

**1954**



**50th ARMORED DIVISION**

New Jersey National Guard





Mr. Stewart Paynter  
2402 Riverside Ter  
Manasquan, NJ 08736

# THE JERSEY BLUES

1755-1764

*The Department of the Army has recently approved the designation JERSEY BLUES for the 50th Armored Division, NJNG. The following early history of the designation is reprinted with permission from the Military Collector and Historian, Journal of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians.*

Early in 1755 the provincial government of New Jersey authorized the raising of five companies for service against the French.<sup>1</sup> By May their organization was complete, and they were combined into a regiment. Shortly thereafter they were ordered to the northern frontier under command of Colonel Peter Schuyler, a provincial officer who had commanded the troops from New Jersey during the campaigns of 1746-1748. These earlier men had been called "Jersey Blues" and, since the new Regiment continued to wear the blue uniform, the name was applied to them as well.

Apparently the Regiment returned to New Jersey for the winter 1755-1756. In the spring of 1756 it returned north where half of it was stationed at Schenectady, New York, and the other half at Oswego. It was this latter part which was captured, along with Schuyler himself, by Montcalm's army on 14 August. The command then went to Captain John Parker and ill-luck continued. On 21 July 1757, the Regiment lost heavily in the affair at Sabbath Day Point, and the following month all the men and officers who remained (301) were captured at the fall of Fort William Henry and paroled for eighteen months.

In the spring of 1758 the Regiment was "augmented," or really re-raised, under command of Colonel John Johnson, and took part in the disastrous campaign against Fort Ticonderoga of that year. At this time the unit consisted of almost 1,000 men. In 1759, it was again recruited up to this number and, commanded once more by Peter Schuyler (who had been released), it served until November.

It was raised again by the act of 25 March 1760 to 1,000 men and employed chiefly at Oswego. This year, apparently, it had attached to it a company of rangers. In 1761, it was raised to a strength of 600 men and officers and served until November. One company continued in service through the winter, and the following spring the Regiment was recruited up to 665 men and officers. It is not clear if the command served in 1763, but the next year the Regiment was raised once more

to 600 men and served that summer at Oswego. Apparently it was then finally disbanded.

For some reason which is not obvious, the New Jersey Regiment was a superior unit in all ways. It enjoyed a splendid reputation for discipline, character of personnel, dress, and general reliability. After the regiment passed through New York in June 1758, a newspaper called them "the likeliest well-set Men for the Purpose as has perhaps been turned out on any Campaign . . . their uniform blue, faced with red, grey stockings and Buckskin Breches."<sup>2</sup> Governor Barnard of New Jersey wrote William Pitt in March of the next year that "these men are sent into the field in a different manner from those of most other provinces: they are completely clothed in a handsome uniform & furnished with all necessaries: and they are muster'd to a Man: in both which articles several of the other provinces are greatly deficient."<sup>3</sup>

Of pictorial evidence only one painting exists—that of Colonel Schuyler himself, now in the New Jersey Historical Society, at Newark. But the Act of the New Jersey Assembly which authorized the regiment in 1758 contains a fine statement of its accoutrements. It provided for a "blue Coat, after the Highland Manner, Lap-pell'd and cuffed with red, one pair of Ticken Breches, one Blue ditto of the same cloath of their Coat, one Check Shirt, and one white ditto, two pair yarn Stockings, two pair of Shoes, one Hat to each Man, bound with yellow Binding, one Blanket, one Knapsack, one Hatchet, one Canteen, one Camp Kettle to five Men, a pair of White Patterdashes and also one hundred Grenadiers Caps for one hundred of the said soldiers and two felling axes for the whole Regiment."

It is believed that the New Jersey regiment, like the regiments of the regular establishment, organized a light infantry company toward the end of its existence. Of the dress of this company we have no specific data, but the soldier on the right wears the style commonly found among British light companies of the 1760's. The regimental grenadier cap is based upon contemporary clothing warrants and not upon an actual picture.

H. Charles McBarron, Jr.  
Frederick P. Todd

<sup>1</sup> This historical account is based upon documents in *New Jersey Archives*, 1st series, vols. VIII-X, *passim*; *New York Colonial Documents*, vol. X, 443-4, 591-2, 617, 624, 732; and local New Jersey histories. It is manifestly inadequate. To the knowledge of the authors, no history of the New Jersey Regiment has been written.

<sup>2</sup> *New York Mercury*, 5 June 1758.

<sup>3</sup> *New Jersey Archives*, 1st series, VIII, part 2, 167.



# 1954



Set down between these covers is the pictorial history of New Jersey's 50th Armored Division. It was not possible to include herein a picture of, or even a line of type, on each of the thousands of those who have contributed or who are now contributing to the success of a division of which all of us are so proud. We have attempted to depict here the color, the drive, the spirit which has made the 50th, in the eight years of its existence, one of the great National Guard Divisions in the United States.

# 50th ARMORED DIVISION

New Jersey National Guard





Robert B. Meyner  
Governor, State of New Jersey



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TRENTON

ROBERT B. MEYNER  
GOVERNOR

GREETINGS TO  
THE 50TH ARMORED DIVISION  
NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD

The 50th Armored Division, New Jersey National Guard, is in its ninth year as an effective force dedicated to the defense of our State and Nation. To no worthier cause could you pledge yourselves.

As citizens and soldiers in the world's greatest democracy, you are performing a dual service in protecting those ideals of freedom we so deeply cherish. That is the guiding principle that has enabled you to attain a record of training that has rated your organization as one of the best in the nation.

You have achieved this distinction despite technical difficulties and without fanfare as "New Jersey's Own." As the successor to the old 14th Infantry Division, with its outstanding record in peace and war, the 50th Armored Division is carrying on that enviable tradition. You are one of two such armored divisions in the country. That you are making further progress as a well-knit, efficient fighting force is additional tribute to your devotion to the cause of national defense.

To your commander, Major General Donald W. McGowan, and the 8,000 officers and men under the banner of the 50th Armored, I extend my heartfelt greetings and a warm salute!

*Robert B. Meyner*  
Governor





Major General Edward C. Rose  
Chief of Staff, N. J. Department of Defense

The Chief of Staff of the New Jersey Department of Defense is Major General Edward C. Rose, a veteran National Guard officer with distinguished records in two World Wars. Born in Trenton, General Rose's military service was in the Artillery until 1942 when he was assigned staff duties under General Joseph Stillwell in the China-Burma-India theater. In that theater, General Rose also served under Lord Louis Mountbatten. He was promoted to brigadier general while in the CBI, was mentioned in the King's Dispatches and awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Honor. General Rose was separated from Federal service in December, 1945.

In World War I, General Rose was on the staff of the Field Artillery Brigade of the 35th Division. His National Guard service included assignments on the staff of the 44th Division, NJNG, commanding officer of the 112th Field Artillery Regiment and commanding general of the 69th Field Artillery Brigade, which unit he commanded when it was inducted into Federal Service with the 44th Division in 1940.

With the activation of the 50th Armored Division, General Rose was named as commander of Combat Command A. As Chief of Staff of the Department of Defense, he is a member of the Governor's Cabinet.





50TH ARMORED DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

1 July 1954

To the Officers and Men of the 50th Armored Division

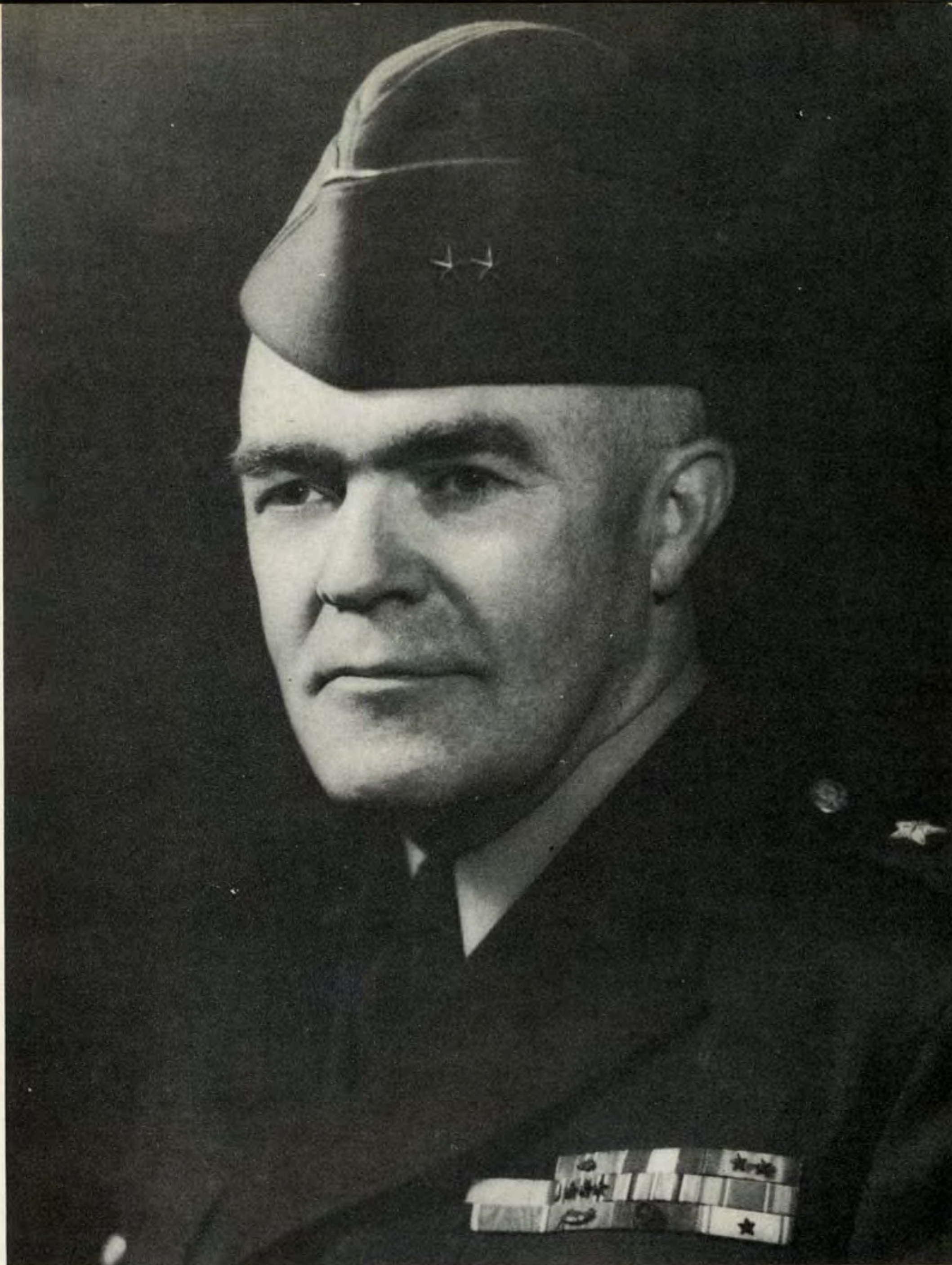
On 15 July 1954, the 50th Armored Division, New Jersey National Guard, celebrates the eighth anniversary of its activation. In these pages have been set down in permanent record the history of those years. But no camera has yet been developed that can picture the drive, that can measure the sweat and toil or the sacrifice of a man's free time that have gone into the making of our fine Division. No writer is talented to the point of fully reporting the story of devotion to duty, and the loyalty, that has made the 50th one of America's great National Guard Divisions. In time of peace these sacrifices, all too frequently, go unnoticed.

With the line between peace and total war a mere thread, the National Guard is a bulwark of defense in which every American may have the fullest confidence. The demands upon the men of the 50th are heavy, for it is only by demanding the most of every man that we can carry out our assigned mission. I am proud, and I know that the citizens of New Jersey are proud of the 50th Armored Division.

In closing, I feel it my duty, aware as I am of the growing threat to the Democratic nations of the world, to urge that each man continue to give his best, that this mighty arm may ever be ready to strike for freedom.

D. W. MCGOWAN  
Major General, NJNG  
Commanding





Major General Donald W. McGowan  
Commander, 50th Armored Division

Major General Donald W. McGowan, Commanding General of the 50th Armored Division, enlisted in the New Jersey National Guard in 1916, in the 5th New Jersey Infantry.

During his long National Guard career he has been in Federal service three times. He served with the 5th New Jersey Infantry on the Mexican Border in 1916. In 1917—1918 he was a battalion sergeant major, 114th Infantry, 29th Division, in Alsace and the Meuse Argonne in France.

He commanded the 102nd (Essex Troop) Cavalry during the Normandy invasion in World War II, for which the unit was awarded the French Croix de Guerre, with palm.

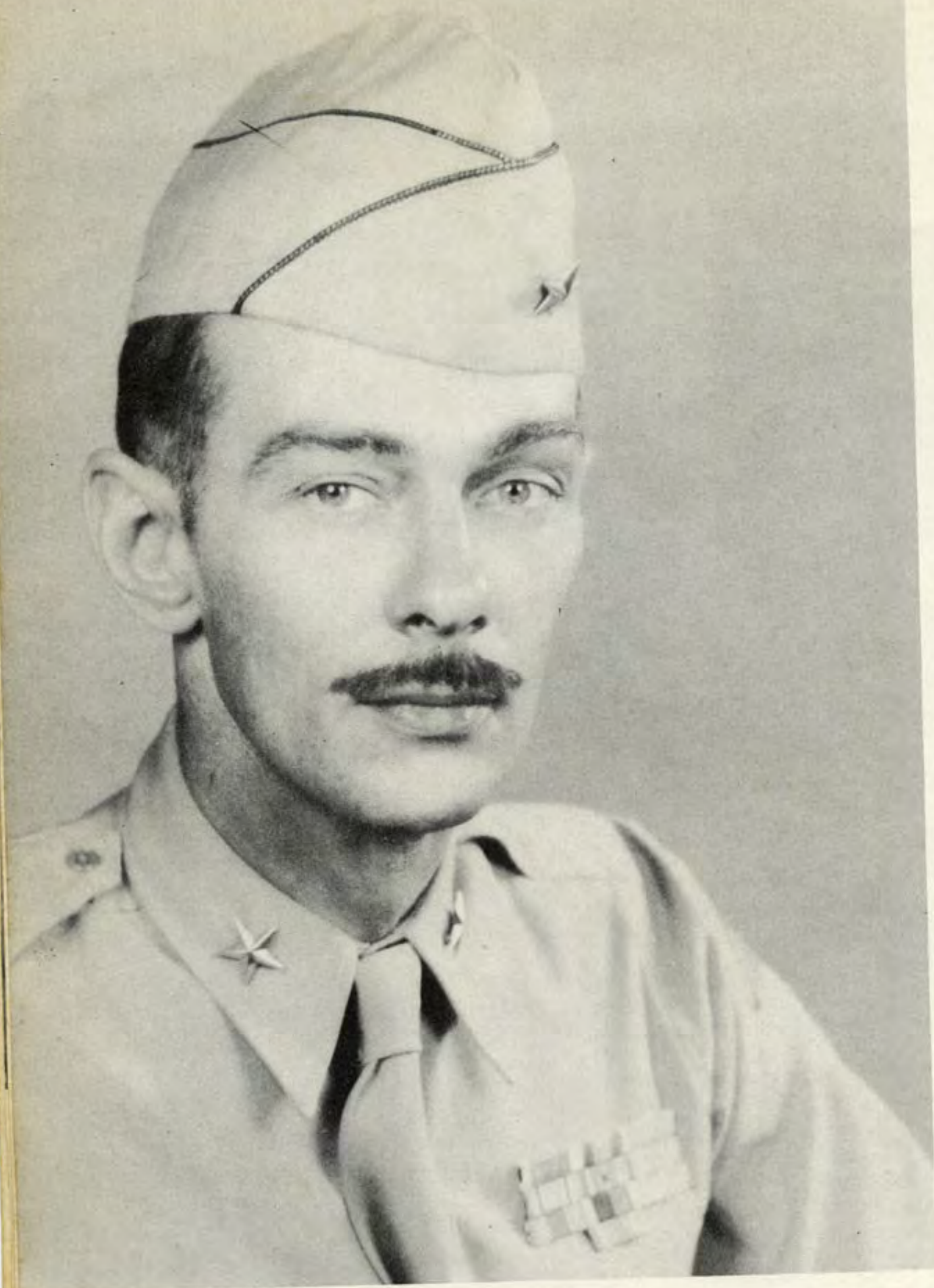
At the end of World War I, General McGowan was appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point from the A.E.F. in France. In 1922 he was commissioned First Lieutenant, Infantry, NJNG. He was nominated to captain in 1924 and appointed Deputy Adjutant General of New Jersey in 1936.

Following World War II, he was active in reorganizing the National Guard of New Jersey. He assumed command of Combat Command B of the 50th Armored Division upon its activation and was promoted in 1947 to Brigadier General of the Line. He was also detailed as Deputy Chief of Staff of New Jersey's Department of Defense.

General McGowan assumed command of the 50th Armored Division in November, 1948, and in December he was appointed Major General.

He is a graduate of the Infantry, Field Artillery, and Command and General Staff Schools. He holds the following awards and decorations: Bronze Arrowhead; Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Croix de Guerre with Palm (France); Order of the Crown Officer (Belg.); Medaille de Reconnaissance, with Star (France).





Brigadier General Edward O. Wolf  
Assistant Division Commander



Brigadier General Edward O. Wolf, Assistant Division Commander, has been in the military service since March, 1929, when he enlisted as a private in the 113th Infantry Regiment.

General Wolf received his initial commission in the National Guard as a second lieutenant, 113th Infantry, in 1932. He advanced to the grade of captain and served as company commander in the 113th until 1940, when he was promoted to major and assigned as executive officer, Headquarters, 57th Infantry Brigade, 44th Division.

He entered Federal service with the 44th in September, 1940, and served with that division until February, 1944, as assistant operations officer, division operations officer, and regimental commander. In February, 1944, he was assigned as chief of staff of the 97th Division, and was promoted to colonel in October, 1944.

General Wolf served with the 97th in World War II European campaigns in the Rhineland, Ruhr Valley and Czechoslovakia, and in the Pacific theater on occupation duty in Japan. For his World War II service he was decorated with the Legion of Merit, the Army Commendation Ribbon, the Czechoslovakian Military Cross, and all theater ribbons.

Following World War II, General Wolf was appointed chief of staff of the 50th Armored Division, New Jersey National Guard, upon its activation in 1946. In June, 1948, he was assigned to command Combat Command B of the division, with headquarters in Orange. He received Federal recognition as Brigadier General of the line in September, 1948.

On January 1, 1951, General Wolf was assigned as assistant division commander of the 50th Armored Division.



Brigadier General James F. Cantwell has been in command of the 50th Armored Division Artillery since 1946, when he organized that unit of the National Guard.

General Cantwell began his National Guard career in 1939, when he joined Battery D of the 112th Field Artillery Regiment in Trenton as a private. His promotions were rapid and he entered into active Federal service as a second lieutenant in 1940.

During World War II, General Cantwell served in the 695th Field Artillery Battalion as a battery commander, battalion intelligence officer, operations officer, executive officer, and commanding officer. At the end of the war, he had risen to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

With the 695th, General Cantwell participated in the Normandy, Central Europe, North France, Rhineland and Ardennes campaigns. His decorations include the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation, the French Croix-de-Guerre with Gold Star, the European Theater Campaign Medal with five battle stars, the American Defense Medal, the American Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

General Cantwell is a graduate of the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the Armored School at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth Kansas.



Brigadier General James F. Cantwell  
Division Artillery Commander





# FORGING THE 50TH

IT was not yet a full year since the end of World War II when, on 15 July 1946, by order of then Governor Walter E. Edge, the 50th Armored Division, New Jersey National Guard, was activated.

The scars of Hiroshima were still vivid. The shock and tragedy of Normandy were equally fresh memories. The battles in tropic jungles and on Arctic wastes yet a reality. Despite the nation's fatigue and the bitterness that follows in the wake of war, there were those who realized that no time could be lost in preparing the peacetime defense of America.

It was against this background that New Jersey, with a rich military tradition, set about re-establishing its National Guard forces, which, along with those of the 47 other states, would train to preserve the freedom for which so many Americans had given their lives. That New Jersey was allotted one of two National Guard armored divisions was in itself an honor. However, the building of such an organization was not an easy mission.

With a nucleus of veteran National Guard officers and enlisted men who had served in every branch of the state's pre-war National Guard and a large number of combat veterans, the task of forging the 50th was begun. A great many of those who answered the first call had seen peacetime and World War II service with New Jersey's famed 44th Division. Others had served with the Armored Field Artillery of the 112th, 695th and 696th and with the armored units of the 102nd (Essex Troop) Cavalry, Jersey outfits that compiled fine combat records in nearly every theater of war.

Command of the newly activated Division was given to Major General Clifford R.

Powell, who was, prior to World War II and at the time of its induction into Federal service, Commander of the 44th Division. Headquarters were located in Newark. Activated along with Division Headquarters were the five major commands—Combat Command A, under command of Brigadier General Edward C. Rose, was located at Camden. Combat Command B was located in Orange and its command given to Colonel Donald W. McGowan, now Major General and commander of the 50th. Combat Command R was originally located in Newark under the command of Colonel Walter D. Fetterly. Division Artillery was located at Lawrenceville, home of the pre-war 112th Field Artillery Regiment. Its command was given to Colonel (now Brigadier General) James F. Cantwell. Command of Division Trains was taken over by Colonel J. Totten Miesegas and its headquarters located in Newark.

General Order No. 1, which activated the Division, also perpetuated the history, battle honors and traditions of the 44th Infantry Division in the new organization. Many units of the Division, now redesignated and reorganized as armored outfits, bear the battle honors, decorations and carry the histories which mark the exploits of predecessor units from Colonial days.

A year after its activation, the Division moved to Fort Dix for one week of field training. Strength, 1,800 officers and enlisted men. One year later the 50th traveled to Pine Camp (now Camp Drum) in upper New York State for a full 15 days of field training. Strength, 6,500.

By late 1947, 82 percent of the units of the Division were organized. The flow of armor into the state had kept pace with the rapid growth of the organization and there was no wasted training because of



# THE GENERAL STAFF



Colonel Wibert A. Allen  
Chief of Staff



Lt. Col. Frank Paul  
G1



Major Johann R. Beller  
G2



Major Vincent DeP. Britt  
G3



Major John E. Paulson  
G4





CWO Theodore H. Hoops  
Leader



## THE BAND

The 50th Armored Division Band was organized 1 November 1946 with a nucleus of three men and one Chief Warrant Officer, Theodore H. Hoops, who is the highest ranking warrant officer in the New Jersey National Guard. The Band received Federal recognition 6 January 1947 with a strength of nine men and one warrant officer.

The personnel consists of semi-professional and professional musicians. The non-commissioned officers are largely World War II veterans.

The Band is a familiar sight in cities and communities throughout the state where it has appeared in many civic ceremonies, parades, concerts and holiday observances. It has numerous commendations awarded it for discipline, appearance and efficiency. In 1952 the Band was awarded the National-Guard Trophy for attaining the highest proficiency in rifle marksmanship in the state.

For the past three years it has attained Superior ratings during Federal Inspections and has consistently received excellent and superior ratings for technical inspections.

During field training the Band plays reveille, church parades and services, reviews, concerts, and troop entertainments in the barracks areas and also sends small musical units into the field to entertain the troops. Military tactics also play an important part during this period for bandsmen must be proficient in combat duties of which they must have considerable knowledge. Two dance bands are maintained within the band and also a choral group. In addition small ensembles consisting of separate brass and reed choirs are formed to give basic training in the fundamentals of music.



# HEADQUARTERS

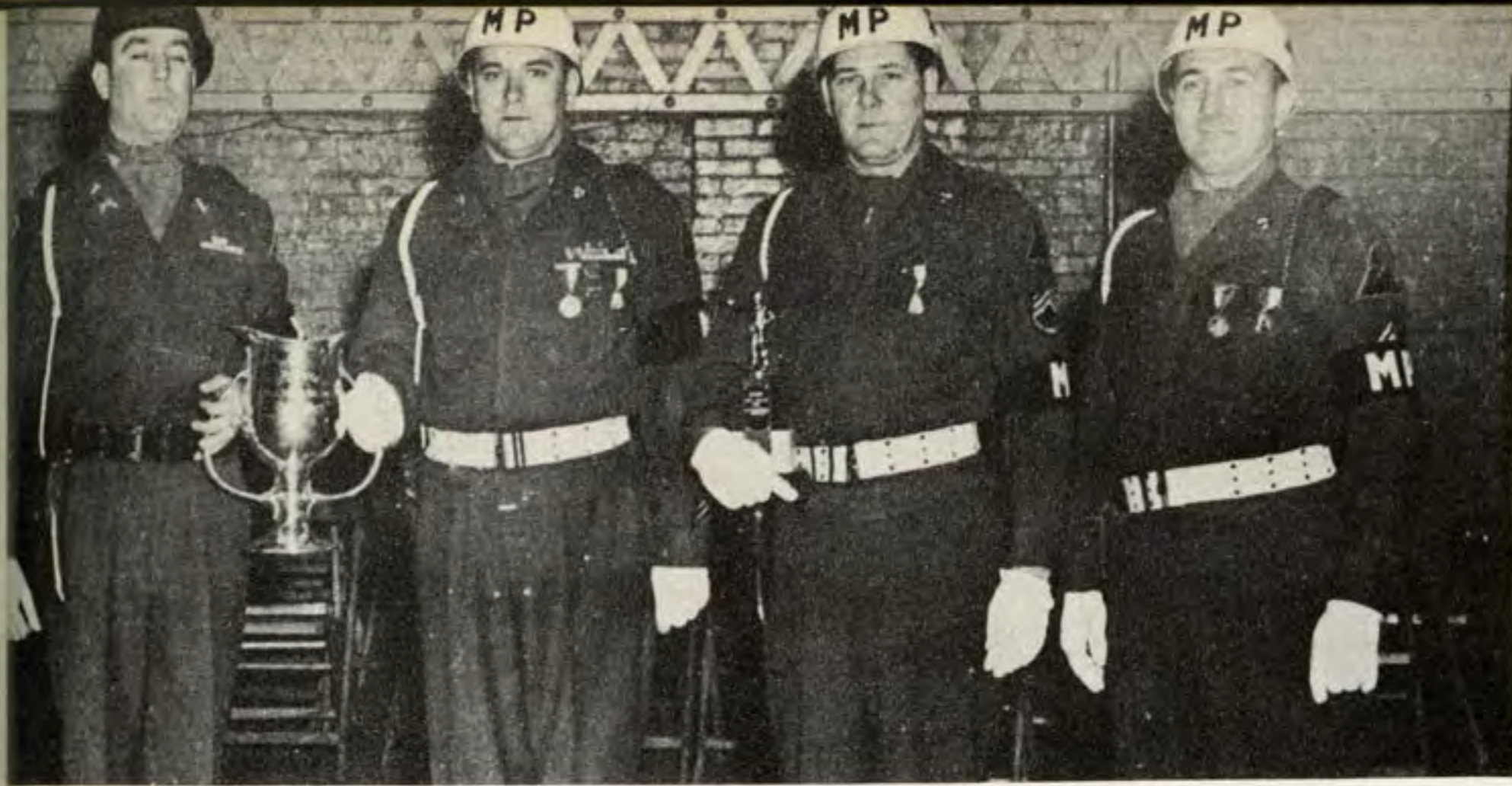


Lt. Col. Frank E. Hanlon  
Finance Officer

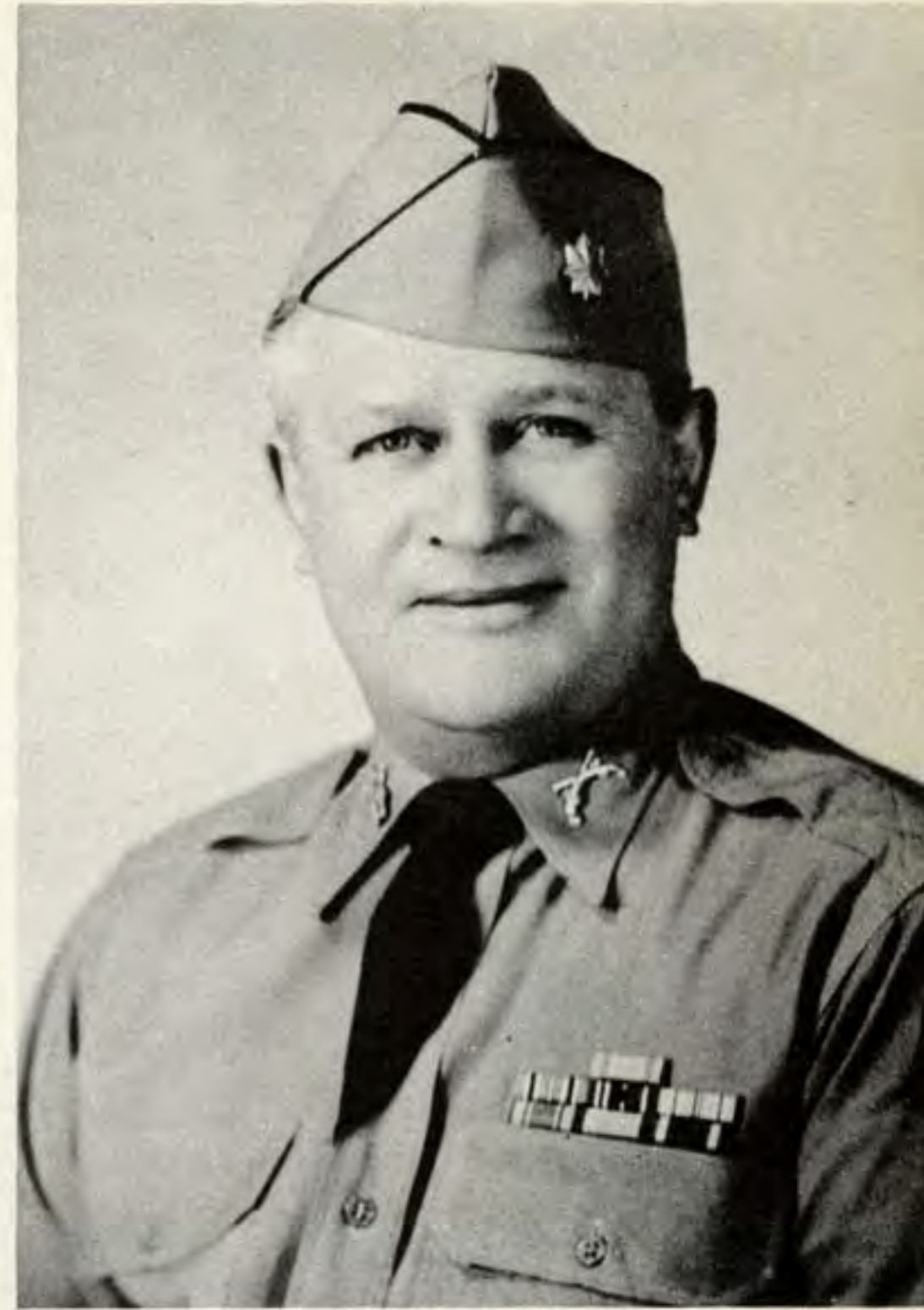


M/Sgt. Anthony J. Zara  
Div. Sgt. Major





# M. P. COMPANY



Lt. Col. Andrew Knapp  
Provost Marshal

# SIGNAL COMPANY



Major Walter Hensel  
Signal Officer





# RECON BN.

The Fiftieth Reconnaissance Battalion Lt. Col. Thomas C. Piddington, commanding, with Headquarters in Westfield, has a rich military tradition inherited from the Second Squadron, 102nd (Essex Troop) Cavalry.

The Battalion, with Headquarters and Headquarters and Service Company, Medical Detachment, Company A, Company C, and Company D stationed at Westfield and Company B stationed at Plainfield has been organized since 26 September 1946.

Originally re-organized as the 50th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), Headquarters and Headquarters and Service Troop received Federal recognition on 26 September 1946 with six officers and thirteen enlisted men present for inspection. On 16 November 1946, Troop C was organized and received Federal recognition with two officers and eighteen enlisted men and Troop A organized with two officers and seventeen enlisted men. Fourteen months later, after much recruiting and organizing, Troop B was Federally recognized on 20 January 1948 with two officers and twenty-one enlisted men. On 4 February 1948, Federal recognition was granted the two remaining units within the Squadron—Troop D with three officers and twenty enlisted men and Medical Detachment with one officer and two enlisted men. The Squadron was fully organized by the start of 1948.

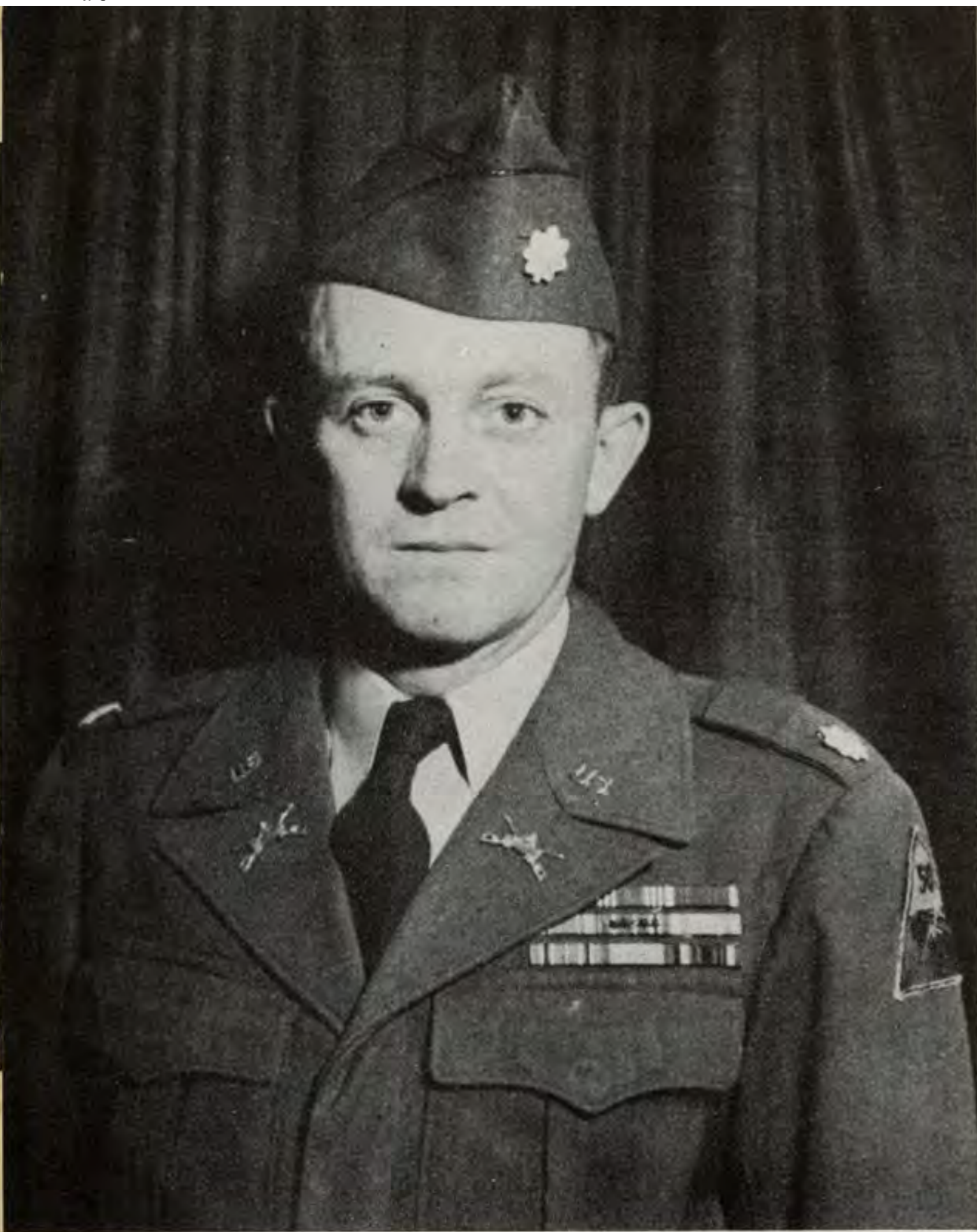
Today, the Battalion enjoys a strength of over 460 Officers and Men.

On 1 March 1949, the organization lost, through re-organization and redesignation, the last tie with the "OLD HORSE CAVALRY" and was redesignated the 50th Reconnaissance Battalion. Thus the troop was changed to Company and the Squadron changed to Battalion, and has to this date carried our present name.

The organization is a direct descendent of the Second Squadron, 102nd Cavalry, which was stationed at the Westfield station with troops I and K for many years. Many of the members that departed with the elements of the 102nd Cavalry from Westfield, on 6 January 1941, hold responsible positions in the present Battalion.

The organization was activated by Col. James G. Depew, then a Major. Col. Depew is now commander of CCR. The present battalion commander, Lt. Col. Thomas C. Piddington, then a Captain, first served as squadron executive officer. From 1 May to 30 May 1950, Lt. Col. Piddington, then a Major and battalion executive officer, was in temporary command of the Battalion. Effective 31 May 1950, Major Piddington assumed Command.

Many of the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Battalion are veterans of World War II. Others entered the Guard since its activation in 1946, and have since worked up through the ranks to responsible positions in the organization.



Lt. Col. Thomas C. Piddington  
Battalion Commander



M/Sgt. Alexander D. Dickson  
Sergeant Major









# 104th ENGINEER BN.

The 104th Armored Engineer Battalion was first organized as the 104th Engineer Regiment on 6 October 1917. The regiment was formed through consolidation of the 1st Bn, New Jersey Engineers, and six companies of infantry from the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th New Jersey Infantry Regiments.

On 14 June 1918 the regiment moved to France as part of the 29th Infantry Division. Arriving at Brest on 26 June 1918 the regiment moved to Moatz, Grandchamps, Coublanc and Lafford. After eleven (11) months of service with the AEF in France the regiment was returned to the United States on 11 May 1919, arriving at Fort Dix where it was mustered out of the Federal Service. For service during World War I the regiment received battle honors for the Alsace and Meuse-Argonne Campaigns.

In 1921, the regiment was reformed as an Engineer Battalion, New Jersey National Guard, with troops stationed in Hoboken, Newark and Englewood.

On 16 September 1940 the regiment was once again ordered into the active Federal Service as part of the 44th Infantry Division. The first duty station of the regiment was at Fort Dix where the regiment was used to construct the 44th Division Tent Camp and a huge reception center for draftees.

In January 1942 the regiment, less the Second Battalion, moved to Camp Claiborne, La. Here the First Battalion was reorganized as the 104th Engr (c) Battalion and the Second Battalion was transferred to the 175th Engineer (GS) Regiment.

Next duty station of the 104th Engineer (C) Battalion was at various locations along the West Coast. In July 1943 the Battalion arrived at the San Francisco Port of Embarkation and prepared for overseas movement. The battalion landed at Adak, Aleutian Islands, on 24 July 1943. On 13 August the Battalion embarked on the invasion of Kiska. Upon completion of the invasion, the Battalion was moved to Pearl Harbor where it was engaged in the construction of an Infantry Regimental Combat Team camp at Koko Head, Oahu, T.H. Embarkation for the assault of the Marshall Islands took place on 21 January 1944. After the assault and subsequent contacts with the enemy the Battalion once again returned to Oahu, T.H.

On 15 September 1944 the Battalion embarked for the invasion of Leyte, Philippine Islands. Easter Sunday, 1 April 1945, the Battalion took part in the invasion of Okinawa. Final Movement of the Battalion took place in October, 1945, when the Battalion moved to Korea. In late November the Battalion embarked for the United States and inactivation on 8 December 1945.

The original Second Battalion, later part of the 175th Engineer (GS) Regiment, participated in campaigns in the European, African and Middle Eastern Theater of Operations, for which the Battalion carries Battle Honors.

In December, 1946, the Battalion was reorganized as the 104th Engineer (C) Battalion, New Jersey National Guard. On 13 December 1947 the Battalion was reorganized as the 104th Armored Engineer Battalion, 50th Armored Division.

The Battalion commander is Major Gordon Thompson.



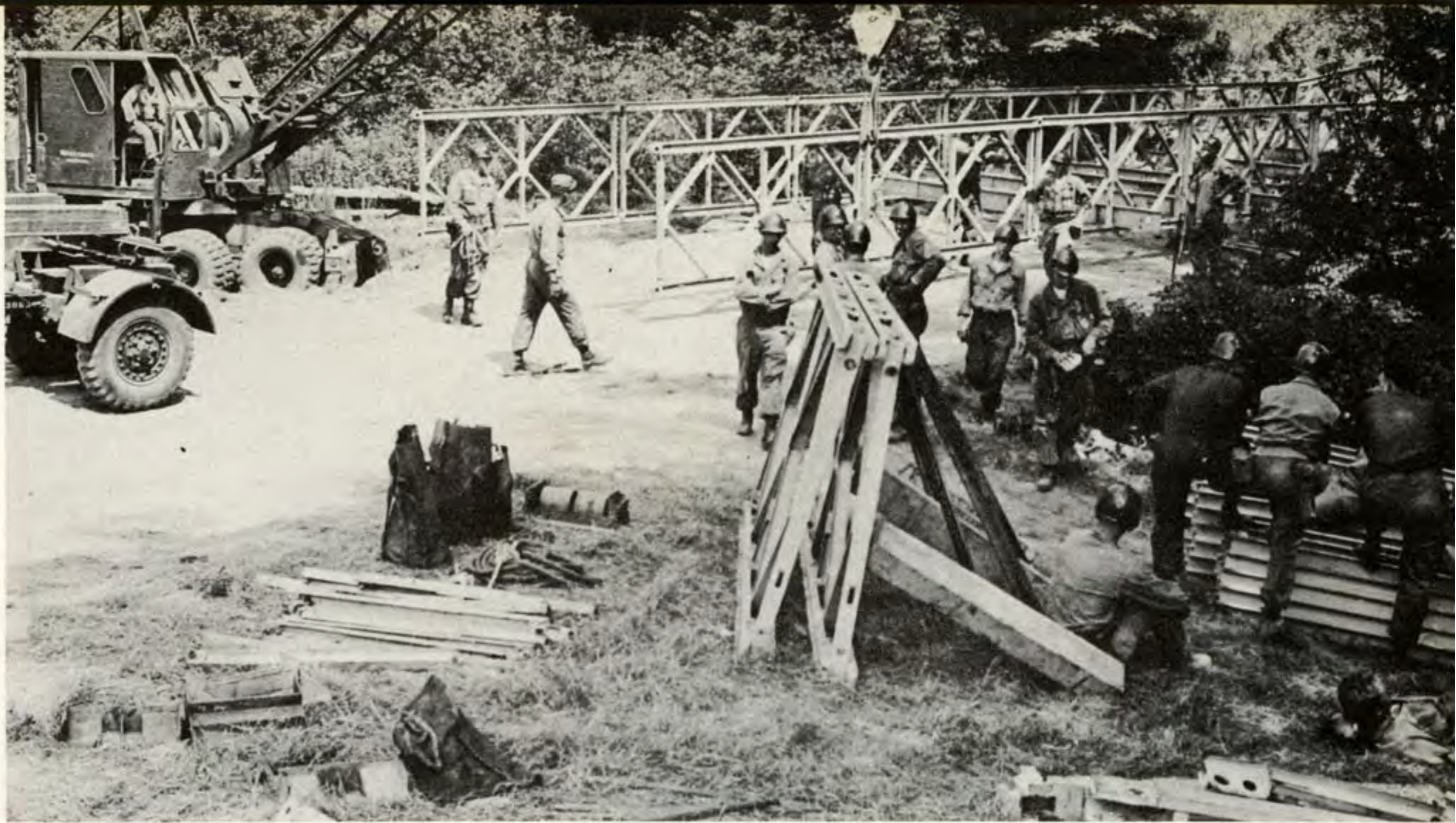
Major Gordon Thompson  
Battalion Commander



M/Sgt. George J. Balz  
Sergeant Major









# CCA



Lt. Col. William C. Doyle  
CCA Commander

Headquarters Combat Command A, has an active history which extends back to 31 October 1946, although the historical lineage is traced to Headquarters 57th Infantry Brigade which came into being on 21 December 1920. The Brigade was inactivated during the triangularization of army units in late 1941.

On the evening of 31 October 1946, eight officers and eight enlisted men stood muster on the floor of the Artillery Armory in Camden and were sworn in as original members. These officers and men are: Brigadier General Edward C. Rose, commander; Major William R. Sharp, S3; Captain Karl S. Russell, surgeon; Captain Samuel Steinmetz, Jr., chaplain; Captain Theodore H. Warner, liaison officer; 1st Lt. Charles M. Eggleston, assistant communications officer; Captain Daniel D. White Jr., Headquarters Company commander; 1st Lt. Robert L. Nicol, Headquarters Company pilot; 1st Sgt. Charles D. Stratten; Master Sergeant Wesley V. Banse; Sergeant Walter S. Hosford Sr.; Technician 4th Grade William G. Holtmeyer; Cpl Earl W. Ryker; Technician 5th Grade William C. Bessey; Private Chester H. Horner Jr.; and Private William L. Pope.

Brig. Gen. Donald W. McGowan assumed command of Combat Command A when General Rose became Chief of Staff, Department of Defense. He in turn was succeeded by Colonel (later Brigadier General) Charles J. Hodge on 16 December 1948. Colonel Charles L. Oakerson succeeded General Hodge as commander on 6 April 1951. He later applied for retirement as had General Hodge. On 2 October 1951, Lt. Col. William C. Doyle left his position as battalion commander of the 216th Armored Infantry Battalion and took command of Combat Command A, which Command he now holds.

During 1946, the Combat Command Headquarters was given the mission of administering the training and organizational needs of three battalions: 114th Tank Battalion, the 1st Battalion, 214th Infantry, which later became the 216th Armored Infantry Battalion, and the 114th Armored Infantry Battalion.



1st Sgt. William E. Forrester







# 114th AIB



Lt. Col. Evan Jones  
Battalion Commander

The parent organization of the 114th Armored Infantry Battalion, was constituted 9 March 1869 as 5th Battalion, New Jersey National Guard and partially organized 14 April 1869 with units in Burlington and Camden. (The Camden element, a State Militia organization had previously served in the Civil War.) Rapid expansion of the Battalion resulted in its redesignation as the 6th Infantry Regiment on 24 August 1870.

The organization had its first taste of active Federal service in 1898 when elements were mustered in at Sea Girt. After a year of active service, the Regiment was mustered out and reorganized 3rd Infantry Regiment, New Jersey National Guard.

World War I saw the organization back in Federal service where it was consolidated with elements of the Delaware National Guard to form the 114th Infantry Regiment, 29th Division. Campaign streamers were earned for fighting in the Meuse-Argonne and Alsace Campaigns. The end of the war, a period of inactivity and then in 1920, the reorganization of the unit as 3rd Infantry Regiment, New Jersey National Guard. Eventually it was redesignated the 114th Infantry Regiment.

World War II saw the organization in active Federal service for the third time; serving as an element of the 44th Infantry Division. Arduous training in the United States and then on to the bitter fighting in Europe where the 114th earned campaign streamers for four major battles; Northern France, Arden-Alsace, Rhineland, and Central Europe.

After World War II, the reorganization of the unit to be known as the 114th Armored Infantry Battalion as a part of the 50th Armored Division took place on 5 July 1946. Its original commander in the postwar National Guard was Lt. Col. Robert O. Webb who, with two other officers and seventeen enlisted men, received Federal recognition on 17 February 1947. Colonel Webb relinquished command shortly thereafter to Lt. Col. David F. Danser who saw the Battalion through its early organization and complete Federal recognition. Subsequently, the Battalion was turned over to Lt. Col. Evan Jones who developed an organization which boasts the greatest strength of any Battalion size unit in the present New Jersey National Guard.

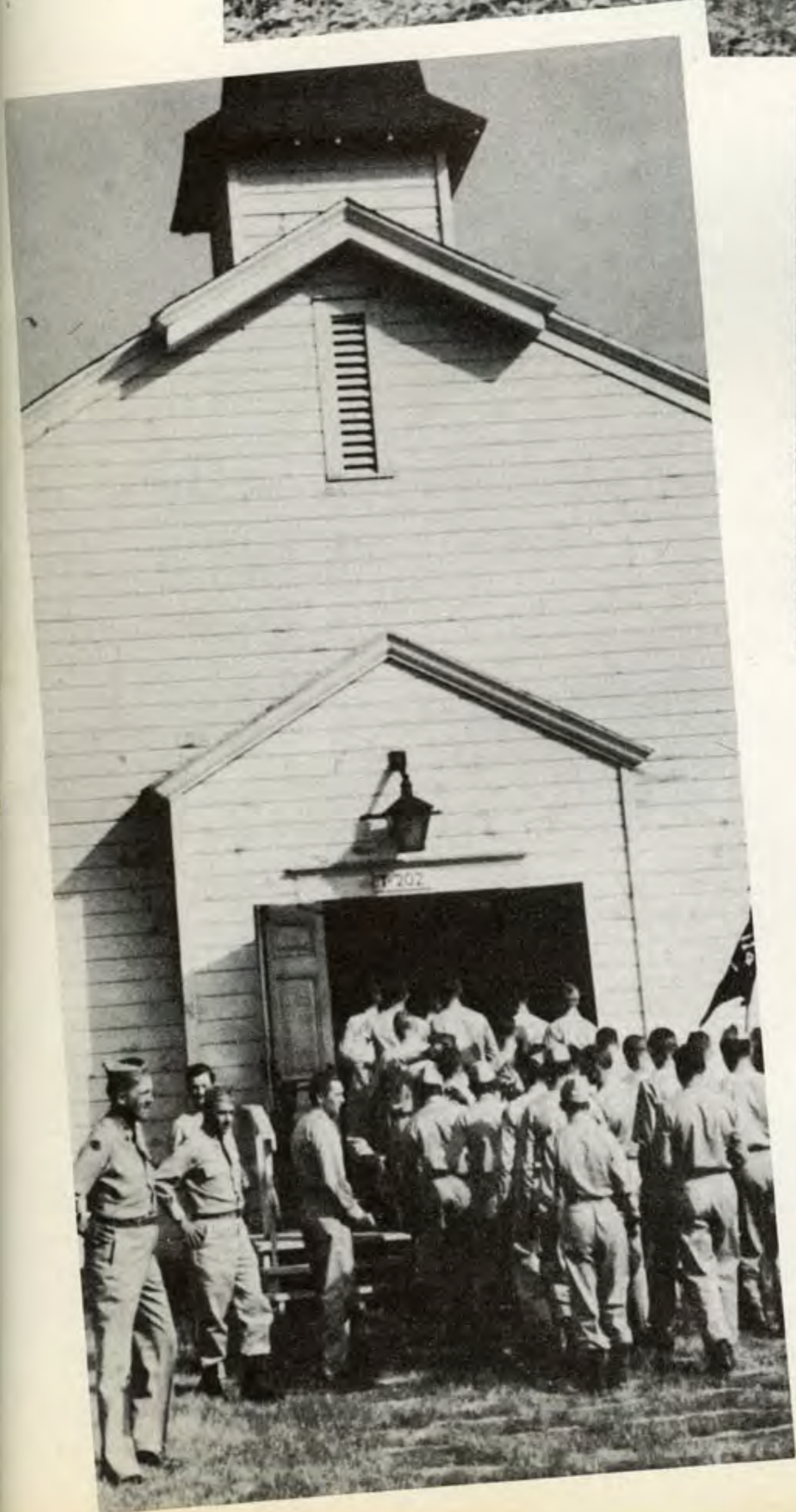
Elements of the Battalion are stationed in Woodbury, N. J. (HqHq&Sv Company, Medical Detachment, and Company "D"), in Camden, N. J. (Company "A"), in Pitman, N. J. (Company "B"), and in Salem, N. J. (Company "C").

The Battalion's Distinctive Insignia was approved on 12 June 1953 along with its Latin motto "Cape Facultatem," meaning "Seize the Opportunity." The coat of arms, basically the same as that of the old 114th Infantry Regiment, but differenced by another arrangement of color indicates descent from that organization. The colors are blue and white for Infantry; the blue saltire represents service in the Civil War; the four-leafed clover, service in the Spanish-American War by the parent organization, and the tah gook for service in World War I.



M/Sgt. Howard R. Lucas  
Sergeant Major







# 114th TANK BN.

Another history-making outfit of the 50th is the 114th Tank Battalion, units of which are located in Vineland. This community was the home station prior to World War II of the 157th Field Artillery Regiment, which in 1941 was reorganized as the 44th Anti-Tank Battalion, a unit of the 44th Division.

The 44th Anti-Tank Battalion was later redesignated the 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion and detached from the 44th Division in 1942.

The 644th landed on Omaha Beach 11 June 1944, attached to the 8th Division. It participated in the Normandy breakthrough and the attack on Brest and performed Siegfried Line patrol duty until November. Attached to the 2nd Armored Division in the attack on the Roer River dams, it later fought against Von Rundstedt's thrust in the Ardennes, knocking out 17 tanks of the 12th Panzer Division in one action at Krinkolt, and fought across the Cologne Plain to the Rhine with the 104th Division. It joined the 8th Division in the reduction of the Ruhr Pocket, and was attached to the 82nd Airborne at the Elbe for the drive to the Baltic at the end of the war.

The battalion was awarded battle honors for Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland, and Central Europe. Its standard carries a distinguished unit streamer embroidered HURTGEN FOREST, for action at the capture of Hurtgen, and two Belgian Croix de Guerre streamers embroidered ELSENBORNE CREST, and ARDENNES. The organization was also awarded the fourragere in the colors of the Belgian Croix de Guerre for defensive action with the 2nd Infantry Division as part of the North shoulder of the Ardennes from 19 to 30 December, 1944.

Many of those who had served in Vineland units of the Guard prior to and during World War II fell into ranks when the 114th Tank Battalion was activated in 1946. The 114th received Federal recognition on 21 November 1946. First commander was Major Henry A. Garton, Jr., who served until 23 December 1950, at which time command was assumed by Lt. Col. David F. Danser. Upon reassignment of Col. Danser, command of the 114th was assumed by Major John Hudson who in turn was succeeded on 17 July 1952 by Major Joseph N. Hartel.

On 1 May 1954 the battalion was redesignated and reorganized as the 114th Tank Battalion, 120 mm Gun.



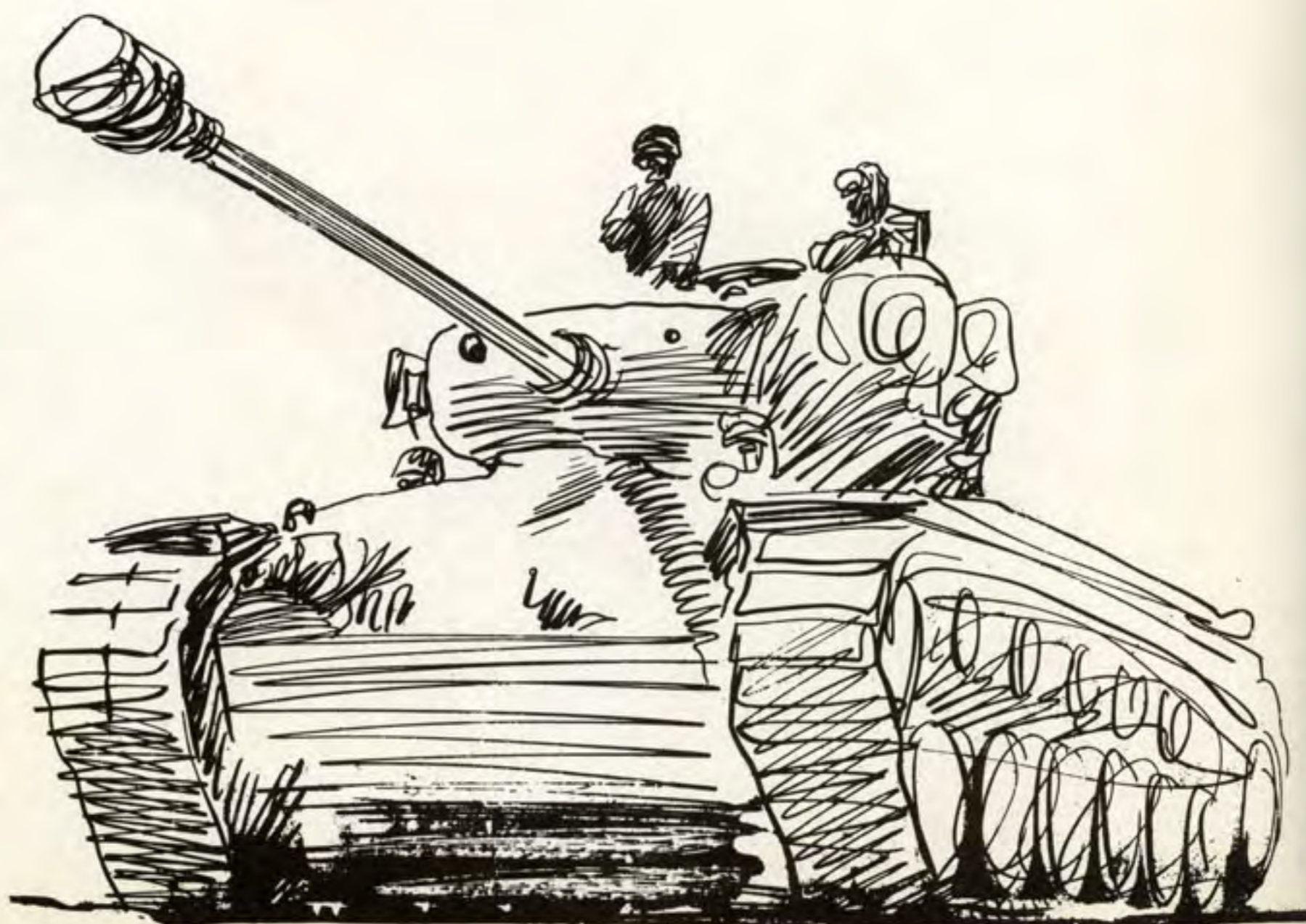
Major Joseph N. Hartel

Battalion Commander



M/Sgt. Clifford P. Mossbrooks

Sergeant Major









# 216th AIB



Lt. Col. Stanley E. Burns  
Battalion Commander



Sgt. 1st Cl. George J. Rittner  
Sergeant Major

The ancestry of the 216th Armored Infantry Battalion is traced to its parent unit constituted 9 March 1869 as the 5th Battalion, New Jersey National Guard, and partially organized on 14 April 1869 at Burlington and Camden, later being expanded and redesignated as the 6th Infantry Regiment on 24 August 1870.

The organization's first taste of Federal service came on 11 May 1898 when Companies A, C, and G were mustered in at Sea Girt as Companies K, L, and M, of the 3rd New Jersey Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Upon being relieved from active duty at Athens, Georgia on 11 February, 1899 the outfit was reorganized and redesignated as the 3rd Infantry Regiment, New Jersey National Guard, on 2 May 1899.

World War I saw the 3rd Infantry called into Federal service on 25 July 1917. It was mobilized at Sea Girt and consolidated on 11 October, 1917, with elements of the 5th Infantry Regiment, New Jersey National Guard, and elements of the 1st Infantry Regiment, Delaware National Guard, to form the 114th Infantry Regiment, 29th Division. Streamers from the Meuse-Argonne and Alsace Campaigns flourished proudly when the 114th was demobilized at Camp Dix, in May of 1919.

Reorganization of the 3rd Infantry Regiment, New Jersey National Guard, came about in 1920, being redesignated as the 114th Infantry Regiment on 17 June, 1921. With participation in World War II inevitable, the outfit entered Federal service on 16 September 1940 at Camden as an element of the 44th Infantry Division. In this memorable struggle, our lads again distinguished themselves, arousing particular attention for achievements in the Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe encounters, ostensibly precipitating the 216th's present Motto—Fortuna Favet Fortibus (Fortune Favors The Bold). Inactivation was completed on 16 November, 1945, at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas. Reorganized as the 214th Infantry Regiment on 8 October, 1946, the organization was subsequently redesignated the 114th Infantry Regiment on 1 March 1948.

On 15 May, 1949, the 1st Battalion was withdrawn from the 214th Infantry and reorganized as the 216th Armored Infantry Battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Fred. W. Shober. Major William C. Doyle, a veteran of the 44th Division and the 114th Infantry, Executive Officer of the battalion, succeeded Col. Shober in August, 1950. Col. Doyle subsequently was given command of CCA. On 4 February 1952, Major, now Lt. Col., Stanley E. Burns succeeded Col. Doyle. Col. Burns served with the 84th Infantry Division during World War II and has served, in turn, in the National Guard, as a Company Commander, Battalion S-3, and Battalion Executive Officer. The battalion has grown to its present strength of four hundred and thirty-five enlisted men, thirty-one officers and eight warrant officers, comprising a Headquarters and Service Company, a Medical Detachment, and four letter companies, housed in armories located in Camden, Burlington, and Mount Holly, New Jersey.



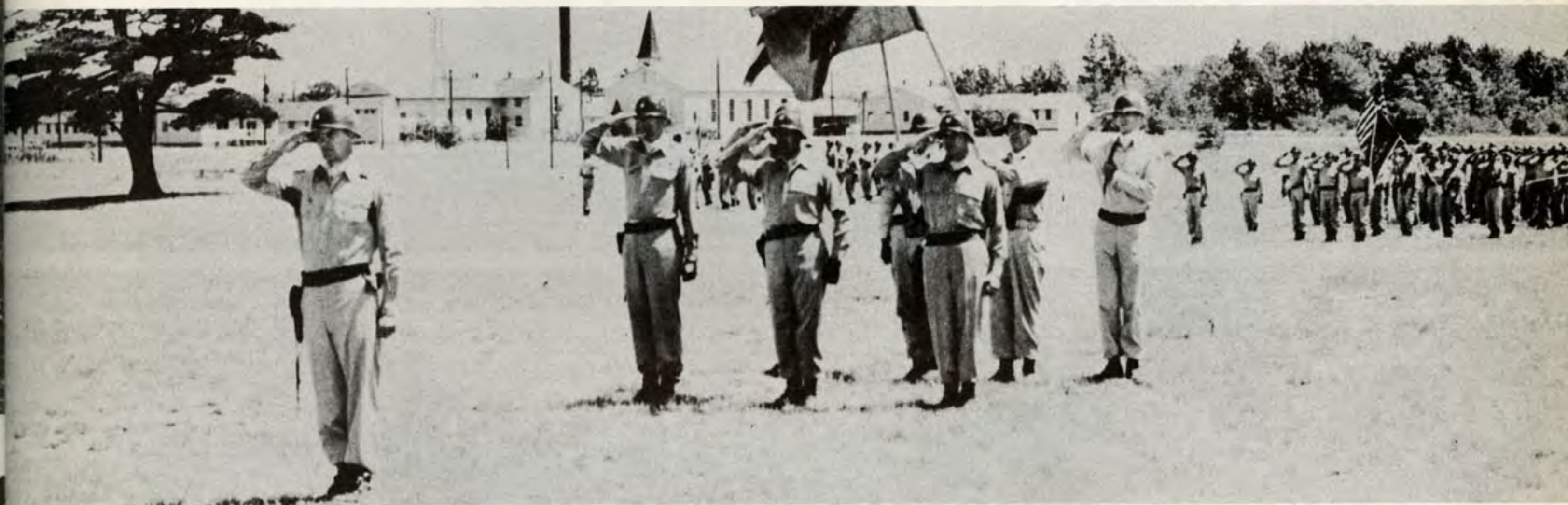




# On Parade...











Col. James H. Weyhenmeyer, Jr.  
CCB Commander



**CCB**

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Combat Command B came into being under Major General Donald W. McGowan (then Colonel) with the formation of the 50th Armored Division after the close of World War II.

It received Federal recognition on 29 October 1946 and had no previous military history, although many of the original members were veterans with brilliant records. General McGowan moved to command of CCA and was succeeded in June of 1948 by Brigadier General Edward O. Wolf in command of CCB. General Wolf was assigned as assistant division commander on 30 December 1950 and Colonel James H. Weyhenmeyer, Jr., took command of CCB on 11 January 1951.

Combat Command B, having no organic troops other than its Headquarters Company, was assigned a training mission with the 113th Armored Infantry Battalion of Orange, the 113th Tank Battalion of Dover and the 644th Tank Battalion of Red Bank attached.



1st Sgt. Patrick S. McMullen









# 113th AIB



Lt. Col. William C. McCahill  
Battalion Commander

Traditional history of the 113th Armored Infantry Battalion traces its roots to the Dutch Colonial "Burgher Guard" of Bergen County, and the "East and West Essex" Regiments of the Revolutionary period. Few official records survive that can accurately trace the various changes and reorganizations that took place prior to 1861, when units of the Newark and Hudson Brigades were mustered into the Union service at Trenton on 31 July 1861 as the 1st and 2nd Regiments, New Jersey Foot Militia. During the Civil War, on one occasion a Corps Commander wrote in a report "The First New Jersey was faithful and brave." These words survive in Latin as the unit Motto "Fidelis et Fortis" and appear as part of the insignia of the 113th AIB. In 1869 the parent units became the First Brigade, New Jersey National Guard.

In 1898 the Spanish War saw the regiment mustered into Federal service at Sea Girt as the 1st New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, but the regiment did not leave the country and was mustered out after a few months. In 1899, the reorganized unit reappeared as the 1st and 4th Regiments, NJNG, and as such served on the Mexican Border in 1916.

The two regiments were consolidated with other units to form the 113th Infantry Regiment, 29th Division, on 11 October 1917 and served in France during World War I, earning battle streamers for Meuse-Argonne, Alsace, and Lorraine. In May, 1919, the regiment returned to New Jersey and was mustered out at Camp Dix.

Reorganized after the war, the 113th Infantry became part of the 44th Division, and was again mustered into Federal service at Camp Dix in September 1940. When the 44th was made a "triangular division," the 113th was dropped, and for a considerable period of time served as a coast defense unit. Most of the original personnel were gradually transferred out of the unit and sent overseas with other outfits. The Regiment itself did not leave the United States, and was inactivated at Camp Rucker, Alabama on 25 September 1945.

While the regiment was on an inactivated status, the 324th Infantry Regiment (which had for a while been part of the 44th Division) was merged with it.

On 14 November 1946 the 113th was reactivated at Newark as an Armored Infantry Battalion, an element of the 50th Armored Division. Colonel (then Lt. Col.) James H. Weyhenmeyer, Jr., established his headquarters in the old 113th Infantry Armory, and directed the growth of the unit, with rifle companies in Newark, Orange and Jersey City, covering the traditional recruiting territory of the old 113th. In 1948 the Battalion Headquarters was moved to Orange. Colonel Weyhenmeyer later became Commander of Combat B, and the Battalion was taken over by Lt. Col. William C. McCahill, a veteran officer of the 4th Infantry Division.

The 113th Armored Infantry Battalion retains the insignia of the parent 113th Infantry Regiment—a Cross Saltire reminiscent of the cross on the Confederate Battle Flags, with an Oak Tree in the upper angle of the cross—commemorating the Oaks of the Argonne of World War I, where the regiment distinguished itself as part of the "Blue and Grey" Division.



M/Sgt. Lewis W. Knowles  
Sergeant Major









Lt. Col. Raymond H. Atteridg  
Battalion Commander



# 113th TANK BN.

The 113th Tank Battalion was formed as a part of the post World War II New Jersey National Guard. It became an organic part of the 50th Armored Division and was assigned to Combat Command "B".

The Battalion was designated as the 113th Tank Battalion, a new unit without any previous military assignment or service. The numerals, taken from a famous New Jersey National Guard unit, the 113th Infantry, are still in use today by the 113th Armored Infantry, from which came some of the officers and enlisted men to form the 113th Tank Battalion.

The first unit to be formed in the Battalion was Company "C", stationed in Flemington. This unit was granted Federal recognition on 27 January 1947, with two officers and nineteen enlisted men. Through a succession of four commanders, it has increased to four officers and eighty-five enlisted men.

The second unit to be formed was Company "B" at Hackettstown. Company "B" was granted Federal recognition on 3 April 1947 with three officers and eighteen enlisted men. With the help of five successive commanders it has reached a present strength of five officers and eighty enlisted men.

On 8 April 1947 the Battalion Headquarters as well as Headquarters Company was activated and Federally recognized at the Orange Armory. Initial strength was four officers, commanded by Major, now Lt. Col. Raymond H. Atteridg, Jr. of Chatham, N. J. Col. Atteridg was to organize the Battalion in its formative years and lead it from a three company battalion with less than seventy personnel, to a full battalion of six units with over four hundred and forty men.

Service Company was formed at the Orange Armory with two officers and fifteen enlisted men on 4 December 1947.

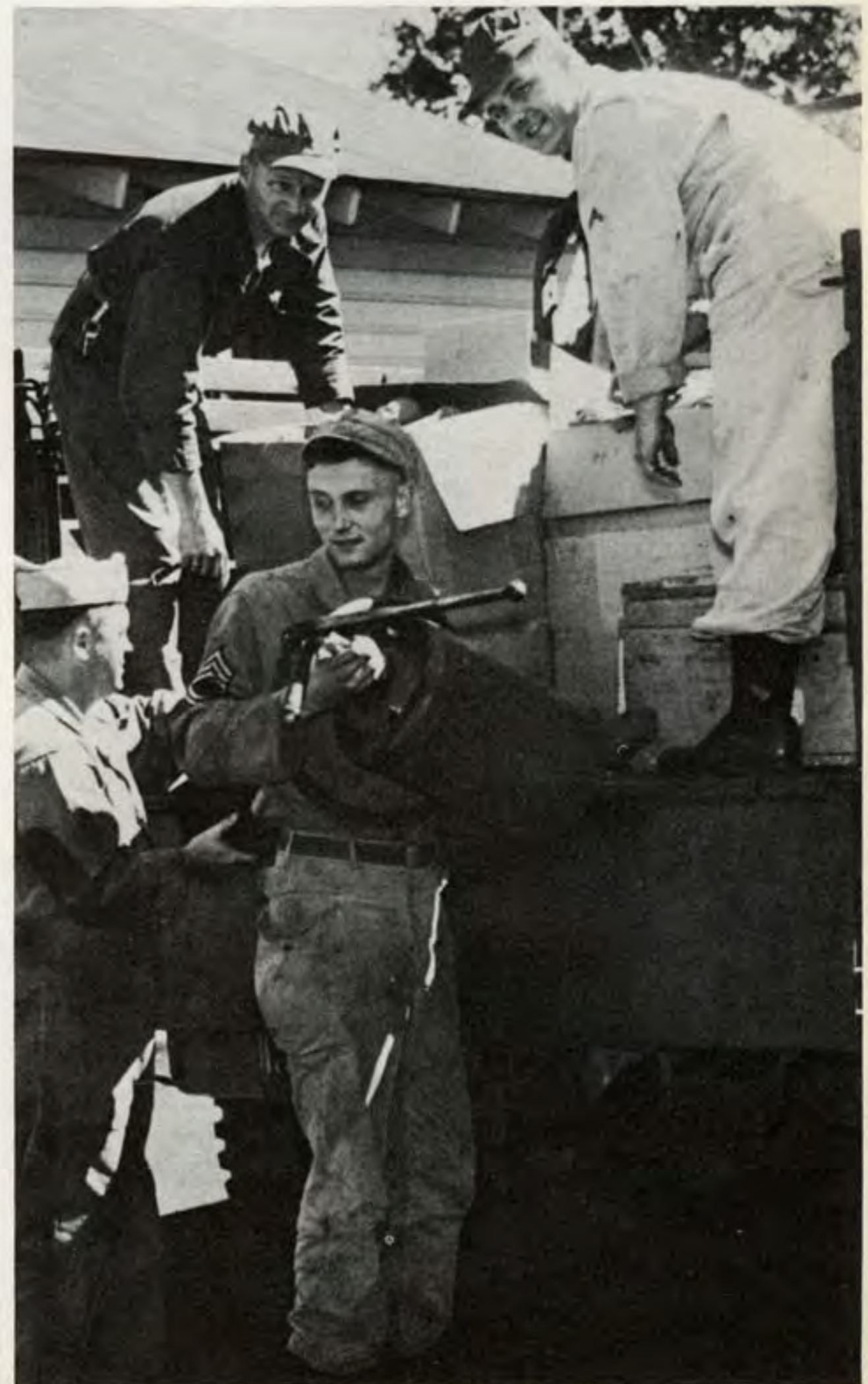
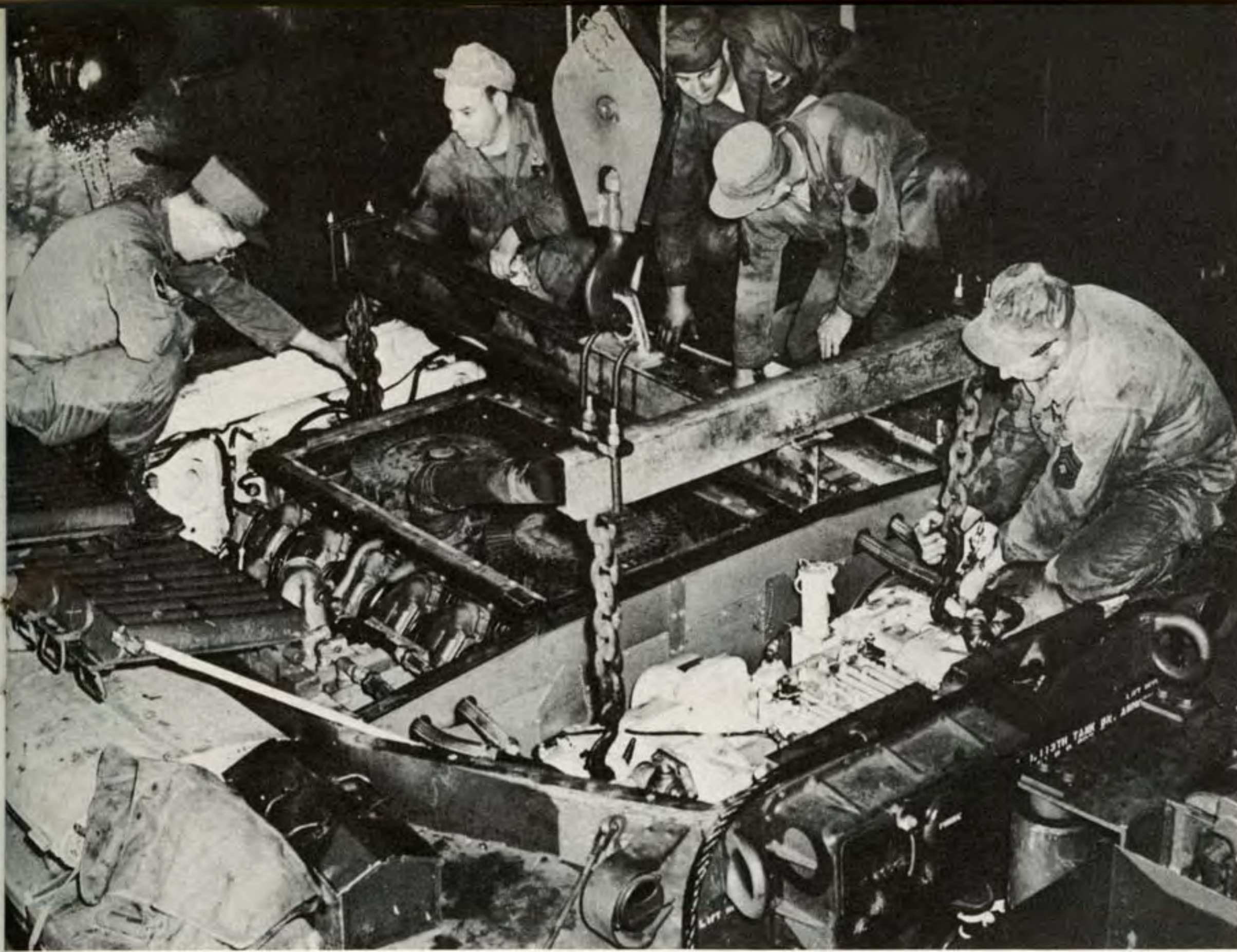
In January, 1948, the units stationed in the Orange Armory were moved to the Dover area. On 31 March 1948 the Medical Detachment was formed in Dover.

1 March 1949 the Armored tables of Organization changed, deleting Service Company which became a part of Headquarters Company, now known as Headquarters and Service Company.

The final two units were Federally recognized on 30 March 1949, with Company "A" being formed at the Artillery Armory in Morristown and Company "D" at the Dover Armory.

Of the thirty-five Officers and Warrant Officers in the Battalion now, nine are former World War II officers. The balance have earned their commissions in the Battalion or by attendance at Service Schools.









## 644th TANK BN.

Lt. Col. Hans A. Kessler

Battalion Commander

The 644th Tank Battalion had its beginning on 18 November 1946, when Headquarters and Headquarters Company were Federally recognized at the Red Bank Armory. When the organization was activated, seven officers and thirteen enlisted men answered the roll call. Lt. Col. Charles L. Oakerson was the Battalion Commander. He had had long and active association with units stationed at the Red Bank Armory prior to World War II.

The unit designation and insignia was adopted from a famed World War II outfit, the 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, which in turn had been formed from elements of the 69th Field Artillery Brigade of the 44th Infantry Division.

In a larger sense, the battalion's history dates back to the horse cavalry days of 1892 when the Second Troop of Cavalry, New Jersey National Guard was organized. Disbanded during the Spanish-American War to become part of the 4th Infantry Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, it was re-organized in 1905 as Troop B, First Squadron Cavalry. After service in World War I as Field Artillery, it was again reorganized as a Cavalry unit and, in 1936, transferred to the 112th Field Artillery. The 112th FA entered Federal Service on 27 January 1941 with Batteries B and E of Red Bank. Its units served with great distinction in the ETO during World War II as Battery B, 695th and Battery B, 696th Armored Field Artillery.

Organization and recognition of the Line Companies was completed in November, 1947; Company C in Asbury Park on 28 January, Company B in Red Bank on 24 September and Company A in Red Bank on 13 November.

With the arrival of tanks and equipment serious training of the battalion began. Areas for driver training and other outdoor training were obtained. During the years 1947 and 1948, the battalion reached the desired levels for training efficiency. Summer school at Fort Dix in 1947 plus field training at Pine Camp in 1948 provided the necessary know-how for tank crews and specialists.

In January, 1949, the Medical Detachment received Federal recognition thus completing the T/O.

Redesignation took place in March, 1949, when the battalion became the 644th Heavy Tank Battalion and became an organic unit of the 50th Armored Division, NJNG. At that time Service Company was re-designated Company A; Headquarters and Headquarters Company were re-designated as Headquarters and Service Company. There was no reluctance on the part of the men to replace their non-divisional patch with the red, blue and yellow armored patch of the 50th. The men looked as well as felt like "tankers."

In January, 1951, Col. Oakerson took command of CCA. Command of the 644th was assumed by Lt. Col. Hans A. Kessler. Col. Kessler had served with the 644th since its organization in 1946 as operations officer and later as executive officer.

Further redesignations took place in December, 1952, when the battalion became the 644th Tank Battalion (120mm Gun), and again in May, 1954, when redesignated as the 644th Tank Battalion.

The battalion has always been represented by an outstanding rifle team. It won the .30 caliber State Championships in 1952 and 1953. In 1954 this team won the small bore indoor championship of the State. Two members of this team were representatives of the State at the National Rifle Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio in 1953.

The motto of the 644th Tank Battalion is "Fortune Favors The Brave."





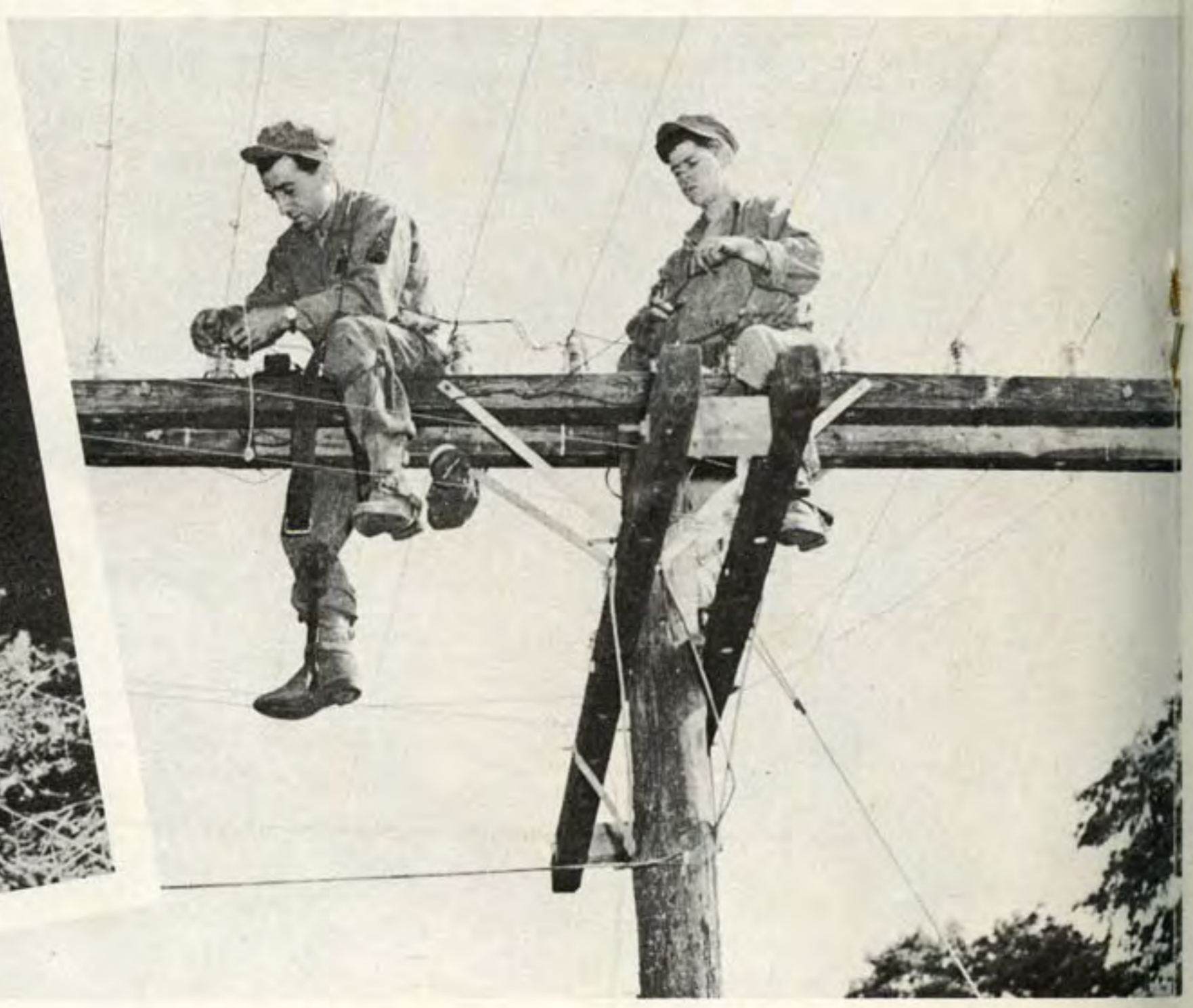
M/Sgt. Leonard J. Porcelli  
Sergeant Major



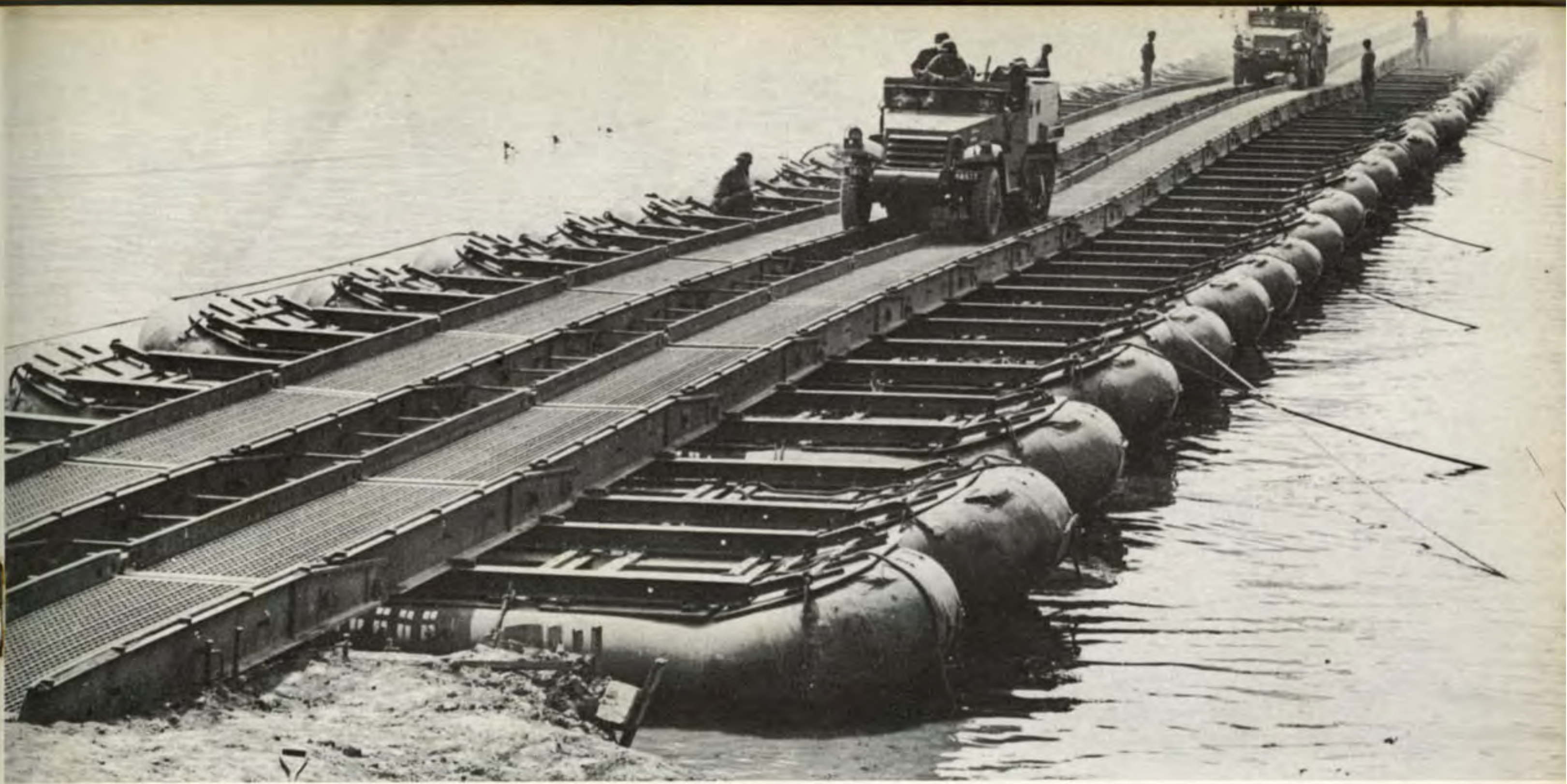




# Field Training

















# CCC



Col. James G. Depew

CCC Commander



1st Sgt. James W. Fox

Headquarters Reserve Command, recently redesignated Combat Command C, was formed in the post-war National Guard when Division Headquarters Company, 44th Infantry Division was reorganized and redesignated as Headquarters Reserve Command, New Jersey National Guard, on 1 April 1946.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Combat Command Reserve was first formed on 14 Oct 1946 in Newark as Headquarters Reserve Command, consisting originally of three officers and five enlisted men. In the re-grouping of units later in 1946, Headquarters Reserve Command was transferred to Paterson and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Combat Command Reserve. The Combat Command headquarters was formed from a nucleus of the 214th Regimental Combat Team which was later moved to the Central Jersey area and redesignated as the present 114 RCT. The commanding officer 114 RCT, Col. George S. Saunders, took command on 31 January 1947.

Headquarters Company, CCR, was formed in Oct., 1947 from a nucleus of the Service Company, 215 Armored Infantry Battalion which was eliminated in T/O designated and consolidated into Headquarters and Service Co. 215 AIB.

The Command attended the first post-war encampment of the New Jersey National Guard in 1947 at Fort Dix and has attended every encampment since then at Camp Drum, NY.

The Command received a commendation from National Guard Bureau in 1947 for meritorious service in the reorganization of the National Guard, and a commendation from the State of New Jersey in 1947 for meritorious service to the National Guard of the state.

From January, 1947, to August, 1950, Col. Saunders continued in command of CCR. Through recruiting drives the strength of the components of CCR was steadily built up over these years.

In August, 1950, the present commander, Col. James G. Depew, assumed command of CCR.

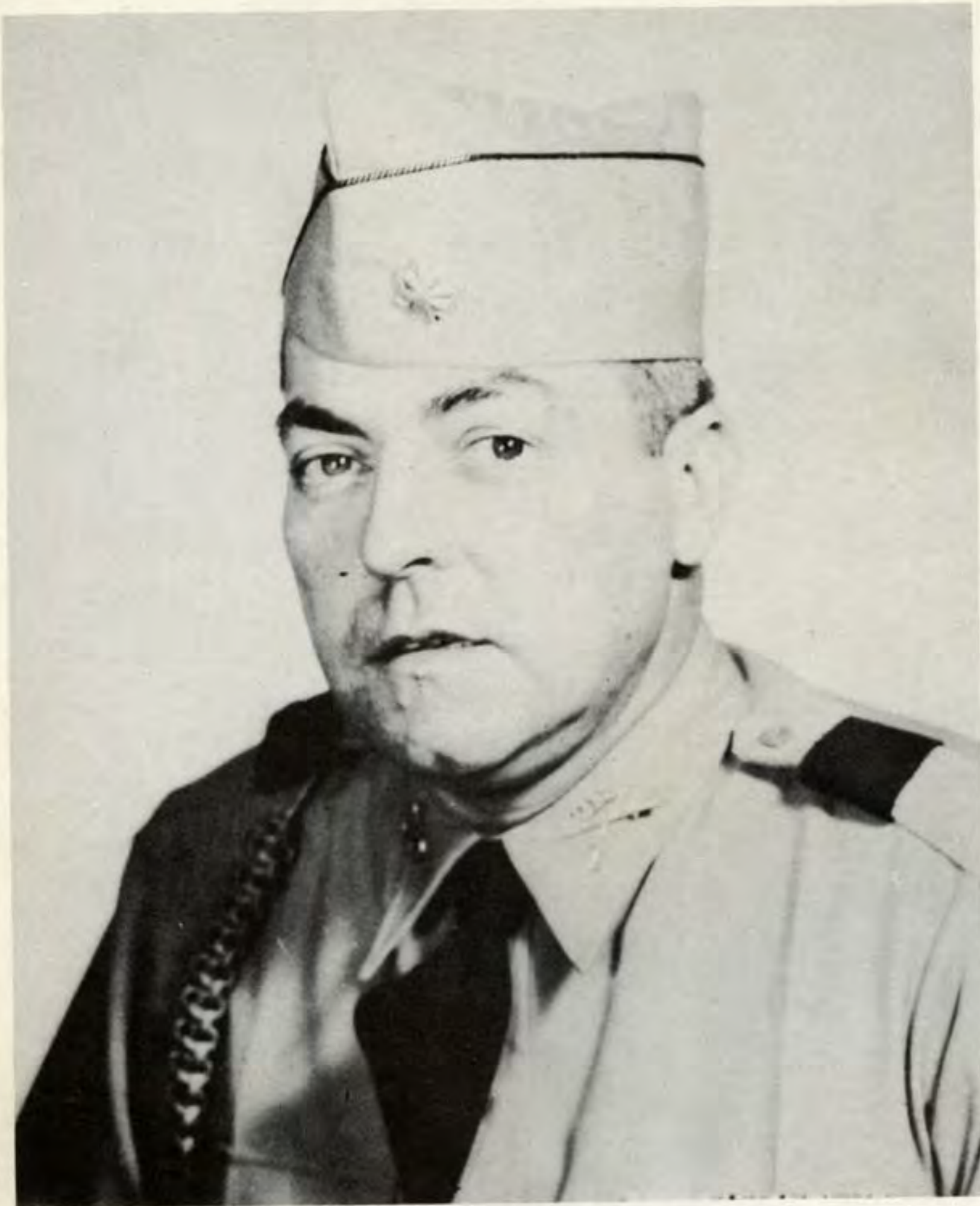








# 215th AIB



Lt. Col. Ernest L. Rosenbower  
Battalion Commander

The 215th Armored Infantry Battalion traces its history back to 1880 when on 23 January it was constituted as the Paterson Light Guard, consisting of two companies. Between its organization and 1902, the unit went through several reorganizations and redesignations. It was mustered into Federal service for a short period in 1898. On 21 June 1916 at Sea Girt, the regiment was again mustered into Federal service, this time for duty on the Mexican Border. The organization was mustered out in November of that year. The third call for Federal service came in August, 1919, when the outfit was redesignated 1st Battalion, 114th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division.

Following World War I, the unit was reorganized as the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment. It was redesignated 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment in 1921.

The battalion was inducted into Federal service in World War II as an element of the 44th Infantry Division. The 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment was relieved from assignment 44th Division on 16 February 1942. The unit was inactivated at Camp Rucker, Ala., on 25 September 1945.

Following World War II, the battalion was reorganized as an element of the 113th Infantry Regiment and was later redesignated as the 215th Armored Infantry Battalion, 50th Armored Division. The 215th was Federally recognized 3 December 1946 with Headquarters at Paterson.

Since the re-organization of the 215th the following officers have served as Battalion Commanders: Lt. Col. Robert E. Meyer, Lt. Col. Edward T. McBride, Lt. Col. Frank A. Teofani, Lt. Col. Matthew A. Husson, Jr. and Lt. Col. Ernest L. Rosenbower, who has served as the Battalion Commander since 7 June 1950.

The 215th flies campaign streamers for Alsace-Lorraine and the Meuse-Argonne in World War I and for Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe in World War II.



M/Sgt. Nicholas M. Jannello  
Sergeant Major







# 215th TANK BN.

In the spring of 1946, during the reorganization of the post-war New Jersey National Guard, Headquarters, 214th Infantry Regiment was organized in Paterson. Forming a part of the regiment was the 215th Medium Tank Battalion, with headquarters located in Ridgewood.

September, 1946, the first "meeting" of the battalion was held at the Elks Club, in Ridgewood.

Off to a slow and somewhat wobbly start, it wasn't until a reorganization within the 50th Armored Division, NJNG, took place that the 215th Medium Tank Battalion became more than just a paper designation.

In the spring of 1947, headquarters of the 215th Medium Tank Battalion was shifted from Ridgewood to an existing armory in Dumont, and on 11 April 1947, the Headquarters and Headquarters Company received Federal recognition. On 14 April 1947, Company A, located in Franklin, received Federal recognition; On 15 April 1947, Company B, located in Pompton Lakes, received Federal recognition; On 15 July 1947, the Medical Detachment, located in Dumont, received Federal recognition; On 14 March 1949, Company C, located in Teaneck, received Federal recognition; and on 9 June 1949, Company D, located in Pompton Lakes, received Federal recognition.

Other changes took place in time which included the merging of Headquarters Company and Service Company into the present Headquarters and Service Company. There was the building of a "drill shed" in Franklin to replace the Army barracks and school grounds used by Company A. The hotel on the lake shore at Pompton Lakes that housed Companies B & D was vacated when the two units moved to the new battalion service center in Riverdale. Battalion Headquarters and the Medical Detachment shifted from the Dumont Armory, to its present location in the Teaneck Armory, joining Company C.

On 1 December 1952 the battalion was again reorganized from the 215th Medium Tank Battalion, to the 215th Tank Battalion, with all the latest equipment available to National Guard units. The present strength of the battalion is 22 Officers, 8 Warrant Officers, and 349 Enlisted Men.

On 17 March 1954 a Coat of Arms and Distinctive Insignia was approved by the Department of the Army, and the Battalion Motto of "VIRTUTE ET ARMIS" or "BY VALOR AND ARMS," has been submitted for approval.



Lt. Col. Kenneth G. Carr  
Battalion Commander









# Division Artillery

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 50th Armored Division Artillery, like the Division, is in its infancy as a numbered unit; it draws its historical background from the former New Jersey Artillery units dating back to the revolutionary days. Many of its present officers and men, however, served in combat during World War II in famed organizations, including New Jersey National Guard Artillery units.

Its history as 50th Armored Division Artillery began with the post World War II reorganization of the New Jersey National Guard when Colonel James F. Cantwell received authority on 25 August 1946 to recruit and organize the command. Headquarters and Headquarters Battery was inspected for Federal recognition on 22 October 1946 with a nucleus of six officers and 12 men. From this small beginning grew the original TO/E organization consisting of three light armored field artillery battalions and Division Artillery medical detachments.

As the result of subsequent Department of Army reorganization of armored divisions, the Division Artillery now consists of three light armored artillery battalions, a medium armored artillery battalion, a self-propelled anti-aircraft artillery, automatic weapons battalion and the medical detachment. The present strength of the command is approximately 2,000 officers and men, the largest major command in the Division.

In order to accomplish better training of light aviation personnel, the battalion sections were consolidated into an aviation detachment. This is attached to Division Artillery Headquarters, and trains at Mercer Airport throughout the armory training year. The airmen are available to work with parent battalions during field training.

Division Artillery has participated in numerous and varied military activities since its organization, including seven field training encampments, weekend firing periods, parades, reviews and staff training assemblies. Highlighting these activities was the Artillery Day Review on 21 June 1953. On that occasion all five battalions of the command assembled at the Lawrenceville Armory to honor past Brigade and Regimental Artillery Commanders of the New Jersey National Guard. Featured also was the awarding of the Croix de Guerre with Palm to the 696th Armored Field Artillery Battalion by the Military Attache from the French Republic for distinguished service in France during World War II.

On 15 March 1953 Division Artillery conducted Division Staff Training at Lawrenceville Armory on Artillery subjects for the staffs of all divisional units.

The Headquarters Battery, under command of Captain Frank S. Caprario, have many varied responsibilities in aiding the Commanding General and his staff in the planning and implementation of the armory training programs and annual field training.



Brigadier General James F. Cantwell  
Division Artillery Commander



1st/Sgt. Daniel M. Radice







# 165th AFA BN.

The history of the 165th Armored Field Artillery Battalion actually began on 13 February 1776 with the organization of the Eastern Company of Artillery in Essex County, N. J. This unit, as part of General Knox' Artillery Brigade, became incorporated into the Continental Army. History books trace this unit through the battles of the Revolutionary War down to the Civil War period. At this time, stationed in Hoboken, and known as Battery A, 1st New Jersey Field Artillery, the unit served valiantly as part of the Union Army in the battles of Gaines Mills, Antietam, Gettysburg, and many others. It was known during this period as "Hexamers' Battery." After the Civil War, it became part of the 1st Brigade and was known as Battery A, Hudson County Militia. In 1884 it had moved to Elizabeth and was re-designated as "Gatling Gun Company A." In 1899, then located in Orange, it was designated as Field Artillery and in 1900 it was re-designated as Battery A, Field Artillery, New Jersey National Guard.

On 19 June 1916 the Battery entered Federal service for duty on the Mexican Border. Mustered out in October, 1916, it was called again to Federal duty on 25 July 1917. At Sea Girt, it was designated as Battery A, 110th Field Artillery, 29th Division. The unit later became part of the 112th Heavy Field Artillery Regiment. It served as part of the AEF in France from June, 1918, until May, 1919. It was mustered out of Federal service on 4 June 1919. It was again reorganized and designated in 1920 as Battery A, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, and shortly thereafter became part of the 44th Division, New Jersey National Guard. Redesignation again in 1939 gave the unit the new designation of "Battery A, 165th Field Artillery Regiment."

The unit was again ordered to Federal service on 16 September 1940 as part of the 44th Division. The then 105 mm Howitzers were substituted for the old French 75s. Pearl Harbor Day, 7 December 1941, found the unit moving from Fort Bragg, N. C., to Louisiana for maneuvers. Here the regiment was split. The 1st Battalion became the 199th Field Artillery Battalion and the 2nd Battalion retained the original numerical designation. The 165th Field Artillery Battalion was moved to the Pacific Coast Command with Headquarters in Fort Lewis, Wash. Now separated from the 44th Division, the unit was alerted and in July, 1942, embarked for Alaska. The Battalion was based in and about Dutch Harbor until November, 1943, when it embarked for Attu. The Battalion left Attu in May, 1944, and returned to the United States. After being re-equipped, in July, 1945, the Battalion embarked for the Philippines. There, assigned to XIV Corps, 6th Army, the Battalion participated in the campaign in Neuva Ejica Province. In November, 1945, the Battalion was disbanded. All officers and men with sufficient points were returned to the United States for separation and the remaining officers and men were transferred to other units.

In November, 1946, Lieutenant Colonel, then Major, Peter G. D. Kershaw received authority to organize the 165th Armored Field Artillery Battalion as part of the newly formed 50th Armored Division. On 11 February, 1947 at Englewood Armory, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery of the Battalion were mustered and given Federal recognition. The organization of the other units of the Battalion soon followed and in March 1949, Battery C of Teaneck, was organized. As part of the 50th Armored Division, the Battalion has participated in small arms firing at Sea Girt and Fort Dix and summer encampments and training at Camp Drum. During 1948, and again in 1949, Service Battery of this Battalion was the proud recipient of the the Eisenhower Trophy, awarded by the National Guard-Bureau to the most outstanding unit in the State. Among other achievements the Battalion was awarded permanent possession of the Commanding Generals' Athletic Trophy for its prowess in sport competition during summer encampments.



Lt. Col. Peter G. D. Kershaw  
Battalion Commander









# 199th AFA BN.



Major Elden L. Hoffman  
Battalion Commander



The 199th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, traces its history to April 29, 1878, when, in Elizabeth, N. J., Gatling Gun Company "A" was organized under the command of General J. Madison Drake.

Seventeen years later, in April, 1895, the Company appeared in Orange, N. J., with Capt. William L. Fish in command. During the same year, having outgrown its quarters in the Orange Armory, the Company moved to larger quarters purchased from the Orange Riding and Driving Club on North Clinton St. East Orange. But when the change to a field artillery unit on 2 May 1899, brought with it bulkier equipment, plans were laid for the construction of a new Armory. In 1911, a new larger Battery A moved to its new Armory in Oraton Parkway.

On 8 May 1916, around a nucleus of men taken from Battery A, Battery C was organized. Less than two months later the two batteries received Federal recognition, having five days previously been called into Federal service. Their duty carried them to Douglas, Arizona, near the Mexican Border, where they underwent extensive training in preparation for the anticipated border clashes. But in October of the same year, Battery A was returned to East Orange and relieved of Federal Service. Battery C was mustered out on March 20, 1917.

The two batteries were again mobilized and mustered into Federal service on 3 July 1917, undergoing training at Camp McClellan, Ala. Sailing orders were received on 29 July 1917. The batteries were stationed in France near Poitiers, where they served with the 112th Heavy Artillery, First New Jersey Artillery, assigned to the 54th Artillery Regiment, 29th Division. With the close of World War I, the unit returned to the United States and was demobilized on 31 May 1919 at Camp Dix.

Through the years to 1924, the batteries remained attached to the 112th Heavy Artillery. Out of the 112th, with redesignation, grew the 165th Field Artillery. To Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, B Battery, and a Medical Detachment were added Batteries A and C on 12 October 1939. In late 1941, while on maneuvers, news was received of the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. Before being transferred to Camp Butner, North Carolina, for further training with larger calibre weapons, the battalion was redesignated the 199th Armored Field Artillery.

During the Second World War, the 199th served in France and Germany with the 94th and 66th Divisions. With the cessation of hostilities, the battalion assumed occupation duties. It was returned to the United States and disbanded on 29 May 1945.

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery 199th AFA received Federal recognition on 26 November 1946. Intensive recruiting efforts subsequently brought about the recognition of A Battery on 5 February 1947, Service Battery on 18 January 1948, and B Battery on 23 November 1948. The 29th of March 1949 saw the organizing of C Battery.



M/Sgt. Charles M. Gordon  
Sergeant Major







# 228th AFA BN.

The 228th Armored Field Artillery Battalion is today's representative of a proud lineage of artillery organizations representing Camden, whose continuous service to the State and Nation precedes the Civil War. The Lineage was first recorded as the Camden Light Artillery formed 24 November 1855.

With triangulation of the 44th Division following its activation in 1940, the 1st Battalion, 157th Field Artillery Regiment became the 228th Field Artillery Battalion.

The battalion was ordered to Fort Bragg, N. C. to form the 228 Field Artillery Group. After training at Bragg the 228 Field Artillery Group was ordered to Fort Sill, Okla., as school troops. Upon completion of duty at Sill, the Group returned to Fort Bragg, then was ordered to Camp Forrest, Tennessee, for movement to Camp Iron Mountain, California. Overseas orders reached the battalion on 7 February 1943 and the move made to Camp Shanks, New York. Departing from the United States, 12 February 1943, the battalion arrived in Scotland on 22 February 1943. The troops entrained for their destination at Warminster, England. Upon reaching this site the 228th Field Artillery Group was assigned to XIX Corps.

Training followed for the landings on the coast of France. On D Day the battalion had a forward party on Omaha beach. The remainder of the troops went ashore on D plus 21. Positions were occupied at Saint Jean De Daye, and the battalion took part in the siege of Saint Lo. At Mortain Gap the 228th supported the action of the 30th Infantry Division. Following Mortain, the 228th, in support of XIX Corps, continued across Belgium and Holland. Penetration of the Siegfried line was made 2 October 1944. The battalion took positions at Julich, Germany, for defensive action in the Battle of the Bulge. Swinging its guns 160° and firing south into the area.

Following this successful defensive action, the 228th pushed on, reaching the Elbe River. Following hostilities the artillerymen performed occupation duties, until September 1945 when they returned home for deactivation.

Reactivated 31 October 1946 as the 228th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, the battalion had rightfully returned home, and assumed its place in the family of New Jersey military units. Its organizer and commander, Lt. Col. Walter D. Lamon, Jr., was a former commander of Battery B, 228th FA. Many of the officers and men were members of organizations from which the 228th FA was organized in 1941. When Colonel Lamon was advanced to Division Artillery, Lieutenant Colonel George R. Krattenmaker, a former member of the 157th FA, assumed command.



Lt. Col. George R. Krattenmaker  
Battalion Commander



M/Sgt. William L. Beutler  
Sergeant Major







# 696th AFA BN.

Since the Spanish-American War, Trenton has been represented with a group of fighting men whose courage and valor in the field of battle has been written in the historical annals of this country. Trenton's representation in the Spanish-American War and in the Mexican Border incident consisted of a "Gatling Gun Outfit."

Later transformed into a heavy artillery regiment, this organization became known as the 112th Field Artillery Regiment, New Jersey National Guard. World War I saw the 112th Field Artillery Regiment on active duty. Commanded by Colonel Quincy A. Gillmore, who later became Adjutant General of New Jersey, the 112th supported the doughboys in many campaigns and received many valued decorations for achievements in battle.

After World War I, the 112th Field Artillery Regiment was returned to New Jersey as a National Guard organization. In 1928, the 112th F.A. Regiment was converted to horse-drawn field artillery. While on maneuvers at Pine Camp, N. Y., in 1930 they were reviewed by the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, then Governor of N. Y. who presented the command a testimonial concerning the tribute honored him by the officers and men of the 112th Field Artillery.

At the outbreak of World War II, the 112th was once again called on active duty. The regiment commenced training at Fort Bragg, N. C., Fort Jackson, S. C., and Fort Sill, Oklahoma. While at Fort Sill, the 112th Field Artillery Regiment was split into three commands—The 112th Field Artillery Group, the 695th Field Artillery Battalion and the 696th Field Artillery Battalion. After extensive training as a motorized artillery battalion, the 696th, commanded by Lt. Col. J. P. Holliday, shipped out to England and upon arrival was transformed into an Armored Field Artillery Battalion.

The 696th Armored Field Artillery Battalion is reputed to have spent the longest consecutive time in combat, a total of 270 days during which they supported a total of two armies, six corps, eight divisions and two cavalry groups. They traveled a total of 2,275 combat miles and expended 75,924 rounds of 105MM howitzer ammunition, not to mention .50 calibre machine gun and small arms ammunition. The 696th AFA crossed the English Channel in LST and LCTS on 26 and 27 July 1944. It unloaded 28 July at Utah Beach in Normandy and immediately headed toward battered St. Lo. A forced march was made from Rennes to Chateaurenault with Pattons' 4th Armored Division: in which a distance of 228 miles was covered in 30 hours. While at La Fleche the 696th AFA along with one infantry battalion and two platoons of engineers held a 96-mile front against 38,000 Germans. The 696th took Fort Depont after a short siege by subjecting it to heavy shelling. Between 10 June and 2 December 1944, the battalion supported the Sixth Armored Division. During this time it repulsed savage German counter attacks at Arracourt where it was compelled to participate in intense artillery duels with the enemy.

The 696th AFA was commended for its operation in the Battle of the Bulge at Bastogne. They were the first artillery battalion to cross the Sure River into German territory. Further intense action was seen in such places as; Namur, Liege, Maastricht, Aschen, Gronde, Hildesheim, Barby. From 27 March, to 20 April 1945, the 696th AFA saw action with the Second Armored Division and on 14 April was instrumental in chasing the enemy across the Elbe River. From 21 April to 5 May it supported the 35th and 83rd Infantry Division. Contact was made with the Russians by the Battalion on 4 May 1945.

While at Pommelte, approximately 30 miles from Berlin, the Armistice was signed. For its action and bravery the battalion received many decorations, among which is the French Croix De Guerre with Palm. The end of World War II saw the 696th AFA Battalion returned to Eggerts Crossing Armory in Lawrenceville.

In 1947, the 696th AFA was assigned to the 50th Armored Division.



Lt. Col. Edward C. Rose, Jr.  
Battalion Commander



M/Sat. Richard J. Smith  
Sergeant Major

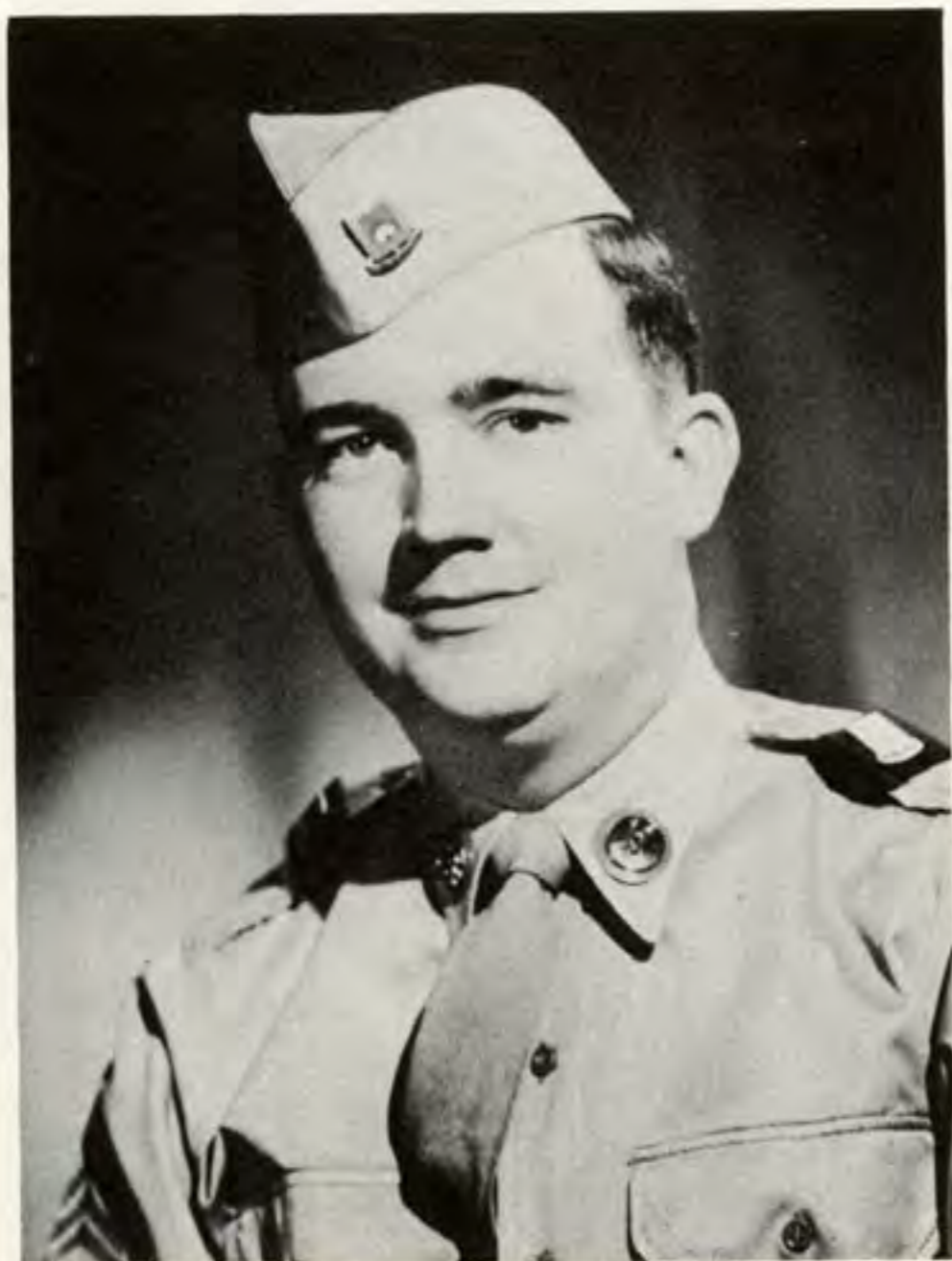








Lt. Col. John P. Carbin, Jr.  
Battalion Commander



M/Sgt. Edward G. Holmes  
Sergeant Major

## 650th AAA BN.

On 20 July 1940, the 2nd Battalion, 261st Coast Artillery Regiment (Harbor Defense), New Jersey National Guard, was constituted in Jersey City under the command of Lt. Col. Alfred A. LaFountain, and Federally recognized on 25 November 1940.

The 2nd Battalion, 261st Coast Artillery Regiment was reorganized and redesignated the 122nd Coast Artillery Battalion (Antiaircraft) (Gun) on 4 December 1940. The battalion was inducted into Federal service on 27 January 1941 at Jersey City. Shortly thereafter it entrained for Fort DuPont, Delaware, for basic training. As the only Separate Gun Battalion in the First Army Area it received comprehensive training in AA fire at Bethany Beach, Delaware, throughout the Summer of 1941.

On 11 December 1941, the 122nd Coast Artillery Battalion entrained for the West Coast. Upon its arrival it was attached to the 37th Coast Artillery Brigade in the Los Angeles defense area as part of the 4th Anti-Aircraft Command.

On 15 January 1942, Lt. Col. Donald B. Herron assumed command of the battalion.

On the morning of 25 February 1942, the battalion participated along with other elements of the Brigade in the firing upon unidentified enemy air targets. The battalion was commended by the Commanding General, 4th Army, for its demonstrated fitness and military conduct in this action. The men were prepared when the test came to meet with fire a hostile attack and thereby fulfill their mission as Antiaircraft Artillery.

Through the months that followed over fifty percent of the enlisted personnel were selected to attend OCS at Camp Davis, N. C. The remainder of the original battalion was shipped to various anti-aircraft camps as cadre for new AA battalions. The 122nd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) (Gun) was redesignated the 122nd Antiaircraft Gun Battalion effective 10 September 1943. New men were assigned and the 122nd AA Gun Battalion was shipped to Alaska in September 1943.

The 122nd AA Gun Battalion was inactivated on 3 February 1945 in Alaska. The 122nd AA Gun Battalion was redesignated the 309th AAA AW Battalion and allotted to the New Jersey National Guard on 28 June 1946.

The 309th AAA AW Battalion was reorganized at Jersey City and the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 309th AAA AW Battalion was Federally recognized on 15 April 1947. Major Warren B. Pinney of South Orange was the first Battalion Commander.

The 309th AAA AW Battalion was reorganized and redesignated as the 650th AAA AW Battalion (SP) effective 1 March 1949 and assigned to the 50th Armored Division. Lt. Col. Warren B. Pinney commanded the Battalion which was further assigned to the 50th Armored Division Artillery.

The 650th AAA AW Battalion went to Camp Edwards, Mass., for annual field training in 1949 and 1950 where facilities were available for the firing of the 40 MM Guns and Quad 50's (M 16 Half Track).

The summer of 1951 the 650th AAA AW Battalion was ordered to Camp Drum along with other units of the 50th Armored Division for field training.

On 2 October 1951, Major John P. Carbin, Jr., of Jersey City, was appointed Battalion Commander and later promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

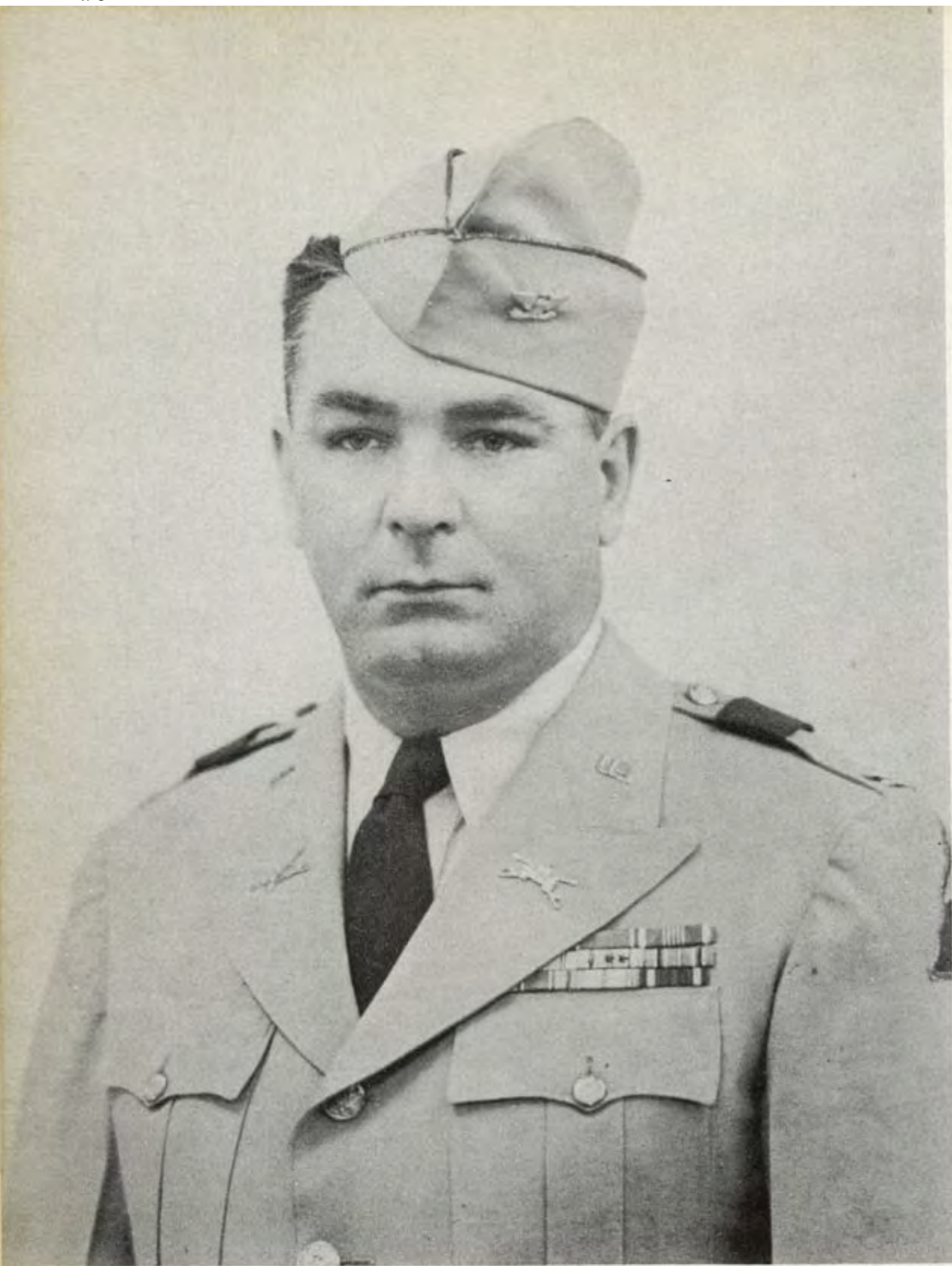
The 650th AAA Battalion (AW) (SP) was reorganized and redesignated from the 650th AAA AW Battalion (SP) effective 1 May 1953.







# Division Trains



Col. Edward B. Thorpe  
Division Trains Commander



1st Sgt. Dominick G. Galano

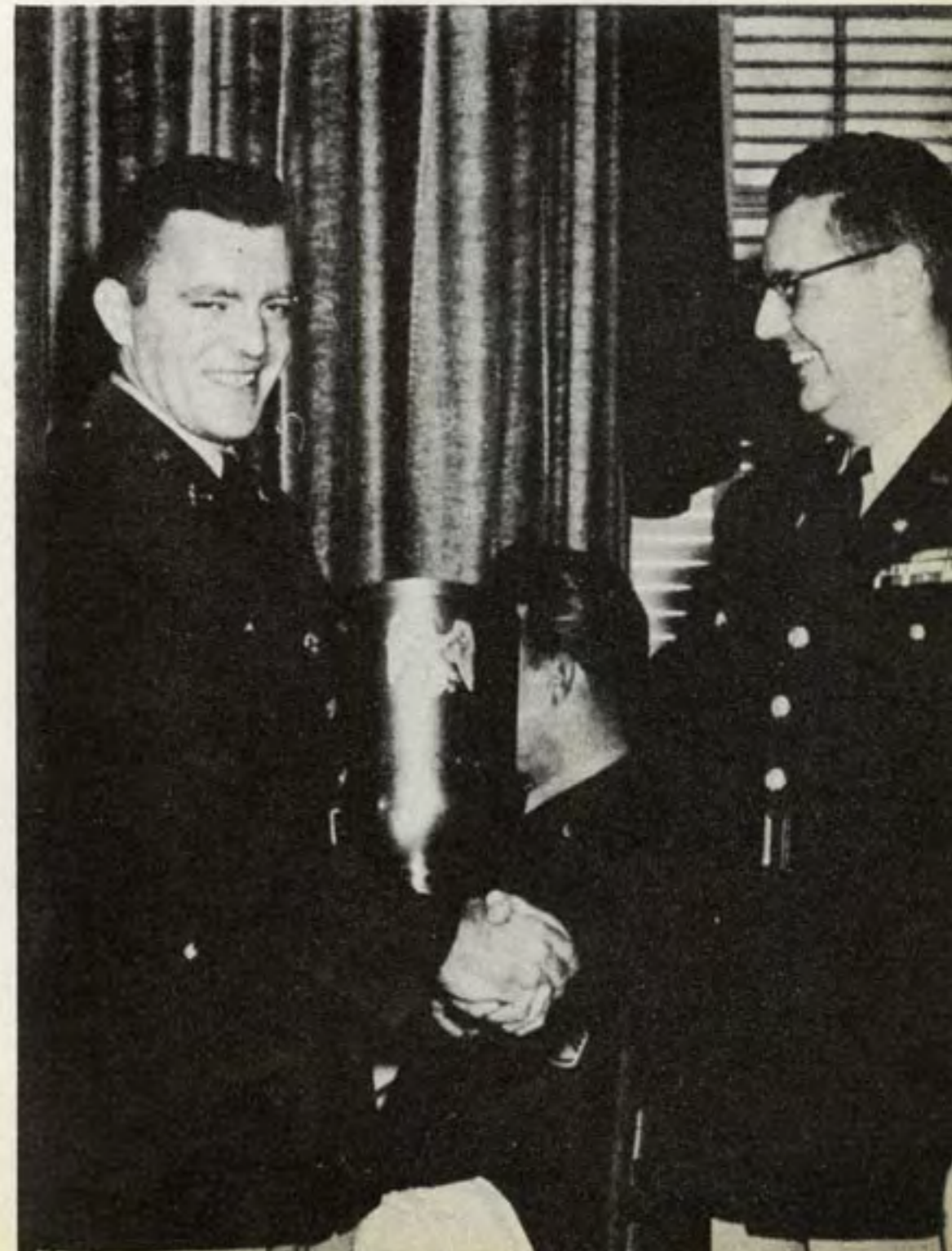
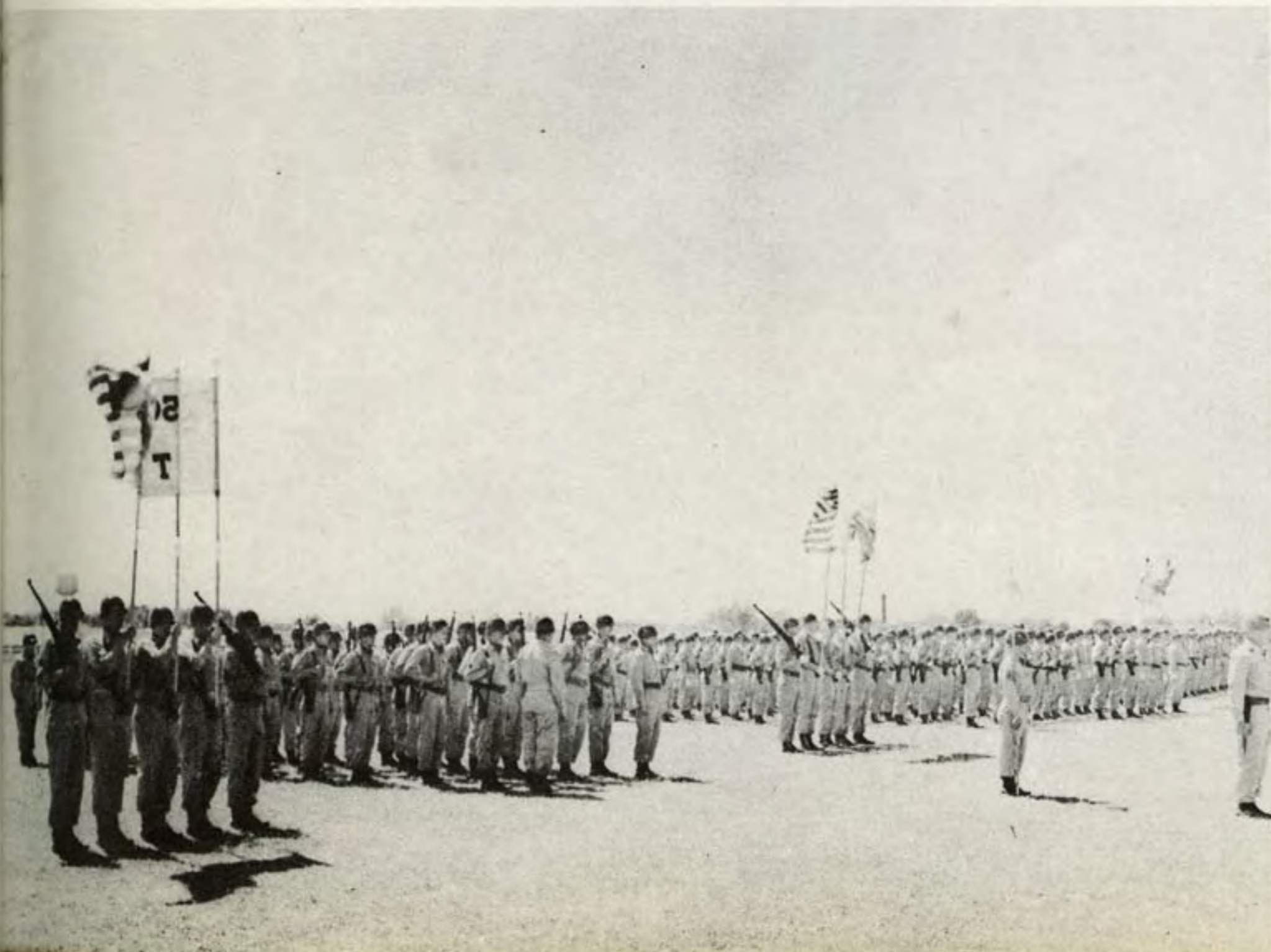
Headquarters and Headquarters Company Division Trains, a completely new type organization in the New Jersey National Guard, was Federally recognized on 28 October 1946, one of the first units of the 50th Armored Division to receive recognition. Headquarters are located at Newark.

The organization was given the mission of supervising the training of the division service units. It also has tactical control of the service units and other units that may be attached. Trains Headquarters is responsible for administration and service support of Division Headquarters (Rear echelon) and the Division Band.

First commander of Trains Headquarters was Col. J. Totten Miesegaes. Col. Miesegaes was succeeded in command by Col. Stephen A. Duane, Col. Harold J. Samsel and Col. Edward B. Thorpe, present commander.





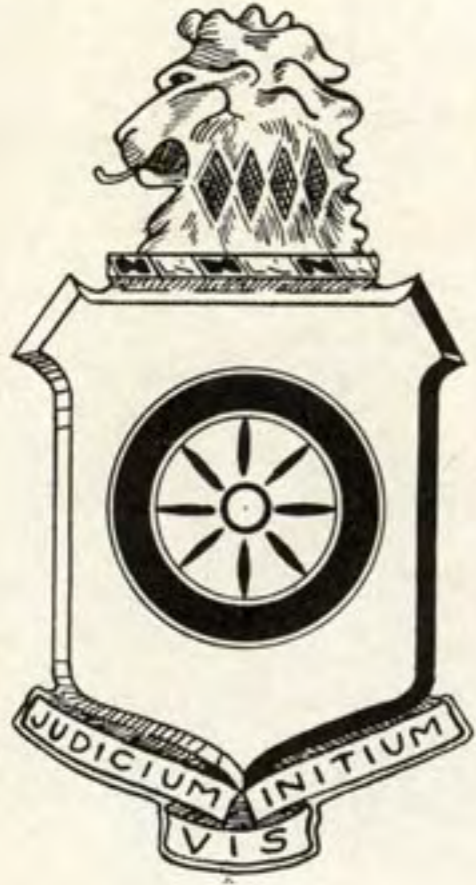








# 250th ARMORED QM. BN.



Lt. Col. James B. Deerin

Battalion Commander



M/Sgt. Martin L. Lashek  
Sergeant Major

The 250th Armored Quartermaster Battalion has a lineage to the 119th Quartermaster Regiment of the 44th Infantry Division. The battalion was organized 30 December 1946 as the 156th Transportation Truck Battalion with headquarters at Sea Girt. Two years later, the 156th was redesignated the 250th Quartermaster Battalion, and became an element of the 50th Armored Division.

Called on to activate the unit in 1946 was a National Guardsman of long and faithful service in peace and war, Lt. Col. William R. Reed, the battalion's first commander. To assist him with the task of activating a battalion headquarters and two companies, one to be stationed in Freehold and the other at Sea Girt, Col. Reed called on a number of veteran guard officers and enlisted men who had served under him in the 119th Quartermaster Regiment prior to World War II.

A few weeks after activation of battalion headquarters, activation of the 143rd truck company in Freehold was authorized. This was followed by activation of the 141st truck company on 23 June 1947 at Sea Girt. The new battalion attracted recruits and its ranks have since grown to its present 209 enlisted men and 19 officers.

As the 156th Transportation Truck Battalion, the organization attended the New Jersey National Guard's first post war field training at Fort Dix in the summer of 1947. The following year, still as the 156th, the battalion moved to Camp Drum, New York (then Pine Camp) for field training with other Jersey guard units. In 1949, it went to the New York State camp as part of the newly activated 50th Armored.



# 50th ARMORED ORD. BN.

The 50th Armored Ordnance Battalion was organized with Headquarters & Headquarters Company on 9 Jan 1947, Maj. Harry Andrews, Jr., Commanding. On 1 May 1947, Lt. Col. Joseph V. Miseli assumed command and remained until July, 1948. Lt. Col. William R. Reed assumed command temporarily until 30 July 1948 when he was relieved by Maj. Wilbur S. Stevens Jr. On 17 August 1948 Lt. Col. Edward B. Thorpe was assigned as Battalion Commander until 28 October 1951 when Lt. Col. Francis T. Chickene, the present commander was assigned.

The Battalion was awarded the Russell Trophy in 1951, 1952 & 1953 for first place in carbine team during NJNG Small Arms Matches.

The Battalion is fully organized with a Headquarters unit, 3 lettered companies and a Medical Detachment. The mission is to provide Ordnance instruction-inspection service for the Armored Division. Provides direct Ordnance Maintenance and Supply service for all items assigned to the Division.

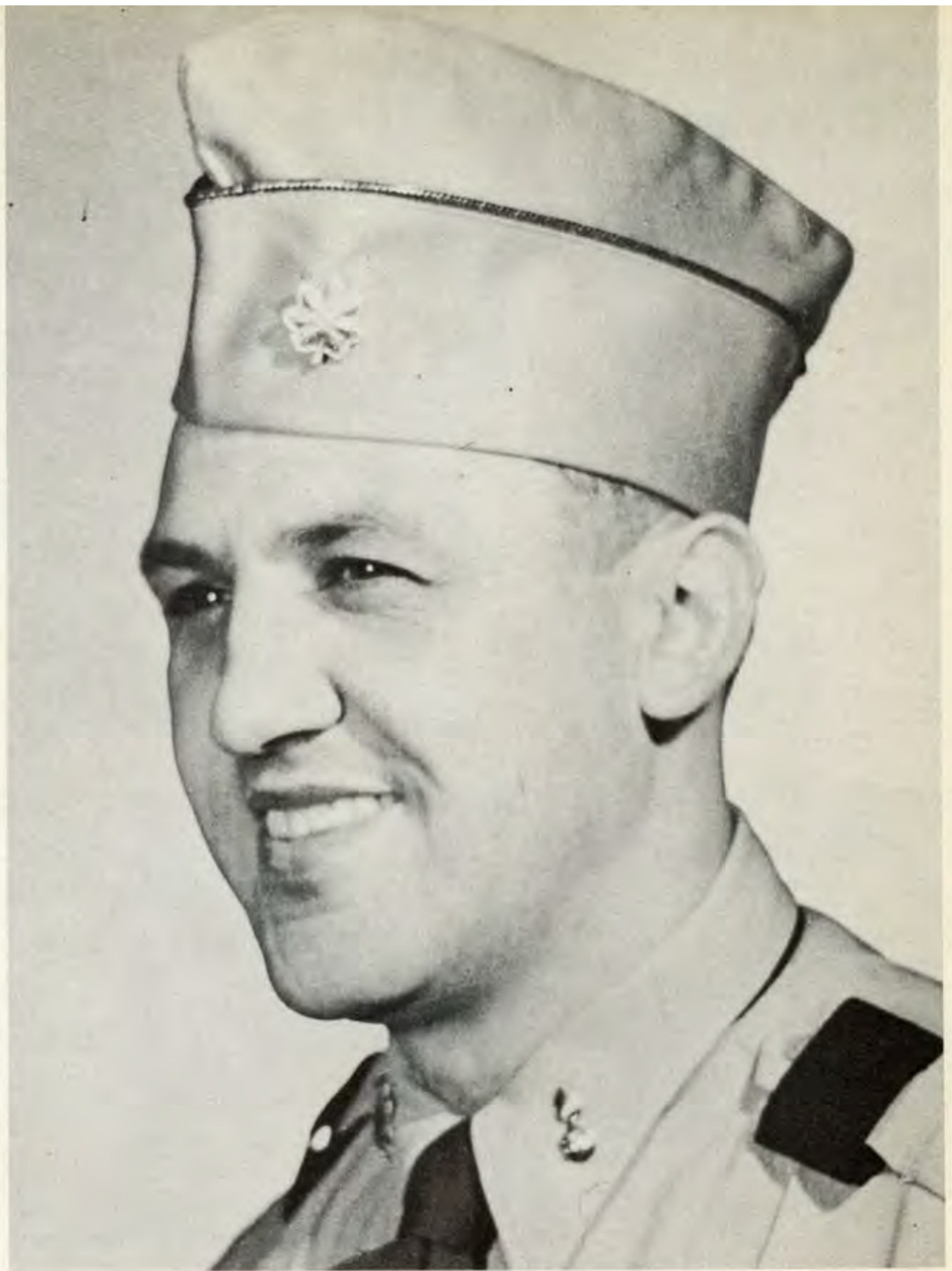
Headquarters Company was organized on 9 January 1947 with Capt. Frederick M. Jones as commander. On 2 August 1947, Capt. Herbert A. Mutz, now Major, assumed command until 1 June 1949 when Capt. Arthur N. Mohr was assigned. Capt. Mohr was reassigned as Division Ammunition Officer on 1 June 1951 at which time Capt. Harold C. Luft, the present commander, was assigned. This unit has received many commendations from higher commanders on the efficient operation of the recovery section, in recovering and evacuation of disabled track vehicles at field training.

The Medical Detachment was organized on 26 April 1948. The detachment has been commanded by 1st. Lt. Edward A. Baker Jr., since the date of organization.

Co A was organized as the 119th Ordnance MM Co on 23 January 1947. This unit was a part of the 44th Infantry Division when inducted into active service on 16 September 1940. Upon reorganization of the Division, the 119th became a separate unit and saw service in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater. On 1 April 1951, the unit was redesignated as Co A 50th Armored Ordnance Battalion. The unit is stationed with the NJNG Maintenance Shop No. 1 at Bordertown and is the parent unit of the shop. 1st. Lt. Fred G. Hartshorn, the present commander, assumed command from Capt. Joseph Kopec on 22 January 1954. Lt. Hartshorn was an enlisted man with this unit during WW II.

Co B was organized in Newark on 30 March 1948. Shortly thereafter the unit was moved to its present station at Port Newark. Co B was commanded originally by 1st Lt. William G. Giltzow. In 1949 Capt. Harold C. Ford was assigned as commander until 1 October 1950 when Capt. Ralph W. Ford, the present commander, relieved him. Co B was awarded the Lt. Col. Francis T. Chickene Trophy in 1953, an award presented by the Battalion for the overall outstanding unit of the year. Co B is the parent organization for the NJNG Maintenance Shop No. 2 at Port Newark.

Co C was organized at Lodi on 31 March 1947, with Capt. Terrence C. Maguire, Jr., in command. Capt. Maguire was also at that time, the supervisor of the NJNG Maintenance Shop No. 2 at Lodi. On 1 June 1949 Capt. Thomas R. Nicoletti assumed command of Co C and has been assigned as Commanding Officer since that date.

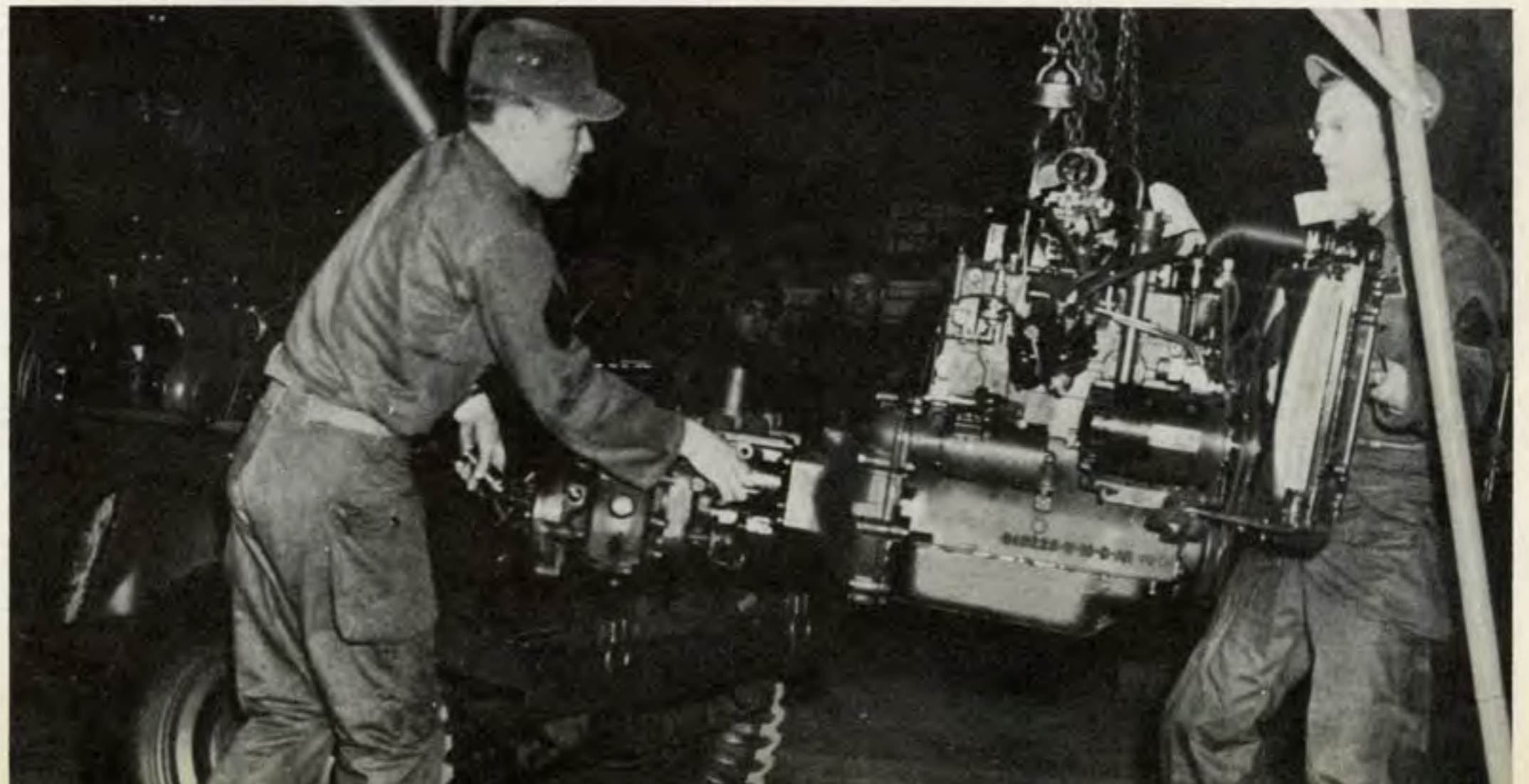


Lt. Col. Francis T. Chickene  
Battalion Commander



M/Sgt. Edward Spae  
Sergeant Major



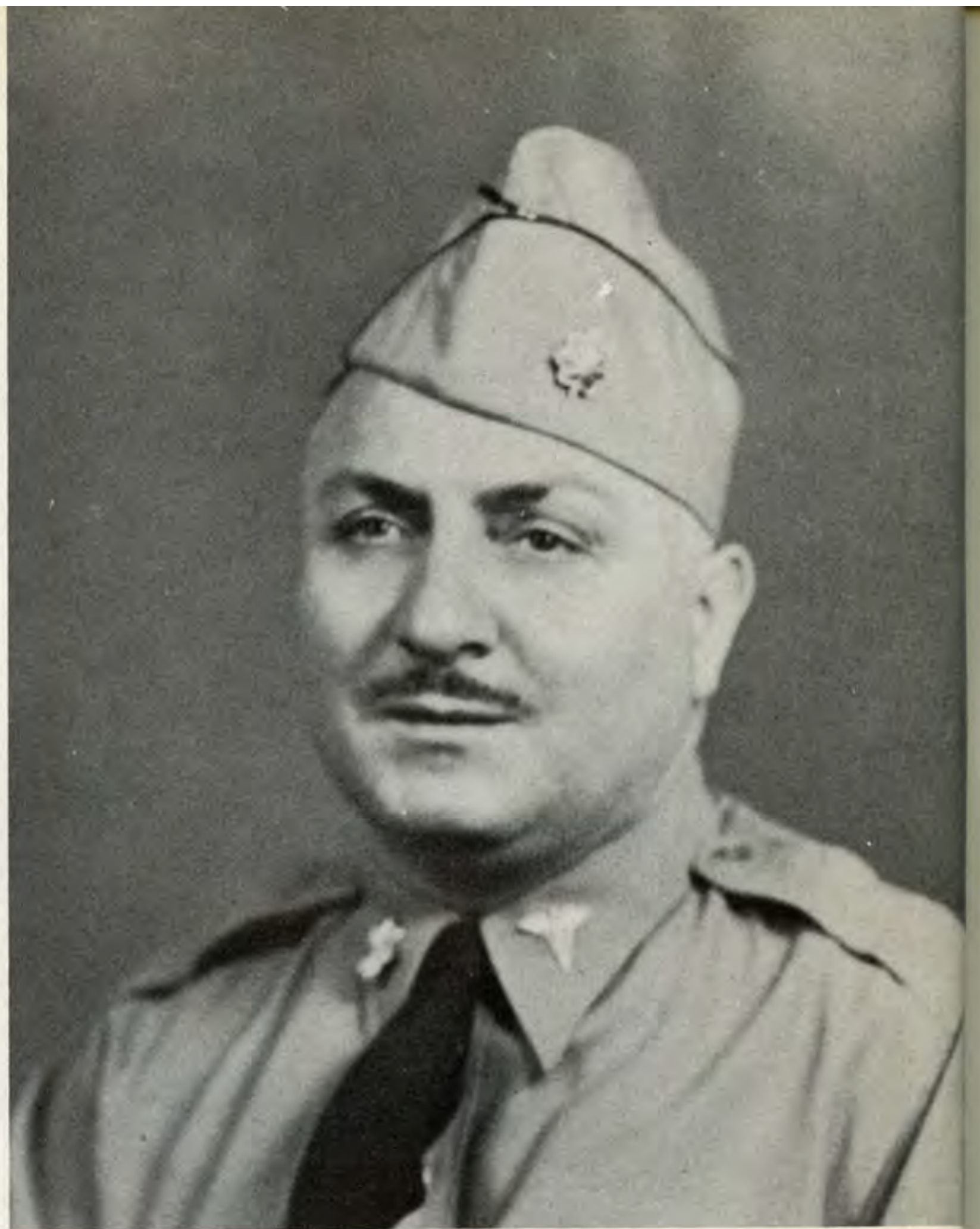




# 50th ARMORED MED. BN.



Major Frank J. Albano  
Battalion Commander



The 50th Armored Medical Battalion inherits its history from the 119th Medical Battalion (formerly the 119th Medical Regiment which was Federally recognized at Trenton on 21 April 1922) and has the distinct honor to carry forth the lineage of its illustrious predecessor.

The 119th Medical Regiment was inducted into Federal Service on 16 September 1940 at Trenton as an element of the 44th Infantry Division. It was reorganized and redesignated 119th Medical Battalion on 16 February 1942. The Battalion sailed for France from Boston on 5 September 1944 on the Transport "USS Monticello" and participated in many campaigns until its return to the United States in July, 1945.

Individual awards received by personnel of the Battalion include 4 Silver Stars, 72 Bronze Stars, 4 Oak Leaf Clusters 2 Bronze Stars, 5 Purple Hearts and 5 Presidential Citations.

The Clearing Station treated a total of 27,899 patients from 24 October 1944 to 19 June 1945. In October 1945, the Battalion was inactivated at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas.

The oldest unit of the organization dates back to 11 December 1911 when the First Field Hospital was organized at Newark. Subsequent to that date the unit underwent reorganization and redesignations which included the 114th Field Hospital of the 104th Sanitary Trains of the 29th Division; 155th Hospital Company; 165th Hospital Company; 155th Hospital Company; Co G, 119th Medical Regiment; Co D, 119th Medical Battalion, Company D, 119th Medical Battalion was redesignated as Co A, 50th Armored Medical Battalion, Paterson, effective 5 July 1946. Co A, 50th Armored Medical Battalion now carries on the lineage and history of all these units whose combat record begins with the Mexican Incident of 1916 and includes service in both World Wars.

The 50th Armored Medical Battalion was Federally recognized 3 March 1947.

The Medical Battalion's first commander was Col. Henry A. Brodtkin. Other commanders were Lt. Col. Louis Danzis and Lt. Col. Carl L. Mazzarella. Present commander is Major Frank J. Albano.









# “and on the seventh day...”



The men of the 50th on Sundays lay down their training weapons, still the artillery pieces, muffle the roar of the tanks and march to church services. Before altars set up in the field, the Guardsmen kneel before the Supreme Commander to ask his comfort and guidance, to pray for peace and the free world.







# NJNG Annual Dinner







# At Ease







# Field Day





## TOUGH OUTFIT

All who had an opportunity to watch the training maneuvers of the 50th Armored Division of the New Jersey National Guard left Pine Camp with pride and admiration. A tough training program proved that the 50th is a tough outfit. Not only were civilian observers impressed, but high-ranking officers of the Army, the military district and the National Guard Bureau joined in praise of unusual warmth.

Eight thousand men devoted their two-week vacations to the Pine Camp program. Problems assigned the three combat commands included a river crossing, a night withdrawal, an attack by and a defense against an aggressor force. Lt. Gen. Willis D. Crittenger, First Army commander, found the result so satisfactory, that he issued a statement of commendation which must have been as gratifying to the men of the division as it was reassuring to the public. An armored division, with its hundreds of vehicles, infantry, artillery, engineers and air support, is a dramatic thing to see, and when it rolls into action in the hands of superbly trained men it is a rewarding experience.

The 50th Division is well led, commanded by Maj. Gen. Donald W. McGowan, whose officers include many with combat experience in the last war. If it is called into Federal service, the 50th will be ready, and its iron fist will hit hard.

*Newark Evening News*









