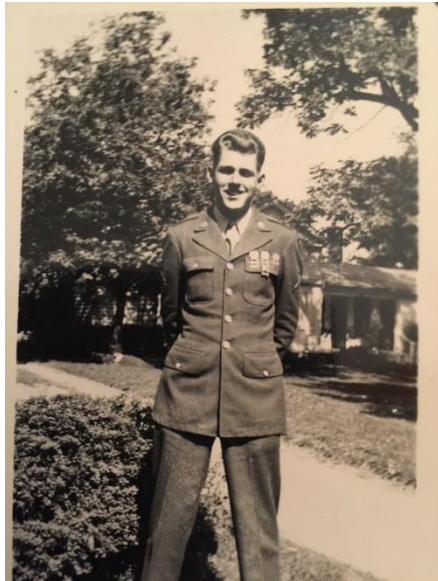
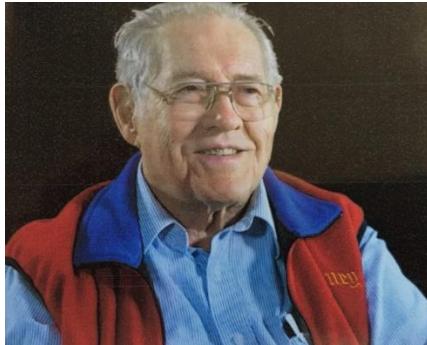


WWII Veteran's Story - Donald R. Whitaker

86th Infantry "Blackhawk" Division – Military Bugler and Band member



7/10/1925 – 3/7/2022





86th Division “Blackhawk” sleeve patch WWII



World War II veteran Donald Whitaker, who served in the Army from 1943 to 1946, holds a display case July 16, 2020, with the medals he earned during the war while visiting the Commemorative Area at Fort McCoy, WI. Whitaker, of Elm Grove, WI., and originally from Downers Grove, IL, made his first visit to Fort McCoy after having left 75 years earlier. When he left the Army, he was Technician Fifth Grade Donald Whitaker and was a bandsman with the 86th Infantry Division Band. Whitaker had served in the European theater of the war in Austria and Germany as well as the Pacific theater in the Philippines. He served for 2 1/2 years in various other support roles as well.

FORT MCCOY, WI, UNITED STATES

07.16.2020

Video by Scott Sturkol

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/765546/world-war-ii-veteran-donald-whitaker-decribes-he-became-military-bugler-more>

Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office

https://www.army.mil/article/238708/world_war_ii_vet_recalls_service_outprocessing_through_camp_mccoy

On July 10, 1943 Don Whitaker turned 18 and was drafted into military service. Since he was already enrolled in the summer session at Northwestern University, he was able to delay his trip to boot camp until September.



Don Whitaker 2nd row right behind officers with sweater and hands in pocket



Group photo of WWII draftees 9/27/1943 at the train station in Downers Grove, IL

The Downers Grove Studio took group photos of every local area draftee that left Downers Grove by train. Many sad days for families of those who left and never returned.

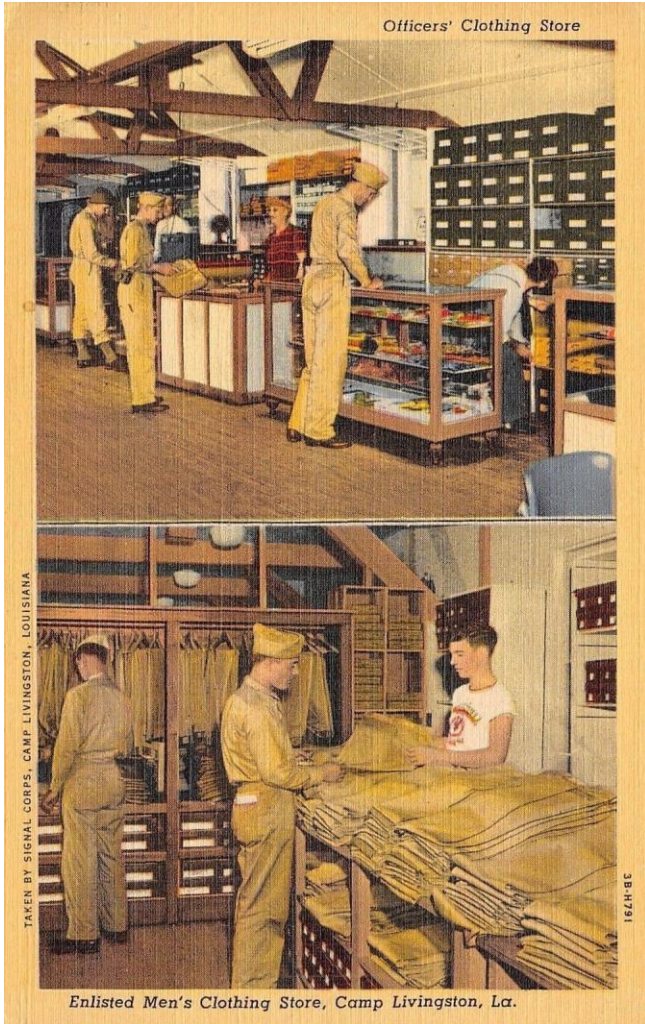


Enlistees arrive by train to Camp Livingston, greeted by band 1940's



Arial view Camp Livingston 1941





Camp Livingston Fire Station



Camp Livingston Chapel



Service Club and Guest House Camp Livingston (both images)



Camp Livingston Library



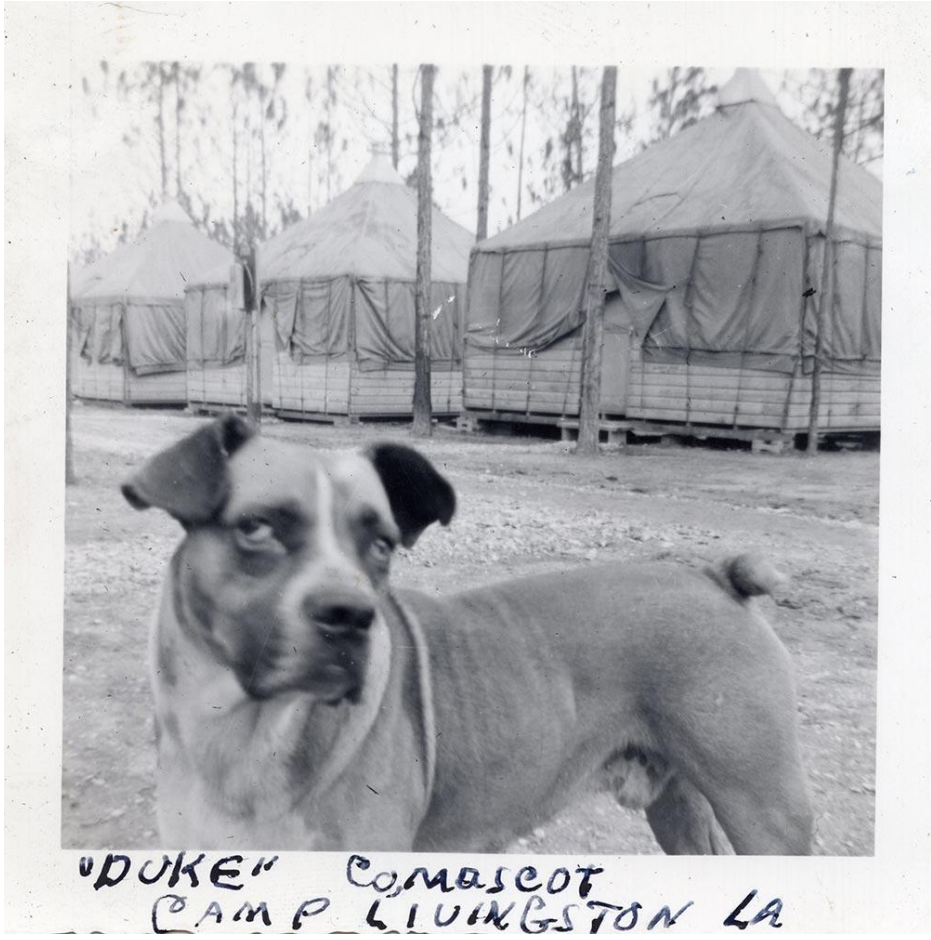
Camp Livingston Officers Club (the band would play here on weekends)



Camp Livingston swimming pool



Camp Livingston Inspection 1943 (taken from my dad's photo album)



Camp Livingston 1943 mascot "Duke" (From my dad's album)

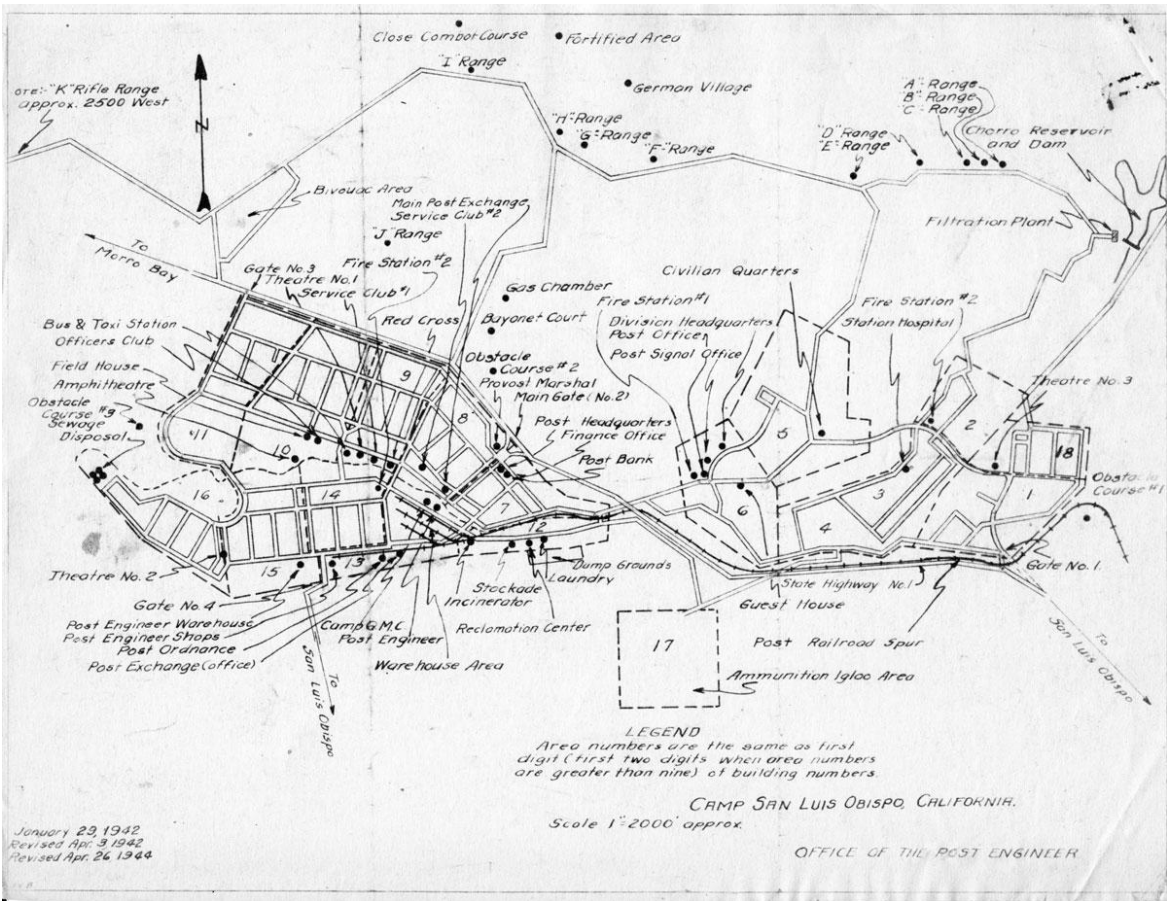




Camp Livingston soldiers going to artillery practice



Leaving Theatre Camp Livingston, LA



Camp San Luis Obispo 1944 map

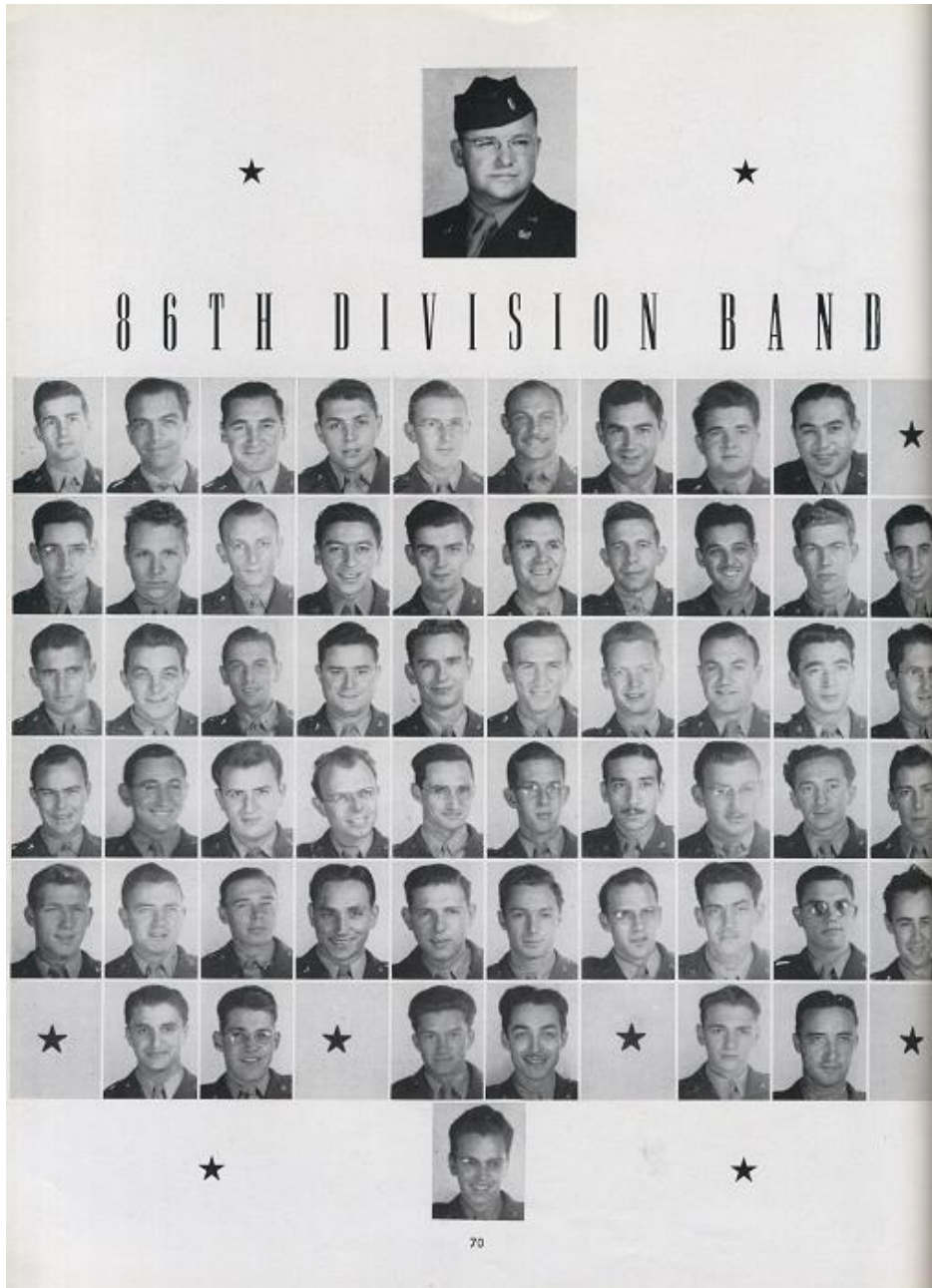
<https://www.militarymuseum.org/CSLO%20History.html>

341ST INFANTRY

*86th Division
United States Army*



San Luis Obispo, California
1945



Band Leader Jr. was Purnell William Payne (as pictured)



Donald Whitaker is 2nd from left in 6th row, who was a bugler and a trumpet player in the 86th Division Band. Photo was from an 86th Infantry Blackhawk Division yearbook, taken in San Luis Obispo, CA



Nathan Kammack - First Band Leader - 86th Division Band - Photo from my dad's album



Purnell William Payne – 2nd Band Leader - 86th Division Band – Photo from my dad's album



William Purnell Payne 86th Division Band Leader Jr's uniform, cap & dogtag



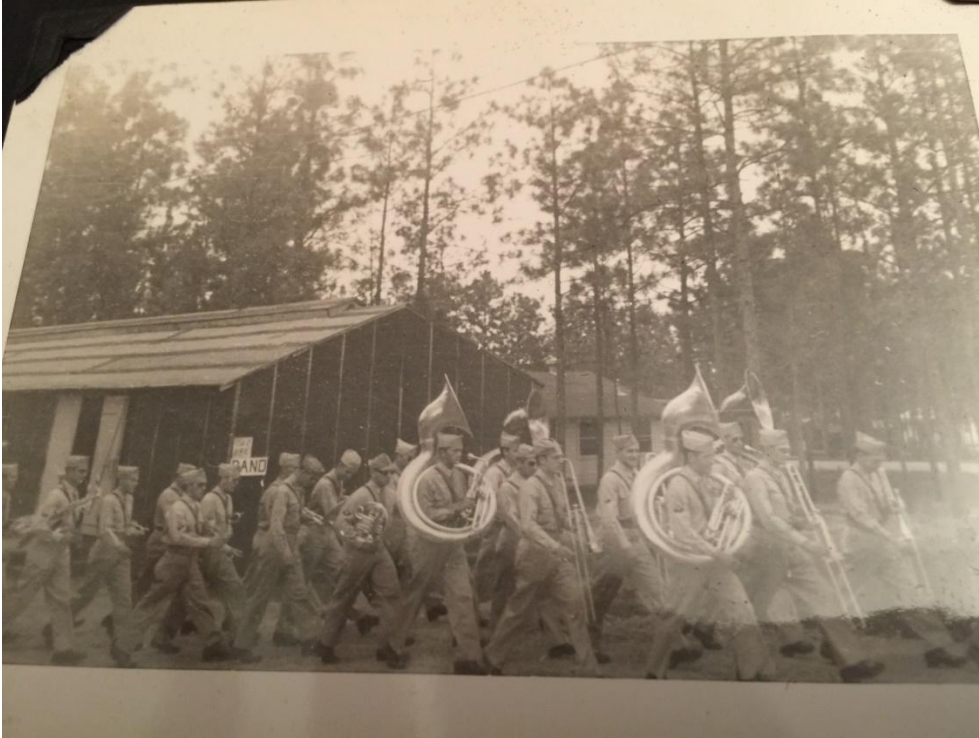
Combat Band Leader Badge for William Purnell Payne 86th Division



Back row: unknown name (trombone), John Iltis (french horn)

Front row L-R: Charlie Kolar (trumpet), Donald Whitaker (trumpet & holding his glasses)

San Luis Obispo, CA



86th Division Band practice – San Luis Obispo, CA



Donald R. Whitaker –age 19

Bugle Calls

Bugle calls are musical signals that announce scheduled and certain non-scheduled events on an Army installation. Scheduled calls are prescribed by the commander and normally follow the sequence shown below. Non-scheduled calls are sounded by the direction of the commander.

Daily Sequence of Bugle Calls

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. First Call | 14. Assembly |
| 2. Reveille | 15. Recall |
| 3. Assembly | 16. First Call |
| 4. Mess Call (morning) | 17. Guard Mounting (when scheduled) |
| 5. Sick Call* | 18. Assembly |
| 6. Drill Call* | 19. Adjutant's Call (parade only) |
| 7. Assembly | 20. Retreat |
| 8. First Sergeant's Call* | 21. To The Color |
| 9. Officer's Call* | 22. Mess Call (evening) |
| 10. Recall* | 23. Tattoo |
| 11. Mail Call | 24. Call to Quarters |
| 12. Mess Call (noon) | 25. Taps |
| 13. Drill Call* | * (OPTIONAL) |

Sunday Sequence of Bugle Calls

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. First Call | 5. First Call (retreat) |
| 2. Reveille | 6. Assembly |
| 3. Assembly | 7. Retreat |
| 4. Mess Call (noon) | 8. To the Color |
| | 9. Taps |



86th Division training San Luis Obispo, CA



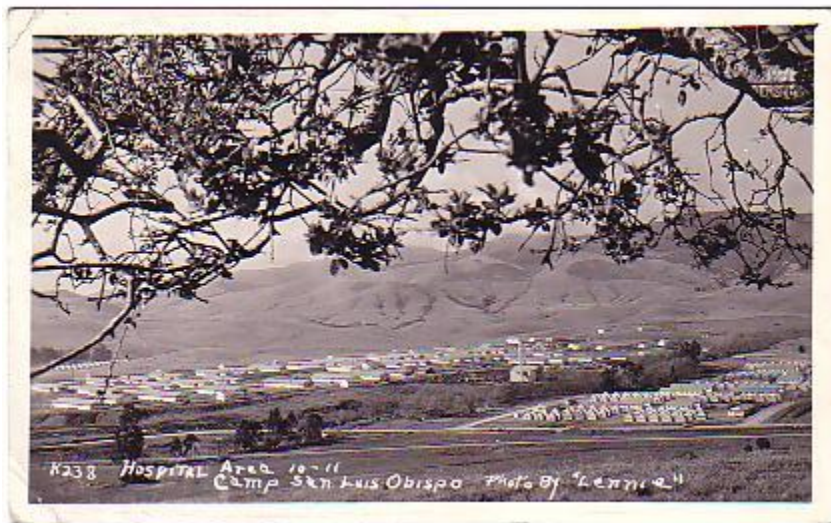
Colonel entering photo lab at Camp San Luis Obispo, California on 8 March 1944



The Officers Club and Chapel at Camp San Luis Obispo



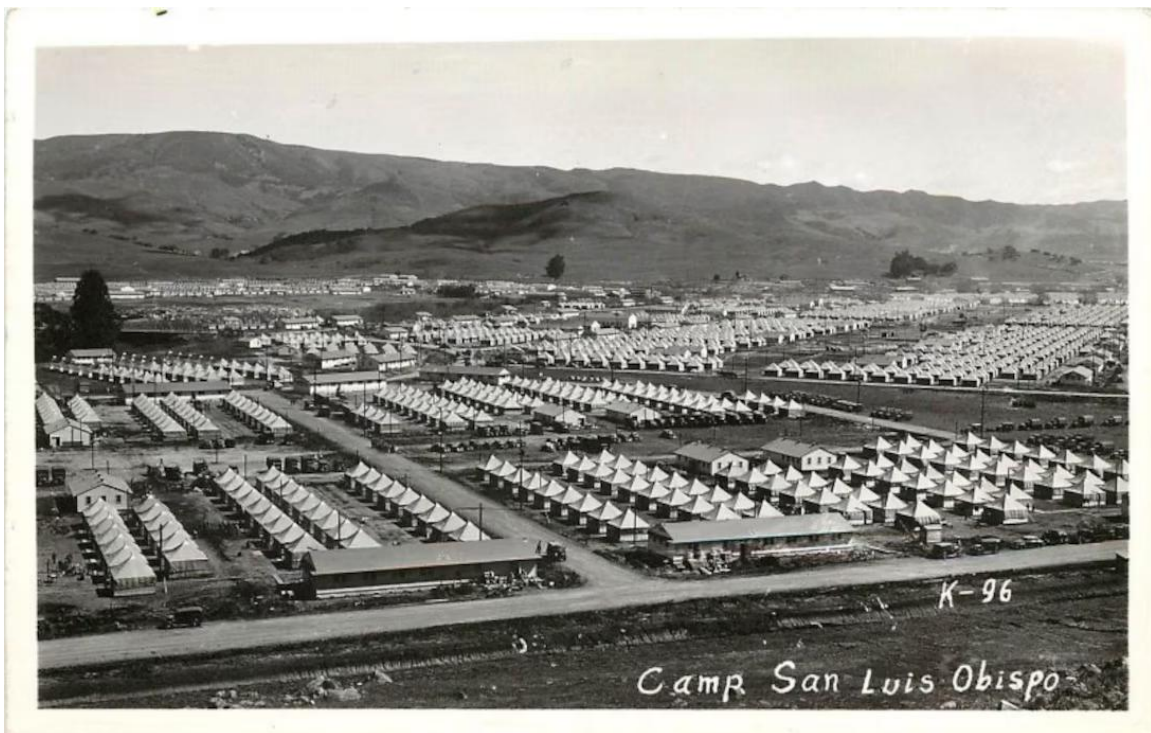
Old postcards from Camp San Luis Obispo



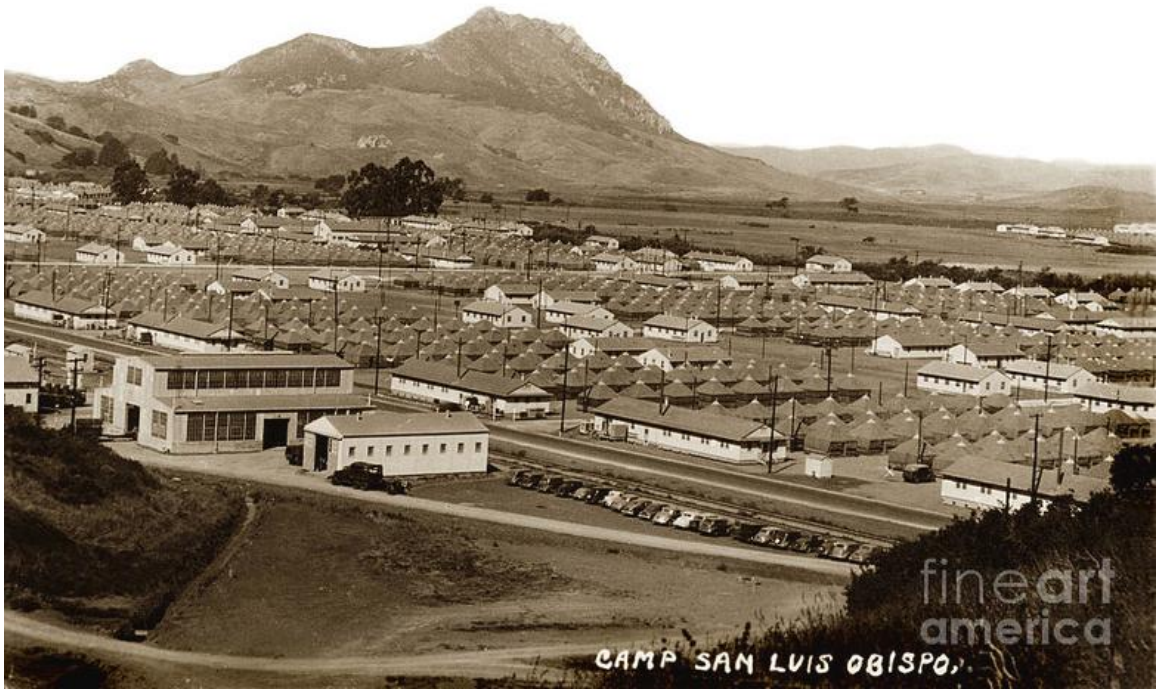
Camp San Luis Obispo Hospital Area



Red Cross Building Camp San Luis Obispo



<https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Media/Images.aspx?igphoto=2001321553>

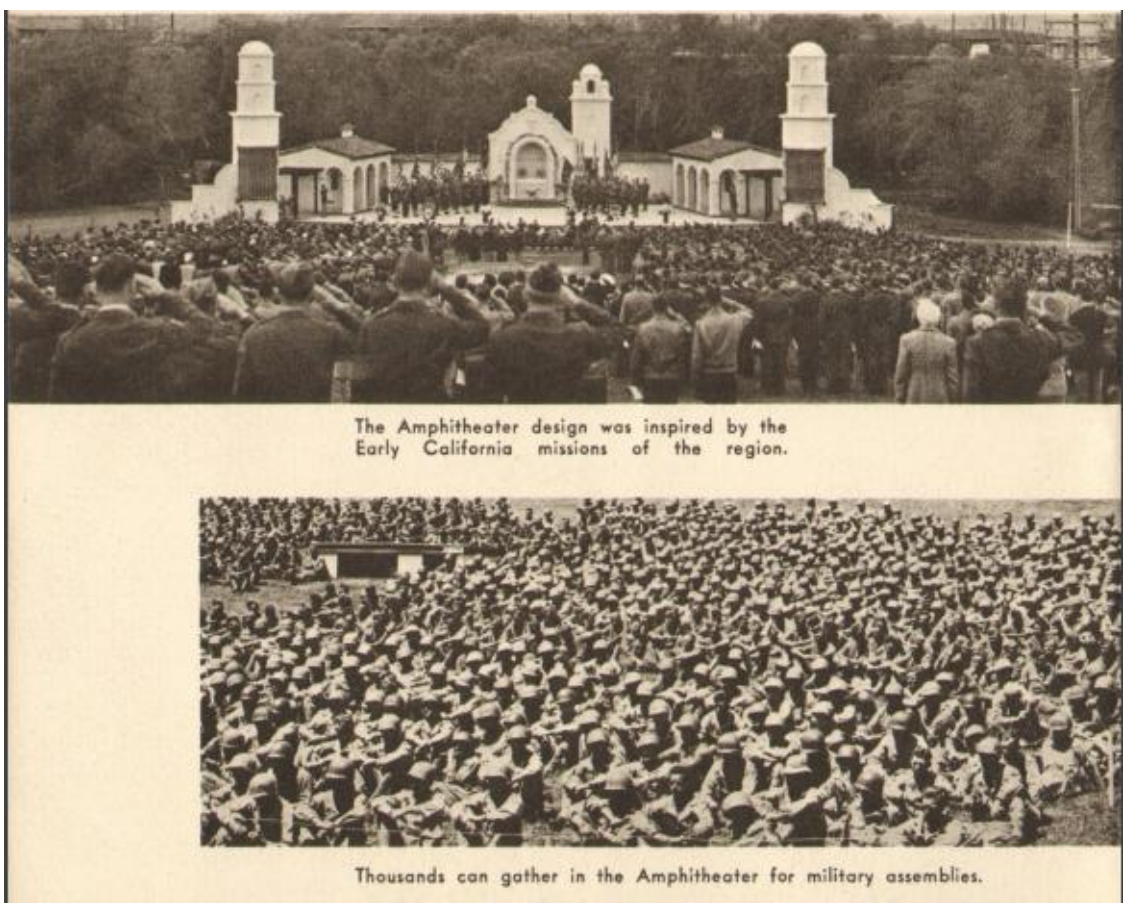


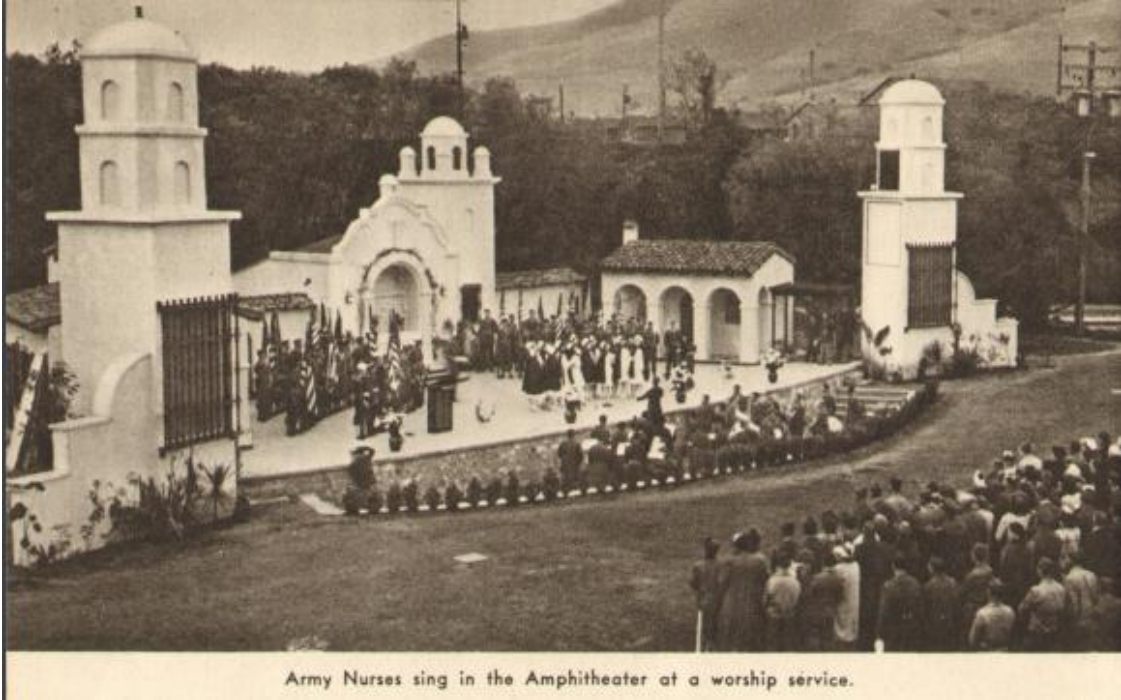
Camp San Luis Obispo Huts



Amphitheatre Camp San Luis Obispo

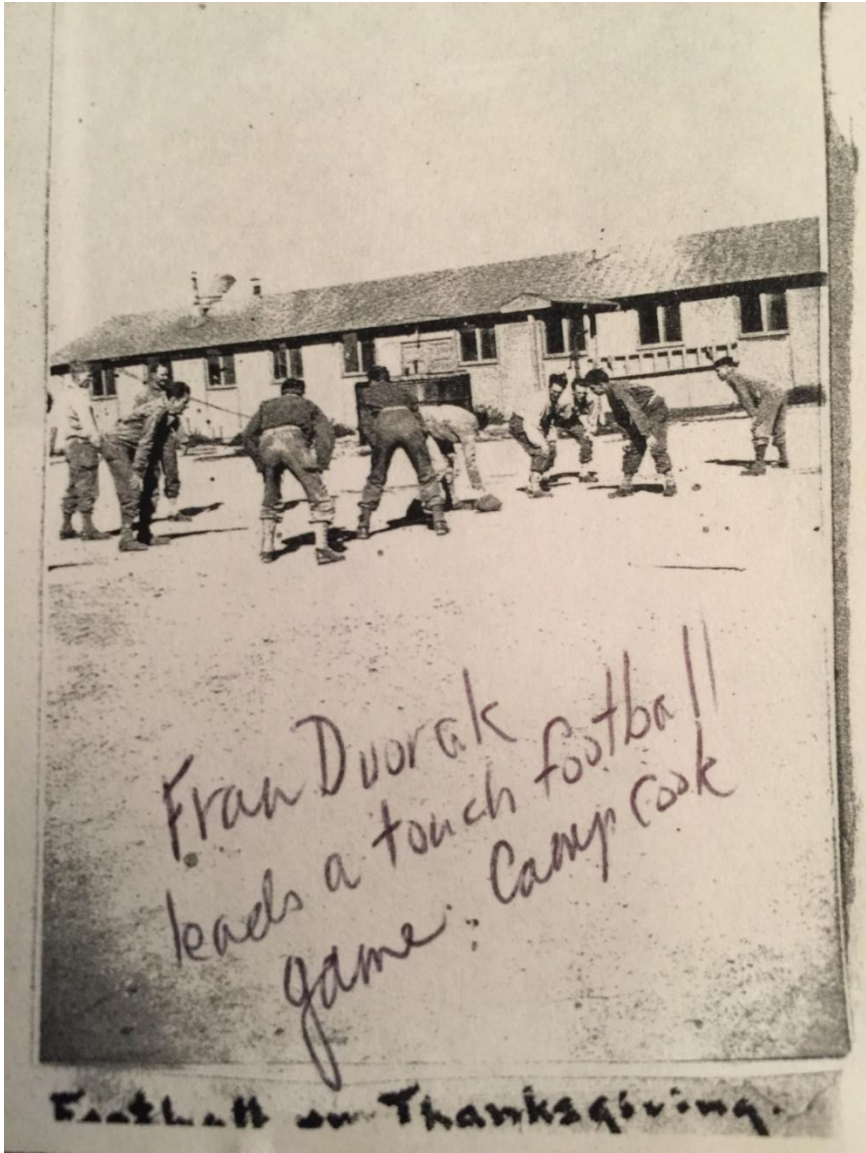
<https://www.militarymuseum.org/CSLOPostCards.html>





Army Nurses sing in the Amphitheater at a worship service.

<https://livingnewdeal.org/sites/camp-san-luis-obispo-improvements-san-luis-obispo-ca/>



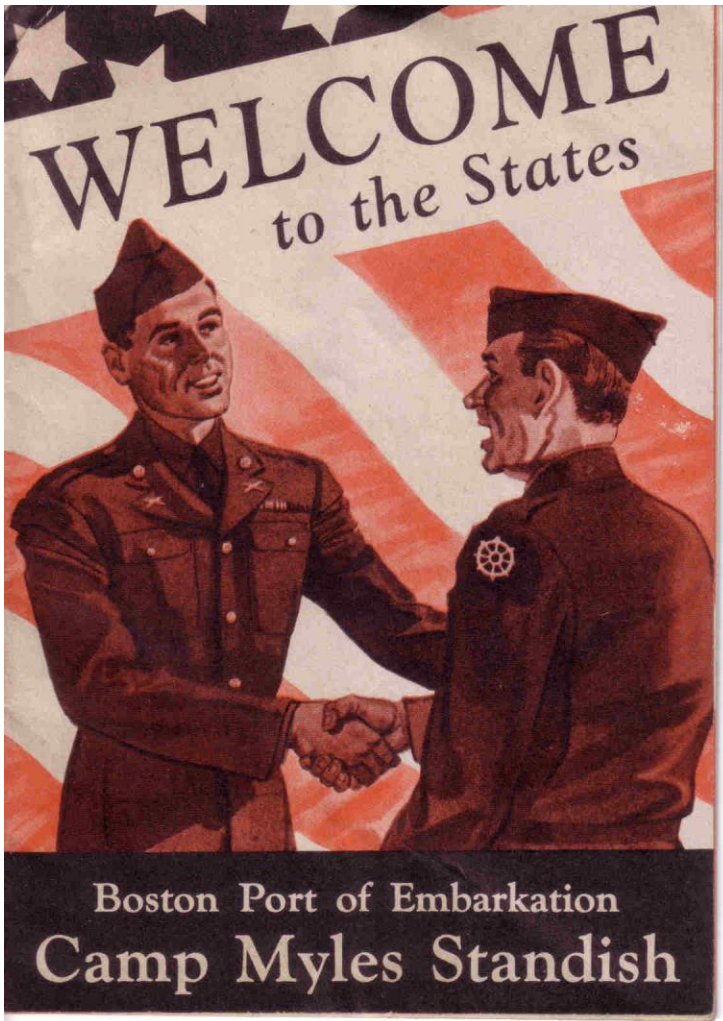
86th Division playing football on Thanksgiving 1945 - Camp Cooke, CA



86th Infantry Camp Cooke, CA



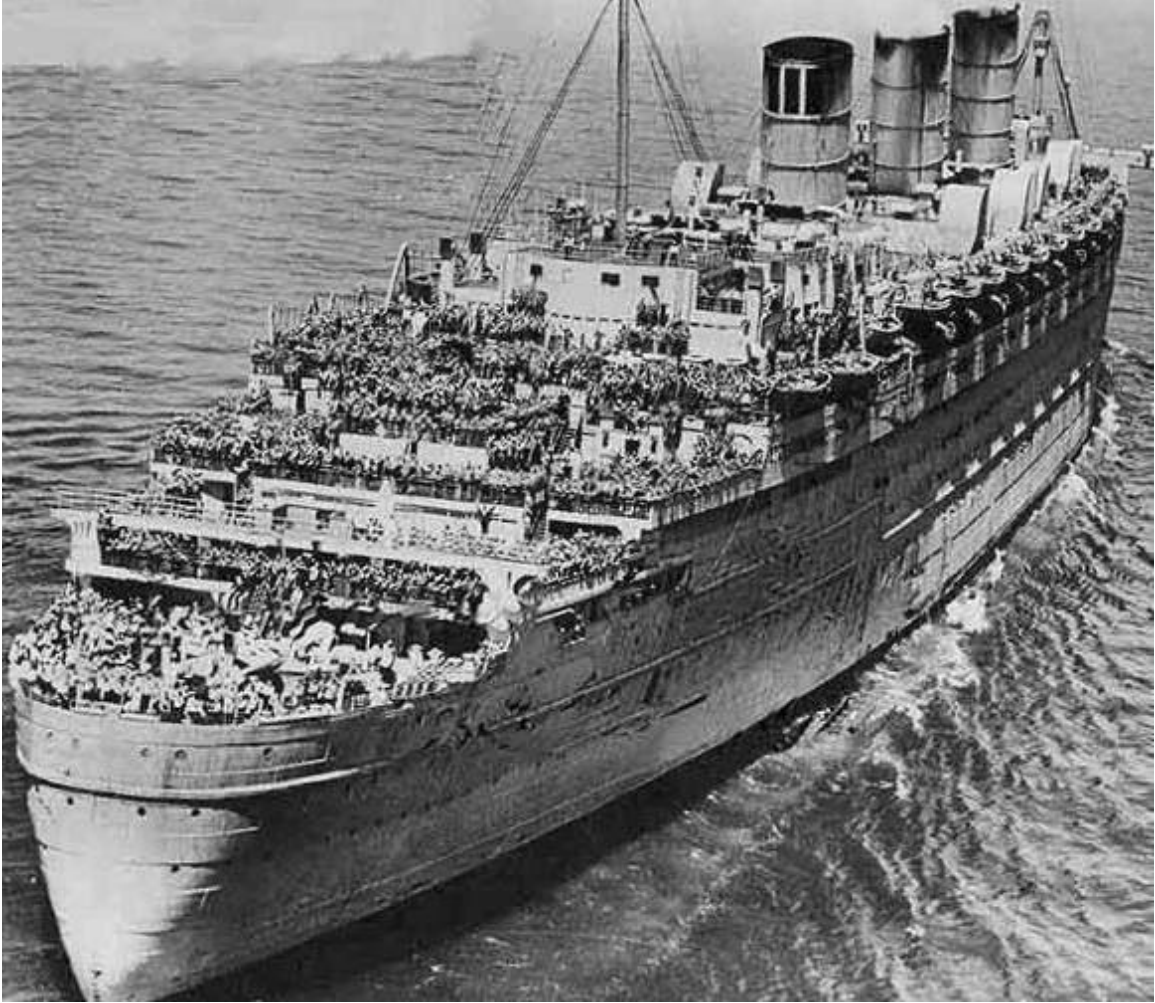
86th Infantry Training Camp Cooke, CA



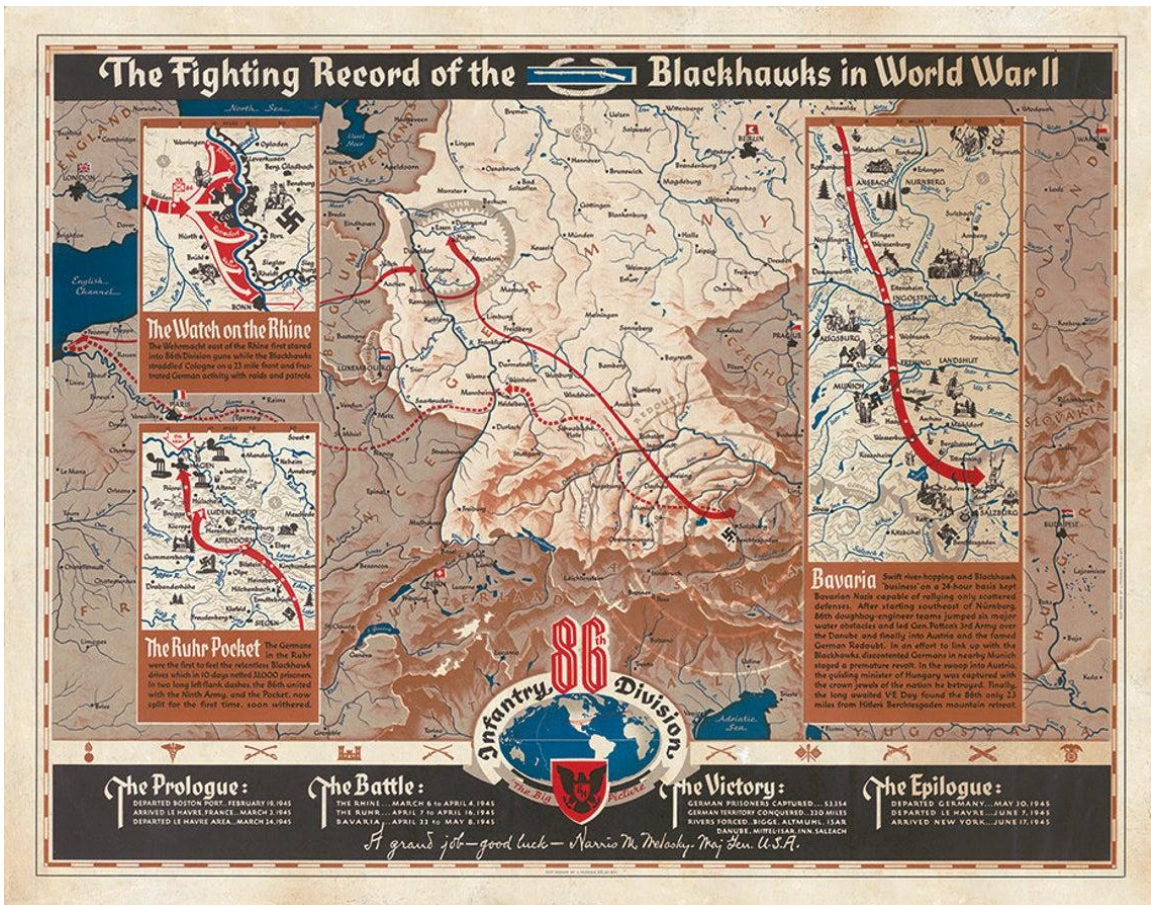
Boston Port of Embarkation
Camp Myles Standish



RMS Queen Mary cruise ship nicknamed “Gray Ghost” took 10,000 troops including the 86th Division from Boston, MA to La Harve, France in 1945 because it was faster than a military ship.



RMS Queen Mary aka Gray Ghost 1945



86th Infantry Division arriving in La Harve, France WWII

(From Don Whitaker's photo album)



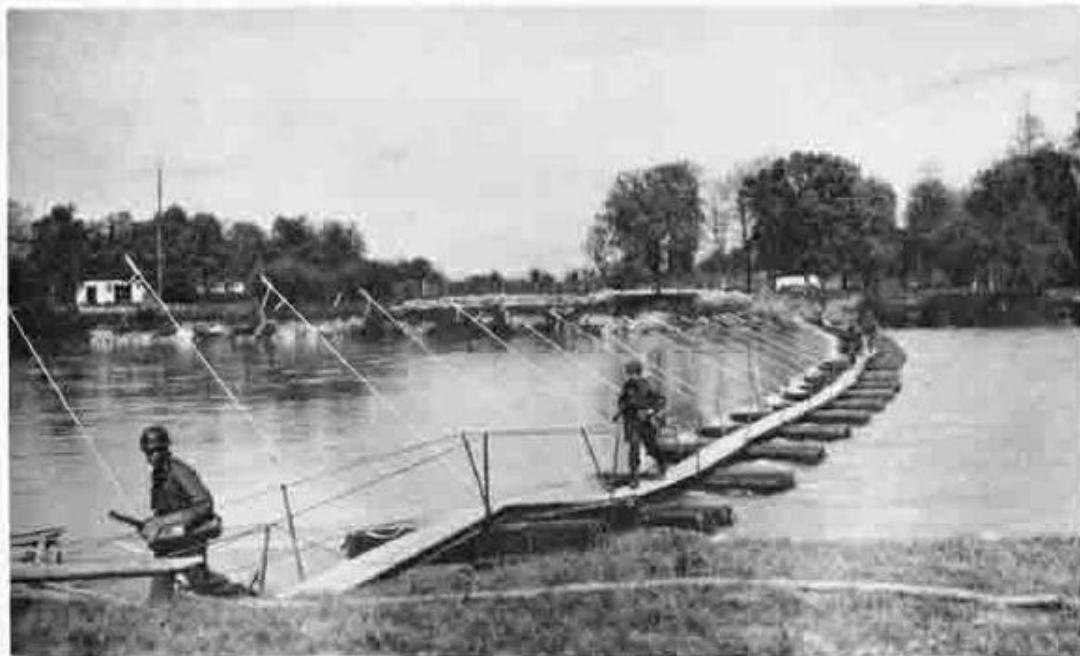
86th Division setting up tents (unknown location)

(Don Whitaker's photo album) (Might be Charlie Kohler in the middle looking at camera)



photograph by Official U.S. Army Signal Corps

Black Hawk Infantrymen move through the streets of Ingolstadt as re-inforcements for Danube beachhead.



Photograph by Official U.S. Army Signal Corps

Replacements cross the Danube on treadway bridge to join the Black Hawk Division.



86th Infantry Division soldier in Germany during WWII

(From Don Whitaker's photo album)



A vehicle with a coal/wood burner on the back for fuel in Germany WWII

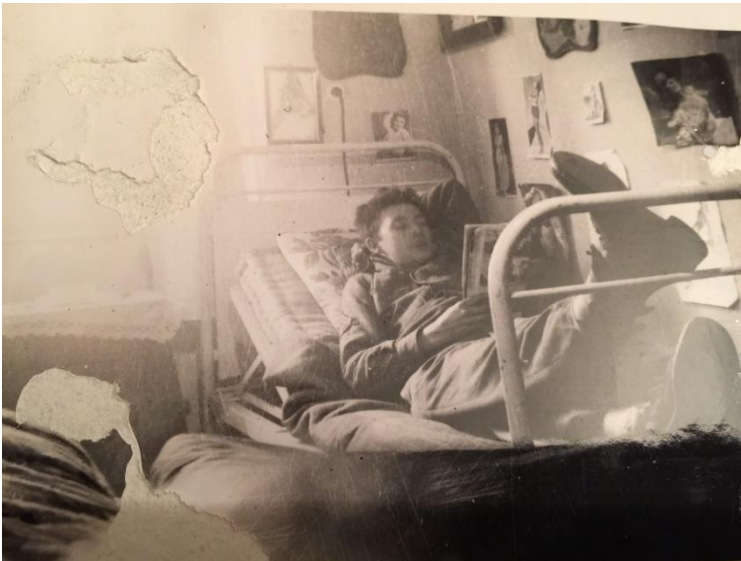
(From Don Whitaker's photo album)



Bridenbach, Germany
about April 10,
1945.
The farmer in the
background is the
son of the man who
owned the house in
which we were living.
He did our
laundry for us & other
things. A very nice
fellow.

86th Infantry Division soldier leaning against sign. Don Whitaker's writing on back tells the story of how troops would take over farm houses for their beds and food while moving through Germany. The farmer and his wife with the wagon in the background are the owners of the house where the troops stayed for a few days.

Inscription: "The farmer in the background is the son of the man who owned the house in which we were living. He did our laundry for us & other things. A very nice fellow."



One of the soldiers relaxing in a bed at the farm house in Germany



86th Division Band playing at a park in Germany during WWII

There wasn't always fighting during WWII. Sometimes there was an opportunity to share the talent of the 86th Division Band with the local Germans. Some of the community looked on in disdain; others were quite supportive and happy to hear the music.



Donald Whitaker 2nd from left with the glasses

VE-DAY!



IT'S OVER IN THE WEST

TODAY is VE-Day—the day for which the British people have fought and endured five years, eight months and four days of war.

With unconditional surrender accepted by Germany's last remaining leaders, the war in Europe is now except for the remnants of fanatical Nazis in isolated pockets, such as France.

The Prime Minister will make an official statement at 11 o'clock to-morrow, and the U.S. President will do so at 12 noon to-morrow. WAR PLANS WILL BE ANNOUNCED TO-MORROW.

Mr. Churchill will speak at 10 o'clock to-morrow and Mr. Roosevelt at 11 o'clock. The British will broadcast the news at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

War winners broadcast today

THE BRITISH and the Americans will broadcast the news of the victory at 10 o'clock to-morrow. The British will broadcast the news at 10 o'clock to-morrow and the Americans at 11 o'clock to-morrow. The British will broadcast the news at 10 o'clock to-morrow and the Americans at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

VE-SCENE TRAFALGAR SQUARE
A scene of high old time in Trafalgar Square today. The people were in a state of jubilation. The Union Jack was flying from the top of Nelson's Column. The people were cheering and embracing. The scene was crowded and full of joy.

London had joy night

"Daily Mirror" reporter
LONDON, May 8 (AP)—The city of London today was in a state of jubilation. The people were cheering and embracing. The scene was crowded and full of joy. The people were in a state of jubilation. The scene was crowded and full of joy.

Continued on Each Page

May 8, 1945



86th Infantry Division returning home to NYC Harbor after ETO 1945

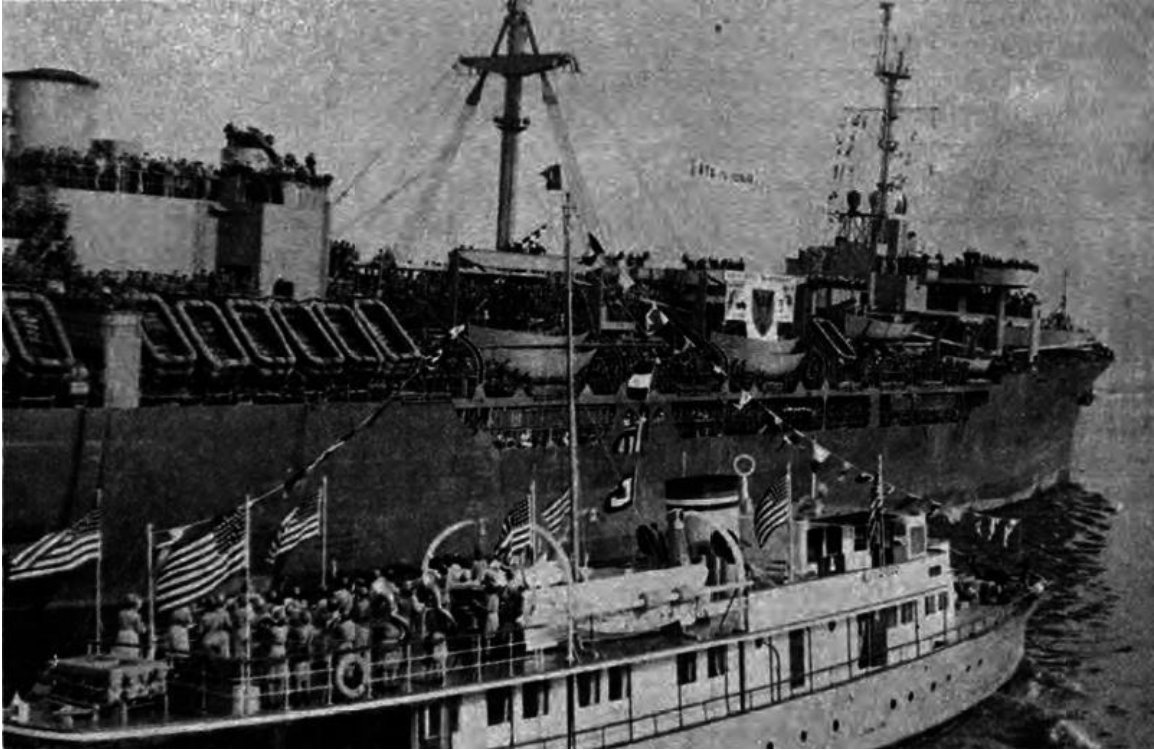


86th Infantry Division returning home to NYC Harbor from ETO 1945



Navy blimp passing ship carrying the 86th Division as they arrived in NYC - 1945





86th Division arriving in NY Harbor after ETO met by a welcome boat





86th Division returning from ETO 1945



The Gruber Guidon

VOLUME 1

CAMP GRUBER, OKLAHOMA, FRIDAY, 29 JUNE 1945

NUMBER 47

First Back Hawk Troops Arrive

Bob Strong's Orchestra At Gruber Next Weekend

Bob Strong and his orchestra, featuring the Nelson sisters, will be presented by the Entertainment branch of A & R next Friday and Saturday in two theater shows, two GI club dances, and a patient's show at the station hospital Red Cross recreation building. The Friday show is at Theater 3 at 8:15. Saturday the orchestra will play at the hospital at 3 p.m. and at Theater 2 at 8:15. There will be open dances both sites at the GI club, 8:30 to 11:30.

Popular young maestro Bob Strong has a really strong musical background. He's been playing an instrument since he was

Band Leader



Bob Strong

“fully one and a half years old, tho, of course, his first instrument was a phonograph. However, he has since mastered six instruments, besides ranking highly as a composer and arranger.

While most band leaders are content to furnish their musicians with distinctive arrangements which will enable the public to identify their style of music, rising young maestro Bob Strong goes one step farther and provides complete new tunes for his boys.

Together with some of the talented members of his arranging staff, Bob has provided a dozen numbers for the band's books. Bob's own compositions besides the band's theme song, include “Rif-Raff,” a toe-tapping bit of jive; “In a Russian Fox Hole,” “The Jumping Jubilee,” “The Baltimore Bounce,” and “Boogie Woogie Jamboree.”

One of the most popular of Bob's tunes is “That's All, Brother,” a semi-spiritual number during which the instrumental stars of the band take-off on inspired solos until the rest chime “That's All, Brother,” and they stop right there.

New Activities At Service Club 1

Service club 1 offers a new and painless way to learn to dance. The class is held on the outside platform adjoining the social hall. The instructor is Rosemary Brittain, who is pretty, patient, and tireless, teaching from 8 until 10 every Monday nite. Beginners are helped from 8 until 9. Variations of the basic ballroom steps are demonstrated and taught in the advanced class from 9 until 10.

Two soldiers of the advance party of the 86th Division

First 86th Division Soldiers To Arrive Here



The enlisted men (above) and 12 officers (left) of the 86th (Black Hawk) infantry division reached Camp Gruber early Friday morning. They were stopped by the photographer late Tuesday afternoon. Second from the right is Lt Col V. Slater, acting CO of the 86th here. In the saluted group are: Bodmer, Reed, Crighton, Brown, Jess, Carlson, Phelan, McKeon, Butters, Feig, Evans, Brummer, Wharris, Kramer, Reis, Curtis, Holland, Mitchell, Virden, Roges, Riggs, Livingston, Kratky, Drisk, Epstein.

New Staff Members At Braggs USO

Two new members of the staff at the Braggs USO have recently taken up their duties. It has been announced by John I. Bessaday, director. They are Molly Lou Smith, staff assistant, and Mrs Homer Craig, program director.

Miss Smith, who is from Tipton, Okla., came here from the work of program director of the Oklahoma City USO at 208 N. Broadway. A graduate of Central State college at Edmond, she has taught music in public schools and was assistant in the vocal department in her senior year at college, where she also taught again last summer.

Mrs. Craig, who is from Tulsa, Okla., came here from the work of program director of the Tulsa USO at 208 N. Broadway. A graduate of Central State college at Edmond, she has taught music in public schools and was assistant in the vocal department in her senior year at college, where she also taught again last summer.

World Charter Approved; Will Go to Congress Monday

President Harry S. Truman, speaking before the massed flags of the 30 United Nations at the San Francisco opera house Tuesday nite at 7:07 (CWT), closed the 8-week session of the World Security council at which a 10,000-word charter was unanimously approved by the full conference.

China was first to sign the document. The United States, represented by President Truman and Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, signed at 5:15 (CWT).

“This great security charter is only the beginning,” said Secretary Stettinius. “With faith in our cause and truth in our hearts, we will keep the world secure. But the

Conference

In the absence of Col London J. Lockett, attending the annual Service Command com-

Advance Party of 38 Has Already Left on Furlough

Twelve officers and 26 enlisted men comprised the advance party of the 86th (Black Hawk) infantry division who stepped off the train at Braggs shortly after midnight last Friday morning, after a three-day train ride from Camp Kilmer, N. J.

The detachment, representing each unit of the division, after turning in unit records for prompt establishment of personnel and supply administration here, departed Tuesday afternoon for a recuperation period of 30 days plus travel time.

It was a jubilant crew that descended upon Camp Gruber, under Capt Chandler S. Kinball, only five days after being landed in New York. They are members of the first division to return from the ETO under the redeployment schedule of restraining in the United States for the Pacific war.

The first man, the GUIDON regular run into was in a store at Braggs, Friday evening. He was Capt Donald J. Bodmer, of the division's MP platoon. Asked how he liked being back in the United States, he said, “Boy, this is heaven.” That expressed everything.

Officers and men reported to Lt Col V. Slater, adjutant of the 25th Hq Sq Tps and acting commanding officer of the 86th division party; they were quartered temporarily in the 25th headquarters area. It took only four days to straighten out the records and on the fifth day, Tuesday, they took off for home.

The GUIDON interviewed Cpl Alven E. Carlson, of Latimer, Ia., while he was waiting for his furlough orders, who said he thought Camp Gruber was the nicest camp he had ever seen. But mostly Cpl Carlson was anxious for his furlough, not having been home in a year.

Carlson is with service company, 341st infantry. His job is the preparation of morning reports for regimental personnel. He was awarded the combat infantry badge at Wenden, Germany, near the Rhine river, May 28. He also wears the ETO ribbon with one battle star.

The 86th division is now assigned to the Army Ground Force and Fourth army.

Officers with the 86th division advanced party are: Capt Kinball, 15 days; Capt Brummer, Capt Palmer, Warrant Officer, CWI Dick. Turn to page four

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“American women are pretty but Russian women are really beautiful.”—Harry Hopkins, President Truman's personal representative, while visiting the Bolshoi Theater Ballet School, in Moscow.

Young People Take Part in 'Wigwam' Program at Braggs

An elaborate and entertaining Sunday program has been worked out by the Wigwam Service center (The Wigwam at Braggs, in conjunction with Fourth army chaplains on the post. Known as the Young People's Evening program, it varies each week but usually includes some kind of entertainment, a snack to eat, and a vesper service.

The group, which meets Sunday afternoons at the Wigwam, sometime between 2 and

Camp Gruber Newspaper - June 29, 1945 - ETO to NYC to Camp Gruber, 30 days furlough (plus travel time), then back to Camp Gruber for more training before joining the Pacific Theatre.

86th Division

From page one

enson, CWO Johnson, WOJG Orr, CWO Miller, and Lt Baker. (See picture, page one.)

"Voice O Vets," publication of the Army Ground and Service forces redistribution center at Fort Sam Houston reports the first arrivals there last Thursday of Texas members of the 86th (Black Hawk) division, 460 tired, grimy, but jubilant officers and men who departed almost immediately on 30-day furloughs.

The battle record of the 86th, activated and trained at Camp Howze, Texas, includes capture of 77,000 Germans and the liberation of thousands of Nazi slave laborers.

Seeing 42 days of actual com-

bat with the 5th Army, 1st Army, the 3rd and 7th Armies, the division made one 41-mile drive in seven days in the battle of the Ruhr in Germany. Pushing through the valley, it joined elements of the 9th Army and helped split the Ruhr pocket. The division was in the Munich area when V-E Day came.

"The damn flak guns the Germans used against us were the worst kind of fire we had to face," said division commander Maj Gen Harris M. Melasky of Austin.

Do more than exist—LIVE.
Do more than look—OBSERVE.

bat with the 5th Army, 1st Army, the 3rd and 7th Armies, the division made one 41-mile drive in seven days in the battle of the Ruhr in Germany. Pushing through the valley, it joined elements of the 9th Army and helped split the Ruhr pocket. The division was in the Munich area when V-E Day came.



Pacific & Far East—Yanks completed the liberation of the entire main Philippine island of Luzon after five months of tough fighting on difficult terrain—leaving southern Mindanao the only Philippine isle with major Jap resistance. The Aussies cleared Takaran island and seized the great Seria oil fields and town of Miri on Borneo. American warplanes carried a growing air offensive into its 23rd consecutive day from Borneo to the Kuriles. More hundreds of Japs surrendered or were shot and the Jap commanding officer on Okinawa committed hari kari. The Japs reported allied invasion of island half-way between Okinawa and Kyushu and at Balikpapan on Borneo. U. S. troops invaded six small islands in the Marianas with little opposition. **European Theater**—The Russian chief of staff submitted a plan to discharge millions of red soldiers in 13 older age classes. Stalin was promoted to Generalissimo. Russia demanded military bases in the Dardenelles from Turkey. The 95th "Victory" division embarked for the States from France. **United Nations**—Representatives of 51 United Nations signed the Security Charter at San Francisco. U. S. began sending lend-lease aid to Russians in Siberia. The Chinese Prime Minister visited Moscow to seek Soviet aid in war against Japan. **Home Front**—GIs learned that the critical score will be reduced from 85 to "78 or 80" within the next two or three weeks. Truman accepted Stettinius's resignation as Secretary of State and appointed him as American representative on the post-war security council and chairman of the U. S. delegation in its general assembly.



Donald Whitaker returning home after ETO on furlough for 30 days before going back to Camp Gruber and the Philippines - July 1945



The Gruber Guidon

VOLUME 1

CAMP GRUBER, OKLAHOMA, FRIDAY, 27 JULY 1945

NUMBER 51

Black Hawks Pour into Camp Via Train and Motor Convoy

Mauldin Cartoons To Be in GUIDON 86th Division Soldiers Now More than Half Assembled

**New Series, 'Sweatin' It Out,'
Starts Today; Artist Is Mere Kid
Who Might Have Been Cowboy**

Bill Mauldin, hailed as the war's top cartoonist for his famous Pulitzer prize-winning drawings of hard-bitten doughboys in "Up Front with Mauldin," makes his bow to GUIDON readers this week with the new series called "Sweatin' It Out." Lt. Sgt. Mauldin, who was discharged recently with 131 points, has been decorated with the Legion of Merit. He plans to bring his characters, Willie and Joe, back to the States and to civilian life.

There's nothing glorified about his realistic portrayal of our fighting infantryman. Mauldin, a mere kid himself, knows them because he has been one of them. He went overseas with the 48th infantry division in 1943 and was up at the front while that unit was making its great record fighting in Sicily and Italy. Through it all, he was drawing cartoons for the division newspaper—cartoons that graphically depicted the doughboy's warm-eye view of the war. And this he later attached to the staff of the army newspaper, "Stars and Stripes," he continued to go directly to the front for his ideas.

Drawings Acclaimed
His drawings have been highly acclaimed by the mil-

Mail for the 86th Infantry Division



Sorting 200 first class pouches out of more than 1600 which were turned over to the incoming 86th infantry division yesterday, is the camp post office crew. At the table left to right—Pfc A. A. Schenberger, Pfc Albert Bekart, S Sgt Gerald T. Duffy, and Lt Charles W. Edmiston. Behind are Cpl Charles C. Stevens and Pfc Victor Puglio.

Dance Postponed

The civilian dance scheduled for tonight at the GI club has been postponed indefinitely, according to an announcement from the civilian personnel office.

Those who have purchased tickets may have their money refunded by applying to the person from whom they bought admissions.

Vets Guide Issued By Salvation Army

"The Veteran's Guide," a

Soldiers of the 86th (Black Hawk) infantry division, returning from 30-day furloughs after five months in the ETO, are swarming into Camp Gruber at the rate of four and five trainloads a day, the first full division to be redeployed thru the United States for the Pacific.

The first train load of Camp Gruber's third infantry division arrived here from Fort Meade, Md., at 12:30 Tuesday afternoon and already more than half the outfit is on the post. Within a week the 86th will be ready to start its refresher program, which is expected to last eight weeks, according to War department information released from Washington thru the Associated Press.

Troops Met at Trains
Most of the trains, which come from assembly points all over the United States, are met by the commanding general, Maj Gen Harry H. Meinsky, by the artillery commander, Brig Gen E. B. Gledhill, and also by the two officers who devised the system of handling the arrivals, Col Landon J. Lockett, camp commander, and Col Marcel A. Gelin, commanding 25th headquarters, special troops.

Greeted by Band
Incoming troops are met at the unloading area at the end of F street and speeded into camp by specially trained motor convoys thru the main gate to the sports area at Third

Club Two Offers Many Programs

The feature attraction for GI enjoyment this week will be a first look at "Habitat-1945," Camp Gruber's entry in the Eighth Service command's Soldier Show contest sponsored by the Camp's A. B. office

Camp Gruber newspaper July 29, 1945

86th Division

From page one

Lt Col Stanley Gortikov, training officer. Designed to toughen the troops for the special hardships that will be encountered in the Pacific fighting, it includes physical conditioning, prevention of tropical and insect-borne diseases, flame-throwing techniques, and jungle fighting in general.

A complete Japanese village, erected in an area off the south access road seven miles from the garrison area, is a sample of the completeness with which plans have been made for the special training of the 86th.

Camp Gruber Newspaper article, page 2 - July 29 1945



German POWs of the 86th Infantry Division at Camp Gruber

Below: Guard tower, German Prison of War Internment Camp, Camp Gruber, 1945.



Below: Tent City, Camp Gruber



Float Training, Greenleaf Lake, Camp Gruber, 1945.

Rescue craft used during training, Greenleaf Lake, Camp Gruber, 1945.



Above: The Telephone Operators' Quarters (TOQ), Camp Gruber, 1945.

86th Division Band To Play For Twilight Serenade Tonite

Personnel, both military and civilian, who have seen and heard the 86th infantry division band in a few maneuvers around the post during the past few days will be glad to learn that the newly arrived musical organization will appear on Camp Gruber's popular "Twilight Serenade" concert this evening at Muskogee's Spaulding park. Remarks around camp indicate that the 86th has the sharpest band ever to appear on the post.

The 56 piece organization is directed by CWO N. A. Cammick, with WOJG W. P. Payne as assistant director. The concert will begin promptly at 8:30 p.m., and ends at 9:30.

STAR SAVES 3 STRIPES

Honolulu (CNS) — B Gen Wayne C. Smith, chief of Staff, Centray Pacific Base Command, rescued a sergeant and his girl from drowning. The EM, unable to swim, fell off a life raft and dragged the girl with him. The general heard their cries, loosened the soldier from



L-R: Don Whitaker and Charlie Kohler at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma

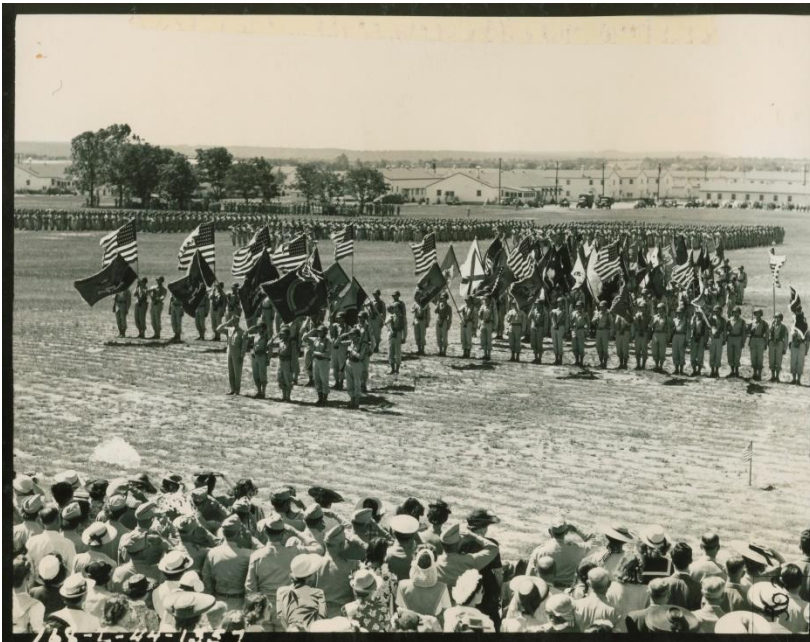
Both 86th Division band members

Combined Bands of 86th Division On The March



One of the largest musical organisations ever to show at Gruber was the combined bands of the 86th division. They are shown above during practice.

Combined 86th Division Band practicing together at Camp Gruber 1945



Troop Review Camp Gruber



Donald Whitaker and the 86th Division had left San Francisco, CA enroute to Japan when the surrender occurred, so their ship was diverted to the Philippines to capture leftover Japanese soldiers there until 1946.



86th Division Band playing at a club in the Philippines 1945

Don Whitaker back row right playing trumpet



Donald Whitaker back row far right playing trumpet with 86th Division Band in the Philippines 1945



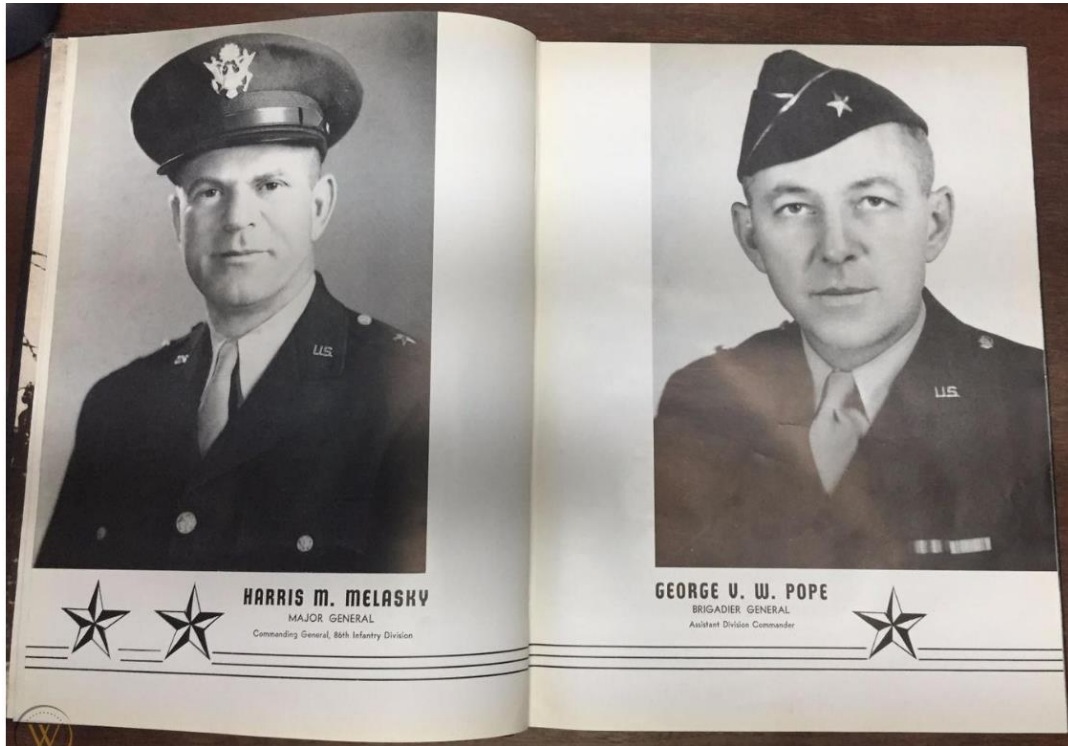
Philippines – Camp stage for music, movies, etc. (Unknown soldier)



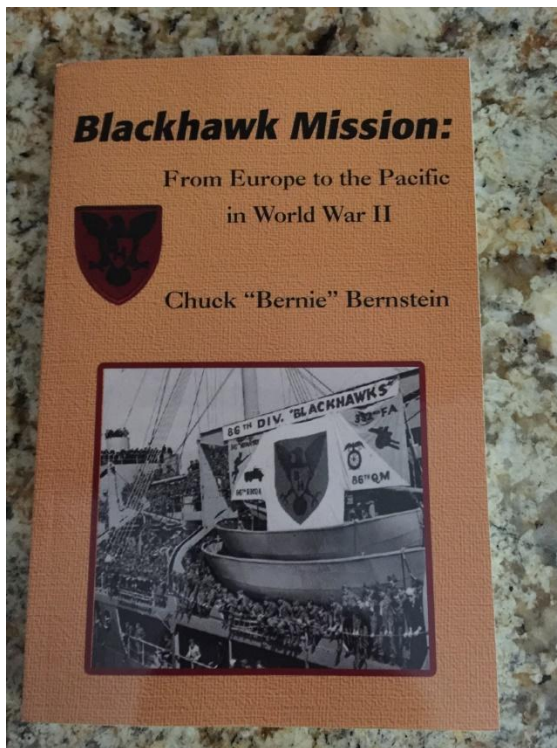
12/30/1946 Blackhawks deactivated in Leyte

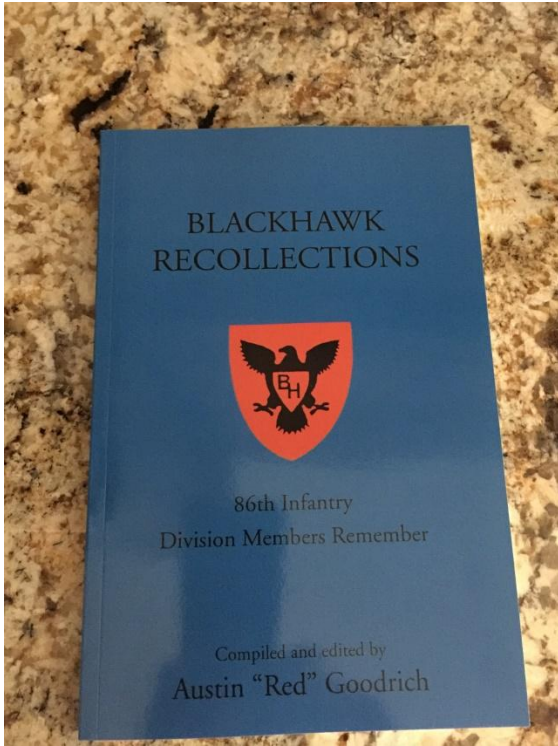


Leyte. Phillipines

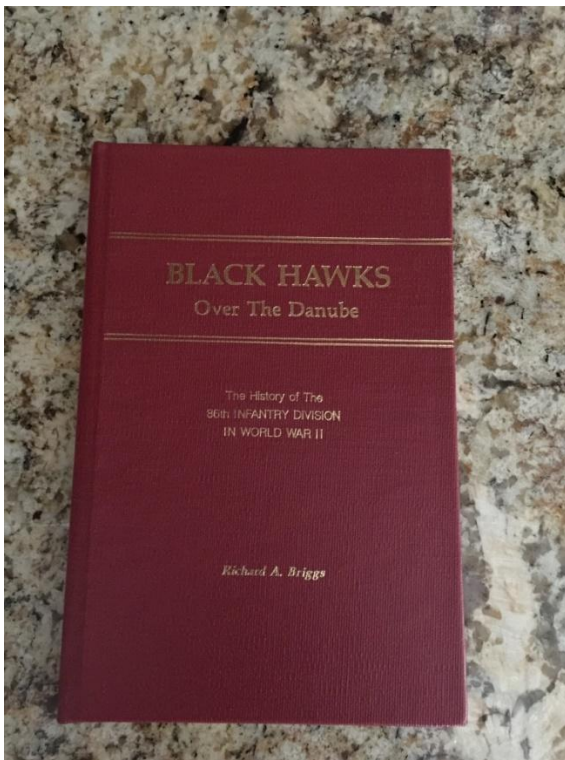


Books on the 86th Division





Blackhawk Recollections by Austin "Red" Goodrich



Blackhawks Over the Danube by Richard Briggs



This document was put together by Sandra Whitaker Organek, in remembrance of what would have been her dad's 100th birthday.

Sandra Whitaker Organek

Ph: 414-378-9195

Email: sandrakwo@aol.com

July 2025