November, Butler B. Miltonberger wrote to a former coworker at the state engineer’s office, including some observations of his regiment:

I still have 57% of the enlisted men who have had two years of service or more. I have…a survey of the IQ of the men…with the following result; IQ 130-160, 5%; IQ 110-130, 40%; IQ 90-110, 36%; with the remaining 19% below 90. As you can readily see this is a tremendous factor in the success of this regiment and is of course caused by the fact that most of the men are from Nebraska and the Middle West and practically all are high school graduates. As you know, their physical development keeps pace with their mental development and so all in all I am very proud and happy to command such a fine regiment.

It became evident by late 1942 that the 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry, would not be returning from Alaska, something that greatly distressed Miltonberger. Replacement
officers and men arrived in southern California in late December and a “provisional battalion” was organized with a cadre from the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Major Denver W. Wilson, who had been serving as assistant G-3 of the 35th Infantry Division, was assigned to command the battalion.\footnote{960}

On 13 January 1943, the 35th Infantry Division (less the 140th Infantry and the 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry) was ordered to move from the Los Angeles area back to Camp San Luis Obispo after the 7th Infantry Division left the latter post.\footnote{961} The division dispensed with security duties, shifting to routine training. Miltonberger, a stickler for discipline, was quoted as saying “any member of the [134th Infantry] found dead in battle will be found properly dressed.”\footnote{962} During January, the 35th Infantry Division lost several more units. On 8 January, Company B, 110th Medical Battalion became the 673rd Medical Collecting Company.\footnote{963} On 12 January, the 154th Field Artillery Battalion, which had been on temporary duty in Alaska since July 1942, was relieved from the division.\footnote{964} The 130th Field Artillery Battalion provided the cadre for the 154th’s replacement, the 219th Field Artillery Battalion.\footnote{965} On 22 January, Companies B and C began to be reorganized with other men from the 110th Medical Battalion and replacements, and basic training began anew.\footnote{966} On 27 January, the 130th Field Artillery Battalion and 110th Engineer Battalion were relieved from the division and the 140th Infantry was reassigned to the Western Defense Command. The 140th Infantry was replaced the next day by the 320th Infantry.\footnote{967} The 161st Field Artillery provided the cadre for the 130th’s replacement, the 216th Field Artillery, and the 60th Engineer Battalion replaced the 110th.\footnote{968} Major General Paul W. Baade took command of the division from Maxwell Murray.
The 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry’s connection to its regiment was severed on 29 January when it was redesignated the 2nd Battalion, 197th Infantry. On 5 February, the 134th Infantry’s provisional battalion became its new 2nd Battalion. On 19 February, the regiment was ordered to move with the 35th Infantry Division to a new permanent station at Camp Rucker, Alabama. Located in a rural area, Camp Rucker “seemed a thousand miles from nowhere” but was “modern in all ways, with excellent P.X.s, service clubs and movies.” Brodfuehrer wrote that unfortunately,

The towns located within pass range were very small and only able to handle a very few of the GIs… Just outside the camp was… Daleville with two old cafes, but serving the best fried chicken and steaks in the old South style. This luxury was limited to the first fifty customers to arrive nightly. Ozark… did an excellent job trying to take care of the boys; and Dothan, although a bit too far for a six hour pass, did very well.

While at Camp Rucker, the 134th Infantry became more acquainted with its regimental combat team (RCT); the 161st Field Artillery Battalion, Company A, 60th Engineer Battalion, Company A, 110th Medical Battalion, and a detachment of the 35th Signal Company. As the 320th Infantry had completed only about six weeks of basic training in California before leaving for Alabama, Baade equalized the state of training of his three infantry regiments by exchanging personnel between them. On 4-5 April, the 134th Infantry sent about 500 of its experienced men to the 320th Infantry, receiving 500 unseasoned men in return. The 137th Infantry Regiment did something similar. Seven additional weeks of basic training was then given to all three regiments.

On 8 April, Miltonberger met with his regiment in a large grassy area known as the “Camp Rucker Bowl,” stressing the unit’s history, military courtesy and discipline, and the fact that the new men from the 320th Infantry would get a “square deal.” From 21 April-2 May, twenty-four officers and men of the 134th Infantry attended a “Ranger
School” hosted by VII Corps, to disseminate the special infantry tactics they learned to their comrades when they returned. In May, Frank Dunkley was named the executive officer of the 260th Infantry Regiment, 65th Infantry Division, at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. On 22 May, Miltonberger introduced his staff to his regiment in the Camp Rucker Bowl, and spoke about the upcoming VII Corps Mobilization Training Program (MTP) test. The recorder of the 134th Infantry’s diary wrote,

As the Colonel approached the stand one was impressed with his appearance, well-being, his self-confidence and friendly attitude. As [he] approached the microphone, he was greeted by a tremendous ovation that needed no prompting. It was several minutes before the Colonel’s cool, quiet voice could be heard directing the men to be seated.

The Colonel spoke of the upcoming M.T.P. test. He said, “The only objective we have in mind is a rating of excellent. Satisfactory is not enough. We are going out Monday morning with this before our eyes—Excellent, not satisfactory. To be excellent you must be almost perfect. This Regiment is not in the habit of being second to anyone. Every man has to do his part. Every squad, every company, each battalion—all working together. I can not do the job alone.”

It was suggested at the meeting that a phrase spoken in 1899 by General Irving Hale as he observed the 1st Nebraska Volunteer Infantry advancing in the Philippines ("There goes the First Nebraska, and all hell can't stop them!) officially become the regiment’s battle cry. Within a month, “over every Orderly Room door of the Regiment…[stood] the motto, ‘All Hell Can’t Stop Us.’” Miltonberger remarked in an “inspiring, comprehensive talk” to his officers on 30 May that “I can tell you frankly that I think this is the last time we will train a regiment before going over seas.”

Merle R. Carroll, a Reserve officer who joined the 134th Infantry in May 1942, remembered that, “When I first met [Miltonberger] he scared the hell out of me, but through time, working with him, I found he was a very compassionate man underneath.” Miltonberger stressed state pride during training; many of the 134th Infantry’s jeeps were painted with
the nickname “Cornhusker” followed by their identification number, while in April 1943, all of the regiment’s vehicle bumpers were painted red, one of the University of Nebraska’s school colors.987

From 24-28 May, the 35th Infantry Division performed the MTP test.988 After a total of 1,700 separate evaluations, Colonel Howard S. Searle, the VII Corps G-3 (operations and training officer), rated the division “satisfactory” and ready for the next training period.989 Miltonberger wrote that the 134th Infantry “finished so far ahead of every other unit in the Division it wasn’t even a contest,” as a reward, fifteen percent of the men were given passes on the afternoon of 29 May.990 The regimental band played in Ozark, Alabama’s Memorial Day parade.991 In June, the 2nd Battalion, 197th Infantry, started training for an operation to retake Kiska.992 The 35th Infantry Division’s second phase of training lasted eleven weeks and focused on the operation of small units.993 On 3 July, the regimental staff ran the “infiltration course” that required soldiers to crawl through barbed wire and log obstacles as dynamite charges exploded nearby and live ammunition was fired safely overhead. “It surprised a few privates to see a full-bird colonel994 sliding on his belly in the mud right along with them.”995

One drain on the personnel of Nebraska National Guard units in 1943 was the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP), conceived in late 1942 to use colleges to give academic training to qualified enlisted men.996 The number of men selected was relatively small, but technical units often lost many intelligent men, and units with a lower percentage of these men could not afford to lose any.997 Unless starting in the ASTP’s “advanced” phase, men were reduced in rank “without prejudice” to private.998 The workload was heavy, with thirty-six weeks of “basic” work equivalent to one and a
half years of college. In April 1943, some of the 134th Infantry’s “proposed applicants” filled out questionnaires. After voluntary applications to the ASTP proved disappointing, it was “decided to test…every eligible…man whether he expressed interest or not.” On 9 July, eighteen men of the 134th Infantry were ordered to report to Alabama Polytechnic Institute for onboarding. Three days later, orders came for twenty-nine more. Fortunately, men found unsuitable for the ASTP were usually returned to their units.

In spring 1943, the AGF revised the infantry division’s structure to economize manpower. The table of organization of 15 July decreased the size of the division from 15,514 officers and men to 14,253. The division artillery and infantry regiment bands were replaced with a single division band. On 14 July, the 134th Infantry Band was reassigned to Camp Shelby, being consolidated with the 28th Infantry Regiment Band to form the 65th Infantry Division Band. The loss of the band was “a real blow to unit morale” in the 134th, and skilled musicians organized a “drum and bugle corps.” With the new table of organization, the 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company did not see as drastic of changes as the 134th Infantry Regiment. The “by the book” structure of 35th Infantry Division units relevant to the Nebraska National Guard will be laid out below.

The infantry regiment had 151 officers, five warrant officers, and 3,100 enlisted men. It had a headquarters and headquarters company (twelve officers, one warrant officer, and ninety-five men), antitank company (seven officers and 158 men), cannon company (five officers and 113 men), service company (ten officers, four warrant officers, and one hundred men), medical detachment (nine officers and 126
and three battalions (35 officers and 836 men each). The medical detachment operated a regimental aid station (for units not in a battalion) and three battalion aid stations. The four sections provided aid men (three each for the antitank and cannon companies, one each for the headquarters and service companies, and one per rifle or heavy weapons platoon), and each battalion section also had twelve litter bearers. Three chaplains in the regimental headquarters provided religious and morale services.

The antitank company had three platoons, each of three squads, and a three-squad “mine platoon” to lay and remove mines. The cannon company (an artillery unit equipped with six light 105 mm howitzers) had three platoons, each of two sections. The service company had a headquarters, a regimental headquarters platoon, and a transportation platoon. One transportation platoon section served each battalion, and the antitank, cannon, and headquarters companies. Each infantry battalion had a headquarters and headquarters company (nine officers and 117 men), three rifle companies (six officers and 187 men each), and a heavy weapons company (eight officers and 152 men). Each rifle company had four platoons. Three were rifle platoons, each with three squads. The fourth platoon was a weapons platoon, with a machine gun section of two light machine gun squads and a mortar section of two 60 mm mortar squads. Each heavy weapons company had two machine gun platoons, each of two sections of two squads, and an 81 mm mortar platoon of three sections, each of two squads.

The medical battalion had thirty-five officers, two warrant officers, and 429 men. There was a headquarters and headquarters detachment of seven officers, two warrant officers, and thirty-five men. Each of the three collecting companies had five officers and ninety-eight men. The clearing company, which could operate one or two stations
depending upon the tactical situation or casualty load, had twelve officers and one hundred men. The quartermaster company had ten officers and 183 men, split between the division quartermaster’s section, the company headquarters, a service platoon, and three truck platoons. The ordnance light maintenance company had nine officers, one warrant officer, and 137 men, split between the division ordnance officer’s section, the company headquarters, a supply platoon, an armament repair platoon, and an automotive repair platoon.

Beginning in early 1943, enlisted men over thirty-eight who could prove they were more useful as civilians than as soldiers were discharged or transferred to the ERC. Likewise, men capable of only “limited service” and found unsuitable for other duties were discharged. A decision in late 1941 to not increase the capacity of RTCs commensurately with the Army’s expansion (later reneged upon) meant that existing units, which had priority on RTC graduates, often still received recruits from reception centers and had to run several training programs concurrently, leading to deficiencies in building combat teams. The U.S. Army’s methods of personnel assignment contributed to a decline in the 134th Infantry’s mental sharpness. Beginning in 1942, the AAF took a high proportion of the most intelligent men. A 1943 study found that men assigned to infantry duty tended to be shorter, lighter, and less educated than the Army average. By October 1943, the AGCT scores of the 134th Infantry’s 2,819 enlisted men were as follows: 130-160, 2.94 percent; 110-129, 27.77 percent; 90-109, 34.44 percent; below 90: 34.83 percent. Several men volunteered for service in the 5th Ranger Battalion, scheduled for activation at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, and for the Parachute School at Fort Benning.
In spring 1943, a pool of officers earlier ordered to be carried as overstrength in units began to be used as a source of overseas replacements. Until late 1943, no distinction was made between “regular” and overstrength officers. Units were to dispense with their overstrength before moving overseas. The 134th Infantry was routinely raided for a few officers at a time for replacements and for use as instructors at Infantry RTCs, from which they also received officers in return. By summer 1943, the 134th Infantry was fast becoming an “all-American regiment.” On 15 June, twelve states contributed more than 100 enlisted men to the unit: Nebraska led with 750; Michigan had 163; Ohio, 161; Tennessee, 122; Illinois, 115; North Carolina, 111; Iowa, 110; Alabama, 105; Kansas, 104; New York and Minnesota, 103 each; and Missouri, 101. In late July, Butler B. Miltonberger wrote to Truman that he had heard rumors that the 35th Infantry Division “had been cut from the maneuver list…and would proceed directly to Hawaii,” but said, “Plans change, however, so fast…it is foolish to count on anything until it actually happens.”

On 16 August, the 35th Infantry Division Artillery Band was disbanded and the 134th Infantry Regiment reorganized under the table of organization of 15 July, activating its cannon company. Officers from the 134th Infantry’s antitank and heavy weapons companies and twelve enlisted men from the 127th Field Artillery were the cadre for the company, and the 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company issued them their howitzers. On 17 August, the 2nd Battalion, 197th Infantry, was informed that the initial landings on Kiska had found the island deserted, evacuated by the Japanese. The battalion returned uneventfully to Adak. With the Allied invasions of Sicily in July and mainland Italy in September, officer transfers to AGF Overseas Replacement Depot
At Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, were “indicative of heavy casualties on the Italian front” to the author of the 134th Infantry’s diary. 1044

From 22-28 August, an RCT maneuver was held in the Conecuh National Forest on the Alabama-Florida border. 1045 Sergeant John L. Cantoni was one of the heroes of the war games, pulling three men to safety from the Cumberland River after an assault boat capsized, even though he could not swim. 1046 On 7 October, Second Lieutenant Lewis E. Dailey, who had gone to the Aleutians with the 2nd Battalion in 1942 and was subsequently selected for Infantry OCS, reported for duty with the 134th Infantry, being assigned as a platoon commander in Company K. 1047 On 21 October, fifty-six year old Lieutenant Colonel James B. Anderson of Lincoln, who had succeeded Lee R. Pierce as commander of the 110th Medical Battalion, was transferred because of the age-in-grade policy. Eight days later, Major Millard W. Hall, a Kansas World War I veteran who had been an obstetrician as a civilian, took command. 1048 On 24 October, the 134th Infantry was notified that it would participate in the Second Army Tennessee Maneuvers with the 35th Infantry Division. Afterwards, it would move to a new permanent station. 1049

The maneuvers were conducted over 15,000 square miles of Tennessee, selected because they resembled the geography of France, Germany, and Italy, alongside the 14th Armored Division, 87th and 100th Infantry Divisions, and XI Corps units. 1050 The eight phases were “movement to contact, meeting engagement, and aggressive action by both sides,” “meeting engagement, aggressive action by a larger force, and the withdrawal of a small force,” “Aggressive action against a covering force, with a view to forcing it to withdraw across or through an obstacle,” “Attack and defense of a river line, the objective of the attacker to require the crossing of his major elements” (run twice),
“Coordinated attack of a prepared position. Situation to…permit at least 24 hours of…unobserved work on the defensive position,” “Delaying action…over a considerable distance,” and “Breakthrough of an over-extended position and a withdrawal of the defender over a considerable distance.”

During the third and fourth phases, “the 35th Division was…commended in one instance by Major General Hall representing the Second Army commander and in the other…by Lieutenant General Fredendall, Commanding General, Second Army, in person. Recognition of this nature is unusual and clearly indicated…performance above the normal standard.”

Butler B. Miltonberger wrote that these were “the first extensive winter maneuvers ever held by the army.” “No time was called for rain, sleet, or snow, and the men endured hardships, the likes of which I have never seen.” Thanksgiving was postponed, but the 134th Infantry’s daily log noted “the meal was…a credit to all kitchens of the Regiment.” On 21 December, the regiment was notified that its new permanent station would be Camp Butner, North Carolina, near the city of Durham.

A “truce” was declared over Christmas and many men received passes, with “Nashville getting the biggest play.”

The 134th Infantry finished with a rating of “excellent.” Quantitatively, it was one of the highest ratings given to any infantry regiment in the Tennessee Maneuver Area, and boosted the 35th Infantry Division’s stock in the priority for movement overseas. Miltonberger hoped for an early departure, but noted it would likely not come before April 1944.

According to Brodfuehrer, Camp Butner was, [A] small camp…well laid out with plenty of everything, good PXs, service clubs and movies. All quarters were wooden barracks and one of the cleanest camps we had found…. While at Camp Butner…Durham was the main city. It was a wide-awake city with many old southern sights to see, friendly people and many places
to take care of and help the service men pass the time. The Tap-Room of the Washington Duke Hotel was the meeting place; soft easy chairs, soft music and not much noise. There were also many hot spots for the ones who wanted action.1058

Preparations for overseas movement started at Camp Butner. Outdated or worn-out clothing, equipment, and weapons were exchanged,1059 and shortages of “POM items” that the AGF required for units going overseas were rectified.1060 Unfit officers and men were transferred, replacements to bring units to full strength were received, and training was intensified. The 134th Infantry began a series of weekly fifteen-mile marches.1061 On 2 February 1944, the regiment received twenty-seven M1903A4 bolt-action rifles with telescopic sights, “full TBA on this item.1062” The 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company trained armorers on the rifles.1063 Beginning on 28 March 1944, eighty-one of the most competent marksmen in the regiment started a course “which, it is intended, will make expert snipers of two men from each platoon.”1064

The effect of personnel turbulence on the identity of National Guard units can be seen by the 134th Infantry Regiment’s composition in January 1944, about three months before it sailed for England. Guy N. Henninger was sent a roster of the forty-five officers and 447 men in the regiment that remained out of the eighty-three officers, one warrant officer, and 1,564 men who had been inducted into federal service with the regiment in December 1940. 580 more enlisted men from Nebraska joined the regiment until January 1944, for a total of 1,072 Nebraskans.1065 Miltonberger resented War Department personnel policies that functioned regardless of the components of the men involved, writing that “It has been a difficult task to keep the organization together, as the ‘new thought’…is to break State identity which results in the loss of morale and esprit. We will
all have much to say…after this is all concluded, but, as you know, to even mention it now would mean elimination.”

He told Ralph E. Truman that:

There are very few of us left to carry the torch, for as you know, the policy is to break organizations up before too many get well acquainted. In view of that, I have been fortunate in keeping the 134th Infantry together as I have, and I believe I have demonstrated the fact of organizational esprit and morale. If I return at the conclusion of this war I hope to engage actively in this educational movement.

In early 1944, Miltonberger commissioned two members of Company D, 134th Infantry, to write a history of the company starting from its induction into federal service. The articles, published in the North Platte Telegraph in June, noted with names, dates, and destinations, how eighty-seven of the 124 original enlisted men and all four original officers had been transferred to Army units of other branches, volunteered for Air Corps aircrew training, Ranger training, or OCS, applied for discharge to reenlist in the Navy, or had left military service for various reasons. Francis S. Greenlief found “a sympathetic Nebraskan in the personnel office” at Fort Benning and managed to secure reassignment to the 134th Infantry. He reported for duty on 17 February and was assigned as a platoon commander in Company L.

From 21 February to 9 March, the 35th Infantry Division’s RCTs trained in mountain warfare in the West Virginia Maneuver Area, located on two million acres in and around the Monongahela National Forest. On 22 February, personnel trained in rock climbing. Individual, squad, and platoon training progressed to a Battalion Combat Team (BCT) problem starting on 28 February, where the 1st Battalion opposed the 2nd and 3rd Battalions. The BCT problem was critiqued on 1 March, and an RCT problem began that afternoon. After being “extended 24 hours to allow the personnel…to get the most out of it,” the exercise ended at noon on 3 March. “Combat Team 134” then
participated in a “covered march” to a new area for a “firing problem” on 6 March. On 7 March, equipment was turned in, and the combat team left for Camp Butner the next day. A “mule training detachment” of the 134th Infantry trained in the maneuver area from 15-28 March. During the maneuvers, “all officers were assigned to [table of organization] jobs,” with the surplus attached unassigned until transferred out. On 24 March, Lewis E. Dailey was reassigned to Company L’s second platoon as Robert L. Fowler’s platoon commander; Fowler had since become a platoon sergeant, with the rank of technical sergeant. The 35th Infantry Division was ordered to the staging area at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, for overseas shipment, to arrive between 2-6 May. On 6 April, Guy N. Henninger visited the 134th Infantry. On 31 March, the 2nd Battalion, 197th Infantry sailed for Prince Rupert, British Columbia, Canada. Trains then took the battalion to Camp Chaffee, Arkansas. On 22 April, the battalion was awarded battle honors for participation in the Aleutian Islands campaign. On 26 April, the 35th Infantry Division was administratively assigned to the U.S. Third Army, which had moved to England in late 1943. Lieutenant General George S. Patton would later command this Army when its headquarters was activated in France in August 1944.

The composition of Nebraska National Guard units changed drastically between December 1940 and spring 1944, but one-quarter to one-third of their personnel were still from the state, either Guardsmen or soldiers who joined later. Twenty-three percent of the 134th Infantry’s enlisted men were from Nebraska when it went overseas. Most of the leadership positions in the regiment were held by Nebraskans, however. The S-1 (personnel officer), S-2 (intelligence officer), S-3 (operations and training officer), and S-4 were all from Nebraska, although Lieutenant Colonel Albert D. Sheppard, a
Missourian, had been executive officer since January 1942.\textsuperscript{1084} Fourteen of the regiment’s twenty companies or detachments were commanded by Nebraskans. As a lasting effect of the age-in-grade policy on the National Guard, most lieutenants in the regiment were now Reservists or OCS graduates, with only some being Nebraska Guardsmen commissioned from the 35\textsuperscript{th} Division in 1941 or reassigned to the 134\textsuperscript{th} after OCS.\textsuperscript{1085} A majority of rifle, machine gun, mortar, and antitank squads and cannon sections were commanded by Nebraskans, and most platoon sergeants and platoon guides also came from the state.\textsuperscript{1086}

The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion had fewer Nebraskans than its sister battalions because of its reconstruction in 1942-1943.\textsuperscript{1087} Frank E. Conner, a World War I veteran, enlisted in Company I, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, in 1924. He had been company first sergeant since May 1927, and also was briefly the regimental sergeant major, the regiment’s chief clerk.\textsuperscript{1088} The Service Company had the highest proportion of Nebraskans of any regimental unit.\textsuperscript{1089}

\begin{table}[h]
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\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
Unit & Commander & Enlisted & Inducted with (rank) \\
\hline
Regimental HQ & Lt. Col. B.B. Miltonberger & 12 May 1923 & 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion (Maj.) \\
\hline
HQ Company & Capt. Thurston J. Palmer & 11 Feb. 1924 & HQ Det., 2\textsuperscript{nd} Bn. (1\textsuperscript{st} Lt.) \\
\hline
Cannon Co. & Capt. L.D. Asher & 19 Nov. 1940 & Company E (Cpl.) \\
\hline
Service Co. & Capt. Milton H. Maurer & 22 Dec. 1931 & Service Co. (2\textsuperscript{nd} Lt.) \\
\hline
Medical Det. & Maj. Robert H. Townley & 23 Jul. 1940 & Medical Det. (1\textsuperscript{st} Lt.) \\
\hline
HQ, 1\textsuperscript{st} Bn. & Maj. Alford C. Boatsman & 13 Apr. 1928 & Company C (1\textsuperscript{st} Lt.) \\
\hline
HQ Co., 1\textsuperscript{st} Bn. & 1\textsuperscript{st} Lt. Donald J. Krebsbach & 3 Jun. 1933 & Company G (Sgt.) \\
\hline
Company A & Capt. Lorin S. McCown & 9 Sep. 1930 & Company C (Sgt.) \\
\hline
Company B & Capt. Francis C. Mason & 9 May 1927 & Co. C (2\textsuperscript{nd} Lt., NGUS) \\
\hline
Company D & Capt. Donald C. Rubottom & 27 Feb. 1938 & Company F (Cpl.) \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Nebraskans in Command Positions, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiment, May 1944\textsuperscript{1090}}
\end{table}
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Captain/Commander</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Company/Rank</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Company E</td>
<td>Capt. Carlyle F. McDannel</td>
<td>3 Sep. 1932</td>
<td>Company G (2nd Lt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company G</td>
<td>Capt. Elbert B. O’Keeffe</td>
<td>18 Sep. 1936</td>
<td>HQ Company (1st Sgt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company H</td>
<td>Capt. Charles E. Hake</td>
<td>8 Sep. 1938</td>
<td>Company D (Sgt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ, 3rd Bn.</td>
<td>Maj. Alfred Thomsen</td>
<td>21 Jul. 1923</td>
<td>Regimental HQ (Capt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company K</td>
<td>Capt. Richard D. Melcher</td>
<td>27 Apr. 1933</td>
<td>Company L (2nd Lt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company M</td>
<td>Capt. Earl. J. Ruby</td>
<td>7 Feb. 1938</td>
<td>Company H (Cpl.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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In the 110th Medical Battalion, Major Paul J. Huber, formerly the commander of Company G, 110th Medical Regiment, was the battalion executive officer. Second Lieutenant Harold W. Taylor, commissioned in the NGUS upon induction into federal service, was the S-2. Richard A. Burke and James E. Shipps, enlisted men at induction, had become warrant officers (S-1 and assistant S-4). Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, a charter member of the 130th Collecting Company and later first sergeant of Company A, had been battalion sergeant major since July 1942. Captain Everett G. Brillhart, a junior officer in the Clearing Company, was a Reserve officer from Shelby, Nebraska, who had been ordered to active duty in March 1941. Captain Frederick S. Webster, the commander of Company A, and Captain Evans Z. Hornberger, a junior officer in Company C, were University of Nebraska medical school graduates who had joined the Army as doctors. Thirty-three of the battalion’s forty-one “key enlisted men” were either prewar Guardsmen or draftees from Nebraska.

One-third of the enlisted men in the 35th Quartermaster Company and the 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company were Nebraskans.
leader Warrant Officer Lawrence D. Sites, from Table Rock, Nebraska, enlisted in the 110th Medical Regiment Band in June 1933. After the promotion of band leader Warrant Officer Lyle A. Welch to second lieutenant in 1941 and subsequent transfer, Sites was promoted from private to warrant officer to fill the vacancy. He led the 35th Infantry Division Artillery Band in 1942-1943 before being assigned as division band leader. Lieutenant Colonel Delbert C. Leffler, the former commander of the 137th Motor Transport Company and the 1st Battalion, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, had been division G-4 since taking the position from Harry H. Ellis in February 1941.

Two and a half years of training in the United States after the country entered World War II in locations such as California, Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina, and West Virginia prepared the Nebraska National Guard’s 134th Infantry Regiment, 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company to take their places as integral parts of the 35th Infantry Division. Butler B. Miltonberger, commander of the 134th Infantry Regiment, remained fiercely loyal to his men, leveraging state pride and devotion to the infantry’s mission of closing with and destroying the enemy to produce a high state of discipline and readiness. Performance by elements of the regiment during a secret mission to the Aleutian Islands in 1942, and training tests and maneuvers in Alabama, Tennessee and West Virginia in 1943 and 1944, brought further recognition. Although many prewar Nebraska National Guardsmen had left their units, many of those that remained had risen to positions of leadership, evidence of their military efficiency.
Chapter 5

From Cornrow to Hedgerow: The Nebraska National Guard in Combat, 1944-1945

After being inducted into federal service in December 1940, prior to U.S. entry into World War II, and training for over forty months in the United States in Arkansas, Louisiana, California, Alabama, Tennessee, and West Virginia, the Nebraska National Guard’s 134th Infantry Regiment, 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, assigned to the 35th Infantry Division, finally got the opportunity for combat. The Nebraska National Guard’s twenty uninterrupted years of service to its state during the interwar period had generated an appreciation for their efforts, and the soldiers’ morale was raised by Omaha World-Herald newspaper reporter Lawrence W. Youngman, who went to England and proceeded to follow them across France from July to December 1944. During fighting in France, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands in 1944-1945, the 134th Infantry Regiment would earn four Distinguished Unit Citations, the U.S. Army’s highest unit award, for extraordinary performance in combat, and hundreds of individual awards for combat valor and meritorious service while under the leadership of Nebraskans.

Nebraska National Guard units participated in some of the most well-known battles of World War II in Europe, including the Battle of Normandy, the race across France, the Battle of the Bulge, and the invasion of Germany. Led by Colonel Butler B. Miltonberger, the officers and men of the 134th Infantry Regiment that had developed their skills through years of peacetime service in the National Guard and nearly four years of wartime training ensured that the regiment remained effective in combat despite suffering heavy casualties. While not exposed to constant danger like the soldiers of the
134th Infantry, those in the 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, provided valuable services in ensuring the 35th Infantry Division remained combat effective.

On 11 May, the main body of the division departed the port of New York on three ships. The 134th Infantry was aboard the SS Edmund B. Alexander, while the 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company were aboard the SS Thomas H. Barry. On 25 May, the division arrived in England, and was billeted across the southwest of the country. Lawrence Youngman was one of the Omaha World-Herald’s best-known reporters. Born in Harveyville, Kansas, on 21 June 1905, he graduated from Kansas State Agricultural College in spring 1927 with a journalism degree, later working for the Manhattan Mercury and Morning Chronicle in Manhattan, Kansas. After taking a tour of Europe and briefly writing for Aviation magazine, he moved to Omaha in 1929.

At the World-Herald, Youngman specialized in aviation, but also covered “general assignment” stories. After U.S. entry into World War II, he tried to enlist in the military, but was medically disqualified. In 1942, he wrote most of the lead stories in the statewide scrap drive that inspired a similar national campaign and earned the World-Herald the 1943 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. In early 1944, Youngman successfully convinced the paper’s owner and editor to let him obtain credentials from the U.S. government as a civilian war correspondent. In late May, he traveled to England, taking advantage of the World-Herald’s wide Midwestern distribution to “concern himself with news of…interest to Nebraskans and western Iowans—what Nebraska and Iowa boys are doing” and “seek information of interest to parents and other relatives.”
On 5 June, the 2nd Battalion, 197th Infantry, was commended by Lieutenant General Simon B. Buckner, Jr., commander of the Alaskan Department, who wrote “The…terrain and unfavorable weather…created handicaps which troops are not normally expected to endure, but your ruggedness enabled you to overcome all difficulties and produce outstanding accomplishments.” The “zeal and enthusiasm” of the battalion was “a major contribution in the overpowering of the enemy” and “The faithfulness and devotion to duty of all…is a source of inspiration and pride.”

The day after the Allies’ 6 June assault on the Normandy beaches of northwestern France that started the liberation of the country from the Germans. Youngman’s first story, about Londoners’ reactions to the invasion, reached the World-Herald.

On 13 June, Clarence J. Stewart, “in no mood to be writing anything,” told Butler B. Miltonberger about the impending inactivation of the battalion. Stewart requested that all the officers attend service schools before reassignment. If found qualified, the enlisted men were sent as instructors to Fort Benning, Camp Hood, Texas, Camp Robinson, and Fort George G. Meade. Frank Dunkley attempted to get the battalion’s officers assigned to serve with him in the 65th Infantry Division, but was not successful; on 22 June, all the lieutenants, except those already at schools, received orders to report for overseas shipment as replacements, and Stewart noted he was one of only five officers remaining in the battalion. On 26 June, the battalion was inactivated.

Captain Lysle I. Abbott wrote to the World-Herald describing Youngman’s first visit to the 134th Infantry, saying that

This is a very small world after all. Tonight the colonel called and said he was bringing a guest with him… Thinking that another staff officer was about to visit, I delegated the task to the sergeant major and went on about my business. This was a mistake, for who should walk in with the colonel but a man from The
World-Herald—Lawrence Youngman. Had I known that such a tangible connection with Omaha was about to arrive I would have made ready in a manner fit for a king.

The poor fellow has been the target for a thousand questions. He is really a very nice guy and his being here has been very entertaining for us all.1128

Likewise, Captain Albert B. Osborne of the Service Company, 134th Infantry, was appreciative of Youngman’s efforts, and he wrote to the World-Herald saying,

Somewhere in England: Mere words cannot describe our feelings of gratitude and appreciation for having sent Mr. Lawrence Youngman to cover the progress of the war on the European front. It is the consensus of all the men hailing from the middle west, particularly Nebraska, that a better choice could not have been made.

It is indeed gratifying to know that we are still in the hearts and minds of our friends back home, and we now feel certain that when the record…is written about our additional European training, as well as our deeds on the field of battle, it will be done by one who understands us and whom we have learned to love.1129

Youngman would later be assigned a jeep (marked “Ye Omaha Bugle” on the windshield) and driver (Private John Robidoux of Falls City, formerly of Company B) so he could track down story material at his leisure.1130 His first information about the 134th Infantry reached the World-Herald on 24 June.1131 Two days later, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and George S. Patton, accompanied by Paul W. Baade, visited the regiment and watched it train. Youngman wrote that

Prior to the parade, Gen. Eisenhower watched an infantry squad simulate a frontal attack and envelopment of a machine gun nest. This squad was part of a battalion commanded by Lt. Col. Alfred Thomsen, Route 2, Florence. Among the members of the squad were S/Sgt. Almoreen S. Haller, Bassett; Pfc. Harold R. Barrett, 2184 Ruggles street, Omaha; and Pfc. Elger [sic] L. Tiedtke, Norfolk.

As the riflemen advanced on the machine gun nest Eisenhower and the other generals walked along beside them, queried them about their procedure and instructed them on how to improve it. One rifleman had his gunsights set for three hundred yards. Eisenhower told him he would do better if he changed it to two hundred yards. And he did do better.1132

Miltonberger said that “Gen. Eisenhower gathered the troops around him…and told them that he was a Kansas boy and…he was very proud of this Nebraska Regiment and he
souped up the men to no end; really gave them the business.” Eisenhower said, “For me there is a great deal of sentiment in the fact that a man from Kansas has come to…England to welcome you men from Nebraska. What I have seen has pleased me mightily. You look to me like you are ready to take your place in the battle line. A warning order for movement to a port was received only five days later.

Normandy’s terrain proved a formidable obstacle to Americans trying to dislodge the Germans. Since before the Roman conquest of what is now France in the 1st century BCE, Norman farmers had divided their fields and penned in their animals with piles of dirt and rocks around the edges, in lieu of wooden fences. Over time, the “hedgerows” grew until they were generally two to five feet thick at the base, two to seven feet tall, and overgrown with grass, bushes and trees. Narrow, unpaved roads limited vehicular movement, and interlocking tree branches made many roads resemble leafy tunnels.

An eight square mile area often contained nearly 4,000 fields. The Germans reinforced their positions in the hedgerows, leaving only small firing slits and camouflaging their dugouts with branches and logs so that they were impervious to all but direct hits by artillery. To root out the most ardent defenders, their positions had to be entered from the rear and hand grenades thrown inside.

The 35th Infantry Division moved over Omaha Beach from 5-7 July 1944, and entered the front lines between two other National Guard divisions, the 30th Infantry Division to the west, and the 29th Infantry Division to the east. Since the Third Army headquarters would not become active on the continent until early August, the 35th Infantry Division was attached to the First U.S. Army. The 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry relieved elements of the 120th Infantry Regiment, 30th Infantry Division, on 8
July, and suffered its first combat fatality the next day, when Private First Class Chester J. Romanowski of Company F, from, Michigan, was accidentally shot by a sentry.\textsuperscript{1142} Of the commanders of the seventy-nine National Guard infantry regiments inducted into federal service in 1940-1941, Butler B. Miltonberger was one of only eight who were at the helm of their units before or during the Guard’s training period prior to U.S. entry into World War II, and who took them overseas and into combat.\textsuperscript{1143}

The 137\textsuperscript{th} and 320\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Regiments launched their first attacks three days later, making slow progress against tenacious German resistance. While the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry was in reserve, officers of the regiment went to the front lines as observers.\textsuperscript{1144} To prepare for the upcoming fighting, the regiment practiced tactics in captured hedgerows, with machine guns and automatic rifles spraying the opposite ends of the fields as rifle squads worked their way forward to attack with small arms fire and hand grenades.\textsuperscript{1145}

The 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion S-4, First Lieutenant Robert L. Gordon of Virginia, had the 735\textsuperscript{th} Ordnance Light Maintenance Company weld bipods from captured German machine guns to the barrel jackets of American machine guns to replace their tripods, so the guns could be carried more easily and placed directly on the hedgerows for firing.\textsuperscript{1146} Some heavy weapons companies replaced their heavy machine guns with light models, and also acquired automatic rifles and submachine guns to increase their firepower.\textsuperscript{1147}

The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion returned to the regiment early on the 11\textsuperscript{th}.\textsuperscript{1148} The 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion relieved the 115\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, 29\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division, on the night of the 14\textsuperscript{th}, and Miltonberger’s attack order for the next day was disseminated.\textsuperscript{1149} Francis S. Greenlief remarked how a barrel of calvados, a traditional Norman apple brandy, eased nervousness and made the relief of the 115\textsuperscript{th} go smoothly.\textsuperscript{1150} The 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry’s mission was to
destroy German forces north of the city of St. Lo and capture it. About twenty miles inland from the Normandy beaches, St. Lo served as a German headquarters and was intersected by highways leading to other militarily useful Norman towns, including Carentan, Isigny, Avranches, and Bayeux. It is located on the east side of a loop in the Vire River, and is southeast of a bend where the river deviates to the east from its north-south course. St. Lo is surrounded by hills, the most prominent of which is Hill 122 (denoted for its height in meters) to the north; controlling St. Lo necessitated taking this high ground. The 29th Infantry Division, which had landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day, had struggled through the hedgerows for several weeks trying to take St. Lo, suffering heavy casualties.

Forces supporting the 134th Infantry for the attack included the 737th Tank Battalion (less Company B), Company A, 654th Tank Destroyer Battalion, the First Platoon of Company A, 60th Engineer Battalion, and the 35th Infantry Division Artillery with a company from the 92nd Chemical Mortar Battalion attached. Lieutenant Colonel Alford C. Boatsman’s 1st Battalion, on the right, and Lieutenant Colonel Denver W. Wilson’s 2nd Battalion, on the left, would pass through Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Thomsen’s 3rd Battalion, the regimental reserve. The attack, which Donald C. Rubottom (a captain in command of Company D at the time) described as “a penetration with little room for maneuver,” would depend upon “fire support and tenacity of the individual unit to gain the objective.” To protect their leaders from German snipers, soldiers of the regiment discouraged saluting and removed the rank insignia from their uniforms and helmets, replacing the latter with a small white horizontal stripe (for NCOs) or vertical stripe (for officers) on the rear.
A fifteen-minute artillery barrage was fired at the German lines beginning at 5:15 a.m. on 15 July, with the chemical mortar company firing smoke shells to blind known enemy positions. On the 1st Battalion left was Captain Lorin S. McCown’s Company A, with the first machine gun platoon of Company D attached, while on the right was Captain John E. Davis’ Company C and the second machine gun platoon of Company D. The artillery barrage was moved ahead on call from the infantry. By 0630, Company C had advanced 600 to 900 yards. Unfortunately, half of the officers in the 1st Battalion’s rifle companies had become casualties; Company C, attacking the strongest part of the German defenses, lost about sixty percent of its fighting strength, but according to Rubottom, “was holding on to what they had gained through complete disregard of personal safety.” When the 1st Battalion executive officer, Major Warren C. Wood, went forward, he could locate only fifty-two men from the company.

Company D’s aggressiveness also cost it heavily. The machine gun platoons suffered seventy percent casualties, with both platoon commanders killed. Technical Sergeants Bernard A. Elliott and Raymond D. Wentz, both original company members from North Platte, reorganized each platoon with two guns instead of four, with each gun manned by four men instead of the normal eight. The mortar platoon commander and two section leaders were wounded. The fighting was so fierce that only four German prisoners were taken in the first two hours. Late in the morning, Captain Francis C. Mason’s Company B relieved Company C. The advance had swung to the left, and Company A moved around the nose of Hill 122 with tanks, attacking the Germans from the rear behind Companies B and C and taking thirty-eight prisoners. Many “German” prisoners taken around St. Lo were actually Czechs, Poles, Russians, or Yugoslavs that
had been conscripted into the *Heer* (German Army). Eager to desert, some had attacked their officers and escaped when the opportunity came.\textsuperscript{1161} By noon, the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion had advanced over 2,100 yards.\textsuperscript{1162} The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion gained around 700 yards, while the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion moved up behind the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion, taking fire from bypassed Germans in its assembly area.\textsuperscript{1163} Company I was involved in a firefight; Frank E. Conner was seriously wounded, but survived.\textsuperscript{1164} The 110\textsuperscript{th} Medical Battalion processed over 500 wounded men on the first day.\textsuperscript{1165} First Lieutenant John A. Kapstein of Company C remarked that

> This experience was especially difficult…because not only were the wounds horrible, but ours had previously been a National Guard division, and the men had known each other—in some cases quite well…. Seeing their friends with horrible wounds was devastating… Unlike the emergency room work I had done…in which we did the best for our patients, but our relationship…was relatively impersonal, this situation involved a cohesive group…who had been friends.\textsuperscript{1166}

On 16 July, the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion consolidated on the rear slope of Hill 122 and an evening counterattack by the Germans was defeated. The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion advanced little, while the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion, with tank destroyers in support, moved up to the right rear of the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion, the regimental right flank.\textsuperscript{1167} Private First Class Buster E. Brown of Company L, from Omaha, attacked a German machine gun nest with an automatic rifle and eliminated it, despite being wounded twice. Brown earned a Distinguished Service Cross, the U.S. Army’s second-highest award for combat valor.\textsuperscript{1168} Soldiers from Nebraska would earn three of the nine Distinguished Service Crosses awarded to men of the 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division during World War II.\textsuperscript{1169}

On 17 July, all battalions of the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry attacked before dawn. The 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion was given tanks, tank destroyers, and a mortar company as support to move abreast of the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion. McCown was wounded in the abdomen, and went to an aid station only when ordered by Alford C. Boatsman. For his actions from 15-17 July, that
included calling in artillery fire and leading his men while riding on a tank, McCown was awarded a Silver Star Medal, the U.S. military’s third-highest award for combat valor; Davis and Mason also earned the same medal for their actions, while Boatsman, Thomsen, and Wilson were awarded Bronze Star Medals, the fourth-highest valor award.\textsuperscript{1170} Robert L. Fowler’s platoon of forty-two men dwindled to six, and his platoon commander, Lewis E. Dailey, was killed in action.\textsuperscript{1171} Technical Sergeant John L. Cantoni, the platoon sergeant of the first platoon, Company L, was hit in the chest by a German bullet, but walked to an aid station.\textsuperscript{1172} Carl W. Saali’s brother Harry was killed, and “that broke up a pair of twins from Peru, Nebraska, which almost never had been separated.”\textsuperscript{1173} Francis S. Greenlief earned a Silver Star for destroying a German machine gun that had pinned down his men, making them reluctant to advance.\textsuperscript{1174} By the afternoon, the 1st Battalion had advanced 400 yards, clearing the crest of Hill 122.\textsuperscript{1175} The 110th Medical Battalion’s ambulances and litter squads often went right up to the front to assist the division’s regimental medical personnel, and the battalion had its first fatality that day, Private Eugene A. Creekmore of California, from Company B.\textsuperscript{1176}

Because of heavy casualties, the remaining men in Company L’s first and second platoons were temporarily combined under Greenlief, with Fowler as platoon sergeant. The third platoon had not suffered as badly, and Fowler was relieved to learn that Technical Sergeant Leo L. Samson, his lifelong best friend, was unhurt.\textsuperscript{1177} On the night of 17-18 July, most German forces evacuated St. Lo.\textsuperscript{1178} On 18 July, the Germans’ final defensive line outside the town broke. Greenlief recalled that he “never [saw] such a burst of enthusiasm since. The men drove 1,200 yards in 30 minutes, shouting their motto, ‘All hell can’t stop us,’ and ‘Shoot at me so I can see you.’ The SS troops are
rugged fighters, but they didn’t know what was going on. They thought we were crazy men, and I guess maybe we were a little.\textsuperscript{1179} The 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion was ordered to withdraw patrols that had gone into the outskirts of St. Lo.\textsuperscript{1180} A 29\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division task force entered the city, eliminating snipers and pockets of resistance, and got “official” credit for its liberation. This angered many 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry veterans, although some professed not to care.\textsuperscript{1181} In the 1990s, Greenlief stated he felt that the liberation of St. Lo was a “complete team effort” for which no single unit was responsible.\textsuperscript{1182}

In early 1945, Paul W. Baade recommended the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, for a Distinguished Unit Citation. Butler B. Miltonberger wrote that it meant “a tremendous lot…in the matter of prestige & is a reward to the common soldier…won at a very high price.”\textsuperscript{1183} The citation, awarded in June 1945, praised the regiment for “tremendously significant” actions at St. Lo between 15-17 July 1944, with “countless deeds of individual and group heroism.”\textsuperscript{1184} The 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry spent time in St. Lo recuperating and integrating replacements for casualties. The Germans held the hills south of St. Lo, and the town was subject to artillery fire. During one barrage on 21 July, Corporal Richard S. Butterfield of the Medical Detachment, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, from Omaha, was loading a shell-shocked soldier into an ambulance. Butterfield successfully shielded the man with his own body, but was hit by shrapnel, having one leg blown off and the other fractured. He was awarded a Distinguished Service Cross.\textsuperscript{1185}

A Commonwealth offensive around the town of Caen in eastern Normandy turned into a stalemate, but attracted many German armored units, giving American forces an opportunity for a breakthrough in the west.\textsuperscript{1186} In preparation, the 735\textsuperscript{th} Ordnance Light Maintenance Company manufactured spiked steel “hedge plows” for the tanks of the
737th Tank Battalion, letting them smash through hedgerows and drive through fields instead of being restricted to roads. In addition, the company perfected its maintenance methods. “Contact teams” visited units to inspect, repair on site, or take custody of damaged equipment, and “ten percent” inspections of division vehicles were made to ensure they were being properly maintained and look for any issues.\textsuperscript{1187} After a false start the previous day, American aircraft carpet-bombed a box-shaped area of the German front lines west of the Vire River and St. Lo on 25 July, disorienting enemy forces while American infantry and tanks began advancing.\textsuperscript{1188} The 35th Infantry Division maintained contact with withdrawing German troops south of St. Lo.\textsuperscript{1189}

On 28 July, Robert L. Fowler was hit in the thigh by a German bullet. Deemed unfit for further combat, he spent his remaining time overseas as an instructor.\textsuperscript{1190} After meeting relatively little resistance on 28 and 29 July, violent German artillery fire inflicted serious losses on the 1st and 3rd Battalions on 30 July, which became known in the latter battalion as “Bloody Sunday.” An artillery shell exploded over the battalion’s command group, seriously wounding Alfred Thomsen in the head and leading to his death in a military hospital in England a month later.\textsuperscript{1191} An exhausted Denver W. Wilson was evacuated, replaced as 2nd Battalion commander by his S-3, Captain Frederick C. Roecker. Thomsen’s replacement, Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Moore, came from the 137th Infantry.\textsuperscript{1192} Company A, 110th Medical Battalion lost two men killed; Private Chester A. Zaleski and Joseph J. Toth.\textsuperscript{1193} July would turn out to be the bloodiest month of the war for the 134th Infantry, which suffered 1,384 men killed in action, died of wounds, wounded, or injured in only three weeks.\textsuperscript{1194} The heavy losses personally affected Miltonberger. After the seizure of Hill 122, the 35th Infantry Division chief of
staff visited the 134th Infantry’s command post, urging Miltonberger to continue to attack. Miltonberger tearfully rebuked him and told him to leave, as he had served for years with many of the men now listed as casualties.1195

Despite slow initial progress, continuing pressure threw the Germans into disarray as leading parts of the Third Army neared the junction between the Cotentin and Brittany peninsulas.1196 On 5-6 August, the 35th Infantry Division was assigned to the Third Army.1197 In danger of encirclement, the Germans launched a surprise counterattack shortly after midnight on the night of 6-7 August, modified by Adolf Hitler into “a grandiose scheme” to split the American lines by driving to the sea at the base of the Cotentin Peninsula.1198 The Americans were alarmed, as communications with Patton’s forces could become threatened.1199 Despite penetrating the 30th Infantry Division’s lines, capturing the village of Mortain, and surrounding a battalion of the 120th Infantry on Hill 314, the Germans could not break through. Hill 314 was key, allowing views of the countryside surrounding it for over twenty miles.1200 The 35th Infantry Division was temporarily attached to the U.S. First Army to help plug the gap in the American lines, being “flagged off the road” and ordered to move northeast toward the Mortain-Barenton road south of Hill 314.1201

On 8 August, the 134th Infantry attacked with the 3rd Battalion on the right and the 1st Battalion on the left. The 3rd Battalion made good progress, and Miltonberger committed the 2nd Battalion to assist the 1st. Frederick C. Roecker was wounded twice and evacuated, replaced first by an outsider, Lieutenant Colonel Fielder Greer, and then by Captain Carlyle F. McDannel of Hastings, from Company E. The 320th Infantry’s inability to advance on the 134th’s left meant the latter’s 3rd Battalion was exposed. That
evening, German tanks and infantry moved behind the 1st and 2nd Battalions from the north.\textsuperscript{1202} Tank fire demolished a 1st Battalion motor pool. The Cannon Company’s first platoon, surrounded by tanks, fired to no effect, and several men were killed or captured.\textsuperscript{1203} The 2nd Battalion section of the Medical Detachment surrendered, but was later returned after a prisoner exchange.\textsuperscript{1204}

On 9 August, the 3rd Battalion, 137th Infantry replaced the 1st Battalion, 134th, which reverted to regimental reserve, and the 3rd Battalion, 134th was attached to the 137th Infantry. The 1st Battalion motor pool was attacked again, and the 1st and 2nd Battalions’ supply route was cut off. The 1st Battalion was soon committed. A German machine gun pinned down Company A, and First Sergeant Leslie E. Gump, from Nebraska City, assisted in distracting the gun while a squad flanked the position. Gump used hand grenades to destroy the gun, but was killed. He earned a Silver Star posthumously.\textsuperscript{1205}

James A. Huston and Butler B. Miltonberger wrote that “his loss was a blow for the Regiment”\textsuperscript{1206} as he had tutored several other Company A men that had become first sergeants: Donald R. Simmons (Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion);\textsuperscript{1207} Eldon H. Bunn (Company B);\textsuperscript{1208} Herbert B. Rawlings (Company F);\textsuperscript{1209} Gerald A. Felthauser (Cannon Company);\textsuperscript{1210} and his own successor, Paul R. Pickering.\textsuperscript{1211}

That night, a new supply route was found. On 10 August, the 1st Battalion on the right, the 2nd in the center, and the 3rd Battalion, 137th Infantry, on the left, made progress against stiff resistance. The 320th Infantry had also advanced, and the next day a task force of its 1st Battalion, with the 737th Tank Battalion attached, reached the base of Hill 314 despite suffering heavy losses.\textsuperscript{1212} The 320th Infantry’s commander could not spare any more men, so Corporals Hans Gehlsen and Verlin D. Young of the 35th
Quartermaster Company, both Nebraskans, volunteered to truck supplies to the men on Hill 314. Escorted by three light tanks, they drove through fields to avoid roadblocks and dodged artillery fire as they unloaded their supplies and brought back twenty wounded men and several German prisoners. On 11 August, the Germans withdrew, and by the afternoon, the 134th Infantry achieved its objectives. It took the 35th Infantry Division four days and more than 700 casualties to cover eight miles.

On 12 August, the 3rd Battalion continued to attack until only hours before it was to be relieved. Robert E. Moore was wounded, replaced by Captain (later Major) Harlan B. Heffelfinger, who after “Bloody Sunday” had moved to the 3rd Battalion as executive officer. The next day, the 35th Infantry Division returned to Third Army control. The Mortain counterattack’s failure assisted Allied forces moving south and east in encircling tens of thousands of German troops, who simply had driven themselves deeper into the American lines. The fighting had cost the 134th Infantry approximately 500 casualties, including about 130 men killed in action. The Mortain fight made up about five-sixths of the 591 men killed, wounded, or injured in the regiment in August. On 11 August, John E. Davis was transferred to the 1st Battalion headquarters.

The 35th Infantry Division advanced east, protecting the south flanks of its assigned corps (the XII Corps) as well as the Third Army. The Germans tried to reestablish a defensive line along the Seine River, and as the 4th Armored Division drove on to Sens, about seventy-five miles southeast of Paris, the 35th Infantry Division contended with any resistance. The occupied town of Montargis presented some anxiety, but division G-2 Lieutenant Colonel John T. Hoyne and his party negotiated the surrender of 270 Germans. The 3rd Battalion, commanded by Warren C. Wood who had come
from the 1st Battalion in late August, advanced from town to town along the Loire River. On 22 August, Francis S. Greenlief was promoted to captain and commander of Company L. First Lieutenant William P. Sheehy, of Hartington, an Antitank Company platoon commander, earned a Silver Star for leading his men in the destruction of many Germans and the capture of 360 others on 26 August.

By September, Nebraskans led the 35th Infantry Division in Silver Star and Bronze Star Medals awarded, with forty-two out of 121 such awards. The Western Allied strategy against Nazi Germany assigned the main effort to the British 21st Army Group and U.S. First Army in the north. The rapid advance from Normandy meant the Third Army outran its supply lines in late August and early September. The 134th Infantry was forced to halt until more fuel could be built up, which allowed a movement of 125 miles into the Lorraine region of eastern France. Major General Manton S. Eddy, the XII Corps commander, planned to use the 4th Armored Division and 35th Infantry Division to cross the Meurthe and Moselle Rivers and encircle the city of Nancy. The city of roughly 100,000 people was the largest in the Lorraine.

There are many forts in the area of Nancy that date to the Franco-Prussian War, including Fort de Pont St. Vincent, on a ridge south of the Moselle with commanding views in all directions. It has walls 300 yards long, firing ports, and underground chambers. The first platoon of Company A, 134th Infantry, assisted a mechanized cavalry unit in occupying the fort on 9 September. The rest of the company joined the platoon, but Captain William D. Brodbeck of Omaha, Lorin S. McCown’s successor, was wounded. As German troops crossed the Moselle, moving atop the fort, First Lieutenant Constant J. Kjems of New York ordered his men to retreat underground, arranging an
artillery barrage on the fort. In 1946, Brodbeck wrote to the 134th Infantry’s S-3 at the time, then-Major Dan E. Craig, that “This is just a story, but one man told me that he counted 500 German bodies stacked in piles after the attack.”

On the morning of 10 September the 35th Infantry Division advanced to the west bank of the Moselle, with the 134th and 137th Infantry to cross the river. That afternoon, a patrol from the 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry discovered an intact bridge near the village of Flavigny. The battalion was ordered to seize it immediately. That moment would herald one of the darkest nights of the war for the regiment. At about 7:00 p.m., Company F, 134th Infantry, and the Second Platoon, Company A, 60th Engineer Battalion, crossed the bridge. The latter unit worked to de-mine the bridge. German machine guns opened up when Companies E and G of the regiment followed. Sergeant Edward Farris of Company G, from Kentucky, recalled that “there was a slow grinding halt to our movement and we began to hear the Germans talking up the highway…” Supporting tank destroyers failed to appear, and Frederick Roecker remembered how the 1st Battalion, which was to cross after the 2nd, got lost, never reaching the bridge, and only part of one artillery battalion was available.

The Germans started firing artillery at the bridge, and small arms fire forced Roecker, who crossed the bridge four times before he was wounded for a second time and evacuated, to crawl on his belly. The 2nd Battalion withdrew to the river’s edge around midnight, and Farris and his comrades dug in “just behind…in whatever little fold we could find…to the extent that many of our boys’ legs—including my own—were literally in the water. We were just peeping over the…bank enough to fire our weapons.” Artillery fire intensified, and at about 1:30 a.m., the bridge was knocked out. Roecker
recalled that “When the artillery began…there was also a loud explosion or two…and I’ve later read that the bridge was wired but for some reason was not detonated until [we] got across. Maybe it was planned that way, maybe it wasn’t.” Two German infantry attacks were driven off. Tanks could then be heard moving, and Farris remembered how their “slow, inexorable movement…down the highway” was demoralizing and frightening, since the battalion was without artillery support or antitank weapons.

Technical Sergeant Thomas E. Higley, of Lincoln, realized the danger and tried to get as many men of Company G back across the river as he could. His actions later earned him a battlefield commission as a second lieutenant. The German tanks fired at the Americans on the river bank, and Farris remembered how “A lot of those guys were killed; I think they probably fell…and disappeared in the water.” He then heard his company commander shout “every man for himself!” Many Americans surrendered, while others tried to swim back to friendly lines. Farris considered surrendering, but decided to try and escape. He remembered that “the German tank machine guns…extracted a terrible toll on us fellas that were trying to swim. As I’m swimming…I’m seeing guys getting hit in the water…. There were other American boys screaming… Some were drowning, having been hit and this machine gun just ripping them apart up and down.” Farris was brought to the regimental command post to give his account of what happened. The 2nd Battalion’s tenacity complicated plans for a coordinated attack on the morning of 11 September. At 0300, the 3rd Battalion was ordered to cross the river to the 2nd Battalion’s right, with the 1st Battalion to follow. Warren C. Wood convinced Butler B. Miltonberger to abandon the attack.
The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion’s strength at 0600 on 11 September was reported as 295, and 260 officers and men were later listed as missing. Mercifully, most were eventually confirmed captured, but gruesomely, French civilians recalled American bodies washing up on the Moselle’s banks for weeks afterward.\textsuperscript{1245} The Germans had been attracted to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion, and the 137\textsuperscript{th} Infantry crossed the river to the south, securing its own bridgehead.\textsuperscript{1246} Three men from Company B, 110\textsuperscript{th} Medical Battalion, including Private Ralph F. Hachmeier, from Wayne, Nebraska, were killed, and one was mortally wounded, while attempting to aid wounded men.\textsuperscript{1247} Lieutenant Colonel James T. Walker, who went to the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion after arriving, was reassigned to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion to coordinate its reorganization.\textsuperscript{1248} Albert D. Sheppard, battling a persistent illness, was evacuated. Dan E. Craig briefly took his position before relinquishing it to Alford C. Boatsman, going to command the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion.\textsuperscript{1249} As the Americans approached Nancy, German troops left the city to confront more pressing matters to their north, and on 15 September, it was liberated with no resistance. Nancy would become the Third Army’s headquarters in its efforts to oust the Germans from eastern France.\textsuperscript{1250}

Nancy’s mayor and about thirty members of the city council honored the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry in a ceremony at the city hall. A commemorative scroll was presented to Butler B. Miltonberger, regimental sergeant major Master Sergeant Clinton S. Nagel of Hartington,\textsuperscript{1251} S-1 Captain Raymond J. Anderson of York, and regimental historian Captain Albert B. Osborne of Omaha. The scroll, in a container that Youngman described as “a glistening copper tube, ornamented with a gilded iron leaf from the city’s famous golden gates in ancient St. Stanislas square,” read,

September 15—After four years of occupation, oppression, and humiliation liberated Nancy greets you—liberators of the city.
Butler B. Miltonberger, colonel of the One Hundred Thirty-fourth Infantry, to you, to your valiant troops and to the heroic soldiers of the United States of America, the people of France express their profound gratitude.

Honor and glory to our liberators!!

During the fighting around Nancy, George S. Patton visited the 134th Infantry, remarking that it was the “best or one of the best [regiments] in the entire 3rd [A]rmy.”

Eight articles about the regiment’s experience at St. Lo and the dash across France were sent to the *World-Herald* by Youngman in September and October 1944. They were later printed into a booklet titled “Our Nebraska Boys at St. Lo,” demand for which was so high that it caused a backlog in printing in December 1944.

Major Floyd L. Paynter of Omaha, a dental officer formerly with the 134th Infantry but now in the division headquarters, and his companion Corporal William W. Knapp, from Broken Bow, captured four German soldiers while foraging for food in a farmhouse.

On 16 September, the 1st and 3rd Battalions crossed the Meurthe River and seized the Plateau de Malzeville, north of Nancy, to stop the Germans from firing on the city.

On 18 September, the regiment advanced northeast. The inexperienced 2nd Battalion struggled as it took fire from German machine guns on its flanks, while the 3rd Battalion skirted the plateau and the 1st Battalion moved up a valley on the right. Hill 356 (nicknamed “Sugar Loaf Hill” for its round shape), covered with open fields and topped with trees, was southeast of the plateau, while the village of Agincourt was northwest of the hill. At 1000 on 18 September, the 1st Battalion began advancing up the hill. German armored vehicles opened fire, forcing the men to take cover. Sergeant Ralph F. Greeley of Company D, from Stapleton, Nebraska, dragged a heavy machine gun forward and fired at the vehicles, allowing his men to regroup and find another way up the hill. Staying at his position until mortally wounded, Greeley earned a posthumous
Distinguished Service Cross. Fire from the 161st Field Artillery Battalion destroyed the enemy vehicles or forced them to retreat, enabling the capture of the hill.

Other elements of the battalion entered Agincourt, but Company A was cut off along with some German soldiers they had captured. Staff Sergeant Thaine J. Hale, from Hardy, Nebraska, crept out of the village and contacted an American tank. Riding on the tank back to the village, he directed its fire to allow his men to escape with their prisoners, but he was later killed in action. He earned a posthumous Silver Star Medal.

Orders were issued for an attack by all three battalions the next morning, but the Germans counterattacked that night, driving the 1st Battalion from the hill and recapturing Agincourt. Technical Sergeant George L. Hansen of Company D, from North Platte, held a heavy machine gun in his arms and charged at the Germans while firing, scattering a group of them and allowing his men to retreat. He earned a Silver Star Medal.

While the 2nd Battalion launched its normally-planned attack on the morning of 19 September, the 3rd Battalion, with two platoons of tanks and a platoon of tank destroyers attached, liberated Agincourt and Hill 356 for a second time “quickly, and with almost negligible casualties.” Germans infiltrated into Agincourt the next morning, launching a full-scale attack on the village and the hill. The Americans stood firm, and an artillery barrage forced the Germans out of Agincourt. The 2nd Battalion continued to the northeast, encountering dug-in German positions. Staff Sergeant Junior J. Spurrier, of West Virginia, from Company G, used a heavy machine gun mounted on a tank destroyer to fire at the German dugouts. He then destroyed the positions with hand grenades. Spurrier was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.
In late September, the British 21st Army Group was ordered to seize the port of Antwerp, in the Netherlands, to alleviate the bottleneck caused by having to transport fuel and supplies from Normandy; the U.S. Third Army was ordered to halt offensive operations.\textsuperscript{1270} The 35th Infantry Division occupied the Foret de Gremeccey northeast of Nancy. To hold the edges of the forest, the division’s lines formed a salient twelve miles in circumference. As a result, the 134th Infantry on the left (facing north) and the 137th Infantry on the right (facing east) were spread thinly.\textsuperscript{1271} The Germans hoped to encircle the forest and recapture Nancy, and attacked with an infantry division and a tank brigade on 27 September. The 1st Battalion, 137th Infantry was taken by surprise, although most of the ground it lost was regained.\textsuperscript{1272} The next day, more attacks came against the 137th as the Germans established a foothold in the east of the forest. The 134th Infantry was also hit, but its lines were not seriously threatened.\textsuperscript{1273} On the morning of 29 September, a battalion of the 137th Infantry and two battalions of the 320th Infantry tried to clear the eastern edge of the forest to no avail. A German counterattack “came as promised,” and a tense situation developed as men from the three regiments fought the Germans, sometimes in hand-to-hand combat, in the remains of World War I trenches.\textsuperscript{1274}

Earlier in 1944, eighty-one infants and young children had been evacuated from Nancy to the village of Han, northeast of the forest, for fear of American bombing of the city. On 29 September, civilians notified Captain George L. Schneider, the 35th Infantry Division civil affairs officer, about the danger the fighting in the area posed.\textsuperscript{1275} Butler B. Miltonberger promised to do his best to avoid the chateau where the children were hiding when his forces liberated the village, and with careful artillery support from the second platoon of the 134th Infantry Cannon Company, Company F captured Han that
afternoon.\textsuperscript{1276} As the Germans were sure to counterattack, Schneider, French interpreter Captain Paul Orban, and ten men from Company A, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry volunteered to take the children to safety. Under scattered German artillery fire and carrying one of the younger children in each arm and leading several others, the men walked 1,000 yards back to the American lines. Miraculously, not one volunteer or child was injured.\textsuperscript{1277} The twelve men were awarded Bronze Star Medals for heroism.\textsuperscript{1278}

The war also played a prominent, tragic part in the lives of many American children. Among those killed at St. Lo was Private Louis A. Marino of Company C, from Omaha, father of six young children.\textsuperscript{1279} In Beatrice, nine women, six of whom had young children, met once a week for a social time. All of the women’s husbands were in the U.S. military, eight having been inducted with Company C in December 1940.\textsuperscript{1280} Between July and December 1944, five of the eight men would be killed, and one more wounded.\textsuperscript{1281} In 1942 and 1943, the U.S. war effort meant that the requirements for a draft deferments for dependency were tightened until only men with children conceived prior to 8 December 1941 remained exempt. In fall 1943, these men became liable to be drafted.\textsuperscript{1282} Richard H. Evans, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was drafted in spring 1944, and was assigned to Company F as a replacement on 13 September. On 30 September, he was killed by an artillery shell, leaving behind his wife Nellie, his children Harlan and Paula, and his staff at American First Title and Trust Company, where he worked as an insurance abstractor.\textsuperscript{1283}

Close-quarters fighting in the forest continued as Germans infiltrated into the extended American lines.\textsuperscript{1284} The situation concerned George S. Patton, who on 30 September admonished the commanders of the 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division and 4\textsuperscript{th} and 6\textsuperscript{th}
Armored Divisions, overruled Manton Eddy’s order for the 35th Infantry Division to withdraw, and ordered them to keep fighting.\textsuperscript{1285} 6th Armored Division task forces drove the Germans from the northeast of the forest, ending the threat.\textsuperscript{1286} In addition to the men captured, the 134th Infantry suffered 980 men killed, wounded, or injured in action in September.\textsuperscript{1287} On 15 October, the \textit{World-Herald} ran a Youngman article profiling the 110th Medical Battalion. As “the unit...had a few casualties, but a high percentage of the original personnel [were] still with the unit,” he located six officers, one warrant officer, and eighty-seven men (seventy-eight of whom were NCOs) from thirty-one Nebraska communities and Council Bluffs, Iowa, and list their names and hometowns.\textsuperscript{1288} In late October, Francis C. Mason was evacuated for illness, being the last original rifle or heavy weapons company commander in the 134th Infantry to leave his position.\textsuperscript{1289} James A. Huston and Butler B. Miltonberger wrote that “his performance had matched his endurance” and “Commanders of the caliber and endurance of Mason were a tremendous advantage in any regiment.”\textsuperscript{1290} The Germans were content to leave the 35th Infantry Division alone in October, but the 134th Infantry still took 281 casualties, most from a limited-objective attack early in the month.\textsuperscript{1291}

Even though they were in combat, many Nebraska soldiers were still deeply concerned about home. In early 1944, Nebraska’s “Allied Dry Forces” considered placing a petition on the ballot for the November 1944 elections prohibiting the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcohol in the state.\textsuperscript{1292} 50,393 people signed the petition, almost twice the required 26,496 for ballot access.\textsuperscript{1293} Many Nebraska servicemen resented the fact that their voices would not be heard, as they could not vote in state elections while overseas. Fifty-four members of Company L, 134th Infantry, from
twenty-three Nebraska communities, drafted a petition reading in part, “Our time is too occupied with fighting for the freedoms we left at home to seek out 50 thousand Nebraska boys to counteract that petition,” urging Nebraskans “to take our part in what we feel is an injustice to all members of the allied expeditionary forces in France.”" 

Later, 312 members of the regiment signed another petition which read,

To the People of Nebraska:
We, the undersigned citizens of Nebraska, who are now serving in the armed forces…are dismayed to learn that those of us who survive…may have to return to the…Nebraska that our fathers returned to in 1919. We feel that we are being disfranchised. Our minds are fully occupied with two propositions: To kill as many Germans as possible to the end that we may get home as quickly as possible; and to ourselves survive until we can get home again. We ask the people of Nebraska to see to it that the Nebraska we return to will be the same Nebraska we left when we entered the Armed Forces.

Butler B. Miltonberger mailed a copy of the petition to former governor Keith Neville, and it first appeared as a full-page spread in the Sunday World-Herald on 1 October.1295

Both petitions were printed in many state newspapers, the second appearing in large format in the leading papers of nearly every major community in the state.1296

Miltonberger explained not getting more signatures by saying, “First, most of the Nebraska soldiers are wounded…or killed; and second, we are very busy…chasing Germans.”1297 On 25 October, the Stars and Stripes, a daily U.S. military newspaper, printed the second petition in their London edition.1298 On 7 November, the prohibition initiative was soundly defeated; 397,190 votes “no” to 130,947 votes “yes.”1299

Frederick C. Roecker returned to command the 2nd Battalion on 4 November, with Walker reassigned to the 320th Infantry.1300 The Third Army was scheduled to resume the offensive on 8 November, with the 35th Infantry Division in the center of the XII Corps line.1301 The 134th Infantry was initially in reserve, but was committed the next day on the
Progress was slow because of stubborn enemy resistance and the weather. Continuous rain meant water-filled foxholes and many cases of trench foot. The Germans withdrew on 12 November, allowing the 35th Infantry Division to consolidate for a drive against villages west of Morhange, an important road junction northeast of Nancy. An article by Youngman published that day profiled former members of the 134th Infantry who had transferred to the 5th Ranger Battalion in fall 1943, had landed on D-Day, and helped capture the port of Brest on the Brittany peninsula. Hugo W. Heffelfinger, inducted in December 1940 with Company C as a corporal, was now a major and battalion executive officer. Other men included Sergeant Wilfred F. McGuire (formerly of Headquarters Detachment, 1st Battalion), Private First Class Elmer D. Lunsford (Company B), Staff Sergeant Orvylle A. Rosenblad and Sergeant Arden V. Mischke (Company D), and Staff Sergeant Duane Phillips (Company K). Private Albert G. Keiber and Corporal Richard A. McDaniel of Lincoln, Private First Class William Black of Omaha, and Staff Sergeant Vern L. Detlefsen of Stapleton were Nebraskans with more indirect routes to the 5th Rangers.

On 13 November, after the season’s first snow, the 134th Infantry began advancing. During the 2nd Battalion’s attack on the village of Achain, Junior J. Spurrier moved around alone to the other side. Using an assortment of weapons including an American rifle, automatic rifle, and bazooka, and a German submachine gun, bazooka, and hand grenades, he cleared the village nearly singlehandedly, killing or capturing several Germans. He was awarded the Medal of Honor, the highest U.S. military decoration. On “Blue Monday on Red Hill,” the 3rd Battalion captured Rougemont ridge under heavy German machine gun and artillery fire, a task that Warren C. Wood
later stated was a proper objective for a whole regiment, not just a battalion. Wood was wounded, replaced by Harlan B. Heffelfinger. The 1st Battalion seized Pevange. On 15 November the 2nd and 3rd Battalions’ capture of Morhange, abandoned by the Germans after violent artillery barrages, let the regiment rest for several days. On 20 November, the regiment organized a provisional military police platoon to handle prisoners, control traffic, and assist in civil affairs. John E. Davis was wounded on 21 November, while the next day, Private Harry L. Casey, of Company B, 110th Medical Battalion, was killed in action During the month, the 134th Infantry advanced twenty-seven miles, but lost 851 men killed, wounded, or injured. Among them was Thomas E. Higley, killed on 13 November. 167 men incurred trench foot. 6th Armored Division officers praised the 134th RCT, which “did everything within their power to assist our operations in every manner conceivably possible.”

On 24 November an article by Youngman described the operations of the 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, and included photographs and names of the over forty Nebraskans in the unit. Twenty-three were from Fremont, the home of the company’s ancestors, the 119th Motor Repair Section and Company E, 110th Quartermaster Regiment. The next day, an article praised the 35th Quartermaster Company for its job “to draw supplies…bring them forward and break them down for the various units.” Youngman wrote, “It also transports troops. How it managed to do both during that gallop across France is something even its personnel have a hard time explaining.” The 35th Infantry Division transportation officer said, “What I like…is that they operate with initiative. We…send out corporals to do jobs that ordinarily would have to be done by…officers. They know their trucks and what can be done with them, and do
it better than the officers many times.” Youngman told the story of “Task Force Q,” an incident that occurred during the race across France:

Some of them had been itching to get at some Germans, and on one occasion it seemed that they were about to have their chance. When they were back in the neighborhood of Ladon, some French people came to them with a report that 30 Germans had hidden in a nearby wood.

[They] said they would handle the matter. They rigged up a loudspeaker area, armed themselves and went down to the woods. They fired a few bazooka bursts to “soften up” the enemy. Then they…ordered [them] to surrender. But nothing happened. The Krauts had gone out the other side of the forest.

He photographed the sixty-three Nebraskans in the unit (thirty of whom were NCOs), listing their names; “Duke,” their dog mascot picked up at St. Lo, was included. In Lexington, the home of the former 119th Wagon Company, later Company C, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, the Dawson County Herald listed the “12 Dawson County boys, 7 of them from Lexington,” in the 35th Quartermaster Company.

Youngman returned to the United States in mid-December. On 3, 10, and 17 December, the World-Herald published photographs that he had taken in October of 35th Infantry Division soldiers from the paper’s circulation area (the vast majority of whom were Nebraskans), captioned with their names, ranks, and places of residence.

Youngman visited Falls City, and the Journal reported that he was “particularly solicitous to know about Johnny Robidoux… Robidoux was Youngman’s driver while the newspaperman was with the 134th.” In early December, the 134th Infantry, supported by the 137th Infantry, engaged in a five-day house-to-house fight to clear Sarreguemines, an industrial city split by the Sarre River.

On the morning of 12 December, Companies B and C and two machine gun platoons of Company D of the 134th Infantry crossed the Blies River northeast of Sarreguemines into Germany in assault boats, entering the village of Habkirchen.
Some boats capsized, causing several men to drown.\textsuperscript{1325} The swift current, German fire, and a lack of boats prevented the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion from crossing in support.\textsuperscript{1326} Using a building near the river as a command post, the Americans began clearing the village. Shortly after midnight, German troops counterattacked.\textsuperscript{1327} Company B became disorganized and its remaining men joined Company C, while the first platoon of Company D was surrounded and captured.\textsuperscript{1328} Fire from the 161\textsuperscript{st} Field Artillery Battalion inflicted heavy casualties on the German attack.\textsuperscript{1329} The Americans held out for nearly a day until elements of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion crossed the river the next morning.\textsuperscript{1330} Fierce fighting continued, and both sides agreed to a brief truce so that wounded men could be removed from the streets.\textsuperscript{1331} On the 14\textsuperscript{th}, Carlyle F. McDannel’s 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion (Frederick Roecker had been forced to leave his unit for a third time) crossed the river to the south, cutting the road leading west into Habkirchen.\textsuperscript{1332} The Germans were finally driven out early on 15 December.\textsuperscript{1333} In June 1945, Company C and the second machine gun platoon of Company D were awarded the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry’s second and third Distinguished Unit Citations for “a marked exhibition of courage and determination” during “one of the most dramatic defenses of a bridgehead in the annals of the campaign.”\textsuperscript{1334} After bloody fighting east of Habkirchen where few prisoners were taken, the 134\textsuperscript{th} received word of the German offensive in the Ardennes region of Belgium and Luxembourg. In reserve in Metz, France, the 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division recuperated, incorporating roughly 2,200 replacements into its ranks.\textsuperscript{1335} Many of the new arrivals were men from headquarters, antiaircraft, or artillery units that George S. Patton had ordered to be hastily retrained amid a severe shortage of replacement riflemen.\textsuperscript{1336}
The 35th Infantry Division moved north into Belgium, and on 27 and 28 December, the 137th and 320th Infantry ran into fierce German opposition. Warren C. Wood returned to the 3rd Battalion on 28 December, and the next day, the 134th Infantry entered the line north of the 137th Infantry. The entire regiment was soon committed, and Dan E. Craig’s 1st Battalion contacted the 101st Airborne Division, which had been encircled in the town of Bastogne. The 35th Infantry Division’s mission was to maintain the corridor to Bastogne that had been forced by the 4th Armored Division, and keep the Germans away from the north-south Arlon-Bastogne highway. On the night of 29 December, Company L, 134th Infantry, captured the village of Lutrebois. Trying to cut the highway, the Germans attacked the 134th and 137th Infantry the next day. Frederick C. Roecker, who had only shortly before returned to the 2nd Battalion, was evacuated for a fourth time, relinquishing command to Carlyle F. McDannel.

The Germans continued to attack, surrounding Lutrebois. American artillery fire, bazooka rockets, and aircraft disabled at least eighteen enemy tanks, but ammunition ran out and contact was lost with supporting forces. Francis S. Greenlief and some of his men escaped, but dozens were captured. All members of the second machine gun platoon of Company M earned Bronze Star Medals for repelling three German attacks, and then withdrawing to more advantageous positions without losing a man or gun on 31 December. Germans also infiltrated behind the 2nd Battalion, but were driven off. First Lieutenant Joseph A. Mack, from Atkinson, Nebraska, earned a Silver Star Medal for directing his 2nd Battalion headquarters company antitank squad against a column of German troops, but was killed while trying to assist a group of soldiers that had been
surrounded, an ultimately successful effort.\textsuperscript{1345} Despite the capture of most of Company L, the Germans suffered heavy losses, failing to accomplish their objective.\textsuperscript{1346}

After a four-day fight, Lutrebois was recaptured.\textsuperscript{1347} On 4 January, a four-man litter team of Company B, 110\textsuperscript{th} Medical Battalion, was moving wounded men out of an area under German fire when a shell landed among them, killing three of the men and wounding the fourth. All were awarded Silver Star Medals.\textsuperscript{1348} John L. Cantoni, who had returned to Company L after recovering from the wounds he had suffered during the battle for St. Lo, was in line for a battlefield commission as a second lieutenant, but was killed when an artillery shell hit his foxhole.\textsuperscript{1349} On the night of 4-5 January, Company C became disoriented in the woods, overran their objective, and blundered into the rear of a German unit. Of the 120 men who started out, only 37 had returned to American lines by the next morning.\textsuperscript{1350}

On 8 January, Hitler allowed German forces to withdraw from their salient in the American lines.\textsuperscript{1351} On 13 January, a graves registration detail from the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, discovered the bodies of six American soldiers, later identified as members of Companies C and G the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry. They all had point-blank gunshot wounds to the chest or head, and anger spread after it was deduced that they had been executed after being captured by the Germans.\textsuperscript{1352} James Graff, a recently-arrived replacement in Company C, from Illinois, wrote in his memoir that

\begin{quote}
The order had come down that if we caught anyone out of the 1st SS (Adolph Hitler Panzer Div.) to not take any prisoners.
\end{quote}

As we were watching a ridge three Germans appeared. One had on his helmet and another had his arm in a sling. These men had been shooting at us just a couple of hours ago. Somebody hollered, “Kill the bastards!” Everyone opened fire and two fell but one jumped into a foxhole… Gerstbauer…jumped up and ran up the hill and emptied his rifle in the kraut and all the time the German was screaming,
“Kamerad!” (German for comrade, which they always hollered when surrendering) until he was killed. Bad business, but in such conditions men’s feelings and senses are sometimes dulled.\textsuperscript{1353}

Butler B. Miltonberger wrote to Ralph E. Truman on 7 January that

It has been officially announced that we are in Belgium and of course you know why. We were the first Infantry Regiment to reach Bastogne and it made us feel good to have General Patton say that we were the only ones he knew of that would get the job done. It seems that we catch all the spearhead jobs in the Third Army and so far we have been able to perform satisfactorily.\textsuperscript{1354}

After returning home, Lawrence W. Youngman picked up his normal journalistic duties with the \textit{World-Herald}, but continued to publish military-related articles, including a series about Nebraska soldiers rehabilitating at Winter General Hospital in Topeka, Kansas.\textsuperscript{1355} Some articles that Youngman wrote during his time in Europe took more time to get past Army censors.\textsuperscript{1356} Praise for his work for the \textit{World-Herald} continued.\textsuperscript{1357} On 30 January, the Omaha City Council adopted a resolution thanking him “for service to Omaha and Nebraska.”\textsuperscript{1358}

On 18-19 January, the 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division, less the 134\textsuperscript{th} RCT, moved to the Vosges Mountains in eastern France.\textsuperscript{1359} The 134\textsuperscript{th} RCT stayed in the Ardennes until 31 January, when it linked up with its division, which was moving to join the U.S. Ninth Army in the Netherlands.\textsuperscript{1360} In December 1944 and January 1945, the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry suffered 1,790 men killed, wounded, or injured (836 in December and 954 in January), with many suffering from cold exposure.\textsuperscript{1361} In February 1945, Lawrence W. Youngman interviewed Francis S. Greenlief while he was on furlough; Greenlief had not seen his home, wife, or family for over a year, and he said of the 134\textsuperscript{th} that “‘It’s a great regiment’…” and I think Col. B.B. Miltonberger is a great commander. Nothing seems to stop the regiment. It just keeps rolling,”” and of the men around him, that,
With the snow and the cold, it’s pretty rough…but it’s unbelievable what these men can do and take. Take…sleeping, for instance—you just roll up in a blanket and beat your feet together all night. But fellows who have never been on a camping trip take it, and keep fighting. I think the average fellow finds there’s something within himself that not even he suspected. He realizes the burden of responsibility is on him. He knows that if he can’t do it, nobody else can.\textsuperscript{1362}

On 2 February, Butler B. Miltonberger wrote to Dwight P. Griswold that “Most of our Nebraska men on the line have long since left us and…left a record that everyone is proud of. There are many…however, in the service elements and headquarters companies and the exceptionally high spirit…bequeathed by those who have gone…prevails throughout the entire Regiment.”\textsuperscript{1363} The 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry’s Antitank Company took to using bazooka teams to stalk German tanks, holding its 57 mm guns in reserve until absolutely needed.\textsuperscript{1364} On the night of 25-26 February, the 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion captured Hilfarth, Germany, braving what was described as the thickest minefield encountered on the Western Front since December 1944.\textsuperscript{1365} Dan E. Craig said, “Those mines were bad. I’m sick from seeing boys with their feet and arms blown off. They hit us with machine guns and mortars, but the mines were worst of all.”\textsuperscript{1366}

During the attack on Hilfarth, Private First Class Halbert E. Olson, of Company A, from Minnesota, was preparing to throw a hand grenade. He pulled the pin, but realized the grenade had become tangled in his clothing and he could not free it; he dove onto the ground, smothering the blast with his body to shield his comrades. Olson, who left behind a wife and five children, earned a posthumous Distinguished Service Cross.\textsuperscript{1367} Fire from the 161\textsuperscript{st} Field Artillery isolated a bridge across the Roer River until the regiment was ready to cross.\textsuperscript{1368} On 26 February, the Service Company, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for service from 15 July 1944-12 February 1945.\textsuperscript{1369} The next day, Butler B. Miltonberger replaced Brigadier General
Edmund B. Sebree as the 35th Infantry Division’s assistant commander, becoming a
brigadier general.\textsuperscript{1370} Official confirmation of the promotion would not come until April,
however.\textsuperscript{1371} Alford C. Boatsman took command of the 134th Infantry.\textsuperscript{1372} Action for the
regiment in February was lighter than even the quiet previous October, with 143
casualties.\textsuperscript{1373} On 3 March, Dan E. Craig was wounded, temporarily replaced by Alford
C. Boatsman. John E. Davis, returned from the hospital bearing a promotion to major,
took over the battalion from Boatsman.\textsuperscript{1374} On 7 March, the Nebraska legislature
commended the 134th Infantry.\textsuperscript{1375} On 25-26 March, “Task Force Miltonberger” exploited
earlier British and American crossings of the Rhine River.\textsuperscript{1376} Casualties for the regiment
during March were 253.\textsuperscript{1377}

The next two weeks were spent clearing villages and woods in the Ruhr industrial
area, isolated by Allied forces.\textsuperscript{1378} On 3 April, the Medical Detachment, 134th Infantry,
was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for service from 15 July 1944-28
February 1945.\textsuperscript{1379} On 14 April, the regiment moved to the Elbe River, less than fifty
miles from Berlin.\textsuperscript{1380} Warren C. Wood was informed of his father’s ill health and was
permitted to return to the United States, but unfortunately, the elder Wood died on 7 May
while his son was at a port of embarkation in France. Frederick C. Roecker took
command of the 3rd Battalion in Wood’s absence.\textsuperscript{1381} 23 April would bring the 134th
Infantry’s last combat casualties. Private First Class John Connelly, Jr., of Omaha, was
killed by German fire only 200 yards from the regimental command post after going out
to investigate suspicious noises.\textsuperscript{1382} Regimental battle casualties in April were 120.\textsuperscript{1383}

American prisoners of war were liberated as Allied forces advanced into
Germany, and Butler B. Miltonberger showed his personable nature after he encountered
Private First Class Roger Tipton of North Platte, who had entered federal service with Company D. Tipton explained to Miltonberger that he had worn his Santa Fe shoulder patch all during confinement and had refused to take it off. Wounded when captured, he was pale and gaunt and still carried a Nazi bullet in his left breast. General Miltonberger told him he showed the spirit of all 35th Division soldiers and outfitted him in a new uniform complete with decorations. Then with genuine appreciation he told him to go home and recuperate. On 8 May, Nazi Germany surrendered, ending World War II in Europe. Ten months of combat took a heavy toll on the 134th Infantry. The regimental history notes 10,216 battle and nonbattle casualties, including sixty-eight officers and 1,155 men killed in action or died of wounds, 234 officers and 4,955 men wounded or injured in action, twenty-nine officers and 929 men captured or missing in action, and 2,846 nonbattle casualties. In early May 1945, a count of Nebraskans in the 134th showed only 366 men (183 of whom had entered federal service with the regiment in 1940), four warrant officers, and forty-eight officers. Twenty-two of the officers were former enlisted men whose performance warranted battlefield commissions. In comparison, the 110th Medical Battalion had eleven men killed or died of wounds and ninety-nine wounded or injured, the 35th Quartermaster Company three men wounded (two from accidents), and the 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company one officer wounded. During combat in France, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands in 1944-1945, the 134th Infantry Regiment, 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company of the Nebraska National Guard played an integral part in the operations of the 35th Infantry Division. In Normandy, Colonel Butler B. Miltonberger’s 134th Infantry assisted in the liberation of the French town of St. Lo and threw off German attacks around Mortain, crushing
Hitler’s hopes of throwing Allied forces back into the sea and causing German forces in Northern France to crumble. Gaining a reputation as a “spearhead” unit of Lieutenant General George S. Patton’s Third Army, the 134th Infantry liberated the city of Nancy, crossed the Moselle River, and established the first bridgehead of its corps on German soil. During the Battle of the Bulge, the 134th Infantry was the first American unit to establish permanent contact with the surrounded 101st Airborne Division in the Belgian town of Bastogne, and helped push back the German assault.

During World War II, the 134th Infantry Regiment took the most casualties of any infantry regiment in the 35th Infantry Division, but its members, especially those from Nebraska, earned a disproportionate number of individual awards for combat valor or meritorious service, including three Distinguished Service Crosses. The morale of the regiment remained high thanks to the many Nebraska National Guardsmen and other officers and men from Nebraska in its ranks, most of whom had trained together for four years, and some even longer. The 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company also sustained the effectiveness of the division. The Nebraska National Guard’s morale was also aided by Omaha World-Herald newspaper reporter Lawrence W. Youngman, who traveled to England in May 1944 and followed the 35th Infantry Division across France from July to December. Youngman’s articles and photographs allowed the families and friends of Nebraskans in the division, as well as those of other members of the U.S. military from Nebraska and Iowa, to gain an appreciation for what they were experiencing.
Conclusion

Interaction with the people of its state both in a military and civilian context positively influenced the Nebraska National Guard’s effectiveness from 1919-1945 in its dual mission as a force controlled by Nebraska’s governor for missions within its state, and by the president of the United States for missions outside the country. Nebraska’s military history dates to 1854, when territorial governor Thomas B. Cuming ordered the formation of two regiments of militia to protect settlers from hostile Native Americans. Under various names and organizational structures, Nebraska Territorial and State Militia and National Guard units participated in the Civil War, the Spanish-American War and Philippine Insurrection, and World War I. Because of provisions in the federal National Defense Act of 1916 that had been passed prior to U.S. entry into World War I, the Nebraska National Guard had to be reorganized from scratch after its return from the European battlefront.

In 1920, Nebraska National Guard units consisting of one infantry regiment, one division quartermaster train, and part of one medical regiment were assigned to the 35th Division, alongside troops from Kansas and Missouri. The state was also directed to maintain units at the corps, Army, and General Headquarters Reserve level. Amendments to the National Defense Act of 1916 passed in 1920 preserved the lineages of National Guard units that had served in World War I. Nebraska’s infantry regiment reassumed its earlier designation of the 134th Infantry Regiment, while the medical regiment was redesignated the 110th Medical Regiment and the division quartermaster train the 35th Division Train. In selecting communities to host newly-reorganized National Guard units, Brigadier General Herbert J. Paul, Nebraska’s adjutant general, sought out places where
enthusiasm for service was high and community organizations and businesses expressed willingness to support units. Newspapers, business and social organizations and veterans’ groups that contained many former Nebraska National Guardsmen advertised the creation of units and provided financial backing. Many veterans of World War I chose to enlist or re-enlist in the new units, essentially all of which were officered by former Nebraska National Guardsmen that served as enlisted men and/or officers in the Spanish-American War and Philippine Insurrection, interbellum, or World War I, providing a core of experienced leaders to assist in their development. Unfortunately, there were downsides to Paul’s method of organizing units, and several relocations had to be made in the 1920s as enthusiasm from pro-military propaganda produced during World War I faded.

The infantry regiment was organized by the beginning of 1921, and the division quartermaster train and part of the medical regiment by mid-1923. By late 1922, however, state and federal legislators were unwilling to fund the National Guard to its mandated minimum of 435,800 enlisted men, and a modified program maintaining only 250,000 enlisted men had to be developed. The Nebraska National Guard’s strength was subsequently restricted to only the infantry regiment, division quartermaster train, and portion of the medical regiment. In 1925, through the efforts of Herbert J. Paul, the Nebraska National Guard secured the remainder of the medical regiment, giving it three complete major divisional units, all of which were key to the effectiveness of the operations of the 35th Division.

Nebraska National Guardsmen were called to assist the citizens of their state five times between 1922 and 1935 during incidents of civil unrest or natural disasters in Nebraska. For nearly three weeks in January and February 1922, units from the 134th
Infantry Regiment and 110th Medical Regiment went to Nebraska City to maintain order during a workers’ strike at a meat packing plant. In May 1930, part of one company of the 134th Infantry assisted city police after a tornado hit Hastings. For several days in early June 1935, elements of the 35th Division Train and 110th Medical Regiment were deployed to south-central Nebraska after flooding in the Republican River valley. The soldiers provided medical aid and rescued people from the floodwaters. For a week in mid-June, over one hundred officers and 1,200 enlisted men, comprising nearly the entire Nebraska National Guard except for a handful of units, were sent to Omaha to maintain order after violence erupted during a streetcar workers’ strike. In August and September 1935, two companies of the 134th Infantry patrolled irrigation ditches in Scotts Bluff County while a dispute regarding water rights was resolved.

During each of the Nebraska National Guard’s deployments in response to civil unrest, relatively little trouble was encountered and the troops were praised for their courtesy and even-handed conduct towards the parties involved. Nebraskans from all walks of life and a variety of professions chose to enlist in the National Guard. Many had the full understanding that they could be called to serve the state of Nebraska or the United States at any time, and chose to make the National Guard a second career, serving in many cases for nearly two decades. The officers and men that served in the Nebraska National Guard ranged from prominent public officials to everyday people. Many Nebraska National Guardsmen were high school and college students or graduates, and Herbert J. Paul appreciated how their intelligence increased the standards of the Nebraska National Guard. During the Great Depression, many men joined the Nebraska National
Guard for the money they could receive for their service during the hard economic times, and all units soon developed waiting lists.

As tensions in the world grew in the mid-1930s, the National Guard was gradually increased in strength and made better prepared for modern warfare. The 35th Division Train was converted into a fully-motorized quartermaster regiment, and the 110th Medical Regiment dispensed with its equine services. These two units, which had not been fully organized since their formation, were completed by 1940. In August 1940, Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered all reserve components of the U.S. Army to active duty for one year, and in January 1941, the Nebraska National Guard and 35th Division were sent to Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas. In early 1941, the 35th Division was reinforced by draftees predominantly sent from Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, and division commander Ralph E. Truman assigned men to units from their home states, believing morale would be helped if men could serve alongside others they knew. Officers in the 134th Infantry took it further, letting draftees pick their units to the extent practicable.

In summer and fall 1941, Nebraska National Guard units participated in major maneuvers in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee, where they were commended for their conduct. During this time, many National Guard officers, including some from Nebraska, were relieved of duty for being over-age or not militarily qualified, with some doubting the reasons for their dismissal. The 134th Infantry received a new commander, Colonel Butler B. Miltonberger, a veteran of over fifteen years of service with the Nebraska National Guard. In August, the National Guard’s original term of service was extended for eighteen months, and many older men or men with dependents were released to inactive duty. After U.S. entry into World War II, the 35th Infantry Division was first sent
to California. The division subsequently underwent several reorganizations, but Nebraska National Guard units were able to maintain their distinctive character through training in California, Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina, and West Virginia. Butler B. Miltonberger stressed state pride throughout training, utilizing various methods to increase the morale and military discipline of his regiment.

Deploying to England in May 1944, the 35th Infantry Division subsequently participated in the Battle of Normandy, the race across France to the German border, the Battle of the Bulge, and the invasion of Nazi Germany. Lawrence W. Youngman, a newspaper reporter from the *Omaha World-Herald*, became a war correspondent and followed the division across France in 1944. He reported on the activities of Nebraska National Guardsmen and other soldiers from the Midwest, raising their morale by ensuring they knew people at home were appreciating their efforts. Nebraska National Guard units assisted materially in the success of the 35th Infantry Division and Lieutenant General George S. Patton’s Third Army. In July 1944, the 134th Infantry assisted in the capture of the French town of St. Lo, a critical road junction impeding the Americans’ progress in Normandy. In September, the 134th Infantry liberated Nancy, a major city in eastern France, while in December, it secured a bridgehead into Germany. In December 1944 and January 1945, the 134th Infantry threw off German attacks in Belgium and Luxembourg as it assisted in beating back the German offensive in the Ardennes. In February 1945, the 35th Infantry Division moved into the Netherlands, and then Germany itself. The 110th Medical Battalion, 35th Quartermaster Company, and 735th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company provided continuous medical, supply, and maintenance support to the 35th Infantry Division, contributing to its efficiency as a combat unit. Units
of the 134th Infantry Regiment were formally awarded three Distinguished Unit Citations for their militarily significant actions at St. Lo and in Germany in 1944, as well as other commendations for military efficiency.

After the surrender of Nazi Germany on 8 May 1945, the 35th Infantry Division moved to the vicinity of Koblenz, Germany, beginning occupation duty. On 16 May 1945, Millard W. Hall was replaced as 110th Medical Battalion commander by Major Roy M. Matson, a Nebraska National Guardsman who had previously commanded the 35th Infantry Division special troops medical detachment. Many men were subsequently annoyed by Matson’s no-nonsense attitude towards military discipline. Tragically, two of the last members of Nebraska National Guard units to die in service during World War II were from Nebraska. On 19 May 1945, Technician Fourth Grade Henry W. Jens, of Company A, 134th Infantry, from Nebraska City, went into respiratory arrest and despite being rushed to a hospital, could not be revived. On 13 March 1945, Technician Third Grade Chester F. Lemon of Company A, 110th Medical Battalion, from Hastings, reported sick and was later evacuated to a military hospital in England for emergency surgery for a perforated ulcer. He died of infection on 20 May.

On 25 June, the Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for “superior performance of duty in…exceptionally difficult tasks, and for the achievement and maintenance of a high standard of discipline” from 15 July 1944-8 May 1945. On 1 July, the Oberwerth Stadium in Koblenz was dedicated as “Santa Fe Stadium” in honor of the division, and the official presentation of Distinguished Unit Citations was made to Company C and the second machine gun platoon of Company D, 134th Infantry. On 5 July, the 134th Infantry dedicated
“Romanowski Field” in Niedermendig, Germany, in honor of Chester J. Romanowski, “for two years a star on the Regiment’s division championship baseball team.”\textsuperscript{1396} In addition to the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry’s many combat casualties, after Germany’s surrender, men who had accumulated enough “points” based on total months in service, months overseas, combat awards or campaign participation, or dependent children began to be transferred home. As a result, by August, only forty-nine enlisted men from Nebraska remained in the regiment.\textsuperscript{1397} On 5 September, the 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry, along with the majority of the 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division, boarded the RMS \textit{Queen Mary} at Southampton, England, arriving in the United States five days later.\textsuperscript{1398} The division proceeded to Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky. On 15 November, the Service Company, 134\textsuperscript{th} Infantry was awarded a second Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, for service from 13 February-12 August 1945.\textsuperscript{1399} Inactivation of the 35\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division started in late November, and was completed on 7 December with the dissolution of the division headquarters.\textsuperscript{1400}

After the inactivation of the division, Butler B. Miltonberger was reassigned to duty with the War Department in Washington, D.C. He was soon surprised to learn from a friend in the office of the commanding general of the AGF that he was being considered as the next Chief of the National Guard Bureau, to succeed the retiring John F. Williams. Miltonberger appreciated this, writing to Dwight P. Griswold that “It would be a very acceptable post and would give me an opportunity to try some of my ideas in the coming reorganization of the Guard.”\textsuperscript{1401} In January 1946, he met in Washington, D.C. with Griswold and Brigadier General Harry Vaughan, President Harry S. Truman’s military aide, on the matter.\textsuperscript{1402} On 17 January, Miltonberger was nominated by Truman to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and was confirmed by the Senate on 31 January.\textsuperscript{1403}
On Miltonberger’s staff were several other Nebraska National Guardsmen with whom he had served during the interwar period and World War II.1404

After the relegation of National Guard affairs to the War Department Special Planning Division in 1942, prominent current and former Guardsmen accused the War Department of violating portions of the National Defense Act requiring Guard representation on War Department General Staff committees concerned with Guard affairs.1405 These protests led to the reestablishment of the committee in August 1944, and it produced a report in October 1945 about what it believed the extent of the postwar National Guard should be.1406 In February 1946, Miltonberger announced an ambitious troop basis of 622,667 officers and men (575,048 in ground units and 47,619 in air units).1407 Guy N. Henninger announced that thirty-two Nebraska communities would maintain National Guard units, which included air, artillery, armor, engineer, infantry, and medical units. Twenty of the communities had hosted National Guard that had been inducted into federal service prior to U.S. entry into World War II.1408 Warren C. Wood was selected to head a reorganized 134th Infantry, and promoted to colonel.1409 During his tenure as Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Butler B. Miltonberger battled what he believed to be mischaracterizations of the National Guard in media.1410

In July 1947, the 134th Infantry Regiment received its fourth Distinguished Unit Citation, for its actions in the Ardennes from 28 December 1944-29 January 1945.1411 In a ceremony during the 1947 encampment at Camp Ashland, Nebraska governor Val Peterson (1947-1953) attached the streamer denoting the citation onto the regiment’s guidon.1412 The effects of the war unfortunately lingered for some. In February 1947, Butler B. Miltonberger was diagnosed with sarcoidosis, a rare lung ailment likely
contracted while in Europe, and medically retired seven months later. During his absence for treatment, Colonel Edward J. Geesen of Seward, who had commanded the 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry, when it was inducted into federal service, was one of the acting Bureau chiefs. Technical Sergeant Donald J. Engel of Company C, 134th Infantry, had been captured at Habkirchen and held as a prisoner of war of the Germans for nearly five months. After suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and failing to gain admittance to Winter General Hospital for psychiatric treatment, he committed suicide on 18 July 1948. At his funeral, pallbearers were current and former members of Company C, which had been reorganized in Beatrice after World War II.

In 1946, Lawrence W. Youngman moved on from the Omaha World-Herald and co-founded Travel and Transport Inc., a travel agency. In 1969, the Omaha National Bank formed a holding company which purchased Travel and Transport, and Youngman was named president. Until his retirement in 1989, he held various positions in the company. Miltonberge, who had been ill with emphysema, died on 23 March 1977, at the age of seventy-nine, after complications from surgery to repair a broken hip suffered in a fall. On 8 April 1991, the Nebraska National Guard honored Youngman with a concert by the 43rd Army Band at the Orpheum Theater in Omaha, sponsored by the World-Herald. At the concert, Nebraska governor Ben Nelson (1991-1999) awarded Youngman the Nebraska Legion of Merit medal, the highest military decoration given by the state of Nebraska, for his services to the Nebraska National Guard during World War II. He died on 12 August 2003, at the age of ninety-eight. In 2007, the Omaha City Council voted to name a lake at a commercial development near 192nd and West Dodge Road in Omaha for Youngman.
Endnotes for Acknowledgements

1 Longin J. Zoubek was born in Clarkson, Nebraska, on 1 September 1909, and later lived in Schuyler, working as a farmer. In 1940, he took a farming job in Missouri, and on 7 January 1942, married the former Lorraine M. Steiner in Maysville, Missouri. He intended to farm in DeKalb County, Missouri, but was drafted and inducted into the Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on 20 March 1942. He departed for overseas service on 12 May 1944, and returned to the United States on 9 December 1945, being discharged on 15 December at Fort Leavenworth. Zoubek received the Army Good Conduct Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two campaign stars (Normandy and Ardennes), and the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in action on 2 August 1944. In 1947, he moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, with his wife, and lived the remainder of his life there, passing away on 23 March 1992 at the age of eighty-two after a battle with cancer. He was survived by his wife, son, and two daughters; WD AGO Form 53-55 (Enlisted Record and Report of Separation, Honorable Discharge) for Private First Class Longin J. Zoubek, copy in author’s collection; “Rogers News,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 28 March 1940; “Steiner-Zoubek,” DeKalb County Herald (Maysville, MO), 8 January 1942; “Colfax Boys Go into Camps,” Colfax County Call (Schuyler, NE), 26 March 1942; “Rogers Notes,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 29 April 1943; “Rogers Notes,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 28 October 1943; “Rogers Notes,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 10 February 1944; “Transfers,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 25 May 1944; “Longin J. Zoubek Wounded in Action,” St. Joseph News-Press (St. Joseph, MO), 23 August 1944; Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 28 September 1944; “Schuyler,” Colfax County Press (Clarkson, NE), 5 October 1944; “With Our Boys in Service,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 13 December 1945; “Rogers Notes,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 20 December 1945; “Rogers Notes,” Schuyler Sun (Schuyler, NE), 3 April 1947; “Longin J. Zoubek,” St. Joseph News-Press (St. Joseph, MO), 24 March 1992.

Endnotes for Introduction

7 Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Ralph E. Truman, 7 January 1945, Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Alphabetical File, B3, Folder “M,” TPLM.
“Virginia Volunteers” was changed to the “Virginia National Guard” on 3 June 1916; Riker, Soldiers of the States, 34-35.

United States Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 16.

“An Act to provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions,” 2 May 1792; “An Act more effectually to provide for the National Defence by establishing an Uniform Militia throughout the United States,” 8 May 1792.

Section 1, “An Act more effectually to provide for the National Defence by establishing an Uniform Militia throughout the United States,” 8 May 1792.

Sections 1 and 2, “An Act to provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions,” 2 May 1792.

“An Act to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions and to repeal the act now in force for those purposes,” 28 February 1795.

Section 1, “An Act making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of the Militia of the United States,” 2 Stat. 490, 23 April 1808.

Riker, Soldiers of the States, 34-35.


Riker, Soldiers of the States, 1.

Ibid.

Riker, Soldiers of the States, 21-40.

Riker, Soldiers of the States, 41-42, 47-51.

Riker, Soldiers of the States.


Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 183, 208.


Section 1, Pub. L. No. 57-33, 32 Stat. 775, 21 January 1903.

The final state not calling its military forces the “National Guard” was Virginia; the name of the “Virginia Volunteers” was changed to the “Virginia National Guard” on 3 June 1916; Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 183-208.
Man in Peace and War, 29; Elbridge Colby and James F. Glass, “The Legal Status of the National Guard,” Virginia Law Review 29, No. 7 (May 1943), 842.


Section 18, Pub. L. No. 57-33, 32 Stat. 775, 21 January 1903.


Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 195.


Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 205.

Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 207-220.


Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 221.

Section 1, Pub. L. No. 64-85, 39 Stat. 166, 3 June 1916.


Hartman, Nebraska’s Militia, 21.


Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion, Volume IV (Des Moines: Adjutant General’s Office, 1910), 845-863.

The Adjutant’s General, State of Nebraska, 1864-1964, Biographical Data (Lincoln: Adjutant General’s Office, 1964), 13, Nebraska Documents Collection, Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss Library, University of Nebraska Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska.

The Adjutant’s General, State of Nebraska, 1864-1964, Biographical Data, 17-21.


Memorandum, Outline of History of 134th Infantry (1Neb), 20 January 1930, RG3558.AM, SG13, S3, B9, F1, HN.


All or portions of the Nebraska National Guard attended annual encampments at the following locations in Nebraska or other states during the years indicated: Lincoln, 1881; Crete, 1883; Lincoln, 1885, 1887; Wahoo, 1888; Beatrice, 1889; Omaha, 1891; Superior and Grand Island, 1893; Lincoln, 1894; Hastings, 1895; Lincoln, 1896; David City, 1897; Lincoln, 1899; Hastings, 1900; Omaha, 1901; Fort Riley, Kansas and York, Nebraska, 1903; David City, 1904; Kearney, 1905; Fort Riley, 1906; Lincoln, 1907; Ashland, 1908, 1909; Fort Riley, 1910; Bellevue, 1911; Grand Island, Nebraska, and Pole Mountain, Wyoming.
1912; Waterloo, 1913; Ashland, 1914; Fremont and Crete, Nebraska, and Camp Sparta, Wisconsin, 1915; Hartman, *Nebraska's Militia*, 50, 78.

Troop A, Cavalry, was authorized to be organized on 22 May 1887 and was mustered into service on 22 July 1887, while the 2nd Infantry Regiment was authorized to be organized and was mustered into service in 1887; General Orders No. 8, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 13 August 1887, in Albert V. Cole, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Nebraska, 1887-1888* (Lincoln: Lincoln News Company State Printers, 1888), 130; Special Orders No. 2, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 9 May 1887, in *Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Nebraska, 1887-1888*, 136; Special Orders No. 3, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 20 May 1887, in *Biennial Report of the Adjutant General, 1887-1888*, 136.


William McKinley, Presidential Proclamation No. 412, 23 April 1898; Thomas D. Thiessen, “The Fighting First Nebraska: Nebraska’s Imperial Adventure in the Philippines,” *Nebraska History* 70 (Fall 1989), 212-213.


“Will Muster in Saturday,” *Fremont Daily Herald* (Fremont, NE), 20 March 1902.


The engineer company was authorized to be organized on 11 July 1910, and ordered to be mustered out on 5 February 1912; Special Orders No. 14, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 11 July 1910, in John C. Hartigan, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Nebraska for 1909-1910* (York: York Blank Book Company, 1910), 259; Special Orders No. 30, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 26 December 1911, in Phelps, *Biennial Report, 1911-1912*, 64.

The machine gun company was authorized to be organized on 10 August 1909, mustered in on 8 October 1909, and was ordered to be mustered out on 22 September 1911; Special Orders No. 23, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 10 August 1909, in Hartigan, *Biennial Report, 1909-1910*, 148; Special Orders No. 21, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 15 September 1911, in Phelps, *Biennial Report, 1911-1912*, 58.


Hartman, *Nebraska’s Militia*, 50.


Infantry, the 109th Infantry Brigade had the 133rd Infantry Regiment (formed from the 1st Iowa Infantry, Troop C, 1st Iowa Cavalry, the Machine Gun Company, 4th Nebraska Infantry, the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Iowa Infantry, and a separate company of Iowa infantry), 134th Infantry Regiment (5th Nebraska Infantry), and the 126th Machine Gun Battalion (2nd Battalion, 2nd Iowa Infantry and the Machine Gun Company, 6th Nebraska Infantry). The 68th Infantry Brigade had the 135th Infantry Regiment (1st Minnesota Infantry), 136th Infantry Regiment (2nd Minnesota Infantry), and the 127th Machine Gun Battalion (2nd Squadron, 1st South Dakota Cavalry, and individual transfers from the rest of the regiment). The 59th Field Artillery Brigade had the 125th Field Artillery Regiment (3rd Minnesota Infantry, less the Machine Gun Company), 126th Field Artillery Regiment (1st Iowa Field Artillery), 127th Field Artillery Regiment (4th Nebraska Infantry, less the Machine Gun Company), and the 109th Trench Mortar Battery (Headquarters Company less Band, Supply Company, and Machine Gun Company, 2nd Iowa Infantry). The division’s support units were the 125th Machine Gun Battalion (Troop B, 1st Iowa Cavalry, the Machine Gun Company, 3rd Minnesota Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 2nd Iowa Infantry), 109th Engineer Regiment (1st Separate Battalion, Iowa Engineers, the Sanitary Detachment, 2nd Iowa Infantry, and the Headquarters Company less Band, Supply Company, and 2nd Battalion, 6th Nebraska Infantry), 109th Field Signal Battalion (Company C, Iowa Signal Corps and Company B, Nebraska Signal Corps), and 109th Train Headquarters and Military Police (1st Battalion, 6th Nebraska Infantry, less Company D). The 109th Ammunition Train was formed from the Iowa ammunition train and Troop D, 1st Iowa Cavalry. The 109th Engineer Train was formed from Company I, 6th Nebraska Infantry, the 109th Sanitary Train was formed from the 1st and 2nd Iowa Ambulance Companies, the 1st
Minnesota Ambulance Company, the 1st and 2nd Iowa Field Hospitals, the 1st Minnesota Field Hospital, the 1st North Dakota Field Hospital, and Company D, 6th Nebraska Infantry. The 109th Supply Train was formed from the 3rd Battalion, 6th Nebraska Infantry, less Company I. United States, War Department, Composition of National Guard Divisions and Disposition of Former National Guard Units, 1917 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1918), 12-13.

10 United States, War Department, Composition of National Guard Divisions, 7-34; Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 60.

11 United States, War Department, Composition of National Guard Divisions, 22.

12 Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces in the World War, Volume 2, 207.

13 General Orders No. 28, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 1 October 1917, in Clapp, Biennial Report, 1917-1918, 141.


15 General Orders No. 1, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 7 January 1918, in Clapp, Biennial Report, 1917-1918, 261.

16 A list of former Nebraska National Guardsmen, as well as officers and men from Nebraska who were assigned to Nebraska National Guard units upon their enlistment or induction, and who were killed in action, died of wounds, or died of other causes, can be found in the Nebraska adjutant general’s biennial report for 1919-1920; Herbert J. Paul, Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Nebraska for 1919-1920 (Lincoln: Adjutant General’s Office, 1920), 66-94; Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces in the World War, Volume 2, 207.


18 Butler B. Miltonberger was reassigned from Company E, 134th Infantry to the 83rd Division on 8 November 1918, and to the 4th Military Police Company on 9 November. He was promoted from private to corporal on 1 August 1918, to sergeant on 5 February 1919, and reduced to private on 18 June 1919. He was discharged on 6 August 1919; transcript of tape-recorded interview of Butler B. Miltonberger by Donald D. Snoddy, 5 August 1970, 1, RG3558.AM, SG14, S2, B12, F2, HN; undated service summary of Butler B. Miltonberger, RG1, SG32, S2, B43, F311, HN.

19 Mahon, History of the Militia and the National Guard, 163.

20 Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 281.


23 Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces in the World War, Volume 2, 287.

24 General Orders No. 4, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 4 March 1919, in Paul, Biennial Report, 1919-1920, 8; “To Name Col. Paul Adjutant General,” Omaha Daily News (Omaha, NE), 28 December 1918.

25 The Adjutant’s General, State of Nebraska, 1864-1964, Biographical Data, 57.


Endnotes for Chapter 1


131 Orville D. Menard, “Lest We Forget: The Lynching of Will Brown, Omaha’s 1919 Race Riot,” Nebraska History 91 (Fall/Winter 2010), 155.


134 Home Guard companies summoned were in Lincoln, University Place (annexed by Lincoln in 1926), and Havelock (annexed by Lincoln in 1930); “University Place Votes Annexation,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 7 April 1926; “Annexation Is Carried at Havelock,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 2 April 1930.


136 “M’Kelvie Reviews Results of First Year as Governor,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 4 January 1920.


138 “Nebraska Rifles Are 2,400 Strong.” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 10 January 1920.


140 “Guard Organization Here Being Boosted,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 1 April 1920.

141 “To Organize a Company,” Hartington Herald (Hartington, NE), 11 March 1920.

142 Hartman, Nebraska’s Militia, 258-273.

143 “New National Guard Units for Nebraska,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 3 August 1919.

144 United States, War Department, Command, Staff, and Tactics for Officers of the National Guard and Organized Reserves (Fort Leavenworth: The General Service Schools Press, 1923), 41.

145 United States, War Department, Command, Staff, and Tactics for Officers of the National Guard and Organized Reserves, 37.

146 United States, War Department, Command, Staff, and Tactics for Officers of the National Guard and Organized Reserves, 41.

147 The fielding of this artillery piece never actually occurred, and howitzer companies retained 37 mm guns and mortars until the abolition of the units in the late 1930s; United States, War Department, Command, Staff, and Tactics for Officers of the National Guard and Organized Reserves, 38-39.


150 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 23 February 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of the 5th Company, 1st Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

151 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I, 254.

152 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 6 May 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of Service Company, Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

153 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I, 251.


155 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I, 252.

156 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 18 February 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of the 7th Company, 1st Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.
April 1920; "Belong to Famous 1st Company, Separate Company, Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, Seward, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.


158 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 28 February 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of the 4th Company, 1st Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

159 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.


161 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

162 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 17 August 1920, sub: Federal Recognition of the 1st Separate Company, 1st Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

163 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

164 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 19 November 1920, sub: Federal Recognition of the 3rd Separate Company, 1st Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

165 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

166 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 25 February 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of the 9th Company, 1st Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

167 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

168 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 6 April 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of the 10th Separate Company, Infantry Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

169 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

170 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 16 May 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of the 12th Separate Company, Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.


172 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 4 February 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of 8th Company, 1st Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

173 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 9 September 1920, sub: Federal Recognition of the 2nd Company, 1st Regiment, Nebraska Infantry, National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.


175 Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 20 June 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of 14th Separate Company, Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, Seward, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.


177 The reduction in the number of enlisted men required for federal recognition of National Guard units was a policy change advocated for by Herbert J. Paul, among others; “Recruits Pouring In,” *Hartington Herald* (Hartington, NE), 25 March 1920; “Belong to Famous 1st,” *Hartington Herald* (Hartington, NE), 29 April 1920; *Norfolk Press* (Norfolk, NE), 20 May 1920.
(Michigan and Wisconsin), 33rd (Illinois), 37th (Ohio), and 38th (Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia). The 26th Division became an all-Massachusetts outfit, with units from Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, and Vermont forming the 43rd Division. The 29th Division (Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia) lost Delaware (which did not maintain divisional troops), and New Jersey, with the latter state’s troops going to the 44th Division, which also had troops from New York. During World War I, the 30th Division had troops from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, the 31st Division from Alabama, Florida, and Georgia, and the 39th Division from Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. After World War I, Georgia left the 31st Division and became part of the 30th. The 31st Division was not reformed, while the 39th Division had units from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi. In 1923, the 39th Division was redesignated the 31st, and Arkansas troops became non-divisional. Nebraska troops moved from the 34th Division (Iowa, Minnesota, and the Dakotas) to the 35th Division, joining troops from Kansas and Missouri. The 36th Division became an all-Texas unit, with Oklahoma troops going to the 45th Division. The 45th Division also gained Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico from the 40th Division, the latter being restricted to California, Nevada, and Utah. The 41st Division again contained troops from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, but lost accessory units from Colorado, New Mexico, the Dakotas, and the District of Columbia. The 42nd Division, which had been made up of units from twenty-six states and the District of Columbia during World War I, was not reorganized; George C. Rickards, *Annual Report of the Chief of the Militia Bureau, 1923* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1923), 11; Mahon, *History of the Militia and the National Guard*, 173; United States, War Department, *Composition of National Guard Divisions*, 7-34.

206 During World War I, the 35th Division had trained at Camp Doniphan, Oklahoma, on the 19th century “Santa Fe Trail” from Missouri to New Mexico Territory. Its shoulder sleeve insignia, devised in 1918, was a Santa Fe cross in a circle. Official histories of the 35th Division during World War I include Charles B. Hoyt’s *Heroes of the Argonne: An Authentic History of the Thirty-Fifth Division* (Kansas City: Franklin Hudson Publishing Company, 1919) and Clair Kennamore’s *From Vauquois Hill to Exermont: A History of the 35th Division of the United States Army* (St. Louis: Guard Publishing Company, 1919); Hoyt, *Heroes of the Argonne*, 19-24; Kennamore, *From Vauquois Hill to Exermont*, 20-26.


209 The 110th Ammunition Train was never organized, and was disbanded on 1 July 1940. Historian Steven E. Clay wrote that “Only 11 of the 27 N.G. trains were active at some point in the interwar period—10 divisional trains and one army-level train. Most of the active trains were reorganized at some point into other organizations, mostly field artillery units. Only three trains survived into the late 1930s and all three were converted into other organizations during the major reorganizations of the N.G. during 1939–40;” Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 2, 951, 964.*

210 The 35th Division Air Service originally consisted of the 110th Observation Squadron, 110th Photo Section, 110th Branch Intelligence Office, and 170th Air Intelligence Section. The Branch Intelligence Office was disbanded in 1922, and the Air Intelligence Section in 1925, with the latter’s personnel transferred to the Photo Section. The Medical Detachment was added in 1927. In 1928-1929, the Division Air Service headquarters of all divisions were disbanded. The 110th Observation Squadron was subsequently relieved from the 35th Division, but attached to it for tactical purposes. In 1933, the squadron was assigned to the 47th Observation Group for command and control purposes; *Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Missouri, 1939* (Baton Rouge: Army and Navy Publishing Company, 1938), 17-23, 254-256; Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 3, 1,276, 1,445; “Guard Air Group to Be Absorbed,”* Webb City Sentinel (Webb City, MO), 24 June 1925.

The Headquarters Detachment, 35th Division, was organized in 1926. The Headquarters Company, 35th Division, was originally organized in Warrensburg in 1921 as the Headquarters Company, 70th Infantry Brigade. In 1923, it was redesignated as the Headquarters Company, 35th Division, with the brigade headquarters company reorganized in Jefferson City. The division headquarters detachment comprised soldiers that assisted the officers of each section of the division staff; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1939, 710; Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Missouri, 1939, 11, 15-16, 253.

The Headquarters Detachment, 35th Division, was organized in 1926. The Headquarters Company, 35th Division, was originally organized in Warrensburg in 1921 as the Headquarters Company, 70th Infantry Brigade. In 1923, it was redesignated as the Headquarters Company, 35th Division, with the brigade headquarters company reorganized in Jefferson City. The division headquarters detachment comprised soldiers that assisted the officers of each section of the division staff; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1939, 710; Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Missouri, 1939, 11, 25.


The name of the fiscal year is denoted by the year in which it ends. Prior to 1976, the U.S. government’s fiscal year began on 1 July and ended on 30 June; Pub. L. No. 93-344, 88 Stat. 297, 12 July 1974.


“Whole Guard Company of Union Pacific Men,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 3 December 1920.

“Announce Officers of UP Company of Guard,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 4 December 1920.

Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse McL. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 4 February 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of 8th Company, 1st Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Letter, W.G. Williams to Herbert J. Paul, 12 May 1932; letter, Herbert J. Paul to W.G. Williams, 17 May 1932, both in RG0018, SG2, S13, B94, F22, HN.

Burl M. Johnson, John H. Ratliff, Jr., and Lloyd L. Johnson, Nebraska Army and Air National Guard History, 1854-1957, 112.

“A National Guard Co. for Falls City,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 11 December 1920.

“American Legion Elects,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 15 December 1920.

“National Guard,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 17 December 1920.

“Governor to Have Inaugural Ball and ‘Staff’ Like in the Old Days,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 29 December 1920.

Letter, MB 325.4/E-Nebraska, Jesse McL. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 18 February 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of the 7th Company, 1st Infantry, Nebraska National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN; “National Guard Muster Tonight,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 11 January 1921.


“Over Forty Names on Guard Roster,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 8 September 1920.

“National Guard Company Organized,” Beatrice Daily Express (Beatrice, NE), 28 September 1920.


“Grand Island Guard Co. Is Mustered into Service,” Grand Island Daily Independent (Grand Island, NE), 4 March 1921.

Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Nebraska, 1939, 3-4.


Livestock from nearby farms often wandered onto the range to graze, trampling the grass and causing sand to blow onto adjacent properties; letter, Hugh E. Clapp to the Chief, Militia Bureau, 12 July 1918, sub:
Ashland Rifle Range; letter, Herbert J. Paul to E.J. Rose, 16 April 1919; letter, Herbert J. Paul to Richard Leurich, 16 April 1919, all in RG0018, SG2, S1, B12, F159, HN; Paul, Biennial Report, 1919-1920, 4.

258 Paul, Biennial Report, 1921-1922, 3-4.

259 “Start Mess Fund for Guard Unit,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 26 July 1921.


262 “Human Spider Will Climb Hotel in Recruiting Stunt,” Omaha Daily Bee (Omaha, NE), 29 June 1921.

263 “Guardsmen Are to Encamp,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 10 July 1922.

264 Paul, Biennial Report, 1921-1922, 3; “Troops Will Not Come This Year,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 15 June 1922.

265 “First Nebraska Infantry Moving on to Camp Dodge,” Omaha Evening Bee (Omaha, NE), 16 August 1921; “Nebraska Gets Artillery Unit,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 3 October 1921.

266 “Gasoline Tax Is a Dead One,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 28 January 1922.

267 “No Artillery Regiment for Nebraska Guard,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 8 May 1922.

268 Letter, MB 325.4 Nebraska, C.C. Collins to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 7 August 1922, sub: Addition of Units to Nebraska 1923 National Guard Allotment, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN; letter, MB 325.4-Nebraska-6, Creed C. Hammond to all State Adjutants General, Territory of Hawaii, Porto Rico and the District of Columbia Militia, 12 December 1925, sub: Withdrawal of Allotments, RG0018, SG2, S1, B12, F162, HN; “Thousands See War Spectacle,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 28 July 1922.

269 Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 93.

270 Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 3, 1,870.

271 Diagram, Division Quartermaster Corps Instructor’s Office, Infantry Division (War Strength) With Attached Medical Department, Quartermaster Corps Instructor’s Office, Lincoln, NE, 15 September 1930, RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN; United States, War Department, Command, Staff, and Tactics for Officers of the National Guard and Organized Reserves, 104.

272 “Holdrege to Have National Guard Unit,” Holdrege Daily Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 30 November 1922; “Muster Guard Company Tonight,” Holdrege Progress (Holdrege, NE), 28 December 1922.

273 “To Organize National Guard Wagon Company,” Dawson County Pioneer (Lexington, NE), 22 December 1922.

274 “May Organize a Wagon Company,” Lexington Clipper (Lexington, NE), 4 January 1923.

275 “National Guard Company Active,” Kearney Democrat (Kearney, NE), 12 April 1923.


277 Letter, MB 325.4-J-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 22 June 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Headquarters, 35th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

279 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

280 Letter, MB 325.4/N-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 27 June 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Medical Department Detachment, 35th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps, Nebraska National Guard, Kearney, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

281 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

282 Letter, MB 325.4/N-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 6 July 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Veterinary Section, Medical Department Detachment, 35th Division Train, (Quartermaster Corps), Nebraska National Guard, Fremont, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

283 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

284 Letter, MB 325.4/M-Nebraska, C.C. Collins to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 19 January 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Motor Transport Company No. 137, 35th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps, Nebraska National Guard, Holdrege, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

285 Letter, MB 325.4/M-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 1 June 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Motor Transport Company No. 138, 35th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps, Nebraska National Guard, Fremont, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

286 Letter, MB 325.4/M-Nebraska, J.D. Elliott to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 22 May 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Motor Repair Section No. 119, 35th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps, Nebraska National Guard, Holdrege, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

287 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I*, 252.

288 Letter, MB 325.4/M-Nebraska, C.C. Collins to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 18 April 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of Wagon Company No. 119, 35th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps, Nebraska National Guard, Lexington, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

289 Letter, MB 325.4/M-Nebraska, C.C. Collins to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 18 April 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of Wagon Company No. 120, 35th Division Train (QMC) Nebraska National Guard, Kearney, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.


291 The Chief of the Militia Bureau, Major General George C. Rickards, wrote that “The Militia Bureau has also issued tables under which company units with peace strengths in excess of 65...are authorized for maintenance at that figure.” A list of units contemplated for the new manpower program can be found on pages 11-15 of Rickards’ *Annual Report of the Chief of the Militia Bureau* for 1924; George C. Rickards, “The Progress of the National Guard,” *The Military Engineer* 16, No. 86 (March-April 1924), 137.

292 It was planned that once funds became available, the units on the DNG list would be reallocated to the National Guard and organized. The list remained in effect until 15 September 1927, when all units on it, except for a handful that were returned to states in an inactive status for later organization (few of these were ever actually organized), were demobilized; Rickards, *Annual Report of the Chief of the Militia Bureau, 1923*, 10-11; George C. Rickards, *Annual Report of the Chief of the Militia Bureau, 1924* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1924), 11-15; Creed C. Hammond, *Annual Report of the Chief of the Militia Bureau, 1928* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1928), 16-20; Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4*, 2,700.

293 “Want to Organize National Guard if Get Local Support,” *Kearney Daily Hub* (Kearney, NE), 7 March 1923; “Twenty-Five Sign Up for a Membership in Guard Company,” *Kearney Daily Hub* (Kearney, NE), 16 March 1923.

294 “National Guard Is an Important Institution, Says State Officer,” *Fremont Herald* (Fremont, NE), 9 March 1923.

295 “Guard Inspection Thursday Evening,” *Kearney Daily Hub* (Kearney, NE), 30 March 1923.

296 “Plan a National Guard Troop Here,” *Fremont Tribune* (Fremont, NE), 18 April 1923; “National Guard Troop Assured Fact for City,” *Fremont Tribune* (Fremont, NE), 20 April 1923.

297 “Urges Business Men to Get Back of N.G. Unit,” *Fremont Herald* (Fremont, NE), 11 May 1923; “Organization of Fremont Troop Is Completed Tuesday,” *Fremont Tribune* (Fremont, NE), 22 May 1923.

298 “Motor Repair Unit for National Guard,” *Holdrege Progress* (Holdrege, NE), 26 April 1923.
“Want a Hospital Unit,” *Kearney Daily Hub* (Kearney, NE), 4 April 1923; “Guard Company Meets,” *Kearney Daily Hub* (Kearney, NE), 5 April 1923; “Medical Detachment Will Meet,” *Kearney Democrat* (Kearney, NE), 7 June 1923.


United States, War Department, Command, Staff, and Tactics for Officers of the National Guard and Organized Reserves, 99-101.


Letter, MB 325.4/G-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 19 July 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Headquarters Detachment, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Letter, MB 325.4/G-Nebraska, C.C. Collins to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 13 March 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Medical Laboratory Section No. 110, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Letter, MB 325.4/G-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 19 July 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of Medical Supply Section No. 110, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Letter, MB 325.4/G-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 19 July 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of Veterinary Company No. 110, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.


Letter, MB 325.4/G-Nebraska, C.C. Collins to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 19 April 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of Ambulance Company No. 130, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Letter, MB 325.4/G-Nebraska, H.A. Finch to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 19 July 1923, sub: Federal Recognition of the Medical Laboratory Section No. 110, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Letter, MB 325.4/G-Nebraska, Jesse Mcl. Carter to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 7 June 1921, sub: Federal Recognition of Hospital Company, Nebraska National Guard, Lincoln, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

“May Revive Interest in Militia Company,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 29 March 1923; “Chamber of Commerce Will Father Fourth of July Celebration,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 21 April 1923.


“Ambulance Unit Given Inspection,” *Hastings Daily Tribune* (Hastings, NE), 6 April 1923.


*The Weekly Medico*, 29 March 1941, 2, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.

“Medics Owe Birthright to Nebraska Leaders,” *The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest* 1, No. 22 (10 October 1941), 5, RH Ser G212, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas (hereafter KSRL).

The Nebraska legislature later refunded what Herbert J. Paul had borrowed towards expenses for running the Adjutant General’s Office, and this money was put into a “quartermaster fund.” “From time to time thereafter additional funds were derived from the sale of old paper, sheep, salvage and other items. The fund was drawn upon from time to time for expenses and equipment necessary...in the interest of the guard organizations;” memorandum, Richard F. Stout, Arthur F. Young, and Clarence L. Clark to Robert L. Cochran, 25 September 1937, 1, RG1, SG31, S2, B46, F213, HN; “Army Officers O.K. Rifle Range,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 1 March 1923; “The Rifle Range,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 12 April 1923; “Rifle Range an Established Fact,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 10 May 1923.
The general layout of Camp Ashland can be observed in a State of Nebraska Department of Roads and Irrigation blueprint of the camp, dated 30 January 1934 (Civil Works Administration Project S244), corrected 15 December 1934 and revised 12 April 1937, RG1, SG31, S2, B46, F213, HN.

“Military Band for Crete,” Crete News (Crete, NE), 1 May 1924.

“Crete Military Band Becomes a Reality,” Crete News (Crete, NE), 8 May 1924.


Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Nebraska, 1939, 75, 116.

“Proposes Medical Unit for Columbus,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 19 May 1924.

Organize National Guard Company in Columbus May 28,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 20 May 1924.

“Call Guard Meeting for Next Wednesday,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 24 May 1924.

“Try Personal Work,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 29 May 1924.

“Guard Company for Columbus Certain with 40 Enlisting,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 3 June 1924; “More Signing Up for Guard Company,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 6 June 1924.

“Militia Under Way,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 14 June 1924; “Muster in Tonight,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 25 June 1924; “Collecting Company for National Guard Mustered in Service,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 26 June 1924.

“‘Mustering Night’ Ceremony Will Be Open to Everyone,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 23 June 1924.


The other units of the 110th Medical Regiment allotted to Kansas were the Hospital Battalion headquarters and the 128th Hospital Company. At the time, the Collecting Battalion headquarters, the 128th and 129th Collecting Companies, the 129th Ambulance Company, and the 129th Hospital Company were to be allotted to the states concerned at a future date, but only organized upon mobilization for war; letter, MB 325.45 Kansas, Abbott Boone to the Adjutant General of Kansas, 9 January 1925, sub: Ambulance Company, Animal Drawn, RG0018, SG2, S1, B12, F162, HN.

Hiram W. Orr had accepted a commission in the ORC as the consulting orthopedic surgeon of the Sixth Army; “Col. H.W. Orr Resigns,” Lincoln State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 10 April 1925; “Dr. Hilton Is Colonel,” Lincoln State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 16 April 1925.

Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 1,946.


The Service Company was designated the descendant of Field Hospital No. 137 (Field Hospital No. 1, Missouri National Guard), the 130th Collecting Company of Field Hospital No. 139 (Field Hospital No. 1, Kansas National Guard), the 130th Ambulance Company of Ambulance Company No. 137 (Ambulance Company No. 1, Missouri National Guard), and the 110th Veterinary Company of Ambulance Company No. 138 (Ambulance Company No. 2, Missouri National Guard); letter, C.T. Lanham to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 20 January 1936, sub: Outline History, 110th Medical Regt., Neb. N.G., RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F310, HN.

Developments in the 155 mm howitzer’s mobility leading to the decision to return them to infantry divisions were new gun carriages with shock absorbers, steel wheels, and pneumatic rubber tires that allowed towing behind trucks at higher speeds; Janice E. McKenney, The Organizational History of Field Artillery, 1775-2003 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Army Center of Military History, 2007), 144.

Arkansas was moved from the Fourth Corps Area to the Seventh Corps Area in December 1920. The rest of the 142nd Field Artillery Regiment was organized by 1939; George E. Leach, Annual Report of the

345 The new tables of organization of the medical regiment were dated 1 March 1934. The officers in the division surgeon’s office were assigned to the regimental headquarters, while the enlisted men were assigned to the “division surgeon’s office section” in the service company. The authority to maintain medical laboratory sections was also revoked; Leach, Annual Report, 1932, 8; George E. Leach, Annual Report of the Chief of the Militia Bureau, 1934 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1934), 8; Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Nebraska, 1939, 116.


348 Mahon, History of the Militia and the National Guard, 175.


The officers were appointed to their positions on the following dates: Harry C. Stein, 22 December 1932; Thomas Q. Thornton, 29 December 1932; Marcus L. Poteet; 30 December 1932; Harry H. Ellis, 4 January 1933; Arthur F. Stout and Richard F. Young, 28 June 1933; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Staff, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1932, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1932, RN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Staff, 134th Infantry Regiment, November 1932, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1932, RN; “Amos Thomas Made a General in Guard,” *Morning World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 16 July 1932; “Amos Thomas Gets Order of Promotion,” *Evening World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 18 August 1932; “R.G. Douglas Appointed Colonel of Regiment in National Guard; Names Rolla Van Kirk Adjutant,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 30 September 1932.

The officers were appointed to their positions on the following dates: Harry C. Stein, 22 December 1932; Thomas Q. Thornton, 29 December 1932; Marcus L. Poteet; 30 December 1932; Harry H. Ellis, 4 January 1933; Arthur F. Stout and Richard F. Young, 28 June 1933; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Staff, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1932, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1932, RN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Staff, 134th Infantry Regiment, November 1932, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1932, RN; “Amos Thomas Made a General in Guard,” *Morning World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 16 July 1932; “Amos Thomas Gets Order of Promotion,” *Evening World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 18 August 1932; “R.G. Douglas Appointed Colonel of Regiment in National Guard; Names Rolla Van Kirk Adjutant,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 30 September 1932.
4 Guardsmen Are Promoted,” Kearney Tribune (Kearney, NE), 13 January 1933.
361 The reassignment of the VII Corps came as part of a major reorganization of the Army from six field armies to four; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume I, 101-102, 160.
362 First Lieutenant Delbert C. Leffler of the 137th Motor Transport Company was named the new assistant division quartermaster, and was promoted to captain; MB/NGB Form 100, Detachment, Headquarters Staff, 35th Division, April 1934, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1934, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Detachment, Headquarters Staff, 35th Division, July 1934, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1934, HN; Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Nebraska, 1939, 93; “Promote Officers Transport Corps in National Guard,” Holdrege Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 9 January 1933; “National Guards Win Promotions to Top Officers,” Holdrege Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 13 July 1934.
363 “Heavy Action for 35th,” Kansas City Star (Kansas City, MO), 26 January 1935.
368 MB/NGB Form 100, State Staff (Officers), September 1935, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1935, HN; letter, NG 210.1 Gen Offs. x NG 210.1 35th Div., L.H. Rockafellow to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 20 September 1938, sub: Recommendation for Candidate for Commanding General 35th Division, RG0018, SG2, S4, B91, F9, HN.
373 Blanding, Annual Report, 1936, 7; Blanding, Annual Report, 1937, 7; Blanding, Annual Report, 1939, 10.
374 Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 13-14.
375 United States, Congress, House of Representatives, Hearings Before the Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, Seventy-Fifth Congress, First Session, on the Legislative


379 Captain Delbert C. Leffler was transferred from the state staff to command the 1st Battalion, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, while Captain William J. Atkinson of the 120th Wagon Company became commander of the 2nd Battalion. Both men were promoted to major; MB/NGB Form 100, Detachment, Headquarters Staff, 35th Division, April 1935, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1935, HN; General Orders No. 6, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 30 March 1936, in Paul, *Biennial Report, 1935-1936*, 30-32; *Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Missouri*, 1939, 6, 253; “Lieut. Colonel Harry H. Ellis Transferred Headquarter Unit,” *Holdrege Citizen* (Holdrege, NE), 8 April 1936.


383 Memorandum, Grand Island, A Proposed Base for the Nebraska National Guard Aerial Squadron, 22 March 1937, RG1, SG31, S2, B46, F213, HN.

384 Letter, Robert L. Cochran to Carl G. Binderup, 6 April 1937; letter, Robert L. Cochran to Edward R. Burke, 6 April 1937; letter, Robert L. Cochran to Harry B. Coffee, 6 April 1937; letter, Robert L. Cochran...
to Henry C. Luckey, 6 April 1937; letter, Robert L. Cochran to Charles F. McLaughlin, 6 April 1937; letter, Robert L. Cochran to Karl Stefan, 6 April 1937; letter, Robert L. Cochran to George W. Norris, 8 April 1937, all in RG1, SG31, S2, B46, F213, HN.

385 Letter, Harry H. Woodring to Karl Stefan, 21 April 1937; letter, Harry H. Woodring to Carl G. Binderup, 18 May 1937, both in RG1, SG31, S2, B46, F213, HN.

386 Letter, NG 210.1 Gen Offs. x NG 210.1 35th Div., L.H. Rockafellow to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 20 September 1938, sub: Recommendation for Candidate for Commanding General 35th Division; General Orders No. 1, Headquarters, 35th Division, 4 March 1938, both in RG0018, SG2, S10, B91, F9, HN; General Orders No. 10, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 6 November 1937, in Paul, Biennial Report, 1937-1938, 24-25.


389 MB/NGB Form 100, State Staff (Officers), January 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1939, HN; Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Nebraska, 1939, iv, “Henninger Succeeds Gen. Paul,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 28 December 1938.

390 The Adjutant’s General, State of Nebraska, 1864-1964, Biographical Data, 59.

391 Harry C. Stein was removed as USP&DO because of supposed financial irregularities found during an examination of the state’s method of purchasing firewood for Camp Ashland; MB/NGB Form 100, State Staff (Officers), February 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1939, HN; General Orders No. 5, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 7 February 1939, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 10; General Orders No. 16, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 1 October 1939, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 20-21; “Officer is Ousted as Guard Books Show Fund Shift,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 14 March 1938; “H. R. Turner Is Asst. Adjutant,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 26 September 1939.

392 Letter, NGB 325.4 Nebr.-4, William E. Persons to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 13 January 1939, sub: Increase in Strength of the National Guard, Fiscal Year 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F312, HN.

393 Letter, Joseph E. Palmer to Guy N. Henninger, 22 March 1939; letter, Guy N. Henninger to the Commanding General, 7th Corps Area, New Fed. Bldg., 15th and Dodge Sts., Omaha, Nebraska, 30 March 1939, sub: Inspection of Co. F, 110th QM Regiment, for Federal Recognition; Roster of Company F, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, Broken Bow, Nebraska, April 6, 1939, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F312, HN; General Orders No. 8, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 4 April 1939, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 11-12; “Organize New National Guard Company Here,” Custer County Chief (Broken Bow, NE), 30 March 1939.

394 General Orders No. 12, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 20 May 1939, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 14; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1939, 747; “George Beaver Promoted to 1st Lieutenant,” Kearney Daily Hub (Kearney, NE), 22 May 1939.

395 Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 125-126.

396 Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 133.

397 First-echelon maintenance was conducted by the user of the item. Second-echelon maintenance was conducted by specially-trained personnel within the user’s unit. Third-echelon maintenance was done by units in direct support of the user’s unit. Fourth and fifth-echelon maintenance was the most involved and complex, and was completed by separate units; Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 127-132, 144-145.


399 General Orders No. 15, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 25 September 1939, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 19-20; “National Guard Infantry Regiments to Be Partially Reorganized Next Month,” Lincoln
Star (Lincoln, NE), 11 August 1939; “Gering Howitzer Company May Be Replaced By Another Unit,”
Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 11 August 1939; “No Change Now in Company F,” Cedar County News
(Hartington, NE), 24 August 1939; “Continue as Howitzers,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 1 September
1939; “Gering to Get Rifle Company in near Future,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 22 September 1939;
“Form New Guard Unit,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 28 September 1939; “Co. F of This City
Moved to Gering,” Hartington Herald (Hartington, NE), 28 September 1939; “Co. F Assigned to Gering
with Strength of 83,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 29 September 1939.
400 “Guard Company Heads Expect New Ordnance,” Grand Island Daily Independent (Grand Island, NE),
16 September 1939; “Guardsmen Here Will Add 14 Men,” North Platte Daily Bulletin (North Platte, NE),
27 September 1939.
401 Letter, AG 320.2 (2-1-39) Misc. (Ret.)-M-C, E.S. Adams to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 10
February 1939, sub: Tables of Organization, RG0018, SG2, S1, B24, F326, HN; letter, NGB 325.4 (Med)
Nebraska-17, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 14 November 1939, sub: Reorganization of
the 110th Medical Regiment, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.
402 Letter, NGB 325.4 (Med) Nebr.-11, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 24 November
1939, sub: Redesignation of Service Company, 110th Medical Regiment, RG0018, SG2, S4, B51, F334,
HN; General Orders No. 21, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 28 November 1939, in Henninger, Biennial
403 Letter, NGB 325.4 Nebr.-4, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 11 December 1939, sub:
Organization of the Division Surgeon’s Office, 110th Medical Regiment, RG0018, SG2, S4, B51, F334,
HN; letter, NGB 325.4 Neb.-4, C.H. Miller to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 12 December 1939, sub:
Allotted Strength of the National Guard of Nebraska, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F319, HN; letter, NG 325.4
Nebraska x AG 201-Moore, Harvard C. (O), Norris A. Wimberley to Harvard C. Moore, 19 January 1940,
sub: Special inspection for federal recognition, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN; General Orders No. 2,
Adjutant General, Nebraska, 20 January 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 34.
404 Letter, NGB 325.4 (Med) Nebr.-18, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 15 January 1940,
sub: Organization of Company “B” (Collecting) 110th Medical Regiment, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F310,
HN; letter, NGB 325.4 Nebr.-4, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 18 January 1940, sub:
Allotted Strength of the National Guard of Nebraska, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F319, HN.
405 The results of the survey conducted by the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce can be found in RG0018,
SG2, S4, B49, F310, HN; “National Guard Unit Proposed for This City,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk,
NE), 7 February 1940; “Pump Irrigation, Guard Unit are Luncheon Topics,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk,
NE), 29 February 1940.
406 “Norfalk Is Awarded National Guard Unit,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 1 March 1940.
407 “Effort Made to Get Guard Camp,” Madison Star-Mail (Madison, NE), 28 March 1940.
408 Company B, 110th Medical Regiment was designated as the descendant of the 139th Ambulance
Company, 110th Sanitary Train (formerly Ambulance Company No. 2, Kansas National Guard); General
Orders No. 4, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 2 April 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 38;
“63 Members of National Guard Unit Sworn In,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 10 April 1940.
409 The motorization of the Army’s field artillery started with limited use of tractors, but later settled on
trucks; McKenney, The Organizational History of Field Artillery, 133-137; Colby, The National Guard of
the United States: A Half Century of Progress, IX, 16-19; Everson, Annual Report, 1930, 13, 29; Everson,
Annual Report, 1931, 9-11; Leach, Annual Report, 1933, 7-8, 23; Leach, Annual Report, 1934, 8, 23;
410 Letter, AG 320.2 (2-1-39) Misc. (Ret.)-M-C, E.S. Adams to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 10
February 1939, sub: Tables of Organization, RG0018, SG2, S1, B24, F326, HN; letter, NGB 325.4 (Med)
Nebraska-17, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 14 November 1939, sub: Reorganization of
the 110th Medical Regiment, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.
411 After the disbandment of the Veterinary Company, its former commander Captain Simon W. Alford
was made a major and division veterinarian, responsible for food inspection; letter, NGB 325.4 (Med)
Nebraska-17, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 14 November 1939, sub: Reorganization of
the 110th Medical Regiment; letter, NGB 325.4 (Med) Nebraska-15, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General
of Nebraska, 25 March 1940, sub: Conversion of the Veterinary Company, 110th Medical Regiment into
Company “H” (Hospital) of the Same Regiment, both in RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN; letter, NGB
325.4 Nebr.-4, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 26 March 1940, sub: Allotted Strength of
the National Guard of Nebraska, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F319, HN; “Food, Not Horses, Division Vet’s

412 Major Earl N. Deppen (formerly of the Headquarters) was named commander of the 1st Battalion, Captain Leonard A. Swanson (formerly of Company D) the 2nd Battalion, and Captain Rodney K. Johnson (formerly of Company G) the 3rd Battalion; Johnson and Swanson were promoted to major. In September 1940, Swanson resigned and was replaced by Johnson; Captain (later Major) James B. Anderson (formerly of Company G), became commander of the 3rd Battalion, with Captain Paul J. Huber the new commander of Company G; “Dr. Deppen Is Promoted,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 4 June 1940; “Dr. L.A. Swanson Appointed Major,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 5 June 1940; “Dr. Johnson a Major,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 10 June 1940; “Dr. Swanson Resigns,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 14 September 1940; “3 Medical Officers Promoted in Guard,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 22 October 1940.

413 Letter, NGB 325.4 (Med)-Nebr. 21, A.V. Winton to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 11 July 1940, sub: Designation of the Band, 110th Medical Regiment, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F334; General Orders No. 12, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 18 July 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 48-49.

414 Letter, NGB 325.4 (Infantry) Nebraska-16, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska (through the Commanding General, Seventh Corps Area), 21 March 1940, sub: Redesignation of the 134th Infantry (Rifle), RG0018, SG2, S4, B51, F336, HN.

415 MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters, 110th Medical Regiment, September 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B6, F1940, HN; “Col. Hilton Retires as Brigadier General,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 10 September 1940.


418 “Name of National Guard Outfit Here Has Been Changed,” St. Joseph News-Press (St. Joseph, MO), 4 September 1940.

419 John F. Williams wrote that “From the 4 cavalry divisions broken up, 17 cavalry regiments were converted into 7 horse-mechanized cavalry regiments, 7 field artillery regiments, 7 coast artillery regiments and...battalions, and 1 antitank battalion.” The divisions’ allotments were later withdrawn, effectively disbanding them. A listing of National Guard unit conversions since 1 November 1939 can be found in Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 14-15, 98-107.


421 Captain Harry W. Frazee of Lawrence, Kansas, an aide-de-camp to the division commander, became acting G-1, and was later replaced by Lieutenant Colonel John B. Smith of Kansas City, Kansas; MB/NGB Form 100, Detachment, Headquarters Staff, 35th Division, November 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1940, HN; General Orders No. 4, Headquarters, 35th Division, 28 November 1940, RG0018, SG2, S6, B78, F166, HN; “Roster of Officers, 35th Division, January 18, 1941,” RG3558.AM, SG11, S1, B4, F1, HN.

422 Recruiting to expand the 134th Infantry’s Antitank Platoon started in late November 1940. National Guard infantry regiments were not permitted additional personnel for their antitank companies over their existing maximum maintenance strength, so the personnel were required to come from within the regiments through redistribution by transfers to the Inactive National Guard (see Chapter 2) or discharges. Three additional officers were allotted for the companies; letter, NGB 325.4 (Inf) Nebr.-14, M.G. Randol to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 2 November 1940, sub: Organization of the Antitank Company, 134th Infantry (Rifle), Nebraska National Guard; letter, Guy N. Henninger to Clyde E. McCormick, 13 November 1940; letter, Guy N. Henninger to Lloyd R. Hardy, 23 November 1940; letter, NGB 325.4, A.D. Cowley to
the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 2 December 1940, sub: Certificate–Redesignation, National Guard Unit, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B51, F336, HN; General Orders No. 19, Adjutant General, Nebraska, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 55-56; “New Guard Unit Is to Be Formed,” Hartington Herald (Hartington, NE), 21 November 1940; “Many Men Rush to Enlist in New Anti-tank Unit in City,” Hartington Herald (Hartington, NE), 28 November 1940.


433 Guidance regarding administrative procedures for the organization and maintenance of National Guard units were found in the National Guard Regulations.

434 Fillmore Chronicle (Fairmont, NE), 12 January 1923; “Commercial Club Meets,” Fillmore Chronicle (Fairmont, NE), 16 February 1923.


436 United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fourteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1920, Volume I, 253; “Start to Organize National Guard Company for City,” Evening Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 22 March 1923; “Machine Gun Company to Be Organized Here,” Evening Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 25 April 1923.


438 Butler B. Miltonberger replaced Major Fred H. Stoll, who moved to the regimental staff; undated service summary of Butler B. Miltonberger, RG1, SG32, S2, B43, F311, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, January 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Staff, 134th Infantry Regiment, January 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1933, HN; “Expect Army Promotions,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 1 October 1932; “Regimental Staff,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 29 December 1932; “Peterson, Wilson and Godwin are Promoted,” Evening Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 23 January 1933.


441 In 1925, a proposal to place a platoon of the Howitzer Company in Morrill was disapproved, but the company was successfully retained in Mitchell thanks to an intensive recruiting effort; “Howitzer Co. Now Going Good,” Mitchell Index (Mitchell, NE), 21 May 1925; “Howitzer Company Again Discussed,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 8 January 1926; “Commercial Club Will Boost New Guard Unit,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 15 January 1926; “Officers of State National Guard in Gering and Valley,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 12 February 1926.

442 General Orders No. 2, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 15 March 1926, in Paul, Biennial Report, 1925-1926, 17-18; “Community Club,” Mitchell Index (Mitchell, NE), 11 February 1926; Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 12 March 1926; Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 19 March 1926; “Howitzer Company Given Once Over,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 9 April 1926.

443 “Interesting News Bits Told In Brief,” Minatare Free Press (Minatare, NE), 18 March 1926.


446 “Commercial Club Held Quarterly,” Holdrege Daily Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 14 March 1929.
D. Harris to Robert L. Cochran, all in RG1, SG31, S2, B43, F148;

Robert L. Cochran, 18 April 1936

at Governor’s Conference on Monday April 20, 1936

inspection, and in June, Kiffin was made captain;

strengthen the claim of L. Poteet

April,

commissioned in the National Guard,

rumor

officer because “he [was] not believed qualified

question.

“phlegmatic” or

case…rated j

Leach,

1932

1936

1927.

“Fall In!”—Guards Answer Call Monday,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 2 August 1931.


“Guard Units Off to Camp,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 7 August 1933.


Since 1930, the 119th Wagon Company’s efficiency had declined until it was considered “a borderline case...rated just barely satisfactory.” Captain Merton O. Bates was criticized for his attitude, described as “phlegmatic” or “diffident and casual,” and the interest of townspeople in the company also came into question. The company improved its efficiency before Bates’ resignation. The table of organization of a National Guard motor transport company in a quartermaster regiment called for only a captain and a second lieutenant. First Lieutenant Oliver H. Burnett was placed as a staff officer because “he [was] not believed qualified for staff duty and [was] not ‘staff minded.’” After it was rumored that the Adjutant General’s Office was casting about for a new location for Company C because no qualified Quartermaster Corps Reserve officers could be found in the Lexington area to be commissioned in the National Guard, several concerned Lexingtonians wrote to Robert L. Cochran. On 28 April, the Lexington Chamber of Commerce arranged a luncheon that Cochran, Harry C. Stein, and Marcus L. Peteet attended along with sixty businessmen, the officers assuring the Chamber that there were no plans to move the unit. The Chamber made their case for Second Lieutenant Monte R. Kiffin to be made captain, and company members urged Lexingtonians to attend the 1936 federal inspection so that “local interest will strengthen the claim of Lexington upon the unit.” The company was judged very favorably at the inspection, and in June, Kiffin was made captain; memorandum, Data Re Matters Likely to be Brought Up at Governor’s Conference on Monday April 20, 1936; letter, Frank M. Johnson to Robert L. Cochran, 16 April 1936; letter, C.E. Collett to Robert L. Cochran, 17 April 1936; letter, D.D. Young to Robert L. Cochran, 17 April 1936; letter, Keith Rosenberg to Robert L. Cochran, 17 April 1936; letter, Al J. Shada to Robert L. Cochran, 18 April 1936; undated letter, S.A. Sorenson to Robert L. Cochran; undated letter, John D. Harris to Robert L. Cochran, all in RG1, SG31, S2, B43, F148, HN; “Lexington Not to Lose Guard,”
449 To wit, from Paul’s 1929-1930 report, “As reported before, the most discouraging proposition...is the rental of armories. It is almost impossible to rent suitable buildings and we conduct a continual fight to hold the rentals down; on the other hand the government is very insistent that we have armories which afford adequate protection to government property and that have ample space for army drills and training.” in Paul, Biennial Report, 1929-1930, 4; “Paul Declares Armory Rents Must Go Down,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 11 June 1933.

450 Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of Nebraska, 1939, 45.

451 The mustering out of the band took place on 12 June, although the general order authorizing the disbandment made it effective on 16 June; General Orders No. 3, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 6 June 1933, in Paul, Biennial Report, 1933-1934, 14-15; “National Guard Will Organize Band in Lincoln.” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 9 June 1933; “110th Mustered Out of State Service,” Crete News (Crete, NE), 15 June 1933.


453 The units serving as guards were the Regimental Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion Headquarters Company, and Companies I, K, and Z of the 134th Infantry and the 119th Motor Repair Section and 138th Motor Transport Company of the 35th Division Train; “Roosevelt at Fremont Cites Gains Under AAA; Gets Big Welcome Here,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 28 September 1935.


455 Copies of armory project applications can be found in RG0018, SG2, S5, B63-64, HN; “Paul Announces WPA to Build Armories,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 8 August 1935.

456 “$1,230,681 W.P.A. Money to Nebraska,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 30 September 1935.

457 “Army Funds Fail,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 16 January 1936; “Armory Plan Has Not Yet Been Abandoned,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 4 February 1936.


460 “C. of C. 26th Annual Banquet Attendance Sets All Time High,” Kearney Daily Hub (Kearney, NE), 23 February 1937.

461 “Auditorium Is Considered by Civic Groups,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 11 January 1934; Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 5 May 1940.

462 “Auditorium Work Due to Start This Week,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 24 May 1939; “Auditorium to Be Officially Turned to City,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 29 February 1940; “National Guard Moves to Auditorium Quarter,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 11 March 1940.

463 The fire station was turned into an armory using money raised by a group of businessmen and National Guard officers who incorporated themselves as the “Omaha Armory Building Company,” in exchange for the building being leased to the company by the city of Omaha for one dollar per year for ten years beginning in December 1924. A monthly fee of $375 had been paid by the state to the company, which used it to pay utility bills and watchmen. The Nebraska state auditor refused the company’s request for rent for May and June 1927, asserting that the company could not order the state to pay rent because the city donated the building. An angered Amos Thomas sued the auditor, seeking payment. The federal district court for the district of Nebraska subsequently ordered the state to pay the rent. The auditor appealed the ruling to the Nebraska Supreme Court, which issued a similar decision. In 1930, the remainder of the sum spent by the company was reimbursed by the Adjutant General’s Office through money saved from reduced armory rentals; “Old Fire Barn Ready for Guard by Fall,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 7 July 1924; “Remodel Fire Station Soon for State Guard,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 2 September 1924; “Building Inspected,” Omaha Daily News (Omaha, NE), 28 September 1924; “Fire Station to Be
Armory,” Omaha Evening Bee (Omaha, NE), 9 October 1924; “Omaha Armory Rent Is Held Up,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 16 May 1927; “State Refuses Rent for Omaha Armory,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 18 June 1927; “Auditor Refuses to Pay Armory Rental,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 9 July 1927; “Plans Mandamus Suit for Rent of Armory,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 10 July 1927; “Armory Files Appeal,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 26 July 1927; “To Fight Armory Suit,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 26 August 1927; “Answer Armory Suit,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 29 August 1927; “Paul Enters Suit,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 February 1928; “State Must Pay $750 Rent for Armory Use,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 2 October 1928; “Files Armory Suit Appeal,” Omaha Evening Bee-News (Omaha, NE), 4 January 1929; “Rent Still Unpaid,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 12 July 1929; “State to Pay Rent on Omaha’s Armory,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 12 October 1929; “National Guard Backers to Be Repaid in Cash,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 21 February 1930.

Endnotes for Chapter 2


465 Walter H. Jurgensen served on the state staff from June 1933 to August 1938; MB/NGB Form 100, State Staff (Officers), June 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, State Staff (Officers), August 1938, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1938, HN.

466 John Faris, ed., Who’s Who in Nebraska, 1940 (Lincoln: State Journal Printing Company, 1940), 393.

467 “Amos Thomas for Unicameral Race,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 21 February 1936; “Mail Ballots Decide Race,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 17 April 1936; “Ex-Members to Unicameral,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 4 November 1936; “Winners for the Legislature,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 10 November 1938; “Amos Thomas Files for Legislature Post,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 23 February 1940; “Primary Winners,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 10 April 1940; “Apparent Unicameral Winners,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 7 November 1940.


469 Clyde E. McCormick Statement of Qualification, Headquarters, 134th Infantry, Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, 19 May 1941, RG5810.AM, F1, HN.


471 The Bulletin, 134th Infantry 2, No. 3 (March 1927), Company C Collection, Gage County Historical Society and Museum, Beatrice, Nebraska; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, March 1927, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1927, HN.

472 The article was likely referencing Company D, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, which drew many personnel from students at the Nebraska State Teachers College in Kearney; “New Quartermaster Regiment Is Organized for National Guard,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 19 July 1936.

473 Faris, ed., Who’s Who in Nebraska, 1940, 1,026.

474 United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1939, 741.

475 The author visited Rex D. Alshouse’s grave at Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Gresham, Nebraska, in June 2023; MB/NGB Form 100, Company M, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1927, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1927, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company M, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1930, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1930, HN.

476 Wilbur E. Olson enlisted in the Medical Detachment in May 1928, with his younger brother Leroy following in July 1929; MB/NGB Form 100, Medical Detachment, 134th Infantry Regiment, May 1928, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1928, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Medical Detachment, 134th Infantry Regiment, July 1929, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1929, HN.

An overview of literature on African American involvement in the militia and National Guard can be found in Larsen, et al., *Upstream Metropolis*, 164-169, 205-216; and undated lists compiled in late 1941 showing men of the 134th Infantry Regiment who could speak, read, or write selected foreign languages, RG3558.AM, SG11, SG2, B4, F1, HN.

Interview of Robert L. Fowler by Charles R. Gentile, 29 June 1995, video tape in 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM.

Information on the ethnic composition of Omaha during the early 20th century can be found in Larsen, *Upstream Metropolis*, 164-169, 205-216; and undated lists compiled in late 1941 showing men of the 134th Infantry Regiment who could speak, read, or write selected foreign languages, RG3558.AM, SG11, SG2, B4, F1, HN.

Interview of Robert L. Fowler by Charles R. Gentile, 29 June 1995, video tape in 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM.


MB/NGB Form 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, July 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1939, HN.

Information on the ethnic composition of Omaha during the early 20th century can be found in Larsen, et al., *Upstream Metropolis*, 164-169, 205-216; and undated lists compiled in late 1941 showing men of the 134th Infantry Regiment who could speak, read, or write selected foreign languages, RG3558.AM, SG11, SG2, B4, F1, HN.

Interview of Robert L. Fowler by Charles R. Gentile, 29 June 1995, video tape in 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM.

MB/NGB Forms 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1926-October 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1926-1940, HN.


During the interwar period, organized National Guard units which were designated as “colored” units accepting African Americans were the 8th Infantry Regiment (Separate) (Illinois), 369th Infantry Regiment (Separate) (New York), and the 372nd Infantry Regiment (Separate) (District of Columbia, Ohio, Maryland, Massachusetts, and New Jersey). In 1940, the 8th Infantry Regiment was reorganized as the 184th Field Artillery Regiment and the 369th Infantry Regiment was reorganized as the 369th Coast Artillery Regiment. An overview of literature on African American involvement in the militia and National Guard can be found in Jerry Cooper, *The Militia and the National Guard in America Since Colonial Times: A Research Guide* (Westport: Greenwood Press, 1993), 143-154; Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 1*, 364, 483-484; Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 2*, 835, 1,119.

Paul, *Biennial Report, 1925-1926*, 3.}

“Invites People to Hear the Concerts,” *Sunday State Journal* (Lincoln, NE), 12 August 1923.


The ROTC was formally established by Section 40 of Public Law No. 85, 64th Congress, 3 June 1916. At the University of Nebraska, an Infantry unit was established in 1917, and Field Artillery and Motor Transport Corps units in 1919. The Field Artillery and Motor Transport Corps units were discontinued in 1922, but the Field Artillery unit was reestablished in 1936 along with the addition of an Engineer unit. At Creighton University, Infantry and Dental Corps units were established in 1919, but the Dental Corps unit was discontinued in 1935; United States, Militia Bureau, *Official National Guard Register for 1924*, 437-

495 MB/NGB Form 100, Company B, 134th Infantry Regiment, August 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1940, HN; “Want to Write Guardsman?” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 7 August 1940.

496 MB/NGB Form 100, Company B, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1940, HN; “Chief White Cloud’s Great Grandson Has Interesting Tales of War to Tell,” *Falls City Journal* (Falls City, NE), 8 September 1943.

497 Herbert J. Paul’s first son, Harry, died of whooping cough on 16 August 1918 in Deming, New Mexico, at eleven months old. His mother had taken him there to visit his father, who was stationed at nearby Camp Cody; “Colonel and Mrs. H.J. Paul Bury Baby,” *Phonograph* (St. Paul, NE), 22 August 1918.


500 MB/NGB Form 100, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, February 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1940, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, June 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1940, HN; “Like Father, Like Son’ Is True in Company G,” *Hastings Daily Tribune* (Hastings, NE), 6 January 1941.

501 Annual Armory Training Program 1930, Memorandum No. 1, 7 August 1930, Training Program of the One Hundred-Thirty-Fourth Infantry, Armory Training Period, 1930-1931, RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN; Training Memorandum No. 3, 1 September 1930, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Annual Armory Training Program, 1930-1931, 2-3, RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN; Training Memorandum No. 11, 15 September 1930, Armory Training Program of the 35th Division Q.M. Train, Nebraska National Guard, 1930-1931, 2-3, RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN.

502 Annual Armory Training Program 1930, Memorandum No. 1, 7 August 1930, Training Program of the One Hundred-Thirty-Fourth Infantry, Armory Training Period, 1930-1931, 1, RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN.

No. 3, 1 September 1930, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Annual Armory Training Program, 1930-1931, 5, RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN; Training Memorandum No. 11, 15 September 1930, Armory Training Program of the 35th Division Q.M. Train, Nebraska National Guard, 1930-1931, 5, RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN.

504 The Articles of War were the “code of laws governing the conduct of all persons in the Army or subject to military law. The Articles [defined] military offenses, [prescribed] the composition and procedure of courts-martial, and [fixed] the punishment for each crime;” United States, War Department, War Department Technical Manual TM 20-205, Dictionary of United States Army Terms (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1944), 27.

505 Annual Armory Training Program 1930, Memorandum No. 1, 7 August 1930, Training Program of the One Hundred-Thirty-Fourth Infantry, Armory Training Period, 1930-1931, 3-8; Training Memorandum No. 3, 1 September 1930, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Annual Armory Training Program, 1930-1931, 8-12; Training Memorandum No. 11, 15 September 1930, Armory Training Program of the 35th Division Q.M. Train, Nebraska National Guard, 1930-1931, 6-9, all in RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN.

506 Annual Armory Training Program 1930, Memorandum No. 1, 7 August 1930, Training Program of the One Hundred-Thirty-Fourth Infantry, Armory Training Period, 1930-1931, 3-8, Training Memorandum No. 11, 15 September 1930, Armory Training Program of the 35th Division Q.M. Train, Nebraska National Guard, 1930-1931, 6-9, both in RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN.

507 In lieu of demonstrations with live animals, 110th Medical Regiment Veterinary Company personnel studied “Animal and Stable Management,” “Horse Shoeing and Care of Feet,” “Surgery and Surgical Restraint (Veterinary),” and “Care of Animals.” In the 35th Division Train, wagon company and veterinary personnel studied “Harnessing, Saddling, Riding, [and] Driving,” “Stable Management & Care of Animals,” “Anatomy & Physiology of the Horse,” and “Equitation & Hippology;” Training Memorandum No. 3, 1 September 1930, 110th Medical Regiment, Nebraska National Guard, Annual Armory Training Program, 1930-1931, 8-12; Training Memorandum No. 11, 15 September 1930, Armory Training Program of the 35th Division Q.M. Train, Nebraska National Guard, 1930-1931, 6-9, both in RG0018, SG2, S1, B13, F169, HN.

508 “Improvements at the Rifle Range,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 8 May 1924.


510 “Bathhouses for Troops,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 8 April 1926; “National Guard Camp Will Commence Monday,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 29 July 1926.


512 “Work Started at Memorial Building on Rifle Range,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 18 April 1929; “Soldiers’ Memorial Building in Course of Construction,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 2 May 1929; Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 8 August 1929; “Memorial Hall Is Dedicated Tuesday Night,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 7 August 1930.

513 “Gets $22,000 to Improve the Guard Camp,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 24 April 1930; “$27,000 Granted to Rifle Range by Congress,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 19 February 1931; “Ashland Guard Camp Finishes Improvements,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 23 July 1931.

514 The results of improvements to Camp Ashland through spring 1937 can be seen in a State of Nebraska Department of Roads and Irrigation blueprint of Camp Ashland, dated 30 January 1934 (Civil Works Administration Project S244), corrected 15 December 1934 and revised 12 April 1937, RG1, SG31, S2, B46, F213, HN; “Camp Ashland Gets $21,200 Federal Aid,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 11 October 1933; “Lincoln Firm Is Low Bidder on Tent Floors At Ashland Guard Camp,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 7 February 1934; “Mere Mention,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 4 April 1934.

515 “Guards Will Have Plenty of Good Food,” Ashland Gazette (Ashland, NE), 16 July 1936.

516 Memorandum, Richard F. Stout, Arthur F. Young, and Clarence L. Clark to Robert L. Cochran, 25 September 1937, 6, RG1, SG31, S2, B46, F213, HN.


518 “National Guard Camp Notes,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 18 August 1930; “Bar All Beers at the National Guard Camp,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 16 August 1934.


520 Command post exercises were “A form of training typically used by the interwar army to train its field army, corps, division, and regimental staffs and exercise each of these headquarters’ command and control procedures and communications systems;” Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4*, 2,698.


522 Even though all Reserve officers were supposed to receive two weeks of active duty training each year, during the interwar period funds were only available to train about one-fourth of them in any given year. Some were trained nearly every year, to the detriment of others who had to wait several years between opportunities; Richard B. Crossland and James T. Currie, *Twice the Citizen: A History of the United States Army Reserve, 1908-1983* (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, 1984), 40-51.

523 Organized Reserves Bulletin No. 2, Headquarters, Seventh Corps Area, Omaha, Nebraska, 27 March 1931, RG0018, SG2, S1, B14, F197, HN; Special Orders No. 168, Headquarters, Seventh Corps Area, Omaha, Nebraska, 9 July 1935; Special Orders No. 88, Headquarters, 89th Division, Omaha, Nebraska, 12 July 1935; Special Orders No. 177, Headquarters, Seventh Corps Area, Omaha, Nebraska, 18 July 1935; Special Orders No. 98, Headquarters, 89th Division, Omaha, Nebraska, 2 August 1935, all in RG0018, SG2, S1, B15, F215, HN; Special Orders No. 186, Headquarters, Seventh Corps Area, Omaha, Nebraska, 14 July 1936, RG0018, SG2, S1, B17, F242, HN; Special Orders No. 64, Headquarters, 89th Division, Omaha, Nebraska, 8 July 1936; Special Orders No. 65, Headquarters, 89th Division, Omaha, Nebraska, 8 July 1936, both in RG0018, SG2, S1, B17, F242, HN; “1800 Guardsmen Arrive Here on Monday, Aug. 8,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 11 August 1938; Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 1*, 423; Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4*, 2,070-2,071, 2,225-2,226; “National Guards Enjoy Another Encampment,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 23 August 1928.


527 The number of civilians that attended each Governor’s Day were estimated at anywhere from “thousands” to 20,000; “Governor’s Day Last Sunday,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 14 August 1924; “Governor McMullen Here Last Sunday,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 20 August 1925; “Soldiers Leave the Rifle Range,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 19 August 1926; “National Guards Before Governor,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 25 August 1927; “National Guards Enjoy Another Encampment,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 23 August 1928; “Governor’s Day at Ashland Brings

528 “Governor McMullen Here Last Sunday,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 20 August 1925.


530 “Governor’s Day at Camp Brings 6,000,” *Lincoln Evening Journal* (Lincoln, NE), 19 August 1929.

531 “National Guard Camp Honors Won by Local Collecting Company,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 16 August 1926.

532 “Athletics Feature at Camp Ashland,” *Nebraska State Journal* (Lincoln, NE), 7 August 1924; “Governor’s Day Is Observed at Camp Sunday,” *Ashland Gazette* (Ashland, NE), 16 August 1939.

533 “Missouri and Kansas 35th Division Troops Will Train at Ashland,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 26 May 1936.

534 “Guardsmen May Go to Fort Riley,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 17 February 1937.

535 Maneuver Memorandum No. 2, Headquarters, Seventh Corps Area, Office of the Corps Area Commander, 13 April 1937, sub: Fourth Army Maneuvers, 7'CA, 1937 – Preliminary Instructions, 1, RG0018, SG2, S10, B90, F1, HN.

536 The provisional cavalry division consisted of a provisional headquarters and headquarters troop, a provisional cavalry brigade of the Regular Army’s 2nd Cavalry and the Kansas National Guard’s 114th Cavalry, a provisional infantry brigade of the Regular Army’s 17th Infantry (less the 2nd Battalion) and the Arkansas National Guard’s 153rd Infantry, the Regular Army Troop A, 9th Engineer Squadron, a provisional field artillery brigade of the Regular Army’s 1st Battalion, 84th Field Artillery and the Missouri National Guard’s 128th Field Artillery and 203rd Coast Artillery, a provisional medical squadron, and a provisional division train; Maneuver Memorandum No. 2, Headquarters, Seventh Corps Area, Office of the Corps Area Commander, 13 April 1937, sub: Fourth Army Maneuvers, 7’CA, 1937 – Preliminary Instructions, 2-3; Maneuver Memorandum No. 1, Headquarters, Thirty-Fifth Division, 19 June 1937, sub: Field Training Program – 1937, both in RG0018, SG2, S10, B90, F1, HN.

538 “Strikers Claim Nearly 100 Per Cent Out Locally,” *Nebraska Daily Press* (Nebraska City, NE), 6 December 1921.


540 Samuel R. McKelvie, Proclamation, 28 January 1922, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F4, HN; “Troops Have Been Called,” *Nebraska Daily Press* (Nebraska City, NE), 28 January 1922; “Martial Law Is Declared,” *Nebraska Daily Press* (Nebraska City, NE), 29 January 1922.


545 “Military Forces Have Situation Here Well in Hand,” *Nebraska Daily Press* (Nebraska City, NE), 31 January 1922.

547 “Military Forces Say Situation Is Very Satisfactory,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 1 February 1922.
548 “Guard Officers Pleased to Hear Strike Is Off,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 2 February 1922.
549 “Troops to Clean Up City Before Being Withdrawn,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 3 February 1922; “Governor Doesn’t Know When Army Is to Be Called Off,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 4 February 1922.
550 “Hundreds Watched Demonstration of the Army’s Arms,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 7 February 1922.
551 Paul, Biennial Report, 1921-1922, 238.
555 Wunder and Scherer, Echo of Its Time, 236-237; “Military Court Cases Taken Up Before Governor,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 15 February 1922; “Reduced Two Sentences,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 24 February 1922; “May Go to High Court,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 28 February 1922.
556 “One Dead, Quarter Million Loss, Storm Toll,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 9 May 1930.
557 The Hastings tornado duty was not described in the Nebraska adjutant general’s biennial report for 1929-1930; letter, NGB 370.6 General-11, 25 August 1933, Richard F. Lussier to the Adjutants General of each State, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii, subj: Reports on Use of National Guard in Emergencies, RG0018, SG2, S1, B14, F204, HN; “Tornado Sidelights,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 9 May 1930; “Hastings District Loss Grows to $750,000,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 10 May 1930; “Hastings People Rise to Crisis,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 12 May 1930.
559 “Downpours Do Damage to Roads and Bridges; All Traffic Is Held Up,” Republican Leader (Trenton, NE), 31 May 1935; “Three Drown in Floods at McCook, Others Marooned,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 31 May 1935; “28 Dead, 4 Missing in Floods; Flee Three Nebraska Towns,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 31 May 1935.
“Nebraska Death Toll May Be 250 from Floods, Tornadoes,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 1 June 1935; “Estimate Dead from 52 to 250; Tornado Hits McCook,” *Omaha Evening Bee-News* (Omaha, NE), 1 June 1935.

“State Sends Guard Units Flood Region,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 1 June 1935; “Jurgensen Calls Out Guard; Declares State Emergency,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 1 June 1935.

Holdrege Guards in Stricken Area,” *Holdrege Citizen* (Holdrege, NE), 3 June 1935.

Special Orders No. 77, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 1 June 1935, RG1, SG31, S2, B41, F79, HN.

Undated memorandum, Use of National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S1, B16, F231, HN.


Undated memorandum, Use of National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S1, B16, F231, HN.

The streetcar workers’ demands were a wage increase from twenty to thirty-five cents an hour, a six-day workweek of eight-hour shifts (instead of a seven-day workweek of seven to seven-and-a-half-hour shifts), overtime pay, the recognition of their union and a ban on interference, making the Omaha Traction Company a “closed shop” company (requiring all employees to be union members), and arbitration of disputes; Grimes, ”The Governor and the Guard in the Omaha Tram Strike of 1935,” 121; “Tram Strike Is Begun,” *Morning World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 20 April 1935.


Undated memorandum, Use of National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S1, B16, F231, HN; Walter H. Jurgensen, Proclamation, 15 June 1935, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F7, HN; “1 Dead, Scores Injured in Car Strike Disorder,” *Morning World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 15 June 1935; “City Quiet as Martial Law Is Established,” *Sunday World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 16 June 1935.

“Omaha and its suburbs and subdivisions” was later clarified as an area within three miles of the city limits; Herbert J. Paul, Proclamation, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Omaha, Nebraska, 15 June 1935; Special Orders No. 5, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Omaha, Nebraska, 17 June 1935, both in RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F7, HN.

The commission consisted of Lieutenant Colonel Marcus L. Poteet, Lieutenant Colonel Richard F. Stout, Lieutenant Colonel Harry H. Ellis, Captain Walter H. Jurgensen, Captain Delbert C. Leffler, and Captain Arthur F. Young; Special Orders No. 3, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Omaha, Nebraska, 15 June 1935, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F7, NSGS.


The Headquarters, 69th Infantry Brigade, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry, 3rd Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry, and Companies K and L, 134th Infantry, were at the armory. The Service Company (less Band), 134th Infantry, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry, Companies I and M, 134th Infantry, and “auxiliary troops” of the 134th Infantry were at the City Auditorium on 15th and Howard Streets, The 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry, was at the Chiodon Dance Hall on 24th and Pierce Streets. The state staff, 35th Division Train, and the Service Company (less Band), 110th Medical Regiment were at the Jefferson Hotel at 14th Street and Capitol Avenue. The Medical Detachment, 134th Infantry, the 130th Ambulance Company, and the 166th Hospital Company were at the Street Department building in South Omaha; letter, Herbert J. Paul to the Chief, National Guard Bureau, 10 July 1935, sub: Report on National Guard for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1935, RG0018, SG2, S1, B16, F231, HN.

“Five Beer Taverns Closed,” *Omaha Daily Bee-News* (Omaha, NE), 17 June 1935.


“City Quiet as Martial Law Is Established,” *Sunday World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 16 June 1935; “Governor’s Ultimatum to Parties in Strike,” *Morning World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 17 June 1935.
The striking workers’ arbitrators refused to compromise on the issues of a “closed shop,” rehiring all the strikers, and restoring their seniority within the company; “Cochran Denounces Tram’s Proposal for ‘Partial’ Arbitration,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 18 June 1935; “Text of Tram Company’s Statement to Governor,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 18 June 1935.

580 Special Order No. 6, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Omaha, Nebraska, 17 June 1935, RG0018, SG2. S9, B89, F7, HN; “Five Beer Taverns Closed,” Omaha Daily Bee-News (Omaha, NE), 17 June 1935.


582 Special Orders No. 15, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Omaha, Nebraska, 21 June 1935, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F7, HN; “Strikers Return to Work Today as Peace Is Made,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 21 June 1935.

583 Summary of Cases, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F9, HN; Case of Ray Banburn, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F11, HN; Case of George Bighia, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F13, HN; Case of Al Dolezs, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F14-15, HN; Case of Clarence Hansen, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F16, HN; Case of Clifford Jennings, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F17, HN; Case of Sam Lukas, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F18, HN; Case of Harry Mehan, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F19, HN; Case of Sam Rubin, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F20, HN; Case of Victor Tanga, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F21, HN; Case of Sam Turner, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F22, HN.

584 Summary of Cases, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F9, HN; Cases of Frank Baust and Thomas Brisby, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F12, HN; “Military Court to Try Two Men for Utterances,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 18 June 1935.


587 Letter, Herbert J. Paul to the Chief, National Guard Bureau, 10 July 1935; sub: Report on National Guard for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1935, RG0018, SG2, S1, B16, F231, HN.

588 Battalion bulletin, 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, 29 June 1935, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F5, HN; “North Platte Troops Return from Service,” Evening Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 22 June 1935.


592 “Break Ditch to Go Around Dam Built by State,” Scottsbluff Daily Star-Herald (Scottsbluff, NE), 25 August 1935.


594 Special Orders No. 136, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 28 August 1935, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F24, HN; “Guard Camp at State Line Has No Call for Aid,” Scottsbluff Daily Star-Herald (Scottsbluff, NE), 30 August 1935; “Military Remains in Command, Canal Sector All Quiet,” Scottsbluff Daily Star-Herald (Scottsbluff, NE), 3 September 1935; “Issued Order to Recall Unit at Post This Noon,” Scottsbluff Daily Star-Herald (Scottsbluff, NE), 4 September 1935.

595 The commission consisted of Lieutenant Colonel Marcus L. Poteet, Lieutenant Colonel Richard F. Stout, Lieutenant Colonel Harry H. Ellis, Captain Arthur F. Young, Captain Delbert C. Leffler, Captain Clarence L. Clark, and Captain Rolla C. Van Kirk; Special Orders No. 136, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 28 August 1935; Special Orders No. 2, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Scottsbluff, Nebraska, 29
August 1935, both in RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F24, HN; “Governor Cochran Signs Order to End Martial Law Here,” *Scottsbluff Republican* (Scottsbluff, NE), 5 September 1935.

596 Special Orders No. 4, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Scottsbluff, Nebraska, 31 August 1935, RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F24, HN; “One Guard Unit Is Recalled by Official Order,” *Scottsbluff Daily Star-Herald* (Scottsbluff, NE), 1 September 1935.

597 Robert L. Cochran, Proclamation, 4 September 1935; Special Orders No. 5, Headquarters, Nebraska National Guard, Scottsbluff, Nebraska, 4 September 1935, both in RG0018, SG2, S9, B89, F24, HN.

598 Undated memorandum, Use of National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S1, B16, F231, HN.


600 The fourth increment was used to “complete certain…units of high priority, and to organize anew two regiments of antiaircraft coast artillery, one regiment of field artillery…and two air corps observation squadrons;” Franklin D. Roosevelt, Executive Order No. 8244, Authorizing an Increase in the Strength of the Army, 8 September 1939 (4 Fed. Reg. 3863, 12 September 1939); telegram, Albert H. Blanding to Guy N. Henninger, 9 September 1939; letter, NGB 325.44 General-67, C.H. Miller to the Adjutants General of all states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, 10 October 1939, sub: Distribution of Enlisted Men to the States Pursuant to Executive Order of the President Increasing the Enlisted Strength of the National Guard, both in RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F319, HN; John F. Williams, *Annual Report of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau*, 1940 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1941), 13-14.


602 The Medical Department Detachment added six men, the Service Company thirty, the nine rifle companies seventeen each, and the three machine gun companies twelve each; letter, NGB 325.44 Nebr.-13, C.H. Miller to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 21 September 1939, sub: Increase in National Guard Strength, with attached inclosure, Enlisted Strength of Certain National Guard Units as Increased by the Executive Order of the President – September 8, 1939; letter, NGB 325.4 Neb.-4, C.H. Miller to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 28 September 1939, sub: Allotted Strength of the National Guard of Nebraska; letter, NGB 325.4 Neb.-4, B.M. Bailey to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 16 October 1939, sub: Allotted Strength of the National Guard of Nebraska, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F319, HN; “Quick to Enlist in National Guard,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 28 September 1939.

603 MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, July 1925, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1925, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, July 1928, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1928, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1939, HN.

604 The federal government did not provide monetary assistance to active duty enlisted men’s dependents until 1942. These dependents were a burden on the War Department in the interwar period, especially during the Great Depression. Historian Robert K. Griffith, Jr., wrote that noncommissioned officers “suffered their pay cut and struggled to make ends meet in silence,” while “married enlisted men below noncommissioned officer rank…lived on the edge of poverty.” In the 1920s, the War Department “officially discouraged” marriage, but the decision to enlist or reenlist married men was up to recruiters or commanders. In December 1931, the War Department decreed that married men who could not support their dependents on military pay or men below pay grade 3 (staff sergeant) who married without permission would be prohibited from reenlisting. Despite this, dependents continued to be a problem; in 1937, twenty percent of the Army’s enlisted men were married, and of those, only twenty-five percent received quarters, quarters allowance, or subsistence allowance. In June 1939, new regulations stated that enlisted men “except in grades 1, 2, or 3” who married without permission were to be discharged for the “convenience of the government” and prohibited from reenlisting. Men in pay grade 4 (sergeant) could marry, but they had to have served for at least eight years and obtained permission. In August 1939, the original enlistment of all men with dependents was prohibited; United States, Militia Bureau, *Militia Bureau Document No. 915, National Guard Regulations Under the Constitution and the Laws of the United States and Militia Bureau*

665 "CALL FOR NATIONAL GUARDS GETS RESULTS," MORNING SPOTLIGHT (HASTINGS, NE), 28 SEPTEMBER 1939;
666 WILLIAMS, ANNUAL REPORT, 1941, 14.
667 MB/NGB FORM 100, DETACHMENT, HEADQUARTERS STAFF, 35th DIVISION, OCTOBER 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1939, HN; MB/NGB FORM 100, DETACHMENT, HEADQUARTERS STAFF, 35th DIVISION, JANUARY 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1940, HN; MB/NGB FORM 100, DETACHMENT, HEADQUARTERS STAFF, 35th DIVISION, JUNE 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1940, HN; GENERAL ORDERS NO. 20, ADJUTANT GENERAL, NEBRASKA, 25 OCTOBER 1939, IN HENNINGER, BIENNIAL REPORT, 1939-1940, 27-28; "NYE NAMED CAPT. IN JUDGE ADVOCATE DEPT.," LINCOLN STAR (LINCOLN, NE), 9 JANUARY 1940.
668 CIRCULAR NO. 27, ADJUTANT GENERAL, NEBRASKA, 23 OCTOBER 1939, IN HENNINGER, BIENNIAL REPORT, 1939-1940, 121-123.
669 THE 17TH INFANTRY REGIMENT WAS SCHEDULED TO TEMPORARILY LEAVE THE POST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SEVENTH CORPS AREA WINTER EXERCISES AT CAMP ROBINSON, ARKANSAS; CLAY, U.S. ARMY ORDER OF BATTLE, VOLUME 4, 2,736; "NATIONAL GUARD MAY USE FT. CROOK CAMP," LINCOLN STAR (LINCOLN, NE), 8 NOVEMBER 1939; "NEBRASKA GUARD IS ORDERED TO FT. CROOK," EVENING STATE JOURNAL (LINCOLN, NE), 14 NOVEMBER 1939.
670 "COCHRAN URGES SCHOOL AUTHORITIES, EMPLOYERS COOPERATE WITH GUARD," LINCOLN STAR (LINCOLN, NE), 18 NOVEMBER 1939.
671 "COMPANY C TO LEAVE FOR FT. CROOK NOV. 26," BEATRICE DAILY SUN (BEATRICE, NE), 15 NOVEMBER 1939.
672 CIRCULAR NO. 29, ADJUTANT GENERAL, NEBRASKA, 13 NOVEMBER 1939, IN HENNINGER, BIENNIAL REPORT, 1939-1940, 127-129.
673 "GUARDSMEN TO DINE HEARTILY ON TURKEY DAY AT FT. CROOK," LINCOLN STAR (LINCOLN, NE), 23 NOVEMBER 1939.
674 CIRCULAR NO. 29, ADJUTANT GENERAL, NEBRASKA, 13 NOVEMBER 1939, IN HENNINGER, BIENNIAL REPORT, 1939-1940, 127-129.
675 TRAINING MEMORANDUM NO. 1, CAMP TRAINING PROGRAM, TRAINING PERIOD NOV. 26 TO DEC. 2, 1939, CAMP HEADQUARTERS, OFFICE OF THE CAMP COMMANDANT, NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD CAMP, FORT CROOK, NEBRASKA, 26 NOVEMBER 1939; TRAINING MEMORANDUM NO. 2, CAMP TRAINING PROGRAM, TRAINING PERIOD DEC. 27, 1939 TO JAN. 2, 1940, CAMP HEADQUARTERS, OFFICE OF THE CAMP COMMANDANT, NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD CAMP, FORT CROOK, NEBRASKA, 27 DECEMBER 1939, BOTH IN RG0018, SG2, S6, B77, F164, HN.
676 WILLIAMS, ANNUAL REPORT, 1941, 56-63.
677 "WAR PRACTICE PLANS TOLD," EVENING WORLD-HERALD (OMAHA, NE), 15 MAY 1940.
678 WILLIAMS, ANNUAL REPORT, 1941, 14.
682 CONN AND FAIRCHILD, FRAMEWORK OF HEMISPHERE DEFENSE, 36-37, 63; WATSON, PREWAR PLANS AND PREPARATIONS, 192-194.
684 THE 134TH INFANTRY WAS ALLOTTED THIRTEEN MORE OFFICERS, AND THE 110TH MEDICAL AND 110TH QUARtermaster REGIMENTS EIGHT EACH, 1,929 MORE OFFICERS WERE ENVISIONED BY THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU TO COMMAND THE NEW MEN OF THE STRENGTH INCREASE TO 235,000; LETTER, NGB 325.44 NEBR-13, A.V. WINTON TO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF NEBRASKA, 18 JULY 1940, SUB: INCREASE IN OFFICER PERSONNEL OF NATIONAL GUARD UNITS TO REGULAR ARMY PEACE STRENGTH (WITH ATTACHED DISTRIBUTION SHEET); LETTER, NGB 325.441 (GEN), GUY N. HENNINGER TO
Clyde E. McCormick, 29 July 1940, sub: Increase in Officer Personnel of National Guard Units to Regular Army Peace Strength; letter, NGB 325.441 (Gen), Guy N. Henninger to David C. Hilton, 29 July 1940, sub: Increase in Officer Personnel of National Guard Units to Regular Army Peace Strength; letter, NGB 325.441 (Gen), Guy N. Henninger to Marcus L. Poteet, 29 July 1940, sub: Increase in Officer Personnel of National Guard Units to Regular Army Peace Strength; letter, NGB 325.441 (Gen), Guy N. Henninger to Amos Thomas, 29 July 1940, sub: Increase in Officer Personnel of National Guard Units to Regular Army Peace Strength, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F321, HN; Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 14.


Letter, NGB 220.1 Gen.-3, John F. Williams to the Adjutants General of all States, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, 23 July 1940, sub: Enlisted Men of the National Guard Who Have Dependents, RG0018, SG2, S4, B45, F264, HN; Memorandum No. 1, State of Nebraska, Adjutant General's Department, Lincoln, 13 July 1940, sub: Married Men; letter, NG 325.452-Nebraska, Thomas Robinson to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 23 September 1940, sub: Married Non-commissioned Officers of the First Three Grades, both in RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F333, HN.


Men found to be under eighteen were to be honorably discharged, while men between eighteen and twenty who had enlisted without consent and had served less than six months could, if inducted into federal service, obtain consent to continue service or be discharged upon application from their parents or guardians; Circular No. 34, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 4 September 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 238-239; Circular No. 51, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 31 October 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 259-261.

Letter, NGB 327.02 General-8, John F. Williams to Commanding Generals of all Corps Areas and Departments and the Adjutants General of all States, Puerto Rico, Territory of Hawaii, and the District of Columbia, 7 June 1940, sub: Measures Toward a Possible Induction of the National Guard, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F333, HN.

The date of issuance of instructions for the discharge of men with dependents was used as a yardstick by the National Guard Bureau’s 1941 report included “dependency,” “physical,” “educational,” “business,” “key workers,” “minority,” “non-residence,” “federal enlistment,” and “other reasons.” A disclaimer stated that states often used different language and reasoning when making discharges, and that many men discharged for one reason also could have fit in one or more other categories; Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 15-19.

Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 17-19; Sligh, The National Guard and National Defense, 98.

Letter, NGB 220.8-Nebr. 1, A.V. Winton to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 18 March 1941, sub: Losses Prior to Induction by Reasons of Dependency and Physical Disability, RG0018, SG2, S4, B46, F281, HN.

MB/NGB Form 100, Company M, 134th Infantry Regiment, August 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1940, HN; “News Letter from Camp Robinson,” Ulysses Dispatch (Ulysses, NE), 28 August 1941; “Two-War Vet,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 30 October 1944.

Letter, AG 354.2-FAM FY 1941, G.M. Peek to Guy N. Henninger, 14 May 1940, sub: Maneuvers, FY 1941; letter, James G. McClory to Guy N. Henninger, 14 May 1940; letter, NGB 353.6 Gen.-11, F.W. Boye to the Commanding Generals, Fourth Army, Seventh and Ninth Corps Areas, and the Adjutants General of
all States in the Seventh and Ninth Corps Areas, 24 May 1940, sub: Fourth Army Maneuvers; letter, Ralph E. Truman to the Commanding General, Seventh Corps Area, Omaha, Nebraska, 29 August 1940, sub: Report of Field Training Period, 1940, all in RG0018, SG2, S6, B78, F167, HN; “45,000 Troops Get Set for Ripley ‘War,’” Minneapolis Sunday Tribune (Minneapolis, MN), 4 August 1940; “3,000 Nebraska Guardsmen Off to Camp Ripley,” Sunday Journal and Star (Lincoln, NE), 4 August 1940.


639 Camp Robinson replaced Camp Clark, near Nevada, Missouri; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 1, 63-64; “Guards May Enjoy Five Weeks Home,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 19 August 1940.


641 When men returned from service, they were to be “restored to such position or to a position of like seniority, status and pay;” Sections 1 and 3(b), Pub. Res. No. 76-96, 54 Stat. 858, 27 August 1940.

642 United States, National Guard Bureau, Induction of the National Guard of the United States, 1940-1941, and Present Allotments to States (Washington, D.C.: National Guard Bureau, 1945), 3, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F329, HN; Franklin D. Roosevelt, Executive Order No. 8530, Ordering Certain Units and Members of the National Guard of the United States into the Active Military Service of the United States, 31 August 1940 (5 Fed. Reg. 3501, 4 September 1940); Sligh, The National Guard and National Defense, 110, 118-119.

643 Letter, AG 325 (8-27-40) M-A, E.S. Adams to Commanding Generals, all Corps Areas and Departments, 4 September 1940, sub: Induction of the National Guard of the United States, 6, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F333, HN; Williams, Annual Report, 1942, 44-45; Circular No. 33, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 3 September 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 237-238.

644 The maintenance of state defense forces was authorized by an amendment to the National Defense Act of 1916, as amended. Correspondence regarding the creation of Nebraska's World War II state defense force, called the “Nebraska State Guard,” can be found in RG0018, SG2, S1, B25A-25B, HN; Pub. L. No. 76-874, 54 Stat. 1206, 21 October 1940.


646 Sections 3(a)-(c), Pub. L. No. 76-783, 54 Stat. 885, 16 September 1940.

647 Deferments for employment in the national health, safety, or interest or interest were to be reconsidered every six months, except for those directly related to employment in national defense, which were indefinite once granted; United States, Selective Service System, First Edition, Selective Service Regulations, September 23, 1940, to February 1, 1942 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1944), 18-19.

648 A “dependent” was initially a registrant's wife, divorced wife, child, parent, grandparent, brother, or sister, or a person under eighteen or a person of any age who was handicapped whom the registrant was supporting in good faith. The definition of “parent” also included a person whom the registrant was supporting in good faith similar to the relationship of parent and child. The definition of "child" included an unborn child, a legally adopted child, or an illegitimate child, but did not include any person eighteen or over unless they were handicapped. The definition of “brother” and “sister” included persons having one or both parents in common with the registrant, who was either under eighteen or was handicapped; United States, Selective Service System, Dependency Deferment, Special Monograph No. 8 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1947), 13-15, 27; United States, Selective Service System, First Edition, Selective Service Regulations, 30-32.

649 Men otherwise deferred included those who had completed a specified period of military service in peacetime, officials deferred by law, non-declarant aliens, ministers of religion or divinity students, conscientious objectors, and those found unfit for service; United States, Selective Service System, First Edition, Selective Service Regulations, 32-38.

650 Section 3(a), Pub. L. No. 76-783, 54 Stat. 885, 16 September 1940.

651 Sections 3(e), (8(b), and 8(c), Pub. L. No. 76-783, 54 Stat. 885, 16 September 1940.

652 Letter, Thomas Robinson to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 14 October 1940, sub: Entry of Certain National Guard Units into the Federal Service, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F329, HN; “Nebraska Guard Called Nov. 25 to Serve a Year,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 19 September 1940.

653 Telegram, Percy P. Bishop to Guy N. Henninger, 17 September 1940; telegram, Percy P. Bishop to Guy N. Henninger, 17 September 1940; telegram, Guy N. Henninger to the Commanding General, Seventh Corps Area, 17 September 1940; telegram, Guy N. Henninger to Percy P. Bishop, 18 September 1940;
Despite allowing one-year enlistments, the War Department still desired as many three-year Regular enlistments as possible to develop a core of trained men. It decreed that one-year enlistees would not be assigned to the Air Corps, the Armored Force, “certain technical services,” or to overseas garrisons; “Army to Accept Volunteers for Year’s Training,” St. Louis Star and Times (St. Louis, MO), 28 September 1940.

Nebraska National Guard officers who held prominent state offices were Captain J. Ned Allison (operations and training officer, 134th Infantry), Scotts Bluff County commissioner; Captain Erwin A. Jones (Company M, 134th Infantry), Seward County clerk; First Lieutenant Elbert H. Smith (Company C, 110th Quartermaster Regiment), Dawson County clerk; First Lieutenant Thomas S. Morton (Company A, 134th Infantry), Otoe County judge; Major Dean E. Coonley (supply officer, 134th Infantry), Gage County register of deeds; Captain Raymond J. Anderson (Service Company, 134th Infantry), York County deputy treasurer; Captain Ray A. Thurman (Company A, 134th Infantry), Otoe County clerk; Lieutenant Colonel Arthur F. Young (Judge Advocate General’s Department, state staff), Lancaster County deputy attorney; Major Edward Gillette (2nd Battalion, 110th Quartermaster Regiment), Phelps County treasurer; Captain Herman G. Matson (Company D, 110th Quartermaster Regiment), Kearney postmaster; Brigadier General Amos Thomas (69th Infantry Brigade), state senator; “Office-Holders Will Be Among Guards Called,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 20 September 1940.

“News Notes About People at Doniphan,” Morning Spotlight (Hastings, NE), 3 December 1940.

“Military Training Won’t Hurt Credits,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 6 September 1940; “21 NSTC-ers Join Army Via Guards in Mobilization,” Antelope ( Kearney, NE), 29 November 1940.

University of Nebraska student-athletes participating in fall sports affected by the Nebraska National Guard’s induction were varsity football players Robert G. Bonahoom, Francis S. Greenlief (both of Company G, 134th Infantry), Donald C. Rubottom (Company F, 134th Infantry), Edward Schwartzkopf, and Burdette L. Wertman (both of Headquarters Company, 110th Quartermaster Regiment), freshman football players Edgar S. Burroughs (Company C, 134th Infantry), Burl M. Johnson (Company I, 134th Infantry), and Hugh F. McKenna, and track runner Harold C. Brooks (both of Headquarters Company, 110th Quartermaster Regiment). William E. Kinnamon of the Athletic department staff affected were varsity basketball and assistant track coach William H. Browne (Headquarters Company, 110th Quartermaster Regiment), freshman basketball coach Charles E. Armstrong, assistant track coach Harold G. Petz (both of Headquarters, 110th Quartermaster Regiment), and the football team’s physician, Earl N. Deppen (Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 110th Medical Regiment). Deppen was “physically disqualified” from the National Guard on 18 December 1940, and was replaced as commander of the 1st Battalion, 110th Medical Regiment, by Captain (later Major) Ronald C. Anderson; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 110th Medical Regiment, December 1940, SG2, S4, B4, F1940, HN; “Late Call Helpful,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE) 20 September 1940; “Nebraska Subs for Guard Coaches,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 26 September 1940; “Dr. Anderson Promoted to Guard Major,” Columbus Daily Telegram
Current or former Nebraska State Teachers College students who were inducted into federal service with the Nebraska National Guard were Privates Donald J. Armstrong, John E. Carpenter, Cecil L. Hahn, John D. Haesler, Earl K. Rother, and Harry H. Stobbs, Privates First Class Paul E. Hibberd, Herman J. May, Carl F. Meyer, and Orvey C. Pearson, Corporals Nick C. Mitchell, Peter C. Mitchell, and Floyd R. Peterson, and Sergeant Sidney H. Snowden, of Company D, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, Privates First Class Robert M. Peterson and Duane M. Van Zandt of the Medical Detachment, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, Corporal Darrell W. Lewis of the Headquarters Detachment, 3rd Battalion, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, Private First Class Allen L. Ozanne of Company C, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, and Private Bernard L. Goldstein of Company D, 110th Medical Regiment; Initial Roster, Medical Detachment, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; Initial Roster, Company C, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; Initial Roster, Company D, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; Initial Roster, Headquarters Detachment, 3rd Battalion, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; Initial Roster, Company D, 110th Medical Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; "Beans for Guards as Defense Plans Call 22 NSTC-ers;" Antelope (Kearney, NE), 20 December 1940.

University of Omaha students who were inducted into federal service with the 134th Infantry were Private Gerald E. Thomas and Privates First Class Walter B. Anderson and John W. Hassler of the Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, Private Ralph L. Oppido and Corporal Stanley J. Skipovsky of Company L, and Private First Class Jack E. Butler and Sergeant Evan W. Redmon of the Medical Detachment. Men who left school prior to their induction were Privates Charles E. Barber and Ray A. Osborne, and Privates First Class Christian J. Alevezos and Richard K. Reed, all of the Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion; Initial Roster, Medical Detachment, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; Initial Roster, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; Initial Roster, Company D, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; "Five Student National Guardsmen Leave for Camp at Fort Robinson;" Gateway (Omaha, NE), 6 December 1940; “Two More Guards Leave;” Gateway (Omaha, NE), 17 December 1940.

Hastings College students who were inducted into federal service with the 110th Medical Regiment were Privates First Class Donald L. Risch and Ivan H. Smith of Company E. Private John L. Bennett, Corporal Irvan E. Snell, and Staff Sergeant Charles E. Arnold, also of Company E, left school prior to their induction; Initial Roster, Company E, 110th Medical Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, RN; "College Men Will Register Tomorrow;" Hastings Collegian (Hastings, NE), 15 October 1940.

Nebraska State Teachers College at Peru, Peruvian (Peru: 1946), 7.

Lysle I. Abbott enlisted in the Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry, in July 1936. George Seemann enlisted in the Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, on 4 October 1940, and Paul Gallup, Robert Putman, and Maynard Swartz followed on 11 October. Hubert Monsky enlisted in the Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry, on 16 October; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, July 1936, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1936, RN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1940, RN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1940, RN.

"Omaha’s ‘Six Musketeers’ to Carry on as Guardsmen;" Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 4 October 1940.


MB/NGB Form 100, Company K, 134th Infantry Regiment, February 1929, RG0018, SG2, S4, B2, F1929. RN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company K, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1938, RG0018, SG2,
Men waiting to enlist in the National Guard were subject to the draft, as were Inactive (as opposed to Active) National Guardsmen. The War Department cooperated with the Selective Service System to defer Inactive National Guardsmen; Circular No. 40, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 1 October 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 254-255.

Endnotes for Chapter 3

670 Circular No. 47, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 16 October 1940, in Henninger, Biennial Report, 1939-1940, 254-255.

671 Each officer, warrant officer, and enlisted man of Nebraska’s 35th Division staff detachment, the headquarters of the 69th Infantry Brigade, 134th Infantry Regiment, 110th Medical Regiment, and 110th
Quartermaster Regiment were accounted for by name using available Reports of National Guard Duty Performed for December 1940 (in RG0018, SG2, S4, B1-8, HN), the unit initial rosters compiled as of midnight on 23 December 1940 (in RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN), the roster on pages 296-368 of Henninger, *Biennial Report, 1939-1940*, and a 2 January 1941 Nebraska Adjutant General’s Office bulletin listing officer longevity for pay purposes (in RG0018, SG2, S1, B24, F337, HN).

683 United States, National Guard Bureau, *Induction of the National Guard*, 35, 37, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F329, HN; Christopher C. Lovett, “‘Dear, I’ll Be Back in a Year:’ The Mobilization of the Thirty-Fifth Infantry Division in 1940,” *Kansas History* 17, No. 2 (Summer 1994), 92-95.

684 “State Guard Is Mobilized 3,000 Strong in 21 Cities, Towns,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 23 December 1940.

685 “Former Hospital to House Guards,” *Evening World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 26 November 1940; “Scottsbluff to Turn into Miniature Military Center When National Guard Goes,” *Scottsbluff Daily Star-Herald* (Scottsbluff, NE), 1 December 1940; “Guardsmen to Sleep at Central Hotel,” *Evening State Journal* (Lincoln, NE), 3 December 1940; “Guards Here to Join Army December 23,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 17 December 1940; “Nebraska Guard Set Mobilize Monday,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 20 December 1940; “3,000 from State Go into Army Monday,” *Nebraska State Journal* (Lincoln, NE), 21 December 1940; “Anti-tank Guards Company Enlarged,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 21 December 1940; “Guard Companies Mobilize Today,” *Fremont Tribune* (Fremont, NE), 23 December 1940.

686 “…3,000 from State Go into Army Monday,” *Nebraska State Journal* (Lincoln, NE), 21 December 1940.

687 Manual of arms is the “prescribed handling of a weapon or other item of equipment at formal ceremonies or in drill. Examples are: manual of the rifle, manual of the pistol, manual of the submachine gun, manual of the color and standard, manual of the guidon, and manual of the baton;” United States, War Department, *Dictionary of U.S. Army Terms*, 163.

688 Interview of Robert L. Fowler by Charles R. Gentile, 29 June 1995, video tape in 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM.

689 Nebraska National Guardsmen commissioned in the NGUS in the Infantry were First Lieutenants Roy W. Bender and John M. Flatten and Second Lieutenants Ralph G. Barnes, Garold A. Gormley, Irwin C. Hiddleston, Virgil E. Hyde, Peter Larson, Leroy O. Littell, Francis C. Mason, Milton H. Maurer, Virgil R. Oliver, William H. Palmer, and Ferdinand J. Wengryn. Barnes was transferred from the 110th Medical Regiment to the 134th Infantry Regiment. Men commissioned in the NGUS in the Quartermaster Corps were Second Lieutenants Lansing Anderson, Fred P. Dyhrmann, Richard T. Mathews, and Marion W. Peterson. Harold W. Taylor was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Medical Administrative Corps. Irwin C. Hiddleston had been discharged as a corporal for “business reasons” on 3 September 1940 and wrote to Guy N. Henninger explaining his willingness to serve as an officer. Henninger advised Hiddleston to reenlist to utilize his commission. Hiddleston reenlisted on 18 September and was commissioned, but does not appear in the 1943 National Guard Register; letter, Irwin C. Hiddleston to Guy N. Henninger, 13 September 1940; letter, Guy N. Henninger to Irwin C. Hiddleston, 13 September 1940, both in RG0018, SG2, S4, B46, F280, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B1, F1940, HN; Bulletin No. 1, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 2 January 1941, sub: Officers’ Longevity Pay Tables, RG0018, SG2, S1, B24, F337, HN.


691 Michael E. Weaver, *Guard Wars: The 28th Infantry Division in World War II* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010), 44-45.

692 Administrative tasks included giving enlisted men their serial numbers; letter, AG 344.1 (5-18-40) E-A, H.N. Gilbert to the Commanding General, Seventh Corps Area, 8 June 1940, sub: Serial Numbers for Use for the National Guard; letter, Rctg-344.1 (NG), H.S. Robertson to the Commanding Officer, 134th Inf, 35th Div, thru The Adjutant General, State of Nebraska, 5 July 1940, sub: Serial Numbers for Use for the National Guard; letter, Rctg-344.1 (NG), H.S. Robertson to the Commanding Officer, 134th Inf, 35th Div, Omaha, Nebraska, thru The Adjutant General, State of Nebraska, 5 July 1940, sub: Serial Numbers for Use
for the National Guard; letter, Rctg-344.1 (NG), E.S. Robertson to the Commanding Officer, 110th Medical Regiment, 35th Div, Lincoln, Nebraska, thru The Adjutant General, State of Nebraska, 5 July 1940, sub: Serial Numbers for Use for the National Guard; letter, Rctg-344.1 (NG), E.S. Robertson to the Commanding Officer, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, 35th Div, Lincoln, Nebraska, thru The Adjutant General, State of Nebraska, 5 July 1940, sub: Serial Numbers for Use for the National Guard, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B38, F173, HN; letter, AG 325 (8-27-40) M-A, E.S. Adams to Commanding Generals, all Corps Areas and Departments, 4 September 1940, sub: Induction of the National Guard of the United States, 1-3, 7-10, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F333, HN; Cross and Fowler, Finding St. Lo., ed. Ted Neill, 64-65.

693 “Only 3 York Guards Fail to Pass Exams,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 24 December 1940.

694 The fifty-two men discharged were 3.32 percent of the men inducted. In comparison, in the 137th Infantry, the rate was 2.39 percent (forty-four out of 1,841), in the 138th Infantry, it was 8.18 percent (105 out of 1,283), while in the 140th Infantry, it was 4.85 percent (seventy out of 1,441); “Col. Browne Finds Morale of Kansans at Robinson Excellent,” Wichita Eagle (Wichita, KS), 2 February 1941.

695 Blue Valley Blade (Seward, NE), 24 October 1940; Lexington Clipper and Dawson County Pioneer (Lexington, NE), 14 November 1940; “Dance; Fair Crowd,” Holdrege Daily Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 20 November 1940; Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 18 December 1940; “Ball Will Be Held by Regimental Band,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 28 December 1940; “VFW Post Presents Fund at Banquet at Armory of $325 to Company D,” North Platte Daily Bulletin (North Platte, NE), 3 January 1941; “Hundreds Enjoy Guard Program,” Hartington Herald (Hartington, NE), 2 January 1941; “Guard Makes Ready to Entrain for Arkansas; Some Nebraskans Arrive at Camp,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 5 January 1941.


697 “Three Thousand Townspeople Bid Farewell to Beatrice Guards as Company C Leaves for Year at Camp Robinson,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 6 January 1941; “Throng Sees Guardiansmen Off,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 6 January 1941.

698 “Co. B’s Street Is Kept Spick and Span,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 17 January 1941.


700 1941 aerial photograph of Camp Robinson, Arkansas, 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM; Fine and Remington, The Corps of Engineers: Construction in The United States, 211; “Guardsmen to Live in 6,000 Tents at Camp,” Nebraska Daily Press (Nebraska City, NE), 12 December 1940.

701 “Nebraska to Rose Bowl,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE) 2 December 1940; “Guardsmen to Make Trip,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE) 4 December 1940.


703 “Soldiers Going to Be Hardened, Says General,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 12 January 1941.

704 In 1940, Brigadier General Milton A. Reckord, the adjutant general of Maryland and commander of the 29th Division, had testified before the Senate that six years of National Guard service provided roughly the same number of training hours as only eight months of full-time military service; United States, Congress, Senate, Hearings Before the Committee on Military Affairs, United States Senate, Seventy-Sixth Congress, Third Session, on S. 4164, a Bill to Protect the Integrity and Institutions of the United States Through a System of Selective Compulsory Military Training and Service, Revised, July 3, 5, 10, and 12, 1940 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1940), 59; “35th to Sterner Tasks,” Kansas City Times (Kansas City, MO), 20 January 1941.


Letter, NGB 325.4521 General x NG 320.2-Strength, W.T. MacMillan to the Adjutant General of Nebraska, 13 December 1940, sub: Strength and Organization of National Guard Units, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F333, HN; Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 26, “Boost in Guard’s Housing Forecast,” Baltimore Sun (Baltimore, MD), 26 December 1940.

Close-order drill is “drill formations and movements that are done at normal interval or at close interval. The formations and movements are those usually performed in parades and reviews, and those involving the manuals of the various arms, such as the rifle, pistol, and saber;” United States, War Department, Dictionary of U.S. Army Terms, 63.

Extended order drill is “field exercise conducted with the troops or units spaced further apart than in close order drill. This drill gives soldiers training in formations and movements that are actually used on the battlefield;” United States, War Department, Dictionary of U.S. Army Terms, 105.

“Company D Doings,” Fairbury News and the Fairbury Gazette (Fairbury, NE), 16 January 1941; “35th to Sterner Tasks,” Kansas City Times (Kansas City, MO), 20 January 1941.


“Camp Notes,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 10 February 1941.

“Sew I,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 27 January 1941.

“Guardsmen Win Promotions at Camp Robinson,” Morning Spotlight (Hastings, NE), 4 February 1941; “Company D Doings,” Fairbury News and the Fairbury Gazette (Fairbury, NE), 6 February 1941; “Columbus Guards Used as Nucleus of New Companies,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 7 February 1941; “Norfolk Boys in Army Are Promoted and Transferred,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 7 February 1941; “Lieut. Hobbs in Charge New Unit 110th Regiment,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 28 February 1941.


Seventeen Missourians were intended for the 110th Observation Squadron, forty-three for the Headquarters Company, 70th Infantry Brigade, sixty-two for the 35th Division Headquarters Company and Detachment, 313 for the 110th Engineer Regiment, 1,289 for the 140th Infantry Regiment, and 1,482 for the 138th Infantry Regiment; “Draftees Will Fill Guard Units,” St. Louis Globe-Democrat (St. Louis, MO), 15 January 1941; “3,206 More Men from Missouri to Go to Army Camp in February,” St. Louis Post-Dispatch (St. Louis, MO), 16 January 1941.

863 Kansans were intended for the 137th Infantry Regiment, and 2,021 for the 35th Military Police Company, 110th Ordnance Company, 35th Signal Company, the Headquarters Company, 69th Infantry Brigade, and the 60th Field Artillery Brigade; “For 35th Division, 9,096,” Kansas City Star (Kansas City, MO), 14 January 1941; “State Draft Quota in February 2,884,” Emporia Gazette (Emporia, KS), 16 January 1941.

“2,062 in State will Be Called Up in February,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 16 January 1941.

“Col. Browne Finds Morale of Kansans at Robinson Excellent,” Wichita Eagle (Wichita, KS), 2 February 1941.


Nebraska’s Selective Service quota for February 1941 broken down by county is as follows: Douglas (ten boards), 408; Lancaster (four boards), 161; Scotts Bluff, forty-eight; Gage, forty-six; Hall, forty-five; Dodge, thirty-nine; Lincoln and Buffalo, thirty-eight each; Madison, thirty-seven; Custer, thirty-six; Saunders, thirty-two; Adams, Dawson, and Otoe, thirty-one each; Cass, thirty; Platte and Richardson, twenty-nine each; Cedar and Holt, twenty-six each; Cuming, Knox and Saline, twenty-five each; Burt,
twenty-three; Butler and Nemaha, twenty-two each; Seward and Washington, twenty-one each; Colfax, Jefferson, Thayer, Thurston, and York, twenty each; Antelope and Pierce, nineteen each; Cherry, Dakota, Dixon, Keith, Red Willow, and Wayne, seventeen each; Boone, Fillmore, Morrill, and Sarpy, sixteen each; Box Butte, Merrick, and Nuckolls, fifteen each; Cheyenne, Dawes, Furnas, Hamilton, Pawnee, Sheridan, and Valley, fourteen each; Howard, Johnson, Phelps, and Polk, thirteen each; Sherman and Webster, twelve each; Clay and Franklin, eleven each; Chase, Hitchcock, Kearney, and Stanton, ten each; Brown, Frontier, Harlan, and Perkins, nine each; Boyd and Dundy, eight each; Garden and Nance, seven each; Kimball, Rock, and Sioux, six each; Garfield, Gosper, and Keya Paha, five each; Deuel and Hayes, four each; Blaine, Greeley, Logan, and Wheeler, three each; Banner, Grant, McPherson, and Thomas, two each; Arthur and Hooker, one each; “Counties Get Quotas for Draft Call,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 18 January 1941.

722 “2,062 in State Will Be Called Up in February,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 16 January 1941.

723 Arthur, Banner, Cheyenne, Deuel, Garden, Keith, Kimball, Morrill, and Scotts Bluff Counties; “Counties Get Quotas for Draft Call,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 18 January 1941.

724 North Platte had an induction station, but it was closed at the end of January 1941 because of its proximity to the other stations at Fort Francis E. Warren and Fort Crook, Nebraska; “Seventh Corps Orders Army’s Center Moved,” North Platte Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 9 January 1941.

725 “2nd County Service Quota Has 3 Draftees,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 12 January 1941.

726 “Nebraska Drafted Men to Robinson,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 31 January 1941.

727 “Draftees Arrive at Camp Robinson; Co. B of Fremont Expects Recruits,” Fremont Tribune (Fremont, NE), 12 February 1941.

728 For example, “They Are All Volunteers—These Men Who Comprise Second Cuming County Quota for the Army,” West Point Republican (West Point, NE), 6 February 1941; “County Draft Quota Filled by Volunteers,” Walthill Citizen (Walthill, NE), 13 February 1941; “Johnson County Men in the Army Service,” Tecumseh Chieftain (Tecumseh, NE), 13 February 1941; “Twenty-Three Burt County Trainees Are All Accepted into Military Service,” Burt County Plaindealer (Tecumseh, NE), 20 February 1941; “Men Will Leave Today for Camp,” Wayne Herald (Wayne, NE), 27 February 1941.

729 921,722 men aged seventeen to thirty-eight entered the Army via Selective Service between November 1940 and November 1941, including 23,446 aged seventeen to twenty who volunteered through section 3(b) of the Selective Training and Service Act. Of the total of 921,722, 572,009 (62.06 percent) were aged twenty-one to twenty-five, 243,457 (26.41 percent) were aged twenty-six to thirty, and 72,668 (7.88 percent) were aged thirty-one to thirty-five; Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service in Peacetime: First Report of the Director of Selective Service, 1940-1941 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1942), 17, 235.

730 “Our Letter Box,” Cozad Local (Cozad, NE), 7 March 1941.

731 “Trainees Welcomed by Infantry Band,” York Daily News-Times (York, NE), 14 February 1941.


733 “Service Co. Is at Full Strength at Little Rock, Ark.,” York Daily News-Times (York, NE), 27 February 1941; “With Our Soldiers at Camp Robinson,” Seward Independent (Seward, NE), 5 March 1941; “With the Alliance Boys in Camp,” Alliance Times-Herald (Alliance, NE), 4 April 1941.

734 “News Letter from Camp Robinson,” Ulysses Dispatch (Ulysses, NE), 20 February 1941.

735 “Old Home Week at Camp Robinson,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 24 February 1941.

736 Iowa’s Selective Service quota for the first one-third of February was 723 men, 619 of whom were inducted at Fort Des Moines and 104 in Omaha. The men inducted at Fort Des Moines were sent to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, while the men inducted in Omaha were sent to Fort Leavenworth. Iowa’s quota for the second one-third of February was 687; United States, Selective Service System, Quotas, Calls, and Inductions, Volume II, 43; “February Draft Quota Is 723 Men,” Des Moines Register (Des Moines, IA), 15 January 1941; “Draft Really to Get Started in Polk Next Month,” Des Moines Tribune (Des Moines, IA), 29 January 1941; “Not Superstitious,” Des Moines Tribune (Des Moines, IA), 3 February 1941; “Send 4
More to Army Service,” Adams County Free Press (Corning, IA), 6 February 1941; “S.W. Iowans Are Sent to South,” Daily Nonpareil (Council Bluffs, IA), 13 February 1941; “Company A Men Star on Range,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 23 February 1941.

“Fifteen to Be Inducted into Army at Omaha,” Central City Republican (Central City, NE), 20 February 1941; “31 Men Leave in Third Quota,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 24 February 1941; “Draftees Left Monday for Army,” Nemaha County Herald (Auburn, NE), 27 February 1941; “Bad Weather a Setback to Military Training,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 27 February 1941; “Pay Day Bugle Call Is Popular at Army Camp,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 5 March 1941.

“Trainees Sent to Forts Knox, Riley, Robinson,” Kearney Daily Hub (Kearney, NE), 27 February 1941; “Daykin Draftees Are at Fort Leavenworth, Camp Robinson, Ft. Knox,” Daykin Herald (Daykin, NE), 28 February 1941; “Last Trainees to California,” Seward Independent (Seward, NE), 5 March 1941; “Assignments to Recruits Given,” Pilot-Tribune (Blair, NE), 6 March 1941; “Nebraskans Given Army Assignments,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 8 March 1941; “Draftees Tell of Army Life,” Colfax County Call (Schuyler, NE), 13 March 1941; “Nice Letter from Grand Boys in Training Camp,” Tribune-Sentinel (Grant, NE), 20 March 1941.

“News Letter from Camp Robinson,” Ulysses Dispatch (Ulysses, NE), 6 March 1941; “News Letter from Camp Robinson,” Ulysses Dispatch (Ulysses, NE), 13 March 1941.

The Beatrice, Falls City or Nebraska City units; undated list of men from the 134th Infantry requesting release from active duty, RG3558.AM, SGI1, S6, B4, F1, HN; “Boys in Camp Get Touches of Warfare,” York Republican (York, NE), 27 February 1941.

“Camp Notes,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 6 March 1941.

“Trainees Sent to Forts Knox, Riley, Robinson,” Kearney Daily Hub (Kearney, NE), 27 February 1941; “Nebraskans Given Army Assignments,” Sunday Journal and Star (Lincoln, NE), 2 March 1941.

“Sore Throats, Colds Plague Boys in Co. A,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 7 March 1941.

“Soldiers in Camp Are Church Goers,” Holdrege Daily Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 7 March 1941; “134th Draftees the First to Fire on Rifle Range,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 17 March 1941; “Training Camps News of Gering Boys at Front,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 4 April 1941.

Nebraska’s Selective Service quota for March 1941 was 560 men during the first two-thirds of the month, and for April 1941, 300 men during the last one-third of the month; undated list of men from the 134th Infantry requesting release from active duty, RG3558.AM, SGI1, S6, B4, F1, HN; United States, Selective Service System, Quotas, Calls, and Inductions, Volume II, 43; “Five Keith County Volunteers to Enter Army,” Paxton Times (Paxton, NE), 3 January 1941; “Four Volunteers Leaving Jan. 28,” Grand Island Daily Independent (Grand Island, NE), 9 January 1941; “Plummer Rites; Greety Briefs,” Grand Island Daily Independent (Grand Island, NE), 31 January 1941; “252 Nebraskans to Be Drafted Early in March,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 11 February 1941; “Second Quota in March to Be 308,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 19 February 1941; “Third March Call for Men Is Cancelled,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 3 March 1941; “Drafted Men Sent to Camp Robinson,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 25 March 1941; “Drafted Men Sent to Camp Robinson,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 30 March 1941; “Company B Awaiting New Selectees to Fill Quota,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 25 April 1941; “Company C Gets Plenty of Practice as Machine Guns and Artillery Roar,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 3 May 1941; “Visitors from Home Brighten Soldier’s Life,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 5 May 1941; “Camp Robinson Is All Set for Mother’s Day Visitors,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 10 May 1941.

In Nebraska, the first one-third of February was used to send replacements for men rejected in the January call, the last one-third of March for men rejected in the February call, and the first two-thirds of April for men rejected in the March call; United States, Selective Service System, Quotas, Calls, and Inductions, Special Monograph No. 12, Volume I, Text, Appendices A-E (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1948), 26-27; “3 Draftees to Leave Tuesday to Join Army,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 24 January 1941; “Altschuler Is Army Recruit,” Madison Star-Mail (Madison, NE), 6 February 1941; “Third March Call for Men Is Cancelled,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 3 March 1941; “Next Quota for Draft to Be 170,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 3 March 1941; “Must Wait Their Turn,” Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 24 March 1941; “Four Buffalo County Selectees to Omaha,” Kearney Daily Hub (Kearney, NE), 7 April 1941; “Company B Awaiting New Selectees to Fill Quota,” Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 25 April 1941; “Company C Gets Plenty of Practice as
Machine Guns and Artillery Roar,” *Norfolk Daily News* (Norfolk, NE), 3 May 1941; “Visitors from Home Brighten Soldier’s Life,” *Columbus Daily Telegram* (Columbus, NE), 5 May 1941; “Camp Robinson Is All Set for Mother’s Day Visitors,” *Norfolk Daily News* (Norfolk, NE), 10 May 1941.


748 Letter, Ralph E. Truman to Samuel T. Lawton, 27 March 1941, Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Chronological File, B3, Folder “Correspondence, 1941, February, March,” TPLM.


752 “Twins Volunteer for U.S. Service,” *Nebraska Daily News-Press* (Nebraska City, NE), 3 March 1941.

753 Barbara S. Koehlmoos (niece of Floyd E. Whittaker), interview by the author, June 2019, Seward, NE.

754 “Hastings Staff Sergeant Helps Teach English to Private Tatara at Camp,” *Hastings Daily Tribune* (Hastings, NE), 2 April 1941.


756 “Two More Sets of Brothers Called in New Draft Quota,” *Evening World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 4 February 1941.


758 “Forced Indoors by Snow, But All’s Well with G.I. Guardsmen at Robinson,” *Grand Island Daily Independent* (Grand Island, NE), 8 March 1941; “Notes for Camp Robinson,” *Bayard Transcript* (Bayard, NE), 13 March 1941; “Norris Rusmisell Tells of Camp Life at Camp Robinson, Ark.,” *Mason City Transcript* (Mason City, NE), 13 March 1941; “With the Alliance Boys in Camp,” *Alliance Times-Herald* (Alliance, NE), 4 April 1941.


762 “NP Correspondent Wins Second Camp Promotion,” *Nebraska Daily News-Press* (Nebraska City, NE), 26 February 1941.
“Little Abner Garners Camp Ashland News Notes,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 9 August 1939; “‘Little Abner’ Goes Back to Camp Again, This Time for a Whole Year Training,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 10 January 1941.

In summer 1940, there were 115,517 officers in the ORC, 104,375 of whom were “eligible for assignment, active duty, and promotion.” The vast majority were lieutenants and captains. 36,437 were commissioned in the Infantry, 24,093 in the Medical Corps, 13,915 in the Field Artillery, 8,753 in the Coast Artillery, 7,828 in the Corps of Engineers, 5,898 in the Quartermaster Corps, 4,935 in the Cavalry, 3,029 in the Ordnance Department, 3,002 in the Air Corps, 2,262 in the Signal Corps, 2,107 in the Chemical Warfare Service, 1,057 in the Chaplain Corps, 794 in the Finance Department, 750 in the Adjutant General’s Department, and 657 in the Judge Advocate General’s Department. About sixty-five percent were assigned to Reserve units, with most of the others assigned to “Regular Army Inactive” units. On 30 June 1940, there were 2,710 Reserve officers on active duty, but by 30 June 1941, there were 57,309, comprising ten percent of the officers in National Guard units and seventy-five to ninety percent in Regular Army units. By December 1941, the number of Reserve officers on active duty was 80,000; letter, AG 325 (8-27-40) M-A, E.S. Adams to Commanding Generals, all Corps Areas and Departments, 4 September 1940, sub: Induction of the National Guard of the United States, 3-6, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F333, HN; letter, AG 210.31 NGUS (10-3-40) MM-A, E.S. Adams to Commanding Generals, all Armies; Commanding Generals, all Corps Areas and Departments; and Commanders of Divisions and Separate Units Inducted from the National Guard, 21 October 1940, sub: War-Strength Commissioned Personnel for Inducted National Guard Units, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F311, HN; Crossland and Currie, Twice the Citizen, 65-67; “Officers Ready to Train Conscripts,” Ithaca Journal (Ithaca, NY), 21 August 1940.

Training Memorandum No. 15, Headquarters, 134th Inf., Camp Robinson, Ark., 24 January 1941, sub: Regimental Schools for Appointment to 2nd Lieutenant, RG3558.AM, SG14, S2, B12, HN.

Letter, Ben Lear to Ralph E. Truman, 8 February 1941; letter, Ralph E. Truman to Ben Lear, 11 February 1941, both in Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Chronological File, B3, Folder “Correspondence, 1941, February, March,” TPLM.

Reserve officers for National Guard units were to be requisitioned by the corps area commander of the units’ stations, while Regular Army officers were to be requisitioned through the Adjutant General of the Army. Eleven of the eighteen National Guard divisions went to training stations in the corps areas where they originated, except the 27th (Fort McClellan, Alabama), 32nd (Camp Beauregard, Louisiana), 33rd (Camp Forrest, Tennessee), 34th (Camp Claiborne, Louisiana), 37th and 38th (Camp Shelby, Mississippi), and 43rd Divisions (Camp Blanding, Florida); letter, AG 210.31 NGUS (10-3-40) MM-A, E.S. Adams to Commanding Generals, all Armies; Commanding Generals, all Corps Areas and Departments; and Commanders of Divisions and Separate Units Inducted from the National Guard, 21 October 1940, sub: War-Strength Commissioned Personnel for Inducted National Guard Units, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F311, HN; Bell I. Wiley and William P. Goan, The Army Ground Forces, History of the Second Army, Study No. 16 (Washington, D.C.: Historical Section, Army Ground Forces, 1946), 43-45; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 1, 220, 227-230, 233-235, 239.

“Kirgore Gets Call to Army Duty,” Bismarck Tribune (Bismarck, ND), 21 August 1941; “John Davis Led Drive on St. Lo,” Bismarck Tribune (Bismarck, ND), 5 August 1944; “M’Clusky Senator Has Half-Way Lead,” Bismarck Tribune (Bismarck, ND), 7 November 1956.

Nebraska National Guard officers who left service at Camp Robinson were Lieutenant Colonel Harry H. Ellis on the 35th Division staff, Captain Henry H. Dudley on the 69th Infantry Brigade staff, Lieutenant Colonel Earl B. Brooks, Captains Harry R. Ball and James R. Flynn, and First Lieutenant Joseph W. Smith in the 110th Medical Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel William J. Atkinson, Major Wallace E. Rose, Captain Charles E. Armstrong and First Lieutenant Everette L. Christensen in the 110th Quartermaster Regiment, and Colonel Clyde E. McCormick, Lieutenant Colonel Bert C. Grasbog, Major Lee W. Heaton, Captains Norman H. Atwood and Robert J. Van Fleet, First Lieutenant Paul C. Hauck, and Second Lieutenants Alfred M. Ahern and Francis M. Wiley in the 134th Infantry Regiment. Everette L. Christensen later returned to active duty; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1943, 222, 1,310, 1,313, 1,314, 1,316, 1,325, 1,347, 1,349, 1,354, 1,361, 1,368, 1,396, 1,423, 1,431, 1,441, 1,448; “Two Rules on Control Board,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 17 February 1941; “Replace Browne as 137th Commander at Robinson,” Wichita Eagle (Wichita, KS), 27 February 1941; “Corp. Hirsch to Replace Heaton,” Grand Island Daily Independent (Grand Island, NE), 19 March 1941; “Trucks Pooled for the 35th Division,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 21 March 1941; “Armstrong Rejoins Staff,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 3 April 1941; “Capt. Harry Ball Returns from Active Service,” Evening State


Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 29.


The authors of the study wrote that “Since [it] was not repeated in other National Guard divisions, one should be cautious about generalizing too far, although it is consistent with informal impressions of critics of the National Guard, and favoritism and politics may have been among the reasons leading the Army to make extensive transfers of personnel from these divisions;” Ibid.

“Edward Svik Tells of His Experiences in Camp Robinson,” Colfax County Press (Clarkson, NE), 2 April 1941.


“Nebraska Soldiers Have Rifle Drill,” Fremont Tribune (Fremont, NE), 15 March 1941.

“They’re in the Army,” New Teller (York, NE), 5 March 1941.

“Nebraska Infantry Passes Inspection with Good Rating,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 17 March 1941; “Hand Washing Is Out for Local Guardsmen,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 20 March 1941.


“Hand Washing Is Out for Local Guardsmen,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 20 March 1941; “Soldiers Will Train as Correspondents,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 10 April 1941.

“Fathers to Have Special Day, Too,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 3 (30 May 1941), 1, RH Ser G212, KSRL; “Mother’s Day Excursion to Camp Robinson,” Fremont Tribune (Fremont, NE), 17 April 1941.

“Grand Island Boys at Camp Robinson Looking Forward to Furloughs,” Grand Island Daily Independent (Grand Island, NE), 8 May 1941.

On 15 April 1941, Ben Lear wrote to Ralph E. Truman saying, “I have no objection whatsoever to one of your officers maintaining his membership in the state legislature,” but that “there be no political or personal affiliations with parties or persons in home states, or within your division, that would in any way lessen their loyalty to you…or interfere in a full and efficient performance of all duties pertaining to the division and to their individual command.” Brigadier General Frederic H. Smith, commander of the VII Corps, inspected the division from 21-24 April, writing to Lear that “It is my very definite opinion that…Thomas is more interested in his constituents and Nebraska political matters than in the actual command of his brigade;” letter, Dwight P. Griswold to Ralph E. Truman, 17 January 1941; letter, Ralph E. Truman to Dwight P. Griswold, 21 January 1941, both in Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Chronological File, B3, Folder “Correspondence, 1941, January,” TPLM; letter, Ben Lear to Ralph E. Truman, 15 April 1941; letter, F.H. Smith to Commanding General, Second Army, 24 April 1941, sub: Report of Inspection at Camp Robinson, April 21-24; memorandum, Conference between the Division Commander and Brig. Gen. Thomas, 69th Infantry Brigade, April 26, 1941, all in Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Chronological File, B3, Folder “Correspondence, 1941, April,” TPLM; “Was Soldier at 16,” Kansas City Star (Kansas City, MO), 11 May 1939; “Gen. Thomas Is Relieved of Command,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 29 April 1941.

Frederic H. Smith felt that “Colonels McCormick and McAlester [Heber L. McAlester of the 153rd Infantry]…are too old for the duties of regimental commanders and that they lean on their subordinates, contributing nothing themselves;” letter, F.H. Smith to Commanding General, Second Army, 24 April 1941, sub: Report of Inspection at Camp Robinson, April 21-24; Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence
File, Chronological File, B3, Folder “Correspondence, 1941, April,” TPLM; Kansas City Star (Kansas City, MO), 24 May 1941; “Miltonberger Named Acting Commander,” York Daily News-Times (York, NE), 27 May 1941.

787 Special Orders No. 221, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 6 November 1940; Special Orders No. 10, The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, 15 January 1941, both in RG3558.AM, SG13, S2, B9, F1, HN; transcript of tape-recorded interview of Butler B. Miltonberger by Donald D. Snoddy, 5 August 1970, 2, RG3558.AM, SG14, S2, B12, F2, F2, HN; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1928, 583; “A News Reel of City and County,” North Platte Evening Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 22 February 1927; North Platte Evening Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 31 May 1927.

788 WD AGO Form 63 (Report of Physical Examination), Butler B. Miltonberger, Fort Benning, Georgia, 12 November 1940, RG3558.AM, SG13, S2, B9, F2, HN.

789 Hartman, Nebraska’s Militia, 118.


791 The V Corps Maneuver in the Louisiana Maneuver Area-Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, from 16-27 June 1941, the Second Army-VII Corps Maneuver at Camp Robinson-Arkadelphia, AR, from 11-30 August 1941, and the IV Corps Maneuver in the Louisiana Maneuver Area-Camp Beauregard, LA, same date; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 2,739.

792 The Fourth Army Maneuver at Fort Hunter Liggett, CA, from 22 May-6 July 1941; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 2,739.

793 The IV Corps Maneuver at Fort Benning, GA, in April-May 1941; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 2,739.

794 The VI Corps Maneuver at Pepperell-Fort Devens, MA, from 26 August-3 September 1941; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 2,740.

795 The Second Army-VII Corps Maneuver in the Tennessee Maneuver Area, from 2-28 June 1941; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 2,739.

796 The VIII Corps Maneuver at Brownwood and Camp Bowie, TX, from 1-18 June 1941, and the 1st Cavalry Division Maneuver at Fort Bliss, TX and the Oro Grande Mountains, NM, from 25 June-3 July 1941, Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 2,739-2,740.

797 The IX Corps Maneuver at Fort Lewis, WA, in April-May 1941; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 4, 2,739.


800 “350,000 Will ‘Fight’ Battle in September,” Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN) 20 March 1941.

801 Bulletin No. 16, Headquarters, Second Army Forward Echelon, G-2 Press Section, Prescott, Arkansas, RG3558.AM, SG5, S1, B1, F1, F1, HN; Bulletin No. 24, Headquarters, Second Army Forward Echelon, G-2 Press Section, Prescott, Arkansas, RG3558.AM, SG5, S1, B1, F2, F1, HN; Cooling, “The Arkansas Maneuvers, 1941,” 107-108.

802 The 35th Division units that furnished personnel for the Tennessee Maneuvers were the 35th Military Police Company, 35th Signal Company, 110th Medical Regiment, 110th Observation Squadron, and 110th Quartermaster Regiment; “Flying High,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 1 (16 May 1941), 4, RH Ser G212, KSRL; “110th Q.M. Sends 258 to Army War Games,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 1 (16 May 1941), 6, RH Ser G212, KSRL; “Medics Will Leave for Camp Forrest Monday,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 1 (16 May 1941), 16, RH Ser G212, KSRL; “M.P.s Go, But Just a Handful,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 1 (16 May 1941), 16, RH Ser G212, KSRL; “Brig. Gen. Fred Walker Transferred to Texas,” Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN), 22 April 1941.

803 The 110th Medical Regiment’s provisional unit was called the “3rd Battalion” for this exercise; “Medics Will Leave for Camp Forrest Monday,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 1 (16 May 1941), 16, RH Ser G212, KSRL; Ervin F. Stephan diary, entries from 20 May-27 June 1941, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM; “We’re in the Army Now,” Franklin County Sentinel (Franklin, NE), 1 May 1941.
“110th Q.M. Sends 258 to Army War Games,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 1 (16 May 1941), 6, RH Ser G212, KSRL; Gas and Hay Burner 1, No. 8 (17 May 1941), 3, 110th Quartermaster Regiment Collection, NENGM; “Nebraskans off to War Games at Murfreesboro,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 15 May 1941; “News from Company F,” Custer County Chief (Broken Bow, NE), 29 May 1941.

“Army Life at Camp Robinson,” Lexington Clipper and Dawson County Pioneer (Lexington, NE), 22 May 1941.

“Nebraska Troops Make Remarkable Progress,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 27 May 1941.

“Four-Day Training Tests End; Week Furloughs Start Tonight,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 1 (16 May 1941), 1, RH Ser G212, KSRL.

“From Our Colonel,” Gas and Hay Burner 1, No. 8 (17 May 1941), 2, 110th Quartermaster Regiment Collection, NENGM.

“Governors of 4 States Invited to Review Division,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 16 May 1941; “Can’t Attend,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 16 May 1941.


Memorandum, Statement of Cause of Failure to Fire U.S. Rifle Caliber 30 M1 During the Record Fire Season of the 134th Infantry, Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, 20 June 1941, RG3558.AM, SG13, S2, B9, F2, HN.


Amos Thomas was reassigned to the 8th Infantry Division. He was later named commander of the Southern Security District of the Western Defense Command, having his headquarters first at Fort Douglas, Utah, then in southern California. From October 1942 until his retirement in June 1944, Thomas was commander of Camp White, Oregon; “Thomas Files Appeal from Ouster Order,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 26 June 1941; “Gen. Amos Thomas Is Ordered Back to Duty,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 2 October 1941; “Amos Thomas Given Division Assignment,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 4 November 1941; “Army Shifts Group to S.L. Officers,” Salt Lake Tribune (Salt Lake City, UT), 27 January 1942; “Defense Area Commander Opens Victorville Office,” San Bernardino County Sun (San Bernardino, CA), 26 June 1942; “Brig. Gen. Thomas New Commander Over Camp White,” Medford Mail Tribune (Medford, OR), 8 October 1942; “Colonel John R. Young Succeeds Gen. Thomas as Camp White Chief,” Medford Mail Tribune (Medford, OR), 21 June 1944.

Clyde E. McCormick was honorably discharged from the National Guard of the United States on 7 October 1941 and from the Nebraska National Guard on 8 October 1941; memorandum, Walter E. McConnaughey for the Nebraska Adjutant General’s Office, 24 June 1949, RG5810.AM, F1, HN; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1943, 1,396.

“Let’s All Use Clubs to Keep Girl Friends True to Army,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 7 (27 June 1941), 1, RH Ser G212, KSRL; “Girls Are Urged to Be Good Soldiers, Too,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 27 June 1941.

“Soldiers Club to Keep ‘One and Only True,’ ” Morning Post (Camden, NJ), 22 July 1941.


Lieutenant Colonel Warren H. Aldrich, commander of the Second Army quartermaster depot, appreciated “the fine type of officers and enlisted men sent in connection…with the June maneuvers,” and said the battalion “did an especially good job, and deserve[d] a lot of credit;” letter, Marcus L. Poteet to Dwight P. Griswold, 12 December 1941; undated 1941 holiday greeting, Marcus L. Poteet to members of 110th Quartermaster Regiment, both in RG1, SG32, S1, B2, F54, HN.


A description of the “Yoo-Hoo Incident” was provided by Harry Dahlstrom, at the time a corporal in Company A, 110th Quartermaster Regiment, to Nebraska History magazine in 1991; “Joining Up,” Nebraska History 72 (Winter 1991), 172-173; “‘2,400 ‘Dogs Will Bark’ Today as Troops Pay for ‘Yoo-

Josiah R. Shurtleff left Richardson County on 20 March 1941 to be inducted into the Army at Fort Leavenworth, and was later assigned to the 110th Quartermaster Regiment at Camp Robinson; Josiah R. Shurtleff scrapbook, 110th Quartermaster Regiment Collection, NENGM; Hartman, *Nebraska's Militia*, 119; “4 Draftees Leave Falls City,” *Falls City Journal* (Falls City, NE), 20 March 1941; “Lear Criticized for Punishment of 35th Soldiers,” *Emporia Gazette* (Emporia, KS), 9 July 1941; “For Hurrahing the General and Girls in Shorts They Get To Walk,” *Commercial Appeal* (Memphis, TN), 12 July 1941; “‘Yoo-Oo Hoo Battalion’ Boys Begin to Resent the ‘Whooppee,’” *Commercial Appeal* (Memphis, TN), 12 July 1941.

“Dear Yoo-Hoos’ Challenged to Marching Race By 250th,” *Santa Cruz Evening News* (Santa Cruz, CA), 12 July 1941.

“First Soldier Death,” *Lyons Mirror-Sun* (Lyons, NE), 3 July 1941; “Dedicate Drill Field to Southwell,” *Lyons Mirror-Sun* (Lyons, NE), 7 August 1941.

“Tony Pischke Writes of Life at Camp Robinson,” *North Bend Eagle* (North Bend, NE), 24 July 1941; “Finish Construction 35th Day Rooms at Camp,” *Holdrege Daily Citizen* (Holdrege, NE), 4 August 1941.


“Furnishings Trucked to Camp Robinson,” *Custer County Chief* (Broken Bow, NE), 18 December 1941.

Some infantry divisions also issued general orders introducing “infantry” in their name, but the verbiage was not added to divisions’ tables of organization (the documents which technically established units’ naming conventions), until August 1942; Wilson, *Maneuver and Firepower*, 182.


The one-year enlistments of men in the Army of the AUS, regardless of component with which serving, were not extended. Men released from active duty because of dependency were subsequently required to serve in a reserve component for ten years, until they turned forty-five, or were discharged, whichever came first. Service in excess of the original one year was credited towards the ten years. To implement dependency releases, enlisted men of all components except the National Guard and men enlisted in the AUS with the National Guard were transferred to the ERC. National Guardsmen and men enlisted in the AUS with the National Guard remained in or were transferred to the National Guard of the United States and were released to state control. The sender and recipient lines of the following letters have been omitted because of their length; letter, AG 324.71 (8-16-41) EA-A, 22 August 1941, sub: Release of Enlisted Men During the Remainder of the Calendar Year 1941; letter, AG 324.71 (8-28-41) EA-A, 29 August 1941, sub: Administrative Details Governing Release of Enlisted Men, both in RG0018, SG2, S4, B45, F276, HN; Pub. L. No. 77-213, 55 Stat. 626, 18 August 1941; Franklin D. Roosevelt, Executive Order No. 8862, Extending the Periods of Training and Service, Active Military Service, and Enlistment of Persons in or Subject to Training and Service or Active Military Service, 21 August 1941 (6 Fed. Reg. 4319, 23 August 1941).

“18 Month Extension Is Voted,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 7 August 1941; “Extension Wins by One Vote,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 13 August 1941.

National Guardsmen and men enlisted in the AUS with the National Guard who were twenty-eight or older were released to state control, while selectees, regardless of component with which serving, were transferred to the ERC. Men twenty-eight or older could still volunteer for induction, but if they did so, they could not subsequently request release for age. The sender and recipient lines of the following letters
have been omitted because of their length; letter, AG 324.71 (8-16-41) EA-A, 22 August 1941, sub: Release of Enlisted Men During the Remainder of the Calendar Year 1941; letter, AG 324.71 (8-28-41) EA-A, 29 August 1941, sub: Administrative Details Governing Release of Enlisted Men; letter, NGB 327.02 Gen 8, 3 September 1941, sub: Release of Enlisted Men During the Remainder of the Calendar Year 1941, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B45, F276, HN; Pub. L. No. 77-206, 55 Stat. 201, 16 August 1941.

A Life magazine article from 18 August 1941 found that morale in one “sample Army division” stationed “in the South” was poor; the reporter claimed that fifty percent of the 400 privates in five different regiments he interviewed would desert at the end of one year of service, forty percent regretted their service, and ten percent wished to transfer to a more useful or exciting military occupation. Many soldiers were skeptical of these reports, “with a lot of laughter and…more fun now since…some people here…are taking it seriously.” The desertion rate for October 1941 was “considerably less” than one-tenth of one percent, and lower than the rate in any of the preceding six months; “This Is What the Soldiers Complain About,” Life, 18 August 1941; “27th Division Boys Laughing Over ‘Ohio Society’ Reports,” Anniston Star (Anniston, AL), 7 August 1941; “‘Over the Hill in October’ Desertion Talk Was Empty,” St. Louis Post-Dispatch (St. Louis, MO), 19 November 1941.

With the exceptions of releases for age or dependency, men first had to complete the “normal term of federal service” before being released. For selectees, National Guardsmen (including those discharged and reenlisted in the AUS), men in the AUS regardless of component with which serving, Regular Army Reservists, and recalled retired Regular Army soldiers, the term was twelve months from “date of induction or date of reporting for active duty,” while for men in the Regular Army, it was the remainder of their normal, un-extended, enlistment. Priorities for release were as follows: “7(a). Dependency or hardship cases whenever they are established through normal procedure;” “7(b). Men enlisted for three years in the Regular Army and men enlisted for one year in the Army of the United States at expiration of term of enlistment;” “7(c). Selective Service and National Guard enlisted men who request release from active duty in writing, and who had attained the twenty-eighth birthday on or prior to July 1, 1941, and prior to their induction, in the order of length of active Federal service… Such men will not be required to complete their normal term of Federal service;” “7(d). Enlisted men (except Regular Army) who are married, who have completed their normal term of Federal service and who request release from active duty in writing, in order of length of extended Federal service;” “7(e). Enlisted men of all components who have completed their normal term of Federal service, in order of length of Federal service beyond the normal term.” Soon after the release of the list, paragraph 7(c) was amended to include men in the AUS serving with the National Guard. The following are some of the basic policy documents governing the release and transfer of enlisted men through the end of 1941 that affected Nebraska National Guardsmen. The sender and recipient lines of the letters have been omitted because of their length; letter, AG 324.71 (8-16-41) EA-A, 22 August 1941, sub: Release of Enlisted Men during the Remainder of the Calendar Year 1941; letter, AG 324.71 (8-28-41) EA-A, 29 August 1941, sub: Administrative Details Governing Release of Enlisted Men; letter, NGB 327.02 Gen 8, 3 September 1941, sub: Release of Enlisted Men during the Remainder of the Calendar Year 1941; letter, AG 324.71 x 326.22 x 220.8 x 220.33, 8 September 1941, sub: Extension of Enlistment Period and Transfer of Enlisted Men; letter, AG 324.71 (9-12-41) EA-A, 17 September 1941, sub: Selective Service Registrants over 28 Years of Age Who Volunteer for Induction; letter, AG 324.71 (10-28-41) x 326.22 x 220.8, 31 October 1941, sub: Administrative Details Governing Release of Enlisted Men; letter, NGB 327.02 Gen.-19, 22 November 1941, sub: Accounting for Released Personnel; letter, AG 324.71 (11-26-41) EA-A, 27 November 1941, sub: Release of Enlisted Men after January 1, 1942; letter, AG 324.71 x 326.22 x 220.8 x 220.33, 6 December 1941, sub: Release of Enlisted Men – Remainder of Calendar Year 1941, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B45, F276, HN.

The ancestor units of the 69th Infantry Regiment were first organized in 1849. The regiment was redesignated the 165th Infantry in 1917, and was assigned to the 42nd Division. After World War I, it was reconstituted in the National Guard as the 165th Infantry and assigned to the 44th Division. It was part of the 44th Division from 1921-1927 and the separate 93rd Infantry Brigade from 1927-1940 before being assigned to the 27th Division; Clay, U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 1, 438; “‘Short-Grassers’ Are Top Soldiers,” McCook Daily Gazette (McCook, NE), 4 August 1941.

Letter, Wint Smith to Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division (Thru C.O., 60th F.A. Brigade), 31 July 1941, sub: Organization of Provisional Anti-tank Battalion, 35th Infantry Division, Wint Smith Papers, RH MS 201, B3, F201:3.20, KSRIL.


Colby, National Guard’s active officers, were service school graduates; Williams, courses, only 5,964 had graduated from service schools at Camp Robinson,” “Flesner Now in Air Corps,” Browning enlisting in the Regular Army for three years; University, 2002), 354; E. Weaver Extension of Circular War II File, 1939 Robinson News Digest Courier (Columbus, NE), 15 September 1941 RG3558.AM, SG5, S2, B1, F5, HN; “Troops ‘Destroy’ Railroad Line by Fast Action in Games,” St. Louis Post-Dispatch (St. Louis, MO), 28 August 1941. “35th ‘Sons’ to Arkansas,” Kansas City Star (Kansas City, MO), 29 August 1941. Cooling, “The Arkansas Maneuvers, 1941,” 114-117. Bulletin No. 144, Headquarters Second Army Forward Echelon, G-2 Press Section, Prescott, Arkansas, RG3558.AM, SG5, S1, B1, F5, HN; “Do Chiggers Bite You? Here’s Two Answers to Problem,” Fremont Tribune (Fremont, NE), 3 September 1941. Gabel, The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941, 65-68. Gabel, The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941, 79-84. Gabel, The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941, 84. Gabel, The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941, 87. Ibid. Letter, Cortlandt Parker to Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division, 21 September 1941, sub: Services of the 134th Infantry Regiment with the 5th Infantry Division, RG3558.AM, SG13, S2, B9, F2, HN. The rescuers were Sergeants Joseph A. Pool and Edward H. Schlicker, Corporal Lyle C. Foster, and Privates Clayborne Rhodd, John C. Schuetz, Donald H. Iliff, and Antonle L. Schawang, of Company B, and Private Robert D. Manifold of Company D, while the men saved were Privates Pearl Allen and Troy Hicks of Company D, 11th Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division; “Nebraska Soldiers Cited for Bravery,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 1 October 1941. Gabel, The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941, 96-97. Gabel, The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941, 97. “Commander Cites Gering Officer in a Special Mention,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 24 October 1941. Ben Lear wrote that, “Once more I would like to express my appreciation for the outstanding efficiency shown…during the GHQ Maneuvers. Latest reports received by me of the regiment’s work are most complimentary. Splendid spirit and soldierly conduct. Congratulations;” “Quartermasters Lauded by Second Army Chief,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 23 (17 October 1941), 5, RH Ser G212, KSRL. Bulletin No. 137, Headquarters, Second Army Forward Echelon, G-2 Press Section, Winnfield, La., RG3558.AM, SG5, S2, B1, F1, HN; “Nebraskans to Be Guests at Big Party,” Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 15 September 1941; “Big Mardi Gras to Mark Close of Army Maneuvers;” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 10 October 1941. “Exodus of Troops Takes 6 Special Trains, 25 Buses,” The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 24 (24 October 1941), 2, Thirty-fifth Division Association Records, World War II File, 1939-1966, B23, Folder, “The Covered Wagon,” TPLM; “Troops Please the Governor,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 12 October 1941. War Department Circular No. 191 (12 September 1941) rescinded Section III of War Department Circular No. 16 (27 January 1941); letter, AG 324.71 x 326.22 x 220.8 x 220.33, 8 September 1941, sub: Extension of Enlistment Period and Transfer of Enlisted Men, RG0018, SG2, S4, B45, F269, HN; Michael E. Weaver, “The Pennsylvania National Guard’s Transition from Peace to War” (PhD dissertation, Temple University, 2002), 354; Williams, Annual Report, 1942, 55. At the time, service in the Air Corps necessitated applying for discharge from the National Guard and enlisting in the Regular Army for three years; “Training Camp News of Gering Boys in South,” Gering Courier (Gering, NE), 6 June 1941; “It’s Back to Work,” Tryon Graphic (Tryon, NE), 12 June 1941; “New Browning Rifles, Steel Fences, Floodlights at Camp,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 19 June 1941; “Flesner Now in Air Corps,” Battle Creek Enterprise (Battle Creek, NE), 19 June 1941; “Promotions Made at Camp Robinson,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 7 July 1941. Although the majority of National Guard officers during the interwar period had pursued extension courses, only 5,964 had graduated from service schools. In July 1941, 3,746, or about twenty percent of the National Guard’s active officers, were service school graduates; Williams, Annual Report, 1941, 6-10; Colby, The National Guard of the United States: A Half Century of Progress, IX, 10-12. Weaver, Guard Wars, 119-120.

Jacobs, “Tensions Between the Army National Guard and the Regular Army,” 12.


Brigadier General Lewis M. Means of the 70th Infantry Brigade acted as division commander until Simpson arrived. Means had also been the adjutant general of Missouri since 1937, but resigned the position in November 1941 to focus on commanding his brigade; “Gen. Simpson to Command the 35th,” *Emporia Gazette* (Emporia, KS), 6 October 1941; “Donnell Makes Gen. Gaylord State Adjutant,” *St. Louis Star and Times* (St. Louis, MO), 11 December 1941.

Ralph E. Truman asked that his retirement be made effective 15 January 1942, but after U.S. entry into World War II, he withdrew his resignation. He was placed in an inactive status pending further assignment. In February 1942, To one fellow officer, Truman wrote that “General Marshall indicated he would call me back to duty at a later date, to be perfectly frank with you I do not care for any further service in the Army as there was only one organization I could ever have any interest in...that was the 35th,” and to another, he wrote, “I was told I would be recalled to active duty, but am frank to say I do not care to have any more of it as I do not care to sit a desk.” Further assignment never came, and Truman retired for age in May 1944; telegram, Ralph E. Truman to the Secretary of War, 10 October 1941; Special Orders No. 235, Headquarters Second Army, 11 October 1941; letter, C.P. Stearns to Ralph E. Truman, 13 October 1941; letter, Ralph E. Truman to George C. Marshall, 20 October 1941; letter, AG 201 Truman, Ralph E. (F), Hugh G. Culton to Ralph E. Truman, 21 October 1941, sub: Resignation; letter, AG 201 Truman, Ralph E. (10-22-41) OD-A, E.S. Adams to Ralph E. Truman, 22 October 1941, sub: Orders; letter, Ralph E. Truman to George C. Marshall, 17 December 1941; letter, George C. Marshall to Ralph E. Truman, 19 December 1941; letter, AG 201 Truman, Ralph E. (10-22-41) OG, E.S. Adams to Ralph E. Truman, 22 December 1941, sub: Relief from Active Duty; letter, AG 201 Truman, Ralph E. (10-22-41) OG, E.S. Adams to Ralph E. Truman, 22 December 1941, sub: Resignation; letter, AG 201 Truman, Ralph E. (10-22-41) OG, L.E. Ostrander to the Chief, National Guard Bureau, 24 December 1941, sub: Status; all in Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Chronological File, B3, Folder “Correspondence, 1941, July-December,” TPLM; letter, Ralph E. Truman to Harrie S. Mueller, 2 February 1942; letter, Ralph E. Truman to Roy W. Riegle, 27 April 1942, both in Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Chronological File, B3, Folder “Correspondence, 1942,” TPLM; Special Orders No. 40, Adjutant General, Missouri, 12 May 1944, Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Chronological File, B4, Folder “Correspondence, 1944,” TPLM; “Gen. Truman Would Serve,” *Kansas City Times* (Kansas City, MO), 8 December 1941.

“Clark Declares Gen. Lear Made Truman ‘Goat,’” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (St. Louis, MO), 16 October 1941.

United States, National Guard Bureau, *Induction of the National Guard, 9*, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F329, HN.

“Col. Ramee Is Relieved,” *Kansas City Times* (Kansas City, MO), 24 October 1941.

“35th Men Speed to Tornado Zone and Aid Injured,” *The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest* 1, No. 25 (31 October 1941), 12, RH Ser G212, KSRL; “Wind Kills 5 in Arkansas,” *Morning World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 27 October 1941.

Undated lists compiled in late 1941 showing men of the 134th Infantry Regiment who could speak, read, or write selected foreign languages, RG3558.AM, SG11, SG2, B4, F1, HN; “New Selectees Are Taking Key Positions in Training,” *The Covered Wagon of the 35th Division—Camp Robinson News Digest* 1, No. 24 (24 October 1941), 2, Thirty-fifth Division Association Records, World War II File, 1939-1966, B23,
A more severe problem of misassignment and retraining occurred in the 28th Division, which received essentially its entire selectee quota from Infantry and Field Artillery RTCs; “Medical Units Get Training,” Pittsburgh Press (Pittsburgh, PA), 14 July 1941; “Rain Soaks the 35th,” Kansas City Times (Kansas City, MO), 25 September 1941.

Thirty-three year old Private Theodore Ross, a National Guardman of the Headquarters Company, 70th Infantry Brigade, from Jefferson City, Missouri, released because of age, had also arranged for immediate reemployment; “Out of the 35th Ranks,” Kansas City Star (Kansas City, MO), 16 October 1941.

Men who were in the military when the registration provision of the Selective Training and Service Act became effective were required to register when discharged if they still met the requirements. There were several cases of men discharged who had not served the amount of time exempting them from further service in peacetime under the act, registered, and were shortly drafted. The War Department clarified that “former enlisted men of any component of the Army of the United States…who have had at least 11 months’ continuous active federal service, and who have been honorably discharged” could enlist in the state detachments of their states or in the ERC to avoid being drafted. The sender and recipient lines of the following letters have been omitted because of their length; letter, AG 324.71 (8-28-41) EA-A, 29 August 1941, sub: Administrative Details Governing Release of Enlisted Men; letter, AG 324.71 (10-28-41) x 326.22 x 220.8, 31 October 1941, sub: Administrative Details Governing Release of Enlisted Men; letter, NGB 327.02 Gen.-19, 22 November 1941, sub: Accounting For Released Personnel, all in RG0018, SG2, S4, B45, F276, HN; Williams, Annual Report, 1942, 44-48.

“Buck Privates Look Forward to Promotion,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 27 October 1941.

States that permitted enlistments or reenlistments in National Guard units in federal service upon the date of issue of the policy were Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming; letter, AG 341 (9-29-41), ER-A, E.N. Gilbert to the Commanding General, First Corps Area, 24 November 1941, sub: Preservation of the Identity of National Guard Units While in Federal Service, RG0018, SG2, S4, B50, F329, HN.

United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1943, 816; “Miltonberger Given Promotion to Full Colonel’s Rank,” McCook Daily Gazette (McCook, NE), 13 November 1941.

“Nebraskans Chosen to Parade,” North Platte Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 30 October 1941.

Letter, Ben Lear to Butler B. Miltonberger, 13 November 1941, sub: Commendation, RG3558.AM, SG13, S2, B9, F2, HN.

“Allied Mans Anti-tank Unit,” Camp Robinson News Digest 1, No. 28 (21 November 1941), 6, KSRL.

United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1939, 1,325, 1,351; “Col. Bartholomew Is New Medical Advisor to State Draft Board,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 24 November 1941.

Hans Schaerrer had been on the state staff of the Missouri National Guard, while Lee R. Pierce had been on the staff of the 102nd Medical Regiment, 27th Division, New York National Guard; Pictorial History, Twenty-Seventh Division, United States Army, Fort McClellan, 1940-1941 (Atlanta: Army-Navy Publishers, 1941), 360; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1939, 701; “Lt. Heffelfinger to Take Special Course,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 30 November 1941; “A New 35th Medical Chief,” Kansas City Times (Kansas City, MO), 19 December 1941.

Williams, Annual Report, 1942, Appendix B.

“Nebraska Troops Will Be Trained for ‘Actual War,’” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 3 December 1941; “35th Division Expects to Be in Fighting Trim by Spring; Best Shots in Army Now,” St. Louis Post-Dispatch (St. Louis, MO), 3 December 1941.
Gerald H. Curtice was from Michigan; Erling D. Sorenson, and Evert V. Sahlstrom were draftees assigned to the Nebraska National Guard in

B. Barber, George H. Hegge, William J. Hoffman, Emerson C. Jones, Orville J. Luebe, Bud E. Reynolds, Erling D. Sorenson, and Evert V. Sahlstrom were "key men essential to national defense" were deferred, as were men released because of dependency declarations of war on the United States. In June 1942, the United States declared war on Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania after they officially joined the Axis powers and declared war on the United States; 


Field Order No. 1, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Little Rock, Arkansas, 14 December 1941, RG3558.AM, SG2, S4, B1, F3, HN.


Endnotes for Chapter 4

Enlisted men who were “necessary to the maintenance of the national health, safety, or interest” or who were “key men essential to national defense” were deferred, as were men released because of dependency and for whom such dependency still existed and was of a “critical nature.” Men with at least three months of active duty in the two years preceding their date of recall were “assigned to the branch of prior service and, where practicable, to their former unit or installation, if it [was] within the continental United States,” and were “to be absorbed as vacancies occur.” Men with less than three months of service were assigned to replacement training centers as part of corps area quotas; telegram, Emory S. Adams to the Commanding General, Seventh Corps Area, 16 December 1941; letter, AG 220.31 ERC (12-18-41) EA-A, E.S. Adams to Commanding Generals, all Corps Areas, Departments, 23 December 1941, sub: Recall of Enlisted Men of All Components Including National Guard; letter, Charles W. Clegg to Each Member Enlisted Reserve Corps, Regular Army Reserve, and National Guard of the United States, 27 December 1941, sub: Recall to Active Duty, both in RG0018, SG2, S4, B45, F268, HN.

Diary entry of 2 February 1942, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Under Public Law No. 360, 77th Congress, 20 December 1941, the Selective Training and Service Act was amended to require men aged eighteen to sixty-four to register with their local draft boards, and make men aged twenty to forty-four liable for military service. Under Public Law No. 772, 77th Congress, 13 November 1942, the Selective Training and Service Act was amended to make registrants aged eighteen to twenty liable for military service. On 5 December 1942, Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an executive order prohibiting the voluntary enlistment outside the bounds of the Selective Service System of men aged eighteen to thirty-seven; Pub. L. No. 77-338, 55 Stat. 799, 13 December 1941; Pub. L. No. 77-360, 55 Stat. 844, 20 December 1941; Pub. L. No. 77-772, 56 Stat. 1018, 13 November 1942; Franklin D. Roosevelt, Executive Order No. 9279, Providing for the Most Effective Mobilization and Utilization of the National Manpower and Transferring the Selective Service System to the War Manpower Commission, 5 December 1942 (7 Fed Reg. 10177, 8 December 1942).
Luebe, Bud E. Reynolds, Evert V. Sahlstrom, Donald C. Sherrets, Erling D. Sorensen, and Merle C. Whitney, 15 January 1942, sub: Commendation; letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to the Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division, 27 January 1942, sub: Commendations of Former Members, This Regiment, all in RG3558.AM, SG13, S2, B9, F3, HN; Initial Roster, Antitank Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN; Initial Roster, Company K, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN; “Will Induct Sixteen Men February 13,” Albion News (Albion, NE), 6 February 1941; “Men to Be Inducted into Selective Service,” South Sioux City Mail (South Sioux City, NE), 7 February 1941; “One ‘AWOL’ as Bus Leaves with Trainees for Induction Point,” Hartington Herald (Hartington, NE), 13 February 1941; “Twenty-Three Burt County Trainees Are All Accepted into Military Service,” Burt County Plaindealer (Tecumseh, NE), 20 February 1941; “19 Boys Leave for Army Camp,” Pierce County Call (Pierce, NE), 20 February 1941; “Draft Board No. 4 List Selectees,” Lansing State Journal (Lansing, MI), 20 June 1941.

903 Williams, Annual Report, 1942, 158-159; Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 159.

904 Letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 1, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

905 Letter, D. Hodson Lewis to Butler B. Miltonberger, 18 February 1942, RG3558.AM, SG13, S1, B9, F1, HN.

906 The former Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

907 The Headquarters Company became the Headquarters Company, less the Military Police Platoon, while the 35th Military Police Company became the Military Police Platoon, Headquarters and Military Police Company; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 1, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

908 The organization of the 35th Signal Company was unchanged aside from minor details; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

909 The former Headquarters Company, 69th Infantry Brigade; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

910 The former Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 60th Field Artillery Brigade; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

911 The former 2nd Battalion and Medical Detachment, 127th Field Artillery; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

912 The former 1st Battalion and Medical Detachment, 130th Field Artillery; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

913 The former 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

914 The former 1st Battalion and Medical Detachment, 161st Field Artillery; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

915 The former Headquarters, Headquarters and Service Company, Medical Detachment, and 1st Battalion, 110th Engineers; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

916 General Orders No. 20, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, 4 March 1942, Joe Nickell Papers, Manuscript Collection 98, B2, F6, KSHS; Ervin F. Stephan diary, entry of 1 March 1942, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.

917 Bertram I. Lawrence, The Story of the 138th Infantry Regiment—St. Louis’ Own, World War II (Fayette: Independently published, 1975), 8-16.
Letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Company A, 110th Quartermaster Regiment became Company A, less Second Platoon, 110th Quartermaster Battalion, while Company C, 110th Quartermaster Regiment became the Second Platoon, Company A; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 3, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

Letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 3, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.

The 136th Quartermaster Company earned battle honors for the Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe campaigns, while the 197th Engineer Company earned battle honors for the Normandy and Northern France campaigns. Other units of the 35th Infantry Division that were rendered surplus by its triangularization, included the 110th Ordnance Company, the 138th Infantry, the Headquarters Battery, Band, and 1st Battalion, 127th Field Artillery, the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Band, and 2nd Battalion, 161st Field Artillery, and the Band and 2nd Battalion, 110th Engineers; letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 2, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN; United States, Department of the Army, Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-1, Unit Participation and Campaign Credit Roster (Washington, D.C.: Headquarters, Department of the Army, 1961), 181, 211.

In period reports, the Clearing Company was often referred to as “Company D.”

Letter, AG 320.2 MR-M-C (1-31-42), Secretary of War to the Commanding General, Fourth Army, 3 February 1942, sub: Reorganization of 35th Infantry Division, 3, RG0018, SG2, S4, B48, F306, HN.


“Many Nebraskans with 110th Medical Battalion,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 15 October 1944.


Narrative History of Task Force 6814 and Americal Division, Jan. 23, 1942 to June 30, 1943, n.p. (there are no page numbers in this document); Cooper, Citizens as Soldiers, 275-277.

Cooper, Citizens as Soldiers, 280-283.

Historian Jerry Cooper estimated that about fifty men from the 164th Infantry volunteered for the special unit. Nebraskans from the 134th Infantry who volunteered included Sergeant Carl P. Henry and Privates First Class Fawn F. Friday and Clarence C. Salts, who had been inducted into federal service with

Field Order No. 8, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, Office of the S3, Presidio of Monterey, California, 20 April 1942, RG3558.AM, SG2, S4, B1, F3, HN; Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, *Journal of Master Sergeant Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer*, 8, ed. Richard F. Brodfuehrer, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.


Log entry for 8 June 1942, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


Duty NCOs assisted unit commanders by supervising tasks and field duties, instructing enlisted men in basic subjects, guiding men during drill, and had to possess the qualities of leadership and the ability to instruct others; United States, War Department, *Dictionary of U.S. Army Terms*, 249.

Log entry for 8 June 1942, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Log entry for 12 June 1942, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


Frank Dunkley Statement of Service, Colonel Frank Dunkley Military Records Collection, S1, F3, KSHS.

Special Orders No. 158, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, Ojai Valley Country Club, Ojai, California, 25 July 1942; Special Orders No. 159, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, Ojai Valley Country Club, Ojai, California, 26 July 1942; Special Orders No. 165, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, Ojai Valley Country Club, Ojai, California, 1 August 1942; Special Orders No. 166, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, Ojai Valley Country Club, Ojai, California, 2 August 1942; all in RG3558.AM, SG11, S4, B4, F2, HN; “History of the Second Battalion 134th Infantry Later Designated Second Battalion 197th Infantry from July 3, 1942 (Mines Field, Los Angeles) to the Completion of 20 Months Overseas Service in the Aleutian Islands,” 1, Thirty-Fifth Division Association Records, World War II File, B23, Folder, “Stewart, Clarence J.,” TPLM.


Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II (Atlanta: Albert Love Enterprises, 1946), n.p. (there are no page numbers in this book).

Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, Journal of Master Sergeant Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, 9th ed. Richard F. Brodfuehrer, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.

There were actually two units designated “320th Infantry Regiment,” that were later consolidated. The first was a National Army (draftee) unit that had served in the 80th Division during World War I. It was reconstituted in the Organized Reserve in 1921, assigned to the 80th Division, and initiated (activated) in 1921. It was relieved from the 80th Division on 12 February 1942. The second 320th Infantry Regiment was constituted in the AUS on 19 December 1942 and was activated on 26 January 1943. On 2 April 1943, the first 320th was withdrawn from the Organized Reserve and was consolidated with the second 320th. Under U.S. Army Center of Military History rules, the second 320th Infantry Regiment inherited the lineage and honors of the first; “A Brief History of the 110th Engineers,” Cabinet 13, Drawer B13, Folder “Historical Data Cards/MO Natl Gd.,” Museum of Missouri Military History, Jefferson City, Missouri (hereafter MMMH); “Historical Sketch, 140th Infantry,” Cabinet 13, Drawer C13, Folder “140th Inf 1945 Historical Sketch,” MMMH; History of the 320th Infantry (Hameln, Germany: C.W. Niemeyer, 1945), 3; “Department of the Army Lineage and Honors, 320th Regiment,” U.S. Army Center of Military History, accessed 16 June 2023, https://history.army.mil/html/forerestr/lineages/branches/regt/320rgt.htm.


Diary entry of 5 February 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Letter, AG 370.5 (11-43) OB-S-GN-M, 13 January 1943 (Classified); AG 370.5 (11-43) OB-S-GN-M, 27 November 1942, both in Frank Dunkley, 18 December 1942, both in Frank Dunkley Collection, NENGM.

Log entry for 25 December 1942, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Regiment Combat History of World War II, 22.

The 7th Motorized Division had lost its “motorized” title, converting back to a normal infantry division; letter, AG 370.5 (11-43) OB-S-GN-M, 13 January 1943 (Classified); AG 370.5 (11-43) OB-S-GN-M, 13 January 1943, Joe Nickell Papers, Manuscript Collection 98, B2, F6, KSHS; General Orders No. 6, Headquarters, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, 12 January 1943, Joe Nickell Papers, Manuscript Collection 98, B2, F5, KSHS; General Orders No. 6, Headquarters, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, 12 January 1943, Joe Nickell Papers, Manuscript Collection 98, B2, F5, KSHS; Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II (Atlanta: Albert Love Enterprises, 1946), n.p. (there are no page numbers in this book).

Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, Journal of Master Sergeant Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, 9th ed. Richard F. Brodfuehrer, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.
A colonel's rank insignia is an eagle with a shield superimposed on its chest, holding an olive branch and arrows in its talons. This is opposed to a lieutenant colonel’s insignia, which is silver oak leaves.
ASTP subjects included dentalistry, chemical, civil, communication, marine, mechanical, power, or sanitary engineering, foreign languages and area studies, medicine, or veterinary medicine. To be eligible, men had to have scored at least 115 on the Army General Classification Test and completed basic training. If under twenty-two, they had to be high school graduates, admitted to college, or have completed more than one semester or quarter but less than two years of college. Men with an AGCT score of 115-119 had to have at least two years of high school mathematics including one year of algebra, those with a score of 120-124 at least one and a half years of mathematics with a year of algebra, and those with a score of 125 or above at least one year of algebra. Men with two to three years of college had to have “one year of mathematics or…physics, or…[speak] fluently or fairly well at least one modern foreign language.” Men with three or more years of college or who had graduated had to have “one year of physics [or] mathematics or a major in physics…chemistry or…engineering, or…[speak] fluently or fairly well at least one modern foreign language.” Men over twenty-two were eligible for the advanced curriculum only. They had to have completed at least one year of college. If they had at least one but less than three years, their work had to have included one year of physics or mathematics, a major in physics, mathematics, or engineering, or they had to “[speak] fluently or fairly well at least one modern foreign language.” If they had more than three years or had graduated, they had to have majored in mathematics, physics, chemistry, or engineering, or “[speak] fluently or fairly well at least one modern foreign language;” John R. Craf, “ASTP,” Journal of Higher Education 14, No. 8 (November 1943), 401; Louis E. Keefer, Scholars in Foxholes: The Story of the Army Specialized Training Program in World War II (Jefferson: McFarland and Company, 1988), 44-48.


Craf, “ASTP,” 400-402.

A “typical” week of ASTP instruction involved “5 hours of military instruction, 6 hours of physical instruction, 24 hours of academic instruction, and 24 hours of supervised instruction.” Soldiers were not permitted to participate in college athletics; Craf, “ASTP,” 401.

Log entry for 28 April 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

One ASTP veteran remembered his commander assembling the noncommissioned officers of his unit and saying “I’ve got too many [expletive deleted] corporals and sergeants in this outfit. Who wants to go to ASTP? Those that don’t go will be taking a hell of a chance at being busted. Those that go to the advanced phase will take their rank with them;” Keefer, Scholars in Foxholes, 55.

Log entry for 29 June 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Log entry for 30 June 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Log entry for 16 July 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM; Craf, “ASTP,” 402.

Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 161, 182.

The division band had one officer, two warrant officers, and fifty-two men, versus one warrant officer and twenty-eight men in the regimental band.

“134th Infantry Loses Complete Regimental Band,” Camp Rucker Reporter (Camp Rucker, AL), 30 July 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment; Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM; log entry for 2 July 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM; log entry for 30 July 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM; “Two Famous Infantry Band Unite to Form 65th Outfit,” Hattiesburg American (Hattiesburg, MS), 8 March 1944.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Regiment Combat History of World War II, 21; log entry for 14 June 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Wilson, Maneuver and Firepower, 182.


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New units were to be formed using men from reception centers, augmented by a certain proportion of basically-trained men. Certain units of less technical skill, however, could not expect to receive any men of the latter category. For example, in July 1942, new Signal Corps units could expect to receive 48.2 percent of their fillers from replacement training centers, new Quartermaster Corps units, 41.7 percent, and new Ordnance Department units, 36.1 percent. In contrast, Armored Force, Corps of Engineers, Infantry, and Corps of Military Police units would not receive any; Palmer, Wiley, and Keast, *Procurement and Training of Ground Combat Troops*, 175-176.


Log entries for 31 May and 25 August 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Log entry for 31 August 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


Log entries for 30 and 31 August 1943, 23 September 1943, and 8 October 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Diary and log entries for 15 June 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Ralph E. Truman, 5 August 1943, Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Alphabetical File, B3, Folder “M,” TPLM.


Log entries for 13 and 15 September 1943, and diary entry of 17 September 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


Log entry for 7 October 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


Letter, AG 370.5/86 (Inf) (R) (10-24-43) GNGCT, 24 October 1943; WD AGO Form 016, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM.


Letter, Paul W. Baade to Butler B. Miltonberger, 22 December 1943, RG3558.AM, SG13, S1, B9, F1, HN.

Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Guy N. Henninger, 31 January 1944, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F311, HN.

Log entry for the week of 22-28 November 1943, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

Letter AG 370.5/100 (Inf) (R) (12-30-43) GNGCT, 30 December 1943; WD AGO Form 016, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM; Daily Log and
Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, log entry for the period of 20-26 December 1943, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

1056 Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, *Journal of Master Sergeant Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer*, 10, ed. Richard F. Brodfuehrer, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.

1057 Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Guy N. Henninger, 31 January 1944, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F311, HN.

1058 Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, *Journal of Master Sergeant Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer*, 10, ed. Richard F. Brodfuehrer, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.

1059 Log entries for 26 January, 5 February, and 21, 29, and 31 March 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

1060 Log entries for 26-27 January, 2, 8, and 18 February, and 10 March 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

1061 Log entry for 26 January 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

1062 Tables of Basic Allowances are “tables showing the authorized basic allowances of equipment authorized for units and individuals;” log entry for 2 February 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM; United States, War Department, *Dictionary of U.S. Army Terms*, 276.

1063 Log entry of 3 February 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

1064 Log entries for 10 and 28 March 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


1066 Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Guy N. Henninger, 31 January 1944, RG0018, SG2, S4, B49, F311, HN.

1067 Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Ralph E. Truman, 31 January 1944, Ralph E. Truman Papers, Correspondence File, Alphabetical File, B3, Folder “M,” TPLM.

1068 “The Story of Company D,” *North Platte Telegraph* (North Platte, NE), 22 June 1944.


1071 Log entry for 17 February 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


1073 A covered march is “made under protection furnished by other forces or by natural cover;” United States, War Department, *Dictionary of U.S. Army Terms*, 78.

1074 Log entries for the period of 20 February-9 March 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

1075 Log entry for 28 March 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.

1076 Log entry for the period of 20 February-9 March 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.


1078 Letter, AG 370.5 (3-30-44) OB-S-E-M, 30 March 1944 (C), and letter, Headquarters, XIII Corps, Fort Du Pont, DE, 21 April 1944 (C); WD AGO Form 016, Headquarters, 134th Infantry Regiment, 134th Infantry Regiment Collection, NENGM.

1079 Log entry for 6 April 1944, Daily Log and Diary, 134th Infantry Regiment, Butler B. Miltonberger Collection, NENGM.
In January 1933, Frank E. Conner was transferred from Company I to the Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry, and appointed a master sergeant as the regimental sergeant major, but drilled with Company I until his discharge in February 1934. The same month, he reenlisted in Company I, and was reappointed company first sergeant; MB/NGB Form 100, Company I, 134th Infantry Regiment, May 1927, SG2, S4, B, F1927, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company I, 134th Infantry Regiment, January 1933, SG2, S4, B, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, January 1933, SG2, S4, B, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, February 1934, SG2, S4, B, F1934, HN; “Regimental Staff,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 29 December 1932; “Frank E. Conner Wounded in Action,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 3 August 1944; “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

Roster, Service Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, 11 May 1944, RG3558.AM, SG3, S11, B4, F2, HN.


Thurston J. Palmer served as an enlisted man in the Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry, from February 1924 to February 1934. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry, in June 1937, and a first lieutenant in June 1940; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, February 1934, SG2, S4, B5, F1934, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, June 1937, SG2, S4, B3, F1937, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, June 1940, SG2, S4, B3, F1940, HN.

Milton H. Maurer served as an enlisted man in the Service Company, 134th Infantry, from December 1931 to September 1935, June to November 1936, and July 1937 to December 1940; MB/NGB Form 100, Service Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1931, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1931, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Service Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1935, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1935, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Service Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, June 1936, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1936, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Service Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, November 1936, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1937, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Service Company, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1940, HN.

Alford C. Boatsman served as an enlisted man in Company C, 134th Infantry, from April 1928 to February 1929. In February 1929, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant, serving until April 1933 when he resigned his commission. In June, he rejoined Company C as an enlisted man, serving until
September 1933. In January 1934, he rejoined Company C and was commissioned as a first lieutenant. After being promoted in his civilian job, he moved to Omaha in February 1936 and filled a vacancy in the Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry caused by the January resignation of First Lieutenant John T. Trout, who moved to Utah. In June 1937, Boatsman moved back to Beatrice and was reassigned to Company C; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, April 1928, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1928, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, February 1929, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1929, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, April 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, June 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, January 1934, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, January 1936, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1936, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, February 1936, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1936, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, June 1937, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1937, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, June 1937, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1937, HN; “Receives Promotion,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 29 January 1936; “John T. Trouts to Live in Utah,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 9 February 1936; “Lieut. Bradley Is Named by Guard,” Omaha Sunday Bee-News (Omaha, NE), 13 June 1937.

Francis C. Mason served as an enlisted man in Company C, 134th Infantry, from May 1927 to July 1932, October 1932 to August 1937, and from September 1937 to December 1940; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, May 1927, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1927, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, July 1932, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1932, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, August 1937, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1937, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1937, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1937, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1940, HN.

Carlyle F. McDannel served as an enlisted man in Company G, 134th Infantry, from September 1932 to December 1935, and from March 1936 until December 1940, before being commissioned as a second lieutenant; MB/NGB Form 100, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1932, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1932, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1935, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1935, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, March 1936, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1936, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company G, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B3, F1932, 1935, 1936, 1940, HN.

United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1943, 1,270.
Battalion was quartered at Praa Sands, with the exception of Companies I, K and L which went to Lizard and the 2nd Battalion, minus Company H, went to nearby Hayle. The 3rd Battalion was quartered at Praa Sands, with the exception of Companies I, K and L which went to Lizard.

1106 Richard D. Melcher served as an enlisted man in Company L, 134th Infantry, from April 1933 to November 1938 and from March 1939 to December 1940. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in December 1940; MB/NGB Form 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, April 1933, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1933, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, November 1938, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1938, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, March 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1939, HN; MB/NGB Form 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1940, HN.

1107 MB/NGB Form 100, Company H, 134th Infantry Regiment, February 1938, SG2, S4, B2, F1938, HN.

1108 Initial Roster, Company G, 110th Medical Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

1109 Initial Roster, Headquarters and Service Company, 110th Medical Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN; Initial Roster, Company G, 110th Medical Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.


1111 “Osceola News,” Shelby Sun (Shelby, NE), 27 March 1941; “Shelby,” Polk County Democrat (Osceola, NE), 27 March 1941.

1112 Evans Z. Hornberger Diary, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM; “About People,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 23 March 1942; “74 U.N., Creighton Medical Students Pass State Exams,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 7 July 1942.


1114 “Forty Nebraskans in Ordnance Company,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 24 November 1944; “Former Quartermaster Unit Aided in Supply Miracle,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 25 November 1944.

1115 MB/NGB Form 100, Band, 110th Medical Regiment, June 1933, SG2, S4, B6, F1933, HN; “Dental Officers Are Reassigned,” Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 12 July 1941; “Lawrence D. Sites Director of Division Band,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 24 February 1942; “Band Director of 35th Heads Rear Guard,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 19 September 1944; “Mr. Music,” Table Rock Argus (Table Rock, NE), 21 September 1944.

1116 Other high-ranking National Guard officers in the 35th Infantry Division included the G-1, Lieutenant Colonel Donald M. Ashlock (Kansas), the G-2, Lieutenant Colonel John T. Hoyne (Kansas), and the adjutant general, Lieutenant Colonel Richard G. Chadwick (Massachusetts). Ashlock and Hoyne had been inducted into federal service with the 35th Division, while Chadwick had been inducted with the 26th Division; “Roster of Officers, 35th Division, January 18, 1941,” RG3558.AM, SG11, S1, B4, F1, HN; United States, National Guard Bureau, Official National Guard Register for 1939, 603; General Orders No. 6, Adjutant General, Nebraska, 30 March 1936, in Paul, Biennial Report, 1935-1936, 30-32; “Promote Officers Transport Corps in National Guard,” Holdrege Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 9 January 1933; “National Guards Win Promotions to Top Officers,” Holdrege Citizen (Holdrege, NE), 13 July 1934; “Nebraska Officers Are Promoted at Guard Camp,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 16 February 1941.

1117 An advance detachment consisting of fifty-four officers, one warrant officer, and sixty-nine men, under the command of the assistant division commander Brigadier General Edmund B. Sebree, sailed on 20 April aboard the RMS Queen Elizabeth; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 26; Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.

**Endnotes for Chapter 5**

1118 The 35th Infantry Division’s unit history of World War II states, “The 134th Infantry Regiment’s Headquarters and Headquarters Company and the Service Company were quartered at the Pendareves and Clowance Estates in Camborne; the Anti-Tank Company went to far Land’s End, the Cannon Company to the Tregullow Estate at Redruth. The 1st Battalion went to Penzance, reminiscent of Gilbert and Sullivan, and the 2nd Battalion, minus Company H, went to St. Ives. Company H went to nearby Hayle. The 3rd Battalion was quartered at Praa Sands, with the exception of Companies I, K and L which went to Lizard.
Point, Marazion and the Penrose Estate in Porthleven, as named. The 320th Infantry Regiment found quarters at the Topsham Barracks, near Exeter, with the exception of the 3rd Battalion and the Anti-Tank Company at Newton Abbott and the Cannon Company at Showgrounds Camp in Okehampton with the 216th Field Artillery Battalion. Company L went to Bovey Tracey and Company K went to Bishopsteignton. The 60th Engineer (C) Battalion had its Headquarters and Service Company at Wadebridge; Company A at Padstow, Company B at Trevone Bay and Company C at Harlyn Bay. The 110th Medical Battalion was quartered at Poor Law Institute in Bodmin, and Headquarters and Companies A and D were distributed between the Kendall Building, Fore Street and the Methodist Church, Pool Street, in Bodmin, while Company B made its quarters at Town Arms, Fore Street, also in Bodmin. The 161st Field Artillery Battalion was billeted at Perranporth, and the 127th Field Artillery Battalion stayed at beautiful Bake House. Division Headquarters was established at the old town of Tavistock. Here, too, went the Headquarters Company, Headquarters Special Troops, the MP Platoon and Band, and the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery of the Division Artillery. The 35th Quartermaster Company was at the Scarne Cross Camp at Launceston with the 35th Reconnaissance Troop. The 35th Signal Company went to Bere Alston, while Bodmin played host to the 735th Ordnance Company, the 137th Infantry Regiment (less the 1st and 2nd Battalions at Newquay), and the 219th Field Artillery Battalion; Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.


1120 “‘Doc’ Youngman Leaves,” Morning Chronicle (Manhattan, KS), 25 July 1928; “‘Doc’ Youngman to Omaha,” Morning Chronicle (Manhattan, KS), 28 December 1928.

1121 Lawrence W. Youngman’s dress uniform coat, field jacket, identification documents, and other artifacts are displayed at the Nebraska National Guard Museum.


1123 Letter, Simon B. Buckner, Jr., to Commanding Officer, 197th Infantry Regiment, Camp Chaffee, Arkansas. (THRU: Commanding Officer, Camp Chaffee, Ark.), 5 June 1944, sub: Letter of Appreciation, RG0018, SG2, S7, B79, F1, HN.

1124 “Youngman Sees London People Calm,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 7 June 1944.

1125 Letter, Clarence J. Stewart to Butler B. Miltonberger, 13 June 1944, RG3558.AM, SG13, S1, B9, F1, HN.

1126 Letter, Clarence J. Stewart to Butler B. Miltonberger, 13 June 1944, RG3558.AM, SG13, S1, B9, F1, HN; letter, Clarence J. Stewart to Guy N. Henninger, 23 June 1944; letter, Clarence J. Stewart to Guy N. Henninger, 26 June 1944, all in RG0018, SG2, S7, B79, F1, HN.

1127 General Orders No. 4, Headquarters, 174th Infantry Regiment, 26 June 1944, RG0018, SG2, S7, B79, F1, HN.

1128 “Homesick Yanks Pump Youngman,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 2 July 1944.

1129 “Thanks for Youngman,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 16 July 1944.


1131 “Unit Mostly Nebraskans,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 24 June 1944.


1134 “Nebraskans Look Ready,” Eisenhower,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 28 June 1944;

1135 Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 28; Huston, Biography of a Battalion, 9.

Observations of unmolested hedgerow country north of St. Lo were made by the author during a visit to the area in July 2022; Rubottom, *The Operations of the 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry*, 6-7.


Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 32.

*Order of Battle of the United States Army, World War II, European Theater of Operations, Divisions*, 149.


The seventy-nine National Guard infantry regiments included four assigned to each of the eighteen infantry divisions, and seven separate regiments. Of the seven separate regiments, the 201st Infantry (West Virginia) and the 298th Infantry (Territory of Hawaii) were without their respective 3rd Battalions, while the 297th Infantry (Alaska) only had its 4th Battalion, with no regimental headquarters or other units. The other seven National Guardsmen who had command of their regiments prior to U.S. entry into World War II and later took them into combat were Colonel Robert L. Stilwell (Indiana), 152nd Infantry Regiment, Colonel Edward J. Murray (California), 160th Infantry Regiment, Colonel Clarence J. Orndorff (Washington), 161st Infantry Regiment, Colonel James G. Conroy (New York), 165th Infantry Regiment, Colonel Curtis D. O’Sullivan (California), 184th Infantry Regiment, and Colonel John U. Calkins (California), 185th Infantry Regiment. Conroy was killed by a Japanese sniper during his regiment's landing on Makin Atoll in the Gilbert Islands on 21 November 1943; Clay, *U.S. Army Order of Battle, Volume 1*, 405-451; “Col. J. Gardner Conroy Is Killed in Action,” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (Brooklyn, NY), 24 November 1943.

Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 32.


Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 32.

Oliver H. Bruce, *The Operations of the 3rd Battalion, 134th Infantry, (35th Infantry Division) in the Attack on St. Lo, France, 15-18 July 1944 (Normandy Campaign) (Personal Experience of a Battalion S-1)* (Fort Benning: Staff Department, The Infantry School, 1950), 6-9.

Hartman, *Nebraska’s Militia*, 140.

Field Order No. 18, 134th Infantry Regiment, 14 July 1944, RG0018, B82, S7, B82, F11, HN.

The author observed St. Lo, the summit of Hill 122, and hedgerows similar to what would have been encountered in 1944 during a visit to the area in July 2022, in addition to consulting 1/50,000 and 1/100,000-scale maps of the St. Lo area, found in RG3558.AM, SG1, S2, Folio 9, Sheet 6F (1/100,000), HN, and RG3558.AM, SG1, S2, Folio 3, Sheet 6F/2 (1/50,000), HN.

Field Order No. 18, 134th infantry Regiment, 14 July 1944, RG0018, B82, S7, B82, F11, HN.


Tactical Interrogation Report No. 13, IPW Team 60, 15 July 1944; Consolidated Interrogation Report (1-17), IPW Team 60-B, 16 July 1944; Consolidated Interrogation Report (18-25), IPW Team 60-B, 16 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Reports No. 20 and 22, IPW Team 60, 16 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Report No. 23, IPW Team 60, 16 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Reports No. 27 and 28, IPW Team 60, 16 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Reports No. 30 and 31, IPW Team 60, 16 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Reports No. 32 and 33, IPW Team 60, 16 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Report No. 36, IPW Team 60-B, 17 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Report No. 38, 17 July 1944; Tactical
Interrogation Report No. 40, 17 July 1944; Tactical Interrogation Report No. 56, 18 July 1944, all in RG3558.AM, SG4, S2, B1, F1, HN.

1162 Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 37.

1163 Bruce, The Operations of the 3rd Battalion, 134th Infantry, 10-16.

1164 Battle Casualty Report, 134th Infantry Regiment, 17 July 1944, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F1, HN;

1165 Bruce, The Operations of the 3rd Battalion, 134th Infantry, 10-16; Rubottom, The Operations of the 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry, 25-26; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 35; “Frank E. Conner Wounded in Action,” Evening State Journal (Lincoln, NE), 3 August 1944;

1166 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1167 Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, Journal of Master Sergeant Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, 13, edited. Richard F. Brodfuehrer, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.


1169 Bruce, The Operations of the 3rd Battalion, 134th Infantry, 16-17; Rubottom, The Operations of the 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry, 26-27.

1170 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1171 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.


1173 Cross and Fowler, Finding St. Lo, ed. Ted Neill, 140.

1174 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1175 Leo L. Samson enlisted in Company L, 134th Infantry, in October 1939; MB/NGB Form 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1939, HN; Initial Roster, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

1176 Garth, St-Lo, edited by Charles H. Taylor, 114-115, 122-123.

1177 Garth, St-Lo, edited by Charles H. Taylor, 141.

1178 Garth, St-Lo, edited by Charles H. Taylor, 114-115, 122-123.

1179 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1180 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1181 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1182 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1183 “Wounded in 1918, Sergeant Hurt Again,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

1184 General Orders No. 66, War Department, 10 August 1945; Edward J. Geesen, Annual Report of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Fiscal Year Ending 30 June 1947 (Washington, D.C.: U.S.}
Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 149.


Robert E. Moore had been inducted into federal service as the S-3 of the 138th Infantry; “Roster of Officers, 35th Division, January 18, 1941,” RG3558.AM, SG11, S1, B4, F1, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 51, 55; “Capt. R.E. Moore Made Major in 138th Infantry,” *St. Louis Star and Times* (St. Louis, MO), 20 December 1940.


Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 154-156.

Hartman, *Nebraska’s Militia*, 144.


*Order of Battle of the United States Army, World War II, European Theater of Operations, Divisions*, 149.


The author observed Hill 314, the village of Mortain, and the surrounding countryside during a visit to the area in July 2022; Blumenson, *Breakout and Pursuit*, 462, 465-466, 469-470.


Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 58.
Donald R. Simmons enlisted in Company A, 134th Infantry, in January 1939; MB/NGB Form 100, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, January 1939; RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1939, HN; Initial Roster, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Eldon H. Bunn enlisted in Company A, 134th Infantry, in November 1940; MB/NGB Form 100, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, November 1940; RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1940, HN; Initial Roster, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Herbert B. Rawlings enlisted in Company A, 134th Infantry, in October 1939; MB/NGB Form 100, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, October 1939; RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1939, HN; Initial Roster, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Gerald A. Felthauser enlisted in Company A, 134th Infantry, in March 1938; MB/NGB Form 100, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, March 1938; RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1938, HN; Initial Roster, Company A, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Paul R. Pickering, from Union, Nebraska, was inducted into the Army in Omaha in February 1941 and assigned to Camp Robinson; “Thirty Men Go to Camp Soon,” Louisville Weekly Courier (Louisville, NE), 13 February 1941; “Company A Men Star on Range,” Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 23 February 1941.

Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.

Mark J. Reardon, Victory at Mortain: Stopping Hitler’s Panzer Counteroffensive (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2002), 266-267; Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.

Blumenson, Breakout and Pursuit, 488.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Regiment Combat History of World War II, 51.

A description of this encirclement action, involving American and other Allied forces, can be found in Blumenson, Breakout and Pursuit, 479-558.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 60.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 154-156.


Blumenson, Breakout and Pursuit, 564.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 64.


“Band Director of 35th Heads Rear Guard,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 19 September 1944.


Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 69.

The author explored the fort, which has since been turned into an outdoor obstacle course and opened to the public, during a visit to the area in July 2022; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 67-68.

Letter, William D. Brodbeck to Dan E. Craig, 1 August 1946, RG3558.AM, SG13, S3, B9, F1, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 68.


The author observed the bluff, west side of the bridge, canal, and bottomlands on the east side of the river during a visit to the area in July 2022; Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 71.

Chad Evely, ed., Edward Farris, In His Own Words: Farmer, Student, Hitchhiker, Soldier, Father, Politician, Lobbyist, Traveler, Kentuckian (Independently published, 2018), 204.

Evely, ed., Edward Farris, In His Own Words, 205.

Major Merle R. Carroll, then the 3rd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, reported to the regimental aid station and was diagnosed with "undulant fever, severe, cause unknown," and was dropped from assignment. He returned to duty on 27 August.


One enlisted man from the battalion headquarters company, two officers and eighty-one men from Company E, four officers and 109 men from Company F, forty men from Company G, and one officer and twenty-two men from Company H were initially listed as missing in action; Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entry at 0600, 11 September 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F3, HN; Evely, ed., Edward Farris, In His Own Words, 206-207.


Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 71.
Infantry Regiment, entry at 0030, 19 September 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F3,
1262

Peruvian Roster, Company A, 134

visit to the Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial at St. Avold, France, in July 1945; "161 FA Bn History 1941

October 1944, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F2,
1262

RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F3,
1262

Field Order No. 35, 134

RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1940, HN; Initial Roster, Company D, 134

Initial Roster, Company F, 110

Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B7, F1940, HN; Initial Roster, Company F, 110

Quartermaster Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F350, HN; "Maj. Paynter Helps Bag Four German Prisoners," Morning World

Herald (Omaha, NE), 7 October 1944. 1262

Observations from atop Hill 356 and of the surrounding terrain were made by the author during a trip to the area in July 2022.

Ralph F. Greeley enlisted in Company D, 134

July 2022; MB/NGB Form 100, Company D, 134

Infantry Regiment, December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1940, HN; Initial Roster, Company D, 134

Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN; Unit Journal, 134

Infantry Regiment, entry at 1000, 18 September 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F3, HN; Battle Casualty Reports, 134

Infantry Regiment, 28 September and 3

October 1944, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F2, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134

Infantry Combat History of World War II, 77, 78.


Thaine J. Hale attended Peru State Teachers College in Peru, Nebraska. He enlisted in Company A, 134

Infantry, in nearby Nebraska City, on 22 December 1940. The author visited Hale’s grave during a visit to the Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial at St. Avold, France, in July 2022; MB/NGB Form 100, Company A, 134

Infantry Regiment, December 1940; RG0018, SG2, S4, B5, F1940, HN; Initial Roster, Company A, 134

Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134

Infantry Combat History of World War II, 78; Peru State Teachers College, Peruvian (Peru: 1946), 7; “General Orders No. 42, Headquarters, 35th Infantry Division, 9 October 1944,” 134


Miltonberger and Huston, 134

Infantry Regiment, entry at 0030, 19 September 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F3, HN.
parents in September.

wives without children were eliminated as sources of dependency deferments

where the registrant was decreed

or persons of any age who

homes," parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandchildren, divorced wives, or persons under eighteen

with

December 1944;

Beatrice, NE), 17 August 1944;

Sgt. Harvey Langley Killed," Sun

Dead," Sgt. Harvey Langley, Ray E. Larimore, and John D. Liedtke. The ninth ma

Hawkins and Willard E. Legate, and Privates James D. Buchanan, Thomas R. Coates, Robert W. Fulton,

"'I Am Very, Very Proud of Him…,'" HN

Initial Roster, Company L, 134

Form 100, Company L, 134

Company C

No. 5, Headquarters, 35


Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entry at 1345, 19 September 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F3, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 1944.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 79-80, 150.


The 320th Infantry was initially held in XII Corps reserve; Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 244.

Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 244-255.


Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 249-250.

"Men Brave No-Man’s Land to Rescue Little Children," Daily Olympian (Olympia, WA), 19 October 1944.


"Men Brave No-Man’s Land to Rescue Little Children," Daily Olympian (Olympia, WA), 19 October 1944.


Louis A. Marino enlisted in Company L, 134th Infantry, in September 1939, but was transferred to Company C sometime after the Nebraska National Guard was inducted into federal service; MB/NGB Form 100, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1939, RG0018, SG2, S4, B8, F1939, HN; Initial Roster, Company L, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN; Battle Casualty Report, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 July 1944, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F1, HN; “I Am Very, Very Proud of Him…,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 August 1944.

The eight men, with ranks when inducted into federal service, were Privates First Class Floyd W. Hawkins and Willard E. Legate, and Privates James D. Buchanan, Thomas R. Coates, Robert W. Fulton, Harvey B. Langley, Ray E. Larimore, and John D. Liedtke. The ninth man, Dean Brown, served in the U.S. Navy; Initial Roster, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN; Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 23 July 1944.

Willard E. Legate had been transferred from the 134th Infantry to the 83rd Infantry Division in 1943; “S-Sgt. Harvey Langley Killed,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 31 July 1944; “Robert Fulton Listed as Dead,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 8 August 1944; “List Hawkins, Nydegger Dead,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 11 August 1944; “S-Sgt. Thomas Coates Killed in French Action,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 17 August 1944; “Ray Larimore Dies in Action,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 4 December 1944; “2 Beatricians Are Casualties,” Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 1 January 1945.

During the summer of 1942, draft boards were permitted to reclassify and make liable for service men with wives, wives or children “with whom they [did] NOT maintain a bona fide family relationship in their homes,” parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandchildren, divorced wives, or persons under eighteen or persons of any age who were handicapped and whom the registrant was supporting in good faith, if no other registrants could be found. A family relationship in the home was made a paramount criteria for a deferment if the dependent was a wife or child. In January 1943, the definition of “child” was changed to exclude unborn children and include stepchildren living in the registrant’s household, as well as illegitimate children where the registrant was decreed to be the father. In March 1943, “collateral dependents” and wives without children were eliminated as sources of dependency deferments, as were non-biological parents in September. The Selective Service System established 1 October 1943 as the date on which
fathers having children conceived prior to 8 December 1941 could begin to be inducted if no other registrants could be found. The definitions of “father” and “nonfather” and certain regulations relating to their induction on a statewide and nationwide basis were codified into law by amendments to the Selective Training and Service Act in December 1943; United States, Selective Service System, Special Monograph No. 8, 39-42, 48, 50, 53-57; Pub. L. No. 78-197, 57 Stat. 596, 5 December 1943.

In September 2001, a plaque honoring Richard H. Evans was placed on the church at Armaucourt, France, and was viewed by the author during a visit to the village in July 2022; Battle Casualty Report, 134th Infantry Regiment, 7 October 1944, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F2, HN; “Richard Harlan Evans,” 134th Infantry Regiment Website, accessed 8 June 2023, http://www.coulthart.com/134/evans.htm.


Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 252-254.

Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 254-255.

“Casualties Sustained by 134th Inf. Regt.,” RG3558.AM, SG8, S5, B2, F3, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 154-156.

The communities the men represented, with their populations in 1940, were Allen (404), Atkinson (1,350), Auburn (3,639), Big Springs (569), Columbus (7,632), Council Bluffs, Iowa (41,439), Crete (3,038), Elgin (853), Elk Creek (199), Exeter (841), Fairbury (6,304), Harrison (500), Hastings (15,145), Henry (176), Howells (861), Kearney (9,643), La Platte (unincorporated community), Liberty (340), Lincoln (81,984), Mitchell (2,181), Morrill (877), Neligh (1,796), Norfolk (10,490), North Platte (12,429), Omaha (223,844), Pawnee City (1,647), Schuyler (2,808), Shelby (627), Silver Creek (421), St. Edward (893), Weeping Water (1,139), and Wisner (1,256); United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, Population, Volume I, 647; “Many Nebraskans with 110th Medical Battalion,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 15 October 1944; “Medics Nearer to Front than Report Indicated; ‘Injustice’ Protested,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 21 November 1944.


Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Regiment Combat History of World War II, 88.


“Statewide Prohibition Drys’ Aim,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 2 February 1944.

“Allied Dry Leader to File Repealing Position by July 6,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 1 July 1944; “50,393 Sign State Dry Law Petition,” Lincoln Star (Lincoln, NE), 7 July 1944.

The communities the men represented, with their populations in 1940, were Bassett (931), Battle Creek (702), Bennington (326), Burwell (1,412), Cairo (411), Crofton (600), Duff (unincorporated community), Duncan (241), Elsie (223), Fairmont (810), Falls City (6,146), Genoa (1,231), Hartington (1,688), Hastings (15,145), Hay Springs (819), Hebron (1,909), Kilgore (173), Lincoln (81,984), Norfolk (10,490), Omaha (223,844), Rose (unincorporated community), Rushville (1,125), and Seward (2,826); United States, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, Population, Volume I, 647; “Hard to Vote in France,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 20 August 1944.

“Dry Petition Sent by State Soldiers,” Sunday Journal and Star (Lincoln, NE), 1 October 1944; Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 1 October 1944.

For example, Columbus Daily Telegram (Columbus, NE), 2 October 1944; Grand Island Daily Independent (Grand Island, NE), 2 October 1944; Kearney Daily Hub (Kearney, NE), 2 October 1944; Nebraska Daily News-Press (Nebraska City, NE), 2 October 1944; North Platte Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 2 October 1944; Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, NE), 3 October 1944; Fremont Tribune (Fremont, NE), 3 October 1944; Hastings Daily Tribune (Hastings, NE), 3 October 1944; McCook Daily Gazette (McCook, NE), 3 October 1944; Norfolk Daily News (Norfolk, NE), 3 October 1944; York Daily News-Times (York, NE), 3 October 1944; Scottshluff Daily Star-Herald (Scottsbluff, NE), 4 October 1944; Seward Independent (Seward, NE), 4 October 1944; Chadron Record (Chadron, NE), 5 October 1944; Crete News
A board of officers convened in the European Theater in 1945 found that “The unanimous opinion of all combat leaders is that the military police platoon is wholly inadequate...and should be increased to company size. Surely needed riflemen were used in every division to augment this platoon during combat. A company...has therefore been recommended.” It was also recommended that since “every infantry regiment in the European Theater organized a military police platoon,” a military police platoon should be made an organic element of the headquarters companies of infantry regiments; Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entry at 0810, 20 November 1944, and 1015, 23 November 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F5, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Regiment Combat History of World War II, 93; A.F. Kibler, H.N. Hartness, and S.G. Conley, et al., The General Board, United States Forces, European Theater: Organization, Equipment, and Tactical Employment of the Infantry Division (n.p.: Headquarters, Fifteenth U.S. Army, 1945), 3, 5.


Colin, The Lorraine Campaign, 296-303.

Colin, The Lorraine Campaign, 345.

Thomas F. Whayne and Michael E. DeBakey, Medical Department, United States Army in World War II, Cold Injury, Ground Type (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Surgeon General, Department of the Army, 1958), 448.

Colin, The Lorraine Campaign, 348.

Initial Roster, Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Initial Roster, Headquarters Detachment, 1st Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Initial Roster, Company B, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Initial Roster, Company D, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Initial Roster, Company K, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 149.


Harlan B. Heffelfinger was originally the 1st Battalion S-3, but had been transferred to the 3rd Battalion during the reorganization of the regiment after “Bloody Sunday,” Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Regiment Combat History of World War II, 51.

Memorandum, Frederick C. Roecker, Jr., to Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division, 24 May 1945, sub: Capture of Morhange, France, 8 November 1944 Offensive Relative to Artillery Support Lessening Casualties, RG3558.AM, SG13, S3, F1, B9, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Regiment Combat History of World War II, 93.

131 The author visited Thomas E. Higley’s grave during a visit to the Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial at St. Avold, France, in July 2022; Battle Casualty Report, 134th Infantry Regiment, 19 November 1944, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F3, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 154-156; “Lieut. Higley Dies in Action,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 14 December 1944.

132 Cole, The Lorraine Campaign, 479.

133 Letter, George W. Read, Jr., to Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division, U.S. Army, 30 November 1944, sub: Commendation, RG3558.AM, SG13, S2, B9, F5, HN.

134 “Forty Nebraskans in Ordnance Company,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 24 November 1944; “Best Truck Drivers in Army’ Claim 35th QM Officers; Features Dawson Co. Boys,” Dawson County Herald (Lexington, NE), 30 November 1944.

135 “Former Quartermaster Unit Aided in Supply Miracle,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 25 November 1944.


137 “Youngman Home from West Front,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 24 December 1944; Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 25 January 1945; “Youngman Has High Praise for Guards,” Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE), 26 January 1945.


139 Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entry at 0730, 12 December 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F6, HN.

140 It can be ascertained with certainty that at least four men, all of Company C, drowned; Missing in Action Report for Private First Class Edward K. Berry, RG3558.AM, SG8, S3, B2, F1, HN; Missing in Action Report for Sergeant Clifford R. Johnson, RG3558.AM, SG8, S3, B2, F5, HN; Missing in Action Report for Private First Class Dale H. Smith, RG3558.AM, SG8, S3, B2, F8, HN; Missing in Action Report for Private First Class Hubert W. Whitehead, RG3558.AM, SG8, S3, B2, F10, HN.

141 Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entry at 0833, 12 December 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F6, HN.

142 Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entry at 0015, 13 December 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F6, HN.


145 For a detailed discussion about the exact time that elapsed before the 1st Battalion force was relieved in Habkirchen, see Huston, Biography of a Battalion, 159, note 93; Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entries at 0315, 0400, and 0805, 13 December 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F6, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 97.

146 Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 97.

147 Unit Journal, 134th Infantry Regiment, entries at 0430 and 0605, 14 December 1944, RG3558.AM, SG7, S1, B2, F6, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 97.

148 Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 98; Huston, Biography of a Battalion, 161-162.

Correspondence File, Alphabetical File, B3, Folder “M,” TPLM.

Choate, 31281174, Pfc; J.P. Brown, 34198870, Pfc; all of Hq Co,

Last Offensive


World War II

1945, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F4, HN; Miltonberger and Huston,

Memorial at Hamm, Luxembourg, in July 2022

February 1945,” 134

Missouri, and Private Louis N. Beauchaine of Rhode Island were killed, and Private First Class Ferdinand

II


Orders N
to See the Draft Contingent Leave,”

Robinson

Battalion

Biography of a Battalion

Association Records, World War II File, 1939

World War II

fight around a farmstead outside of Harlange—the German attack would pass obliquely across its front but
without impact;” Cole, The Ardennes: Battle of the Bulge, 617-624; Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 103; Presenting the 35th
Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 103; Hugh M. Cole, United
States Army in World War II, The European Theater of Operations, The Ardennes, Battle of the Bulge

Letter, Ralph E. Van Landingham to James A. Huston, 1 October 1947, Thirty-fifth Division

Historian Hugh M. Cole wrote that, “In the south the 320th Infantry had become involved in a bitter
fight around a farmstead outside of Harlange—the German attack would pass obliquely across its front but
without impact;” Cole, The Ardennes: Battle of the Bulge, 617-624; Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 108.

Letter, Ralph E. Van Landingham to James A. Huston, 1 October 1947, Thirty-fifth Division
Biography of a Battalion, 174-175.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 104; Huston, Biography of a
Battalion, 174-175; “General Orders No. 14, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, 26 February 1945,” 134th

Joseph A. Mack was inducted into the Army in Omaha in February 1941 and assigned to Camp
Robinson; Battle Casualty Report, 134th Infantry Regiment, 5 January 1945, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F4, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 108; “Large Crowd Out
to see the Draft Contingent Leave,” Holt County Independent (O’Neill, NE), 21 February 1941; “General
Orders No. 10, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, 30 January 1945,” 134th Infantry Regiment Website,


Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 104.

Technician Fifth Grade James C. Gollinger of New York, Private First Class Gerald E. Fenner of
Missouri, and Private Louis N. Beauchaine of Rhode Island were killed, and Private First Class Ferdinand
J. Bronzell of Illinois was wounded; “General Orders No. 13, Headquarters, 35th Infantry Division, 20
February 1945,” 134th Infantry Regiment Website, accessed 18 January 2023,

The author visited John L. Cantoni’s grave during a visit to the Luxembourg American Cemetery and
Memorial at Hamm, Luxembourg, in July 2022; Battle Casualty Report, 134th Infantry Regiment, 9 January
1945, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F4, HN; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 105-106; “John Louis Cantoni,” 134th Infantry Regiment Website, accessed 16 June 2023,

Undated account of Private First Class Nathaniel Schaeffer, 134th Infantry Regiment Collection,
NENGM.

Charles B. MacDonald, United States Army in World War II, The European Theater of Operations: The

“Joint Statements of Eldephons C. Reischel, O-1306147, 1st Lt Infantry, Graves Registration Officer,
3rd Bn, 134th Infantry Regt, APO 35, U.S. Army; Andrew (NMI) Baumgartner, 39030693, Pfc; Erwin C.
Choate, 31281174, Pfc; J.P. Brown, 34198870, Pfc; all of Hq Co, 3rd Bn, 134th Inf,” RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F6, HN.

Graff, Reflections of a Combat Infantryman, n.p. (there are no page numbers in this book).

Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Ralph E. Truman, 7 January 1945, Ralph E. Truman Papers,
Correspondence File, Alphabetical File, B3, Folder “M,” TPLM.
“Wounded Soldiers Hope for Return to Old Jobs,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 25 February 1945; “Nebraska Soldier Wounded Twice, Both Times on Big Toe of Right Foot,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 27 February 1945; “Hooper Lieutenant Hit Thrice, Once by American Bomb Fragment,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 28 February 1945; “Ability to Speak German Saved His Life, Vet Believes,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 1 March 1945; “Small Omaha Paratrooper Stopped Big Shrapnel Load,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 2 March 1945; “Tenth of State Soldiers in Kansas Hospital Victims of Jeep Mishaps,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 3 March 1945; “Omaha Soldiers in Hospitals Favor Memorial Park Plan,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 4 March 1945; “Vastness of Topeka Army Hospital Points Up Pressing Need for Nurses,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 5 March 1945.

“Omahan Lucky as Mines Wound Three Near Him,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 February 1945.

“As the Public Pulse Beats,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 1 March 1945.

“Youngman Gets Council Thanks,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 30 January 1945;

Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.

Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.

An official U.S. Army Medical Department history notes that “Because of lack of clarity in directives, trenchfoot and immersion foot were at one time or another included in medical statistical reports both as nonbattle injuries and as diseases, while frostbite was variously considered as both a battle and a nonbattle injury, depending upon the interpretation of the individual command.” The 35th Infantry unit history lists 107 cases of battle injury in December 1944, but 358 in January 1945; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 154-156; Whayne and DeBakey, Medical Department, United States Army in World War II, Cold Injury, Ground Type, 186-195.

Other Nebraskans from the 35th Infantry on furlough at the same time as Greenlief included Sergeant Paul R. Carstens of Beatrice, Staff Sergeant Irving L. Winterer of Lisco, First Sergeant Howard K. Gaylord of Omaha, Technical Sergeant William Genrich of Pickrell, and Private First Class Francis H. Nelson, from Phelps County. Sergeant Charles C. Vensel and Staff Sergeant Raymond J. Rietzel had once of Omaha, and Technical Sergeant William Genrich of Pickrell, and Private First Class Francis H. Nelson, from Phelps County.

Other Nebraskans from the 134th Infantry included Sergeant Paul R. Carstens of Beatrice, Staff Sergeant Irving L. Winterer of Lisco, First Sergeant Howard K. Gaylord of Omaha, Technical Sergeant William Genrich of Pickrell, and Private First Class Francis H. Nelson, from Phelps County. Sergeant Charles C. Vensel and Staff Sergeant Raymond J. Rietzel had once lived in Nebraska, but were living elsewhere when they entered the Army.

Topeka Army Hospital Points Up Pressing Need for Nurses,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 28 February 1945; “Shrapnel Load,” Nebraska Soldier Wounded Twice, Both Times on Big Toe of Right Foot,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 2 March 1945; “Tenth of State Soldiers in Kansas Hospital Victims of Jeep Mishaps,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 3 March 1945; “Omaha Soldiers in Hospitals Favor Memorial Park Plan,” Sunday World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 4 March 1945; “Vastness of Topeka Army Hospital Points Up Pressing Need for Nurses,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 5 March 1945.

An official U.S. Army Medical Department history notes that “Because of lack of clarity in directives, trenchfoot and immersion foot were at one time or another included in medical statistical reports both as nonbattle injuries and as diseases, while frostbite was variously considered as both a battle and a nonbattle injury, depending upon the interpretation of the individual command.” The 134th Infantry unit history lists 107 cases of battle injury in December 1944, but 358 in January 1945; Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 154-156; Whayne and DeBakey, Medical Department, United States Army in World War II, Cold Injury, Ground Type, 186-195.

Other Nebraskans from the 134th Infantry on furlough at the same time as Greenlief included Sergeant Paul R. Carstens of Beatrice, Staff Sergeant Irving L. Winterer of Lisco, First Sergeant Howard K. Gaylord of Omaha, Technical Sergeant William Genrich of Pickrell, and Private First Class Francis H. Nelson, from Phelps County. Sergeant Charles C. Vensel and Staff Sergeant Raymond J. Rietzel had once lived in Nebraska, but were living elsewhere when they entered the Army; “Captain of 134th Home; It’s Unbelievable,” Morning World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 February 1945; “Captain of 134th Home; Says Enemy Can’t Seem to Stop Nebraskans Boys,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 8 February 1945.

Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Dwight P. Griswold, 2 February 1945, RG1, SG32, B29, F545, HN.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 115.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 115-119.

“Yank Casualties Are Heavy as Tough Mine Field Is Cleared,” North Platte Telegraph (North Platte, NE), 29 April 1945.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 115-119.


Edmund B. Sebree was transferred to the 28th Infantry Division to fill a vacancy in that unit; Order of Battle of the United States Army, World War II, European Theater of Operations, Divisions, 110.


Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 154-156.

Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 119.


For the Rhine crossing operation, “Task Force Miltonberger” consisted of the 134th Infantry Regiment, 127th and 161st Field Artillery Battalions, Company A, 784th Tank Battalion, Company A, 654th Tank
Destroyer Battalion, Company A, 60th Engineer Battalion, and Company A, 110th Medical Battalion; Miltonberger and Huston, *35th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 122.

1377 Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 154-156.

1378 Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 121-128.


1380 Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 128.

1381 Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 128; “Courier Publisher Passes Away at His Home Monday; Rites Saturday,” *Gering Courier* (Gering, NE), 11 May 1945.

1382 Battle Casualty Report, 134th Infantry Regiment, 28 April 1945, RG3558.AM, SG8, S2, B2, F5, HN; Killed in Action Report for Private First Class John Connelly, Jr., RG3558.AM, SG8, S1, B2, F3, HN.

1383 Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 154-156.

1384 Roger Tipton enlisted in Company D, 134th Infantry, in September 1940; MB/NGB Form 100, Company D, 134th Infantry Regiment, September 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B9, F1940, HN; Initial Roster, Company D, 134th Infantry Regiment, 23 December 1940, RG0018, SG2, S4, B52, F350, HN.

1385 *Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II*, n.p.

1386 Miltonberger and Huston, *134th Infantry Combat History of World War II*, 154-156; compare with “Casualties Sustained by 134th Inf. Regt.,” RG3558.AM, SG8, S5, B2, F3, HN, undated, but presumably compiled immediately after the end of the war.

1387 Letter, Raymond J. Anderson to Commanding Officer, 134th Inf Regt, 4 May 1945, sub: Officers on duty from Nebraska; letter, Thurston J. Palmer to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO #35, U.S. Army, 4 May 1945, sub: Enlisted Men from Nebraska; letter, John Campbell, Jr., to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, Same Station, 3 May 1945, sub: EM from Nebraska; letter, L.D. Asher to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO 35, U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: EM from Nebraska Assigned to This Organization; letter, Robert H. Townley to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry Regiment, Same Station, 5 May 1945, sub: EM from Nebraska Assigned to This Organization; letter, Rodney D. Brown to the Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, This Station, 3 May 1945, sub: EM of This Organization from Nebraska; letter, Donald J. Krebsbach to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, Same Station, 4 May 1945, sub: Status of Enlisted Men; letter, Walter B. Harvey to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, Same Station, 3 May 1945, sub: Status of Nebraska Men; letter, George Melochick to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO 35 U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: Enlisted Men from Nebraska; letter, Wallace P. Chappell to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, This Station, 3 May 1945, sub: Enlisted Men from Nebraska; letter, William T. Jardine to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO #35, U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: Nebraskans; letter to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO #35, 3 May 1945, sub: Nebraska EM with This Organization at the Present Time; letter, William L. Bibby to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO #35 U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: Compliance; letter, James B. Ennis to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO 35, U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: EM from Nebraska; letter, Victor K. Cooper to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry Regiment, This Station, 3 May 1945, sub: Compliance; letter, Percy Bylsma to Commanding Officer 134th Infantry, APO 35, 4 May 1945, sub: Compliance; letter to the Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry Regiment APO #35, U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: Assigned Enlisted Men from Nebraska; letter, Warren D. Hodges to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO 35, U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: Enlisted Men from Nebraska; letter, Tom B. Parris to Commanding Officer, Headquarters 134th Infantry Regiment APO #35, U.S. Army, 4 May 1945, sub: Assigned Enlisted Men from Nebraska; letter, Joseph Brigandi to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, APO 35, U.S. Army, 3 May 1945, sub: Nebraskans; letter, Raymond J. Anderson to Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry, Same Station, 4 May 1945, sub: Enlisted Men from Nebraska now Assigned, all in RG3558.AM, SG11, S4, B4, F14, HN.

1388 Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer, *Journal of Master Sergeant Ferdinand G. Brodfuehrer*, 16, ed. Richard F. Brodfuehrer, 110th Medical Regiment Collection, NENGM.

1389 In July 1944, one man from the 35th Quartermaster Company was wounded by a fragment from a bomb accidentally dropped by an Allied plane. In September 1944, one man was wounded from the accidental discharge of a firearm. In October 1944, one man was wounded by a fragment from a German artillery shell; “Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports,” 134th Infantry Regiment Website, accessed 15 June 2023, http://www.coulthart.com/134/aa-35-qm/35-qm-aa-44-july.pdf; “Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports,” 134th Infantry Regiment Website, accessed 15 June 2023, http://www.coulthart.com/134/aa-35-qm/35-qm-aa-44-sept.pdf; “Action Against Enemy, Reports


1407 Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 131-132.

1408 Miltonberger and Huston, 134th Infantry Combat History of World War II, 132.

1409 “Once All-Nebraskan, 134th Infantry Now Has Only 1.6 Per Cent from State,” Evening World-Herald (Omaha, NE), 29 August 1945.

1410 In July 1945, the 137th Infantry acted as an honor guard for President Harry S. Truman, who was on his way to the Potsdam Conference. The regiment departed for the United States immediately afterward, arriving in Boston on 31 August; Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.


1412 Presenting the 35th Infantry Division in World War II, n.p.

1413 Williams Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Dwight P. Griswold, 30 November 1945, RG1, SG32, S1, B29, F545, HN.


1416 Namely, Lieutenant Colonel Dan E. Craig (executive officer), Major Lysle I. Abbott (Personnel Branch), Colonel Edward J. Geezen (State Guard Branch), and Lieutenant Colonel Denver W. Wilson (Training and Military Education Branch); Miltonberger, Annual Report, 1946, 2-4.

1417 As amended by Public Law No. 64, 73rd Congress, 15 June 1933, the section read, “All policies and regulations affecting the organization and distribution of the National Guard of the United States, and all policies and regulations affecting the organization, distribution, and training of the National Guard, shall be prepared by committees of appropriate branches or divisions of the War Department General Staff, to which shall be added an equal number of officers from the National Guard of the United States, whose names are borne on lists of officers suitable for such duty, submitted by the governors of their respective States and Territories, and for the District of Columbia by the Commanding General, District of Columbia National Guard;” Section 2, Pub. L. No. 73-64, 48 Stat. 153, 15 June 1933; Hill, The Minute Man in Peace and War, 489-497; Miltonberger, Annual Report, 1946, 62-63.


1408 Communities assigned Nebraska National Guard units in 1946 were Alliance, Auburn, Beatrice, Blair, Broken Bow, Chadron, Columbus, Crete, Fairbury, Falls City, Fremont, Gering, Grand Island, Hastings, Holdrege, Kearney, Lexington, Lincoln, McCook, Nebraska City, Norfolk, North Platte, Ogallala, Omaha, Plattsmouth, Schuyler, Scottsbluff, Seward, Sidney, South Sioux City, Wayne, and York; “State Guard Needs Added Appropriation,” *Lincoln Star* (Lincoln, NE), 14 February 1946; “Thirty-Two Nebraska Cities Are Assigned Units as State Starts Building Bigger National Guard,” *Sunday World-Herald* (Omaha, NE), 20 October 1946.


1410 Letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to The Saturday Evening Post, 28 March 1946; letter, Martin Sommers to Butler B. Miltonberger, 29 March 1946; letter, Stanley Frank to Butler B. Miltonberger, 1 April 1946; letter, Butler B. Miltonberger to Stanley Frank, 5 April 1946, all in RG3558.AM, SG13, S1, B9, F5, HN.


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