

Armored Tribune

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PODOLSKY BRIDGE, SUNDAY, MAY 9, 1945

FOR PERSONEL OF THE U.S. FORCES

WAR OVER IN EUROPE

Enemy resistance in Bohemia came almost to a full stop during the last 24 hours after rumors of the upcoming German surrender have spread all over Europe. 4th AD, 25th CAV was able to cover almost 35 miles yesterday undisturbed by the Germans. The improved weather conditions have also helped to speed up the advance since no more ditch glitches or other technical breakdowns occurred. The town of Strakonice was liberated around noon yesterday. No enemy resistance was encountered and an American flag now flies over the town hall. In the early morning hours of May 9th, advance elements



Point Eastern Most, Podolsky Bridge - Waiting for the Russians (US Army Signal Corps, Pictorial Service)

of 25th CAV and the 8th Tank Regiment have reached the large bridge over the Vltava river east of the provincial capital of Pisek. They currently hold a bridgehead on the western bank of the river. Further advance was stopped by orders of the Allied High Command for so far unknown reasons. More rumors have it that our allies from Russia are expected to meet us here in the next couple of hours. More rumors have arrived that elements of the 16th AD 23rd CAC regiment have left for a mission to the Czech capital of Prague. The objectives of this mission are unknown to this point.



Heavy Metal on the Move (US Army Signal Corps, Pictorial Service)

STRAKONICE

Yesterday afternoon, our troops entered the city of Strakonice. They did not meet any resistance from the German defenders. Instead they were greeted and cheered to by the locals. When the column came to a stop on the town square, they immediately were surrounded by the happy citizens. Children were climbing into the vehicles and enjoyed to be „jeep driver“ for a short moment. Some GI's stormed into the Sokol Hall and raised the American Flag on the balcony. What a sight to see! Red, white and blue in another liberated Czech city.



Star Spangled Banner in Strakonice (US Army Signal Corps, Pictorial Service)

Prague on Fire!

Reports from the centralized intelligence departments about an uprising of the public in Prague have been confirmed now. The 16th AD 23rd CAV detachment that was sent to Prague on May 7th is now back and reported that Prague is “on fire”. The local population has raised their hands against the German occupants and it seems like the Czech capital is no longer under German control.

Our CAV troops got in between the lines and were fired at. They immediately retreated and with the help of some Czech locals they were able to get out of the huge city. Their original task, to capture the German Field Marshal Schoerner who is in command of around 25,000 heavily armed troops, could not be achieved since the Germans had already left the city. A second attempt to arrest the Field Marshall in a city further south also failed. The tired troops got back our lines unharmed.

CORRECTION!

The “Armored Tribune” staff deeply regrets a mistake made in the May 7 issue. Steve “Mac” McNally who was accidentally addressed as T-5 is of course a Sergeant E-5! We are really sorry for this mistake and we will make sure that it will not happen again.



HOT OFF THE PRESS TO YOU FROM YOUR SIGNAL CORPS CREW

FINAL BATTLE FOR 4TH ARMORED DIVISION VELKY BOR



The advanced elements of cavalry bounced a German motorized column that had just overrun a lost American supply column. In a brief and fierce firefight B troop 25th Cavalry, supported by armored infantry from D company 51AIB, aggressively pushed to center of the German column. This quickly broke their morale forcing them to abandon their vehicles and equipment. Staff Sgt. Charly Milewski caught the fleeing enemy in a classic flanking move. His name has been passed on to GHQ in consideration of an award. Five of our men were killed, several wounded and 45 German prisoners taken. The battle group cleared Velky Bor and the surrounding area. Upon their return they were greeted with open arms, coffee

and cookies. Our vehicles made a big impression on the inhabitants and many a question was asked. The men certainly would have liked some R&R there but the tight time table forced them to push on to Mysliv, their targeted overnight stop. The ride there was swift and without any further action. Again a warm welcome awaited the men and the pies that were handed out certainly raised the troops morale after a hard day of fighting. Soon after the camp was set up the boys were treated to a huge helping of Sauerkraut, Knodel and roasted pork, a local speciality offered by the people of Mysliv. But the best was yet to come. A short footmarch away a party had been organized where the GI's could have a drink, dance and spread their charms among the local girls.



Infantry in attack in Velky Bor (US Army Signal Corps, Pictorial Service)



Armored Car in action, Velky Bor (US Army Signal Corps, Pictorial Service)

The War is over but casualties continue, so be careful guys. 25th CAV Recon has sustained its first post VE-DAY casualty. S/Sgt. Johnny Hayworth's currently listed as MIA and Capt. Dusek and First Sgt. Saunders require any information as to his possible fate, as do the following ladies: Jana Nehybova, Lenka Vanu, Eva Maricovig, Lucie Anelovy, Veronika Burdova,

Linda Hanuskova, Paulina Lesova, Hana Kalaskova, Katerina Kosova, Lucie Michalova, Barbora Prechova, Veronika Stastna, Anna Novotna, Stepanka Rimalova, Katerina Trinkova, Petra Novakova and Marie Zlatmalova.

Yes, we've done them all, all across Europe, right unit, right place right time! And it's only taken us 11 years. Jeppers it only took the real U.S. Army 11 months! But who in 1999, from a small and brave start, a mere yet at the time very scary, 65 miles across the channel to Normandy with one M-8, three tracks and two GMCs, thought that 2010 would see us with a Cavalry Recon Troop with Service Company, Armored Infantry support and Tank support at the farthest reaches of the ETO over 1000 miles from Normandy with people of a dozen nationalities working together to portray 65 years ago as correctly and respectfully as we can!
Well done all, a vision realized!

The History of the 2nd Armored (and the 3rd and the 4th and the 9th and the 10th and the 11th and the 12th and the 14th and the 16th!!!)



Cartoon drawn by T5 Photographer Rick van Nooij, 166th SPC

The female correspondents would like to express their thanks to the men of B troop for their help, support and gallantry shown during this and the previous trips. It's not always easy to be pestered by the photographers under battle conditions but you were all al-

ways very supportive and made us feel welcome. **THANK YOU BOYS**, see you on the next trip!

All media taken at
Road to Victory
can be found at:
www.bcc-pictures.com

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Cartoon drawn by T5 Photographer Rick van Nooij, 166th SPC