

90th infantry division ww2

Ebook Description: 90th Infantry Division WWII

This ebook delves into the compelling history of the 90th Infantry Division during World War II, a unit often overshadowed by more celebrated divisions but whose contributions were nonetheless vital to the Allied victory. The book explores the division's formation, training, combat experiences across multiple theaters, and its lasting impact on the soldiers who served and the war's outcome. It will examine the challenges faced by the "Tough Thirty-Ninth," including intense combat, logistical difficulties, and the psychological toll of prolonged warfare. Through firsthand accounts, historical documents, and insightful analysis, the ebook aims to provide a comprehensive and engaging narrative of this often-forgotten but crucial component of the American war effort. The book will appeal to military history buffs, WWII enthusiasts, and anyone interested in the human experience of war. It highlights the bravery, resilience, and sacrifices of the ordinary men who formed the 90th Infantry Division, adding a vital piece to the larger puzzle of the Second World War.

Ebook Title: The Tough Thirty-Ninth: A History of the 90th Infantry Division in WWII

Ebook Outline:

Introduction: Formation and Training of the 90th Infantry Division.

Chapter 1: The Italian Campaign: Operations in Italy, challenges faced, key battles and significant losses.

Chapter 2: The Southern France Campaign: Landing in Southern France, the advance through France, and the liberation of towns and villages.

Chapter 3: The Rhineland Campaign: The push towards the Rhine River, the crossing of the Rhine, and the final battles in Germany.

Chapter 4: The Post-War Era: Demobilization, the legacy of the 90th Infantry Division, and the experiences of veterans after the war.

Conclusion: The enduring impact of the 90th Infantry Division's service and its place in the broader context of WWII.

Article: The Tough Thirty-Ninth: A History of the 90th Infantry Division in WWII

Introduction: Formation and Training of the 90th Infantry Division

The 90th Infantry Division, nicknamed the "Tough Thirty-Ninth," was a significant part of the United States Army's contribution to the Allied victory in World War II. Activated on 15 July 1942 at Camp Bowie, Texas, it was formed primarily from National Guard units from Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri. This diverse group of men, from various backgrounds and walks of life, underwent

rigorous training to prepare for the challenges of combat. Their training focused on infantry tactics, weapons proficiency, and physical endurance. This initial period laid the foundation for the unit's future success, instilling discipline and camaraderie among its ranks. The initial training was challenging, focusing on close-order drill, physical fitness, and weapon proficiency. It also included simulated combat exercises to prepare them for the realities of warfare.

Chapter 1: The Italian Campaign

The 90th Infantry Division's first taste of combat came in Italy in the latter stages of the Italian Campaign. Landing in Naples in the fall of 1944, they were immediately thrust into the harsh realities of fighting in the mountainous terrain of Italy. The campaign was characterized by brutal fighting, attrition warfare, and difficult logistical challenges. The division participated in several key battles, facing fierce resistance from German forces entrenched in heavily fortified positions. The fighting was characterized by close-quarters combat, often in rugged and unforgiving terrain. This period tested the endurance and resilience of the soldiers, as they faced not only the enemy but also the difficult conditions of the Italian landscape.

Chapter 2: The Southern France Campaign

After the Italian campaign, the 90th Infantry Division was transferred to Southern France in the summer of 1944, participating in Operation Dragoon, the Allied invasion of Southern France. This operation aimed to open a second front in France, relieving pressure on the Normandy front. The division played a crucial role in the advance through Southern France, liberating towns and villages from German occupation. The terrain was often more open than in Italy, but the division still faced determined resistance from German troops. The experience in Southern France provided the 90th with a different kind of combat experience, requiring adaptability and swift maneuverability. The liberation efforts also brought the soldiers into direct contact with the civilian populations, providing a glimpse into the human cost of war.

Chapter 3: The Rhineland Campaign

The Rhineland Campaign was the final major offensive of the 90th Infantry Division's participation in WWII. As part of the Allied advance into Germany, the division participated in the battles that led to the crossing of the Rhine River, a pivotal moment in the war. The fighting was intense, and the division faced numerous challenges, including significant enemy resistance and difficult weather conditions. The crossing of the Rhine was a crucial strategic objective, and the 90th's contribution to this success was significant. The final battles in Germany were brutal and grueling, but the 90th played an important role in pushing back the German forces. The experiences in this campaign left an indelible mark on the soldiers who served.

Chapter 4: The Post-War Era

After the end of hostilities in Europe, the 90th Infantry Division began the process of demobilization. The soldiers returned home, facing the challenges of reintegrating into civilian life after the trauma of war. Many carried physical and psychological scars from their experiences. The legacy of the 90th Infantry Division is one of resilience, courage, and sacrifice. The experiences of these soldiers contributed to the larger narrative of World War II and the American military experience. The post-

war period also saw efforts to recognize the contributions of the division and to provide support to its veterans.

Conclusion: The Enduring Impact

The 90th Infantry Division's contributions to the Allied victory in World War II are often overlooked, but its impact was significant. The division faced numerous challenges and demonstrated exceptional resilience and courage throughout its campaigns in Italy, Southern France, and Germany. The stories of its soldiers, both in combat and in their post-war lives, offer a compelling insight into the human cost of war and the enduring legacy of those who served. Their experiences stand as a testament to the importance of military service and the sacrifices made for freedom. The "Tough Thirty-Ninth" earned their nickname through grit, determination, and unwavering commitment to duty.

FAQs:

1. What was the nickname of the 90th Infantry Division? The Tough Thirty-Ninth.
2. Where was the 90th Infantry Division primarily formed? From National Guard units in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri.
3. What major campaigns did the 90th Infantry Division participate in? Italian Campaign, Southern France Campaign, and Rhineland Campaign.
4. What were some of the challenges faced by the 90th Infantry Division? Difficult terrain, fierce enemy resistance, logistical problems, and the psychological toll of war.
5. What was the significance of the Rhine River crossing for the 90th Infantry Division? It was a crucial strategic objective in the final stages of the war.
6. What happened to the 90th Infantry Division after WWII? It was demobilized.
7. Are there any surviving veterans of the 90th Infantry Division? While many have passed, there may still be surviving veterans. Research through veteran organizations may yield information.
8. Where can I find more information about the 90th Infantry Division? Military archives, historical societies, and online resources.
9. Are there any memoirs or books written by soldiers of the 90th Infantry Division? While a comprehensive division-specific book may be less common, research into individual soldier memoirs from the period might uncover relevant accounts.

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