

Reflections of a "Dogface"

Section 2, Pages 31 - 60

In this reminiscence, John Lee Meyer, Jr. of the First Infantry Division, 18th Regiment, F Company recalls his military service during World War II. Meyer helped construct the courtroom for the Nuremberg Trials in Germany.

Creator: Meyer, John L.

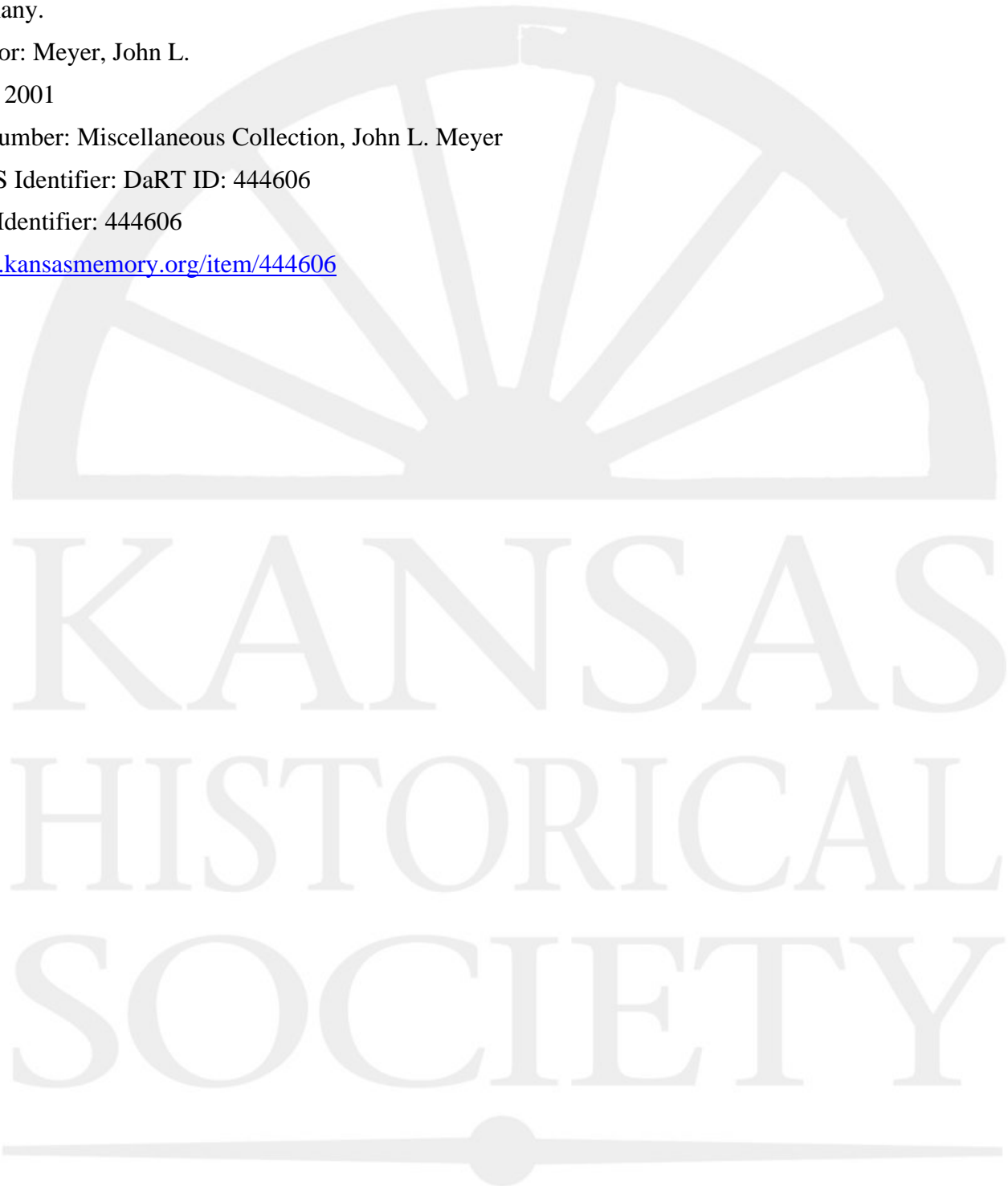
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Harz Mountains



Through the Harz Mountains

From "The First!" History Book

Mountains area about one hundred and twenty miles to the northeast toward Berlin. We arrived at Oestriden on April 3rd. The next day we marched through the mountains to Westriden and established an outpost for several days.

hours before we received official notice. We remained at this location for three

One night while there we were sent to cover one of our tanks at an intersection in the mountains. There was a breakdown in communications and the tankers mistook us for enemy forces, so they opened fire with their fifty caliber machine gun. We started to run and got tangled in some wire coils lining the roadway ditches. We did not suffer any casualties, but it was a little scary.

marched to Wendeluth and

During the night a large enemy personnel carrier came to the intersection and our tank knocked it out. It was loaded with soldiers and they were either killed or injured.

house rather cautiously and out

From "The First!" History Book

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We started moving again on April 8th to Nienover, on the 9th to Schonhagen, and on the 10th to Northeim. That day our company picked up over thirteen hundred prisoners, and the Division total was just over ten thousand for the day.

On April 11th we left Northeim riding in a half-track and traveled through some open country. After we passed through an intersection, a German tank knocked out a tank following us. We moved quickly into a nearby roadway cut and unloaded. From our location we couldn't see the German tank, but we watched it knock out our four tanks and three tank destroyers. That was our entire tank battalion. We were able to get an air strike that did knock out the enemy tank.

The shower was great and the clothes too, except that I ended up with someone

That night we stayed in the nearby town of Horden. The next morning, April 12th, German civilians told us that President Roosevelt had died. They knew it several hours before we received official notice. We remained at this location for three days and then moved to Lenau. It was uneventful for us, but on April 16th the town of Hasselfelde was cleared after a fierce battle. Our first platoon was wiped out with fifteen killed and another thirteen wounded.

Czechoslovakia

On the morning of April 19th we marched to Wendefurth and were told that enemy soldiers wanted to surrender. Another soldier and I approached a house rather cautiously and out



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came nineteen German soldiers with a white flag. We collected a number of rifles and six pistols. That day our company picked up over thirteen hundred prisoners, and the Division total was just over ten thousand for the day.

machine gun set up about a quarter of a mile from the building to cover a sector of open

That closed the Harz Mountain pocket and we were told that there would be no more fighting for the First Division. We moved to Wienrode and they even had us doing some close order drill. During this time some people in the division were having trouble with body lice so they brought a shower unit up nearby. We all had to go at night to take a shower and get some clean clothes in the dark. The shower was great and the clothes too, except that I ended up with someone else's dirty trousers and had to wear them until the war ended before I could get them washed. Incidentally, I did not have any lice, before or after.

We started early on May 6th and marched through ten miles of forest and then

At this location we were only about one hundred and twenty five miles from Berlin.

g on May 7th we were back on the road heading for Marienbad when we

received word of a cease-fire. We hiked back to Mnichov and were there when

Czechoslovakia signed on May 8th, 1945. We stayed there for almost a month

On April 24th, three days after we were told there would be no more fighting for us, our orders were changed and we were loaded onto trucks and headed for Czechoslovakia, the only location where the Germans were still fighting.

VE Day
Entered Czechoslovakia
A/To Belarussia

Along the way we stopped in Siebigerode, and we were in Arzberg on April 27th.

We crossed the border into Krasna-Lipa, Czechoslovakia, on April 29th.

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Here we were quartered in a quaint old railroad station. It had a lot of window boxes that were filled with blooming pansies. We had a thirty-caliber machine gun set up about a quarter of a mile from the building to cover a sector of open field. We pulled our usual guard duty of one hour on and one hour off. It seemed that every time I was out there it would snow heavily and long enough to make the ground white. The sun would come out and melt it when I was inside, then it would go through the same process again. While I was out there, I fired one round from the machine gun and that was my only experience with a machine gun.

We moved by truck to Schloppenhof on May 1st and to Maiergrum on May 5th. We started early on May 6th and marched through ten miles of forest and then twenty miles on a highway to reach the town of Mnichov (Einsiedl). The next morning on May 7th we were back on the road heading for Marienbad when we received word of a cease-fire. We hiked back to Mnichov and were there when the Armistice was signed on May 8th, 1945. We stayed there for almost a month and were quartered in a monastery.

On the night of May 8th special
technicolor copy
minutes until the film melted and
war's end celebration.

VE Day,
Einsiedl, Czechoslovakia
Alfio Bellantoni



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May 8, 1945 VE Day,
Einsiedl, Czechoslovakia
Ernest Meister



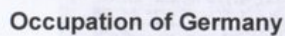
18th Infantry
Company F.C.P.

(Left to Right)

Patterson – Cook
Johnson – Barber
Hagen – Jeep Driver
Carlini – Communications Sgt.
Meyer – Clerk & Switchboard Operator
Harris – Lineman
Frenchy – Interpreter
Sullivan – First Sgt.
Kupis – Mail Clerk

While we were there we maintained a roadblock to keep a large number of civilian refugees from moving back into Germany. They were trying to get away from the Russian Army that occupied most of Czechoslovakia by that time.

On the night of May 8th special services brought us a movie projector and a technicolor copy of the movie "Home in Indiana". We enjoyed it for about two minutes until the film melted and went up in smoke. That was the end of our war's end celebration.



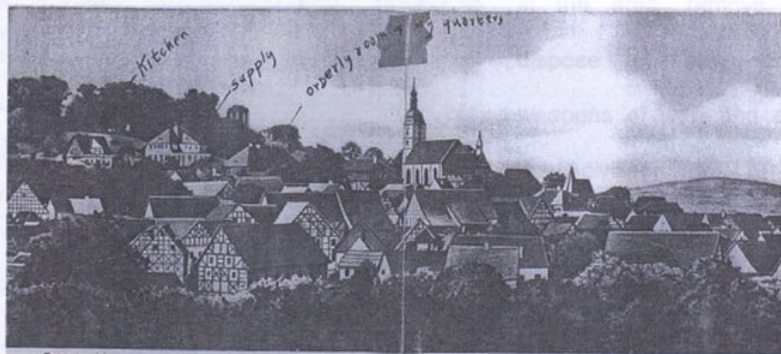
After the cessation of hostilities it was determined that a number of divisions would remain in Germany for occupation service. Other divisions were scheduled to return to the United States for discharge or to be sent to the South Pacific to fight against the Japanese.

The 1st Infantry Division was assigned to occupation duty in the triangular area between Ansbach, Neustadt and Rottenburg. We left Mnichov, Czechoslovakia on June 9th, 1945, and traveled to the small town of Burgbernheim, Germany in

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Bavaria about thirty five miles west of Nürnberg. I would remain there until early in September.



Gesamtschild

Burgbernheim IN FRANKEN.

Burgbernheim liegt in der anmutigen fränkischen Landschaft, im Herzen Mittelfrankens, dort, wo das Waldgebirge der Frankenhöhe zwischen Rothenburg o. T. und Windsheim an der Aisch etwa 150 m steil abfällt und seine Ausläufer keilartig in das obere Aischtal treibt. Wie wenn sie Schutz suchen wollten vor Sturm und Wetter, so schmiegen sich die Häuser in ihrer typisch-fränkischen Bauweise auf fast 2 km Länge hart an den Berghang, des „Kappelberg“, und bilden einen großen Bogen vom „oberen“ Bahnhof bis zum „unteren“. Burgbernheim hat nämlich zwei Bahnhöfe und ist auf zwei Linien zu erreichen. Der obere Bahnhof liegt an der Hauptstrecke München—Frankfurt, der untere an der Lokalbahn Steinach—Windsheim—Neustadt. A. In dem hohen Steinschloß können alle Schnellzüge erreicht werden. Nach dem allberühmten Rothenburg bestehen bequeme Anschlüsse; auch Würzburg, Nürnberg, Bamberg, Ansbach liegen nicht allzufern. Die Reichsstraße München—Frankfurt führt in nächster Nähe vorüber.

Für gute Verkehrsmöglichkeiten ist also gesorgt. Aber auch sonst findet sich in Burgbernheim alles, was dem Fremden den Aufenthalt lieb und angenehm zu machen vermag. Da sind saubere Häuser, breite Straßen mit bequemen Gehsteigen und schönem Baumschmuck, gepflegte Gaststätten, ein gemütliches Café, ein schönes Freibad, ein prächtiger Sportplatz und am Waldrande schattige Sommerkeller und eine neuzeitliche Schießstätte. Auch Ärzte, Zahnarzt und Apotheke, sowie Bank- und Sparkassenzweigstellen, Autoreparaturwerkstätten

und Mietautos stehen zur Verfügung. Alle Gewerbe werden mit Geschick und Erfolg betrieben. Die meisten Bewohner aber sind Bauern, echte, kernige, fränkische Bauern, die Kopf und Herz auf dem rechten Fleck haben, mit bewundernswürdiger Zähigkeit an ihrer Heimat-scholle hängen und ihr in Treue dienen. Eine Silberfuchsfarm liefert wertvolles Pelzwerk. Ihre großen Erfolge sind mit zahlreichen ersten Preisen in aller Welt anerkannt.

In einem solchen Orte mag man sich's wohl sein lassen. Und wenn auch Kirmusik und Theater fehlen, so ist doch für alles gesorgt, was des Leibes Nahrung und Notschlaf erfordert. Wer darum noch ermüdbender Berufsarbeit Ruhe und Erholung sucht für Körper und Geist, der komme zu uns, zu einfachen Menschen in einfachen Verhältnissen, in unsere unverfälschte Gottesnatur, auf unsere freien Höhen und in unseren unvergleichlichen Bergwald; da wird er an Leib und Seele genesen.

Der Bergwald ist Burgbernheims Stolz. Mit Recht. Wer an einem sonnigen Morgen erst vom Kappelberg mit seinem künstlerisch beachtenswerten Kriegerdenkmal einen Rundblick genießt über das weite Tal der Aisch und die angrenzenden Bergzüge und dann auf wohlgehabten Wegen hinanstiegt zu den Felsenkellern, zum Teufelhäuschen, zur Altmühlquelle und, der europäischen Wasserscheide folgend, zur Bismarckhöhe, der wird aus den Stauen über die Größe und Schönheit des Waldes und der Aussicht gar nicht herauskommen und den einheimischen Burgbernheimer verstehen, dem einfach sein Wald über alles geht. Es ist erteulich, daß dieser „Burgbernheimer Wald“, wie er seit alter Zeit genannt wird, durch die Fürsorge des Verschönerungsvereins erhalten mit guten Wegen und Ruhebänken ausgestattet ist.

Dieser 3000 Tgw. große Wald birgt aber noch ein weiteres Kleinod Burgbernheims: das Wildbad, dessen erdige

We occupied three rather large houses: one for quarters, one for supplies and the other for the company kitchen. The buildings were rather quaint, very colorful and well constructed. The German people are good craftsman, industrious and resourceful.

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On the fourth of July another soldier and I went up on a hilltop next to a World



Our responsibility was to provide a physical presence in the area, remove and dispose of any enemy weapons of war, and allow the civilians to resume normal activities. Burgbernheim had suffered little if any physical damage from the war so it wasn't

necessary to do any rebuilding.

We established an outpost in another small town, Uffenheim that was connected by a railroad track. We kept a small contingent of soldiers on duty there and had a small diesel locomotive for transportation.



Rear view of pill box

Damaged out city

Reflections of a "Dogface"

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On the fourth of July another soldier and I went up on a hilltop next to a World War I monument and shot off a hundred flares to celebrate. We used three flare guns because they get very hot.

Late in August several of us were given a three-day pass to visit Paris, France. We traveled by train on August 28th. We went southerly to Ulm, Germany and then westerly through Strasbourg, France and on to Paris.



Cathedral at Ulm, Germany



Leave train to Paris



Rear view of pill box



Bombed out city

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A hotel was provided by the Red Cross along with a few meals. They also gave



Air raid destruction



Destroyed bridge on the Rhine River



Central Paris Map

L'Arc de Triomphe

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A hotel was provided by the Red Cross along with a few meals. They also gave us a street map and arranged for a bus tour of the city. We were, as American soldiers, able to ride the Metro (subway) free. The only problem being that it shut down at 11:00 PM and we weren't ready to go back to the hotel that early. I can remember using my map at 1 or 2 AM to find my way back to the hotel. A lot of the streets change names every block or two and that made it a little more difficult.



Paris, City Tour – Arch of Triomphe



L'Arc de Triomphe

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AMERICAN RED CROSS
PAVILLON CLUB
HOTEL PAVILLON

SIGHTSEEING around PARIS

ITINERARY



OPERA — GRANDS BOULEVARDS —
MADELEINE CHURCH — CONCORDE SQUARE —
CHAMPS-ELYSEES — GRAND PALAIS and
PETIT PALAIS — ARCH OF TRIUMPH —
AVENUE FOCH — BOIS DE BOULOGNE —
TROCADERO — PALAIS DE CHAILLOT — EIFFEL
TOWER — MILITARY SCHOOL — INVALIDES —
Visit of the TOMB OF NAPOLEON —
QUAI D'ORSAY — CHAMBER OF DEPUTES —
SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS — INSTITUTE OF FRANCE —
LUXEMBOURG PALACE — PANTHEON — LATIN
QUARTER — SORBONNE — CLUNY MUSEUM —
NOTRE-DAME (Visit) — TOWN HALL — PALACE OF
JUSTICE — CONCIERGE — LOUVRE PALACE —
CARROUSEL SQUARE — RUE DE RIVOLI —
PLACE VENDOME — OPERA.

*Bus leaving every day at 9.30 a. m. and 1 p. m.
and 3.15 p. m. from the Pavillon Club.*

FARE : 60 FRs.

**EXPLANATIONS GIVEN by COMPETENT
ENGLISH-SPEAKING LECTURER.**

Tours organised for our account by "Vandome Tourisme", 14, rue de Caviglioli - Paris.

Paris has a lot of beautiful buildings. The Eiffel Tower is spectacular. It was not open to the public during the war or while I was there so I did not get to go up in it. I particularly enjoyed seeing the Cathedral of Notre Dame and learning how the flying buttress's worked to hold the building up.

I did have an opportunity to see the Folies Bergere and the show was quite spectacular, in spite of the fact that my seat was almost directly behind a large marble column.

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Nürnberg Trial

Our train trip on our way back was delayed when it hit two kids who were playing on the track. When we stopped we discovered that one of them was under our passenger car. I don't know if he was alive, but I am sure he didn't make it. I was



Company Kitchen, Burgbernheim



First Sergeant Sullivan

I remained in Burgbernheim until about mid-September of 1945. At that time several of us were transferred to the 79th Infantry Division for processing to return back to the United States. I do not remember the town in Germany where the 79th Division was located. Soon after I got there it was discovered that three soldiers in the 1st Division Headquarters had more points (a combination of total military and Foreign Service) than I and two others had. Therefore, we would have to wait a little longer.

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REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE

Nürnberg Trial received two tickets for attendance in the courtroom while the
The three of us were reassigned to the 1st Division's 16th Regiment in Nürnberg.
My assignment was with the Presentation Department, located in the Palace of
Justice, where the war crimes trial was to be held. My boss was a civilian. I was
quartered in a three-story building close to the courthouse.

My first project was to construct a scale model of the courtroom so the designers
could figure out how to get all the necessary people and equipment in. The trial
would be conducted in four languages: English, French, Russian and German, so
it required an elaborate communications system for translation.

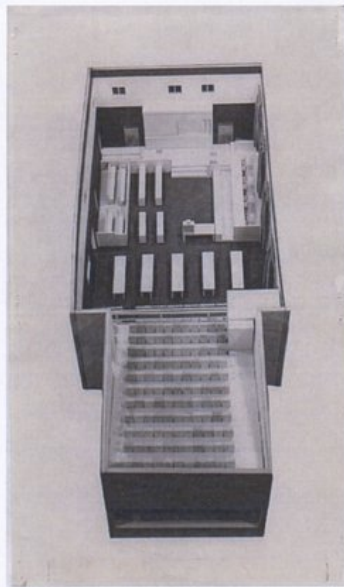
My Department provided comprehensive charts showing the rise to power of the
Nazi government and the aggressive nature of their conquest of Europe. There
were numerous movie films and still photos of the atrocities committed against
the European people and especially the Jewish.

It was my rather dubious honor to be assigned the task of mounting for exhibit in
the courtroom, a number of tattooed human skins. Some of them were irregular
shapes, but others were cut to form lamp shade panels. There were also two
shrunken heads, one of which was mounted on a board for display. I had to go
through a Naval Captain's office to get to a large vault and I was the only one
working in there.

Reflections of a "Dogface"

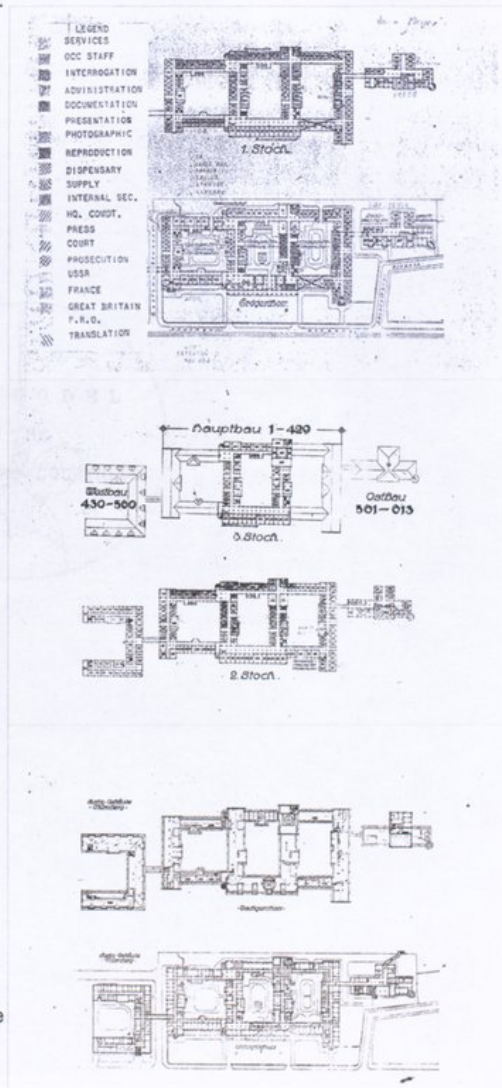
REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE

'My department received two tickets for attendance in the courtroom while the trial was going on. My boss was very nice and let each employee in the department sit in for a half-hour on the first day of the trial. I did get to attend a second time on the twenty first day.



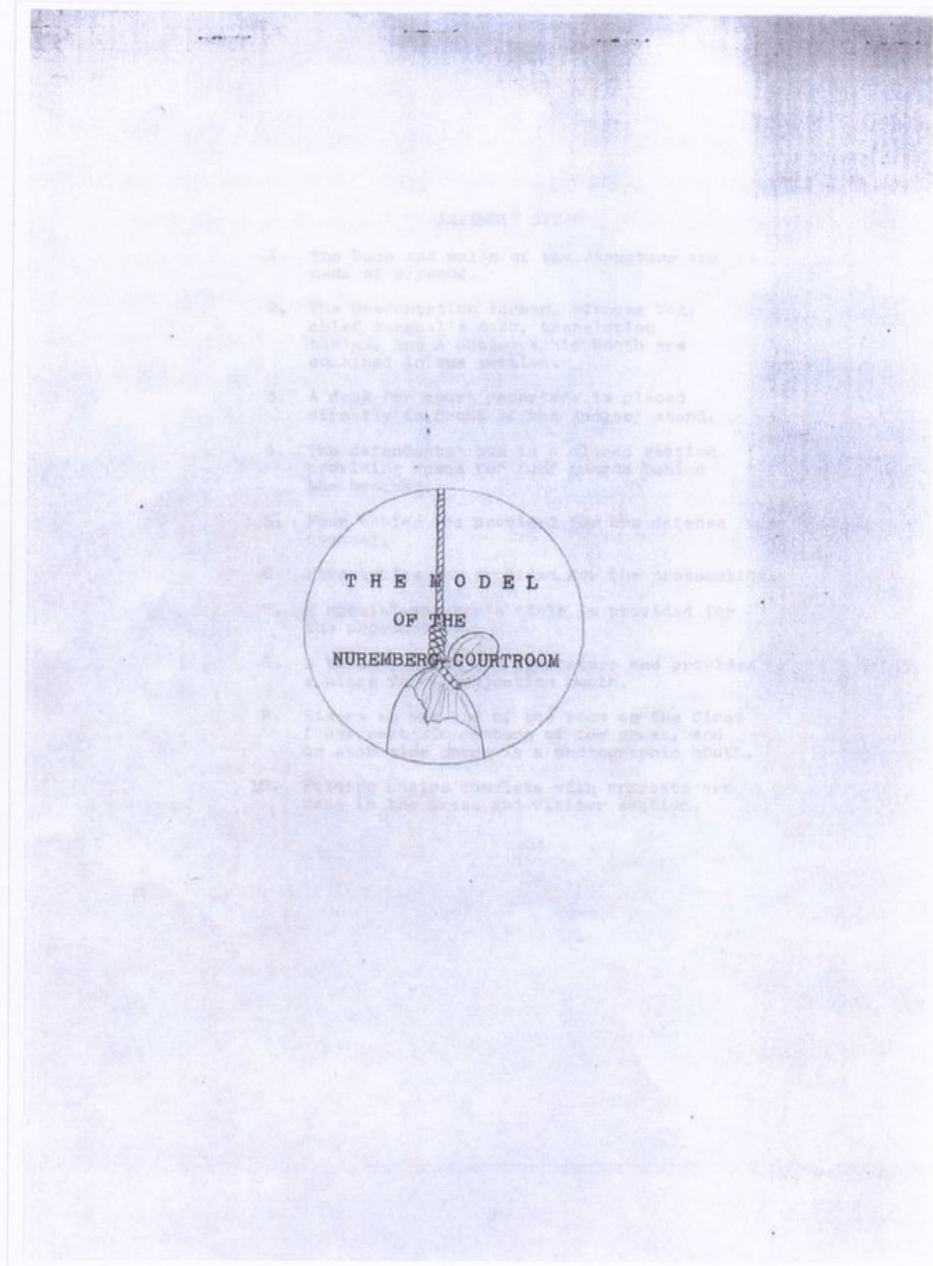
Courtroom Model

Floor plans for Palace of Justice



Reflections of a "Dogface"

REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE



Reflections of a "Dogface"

REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE

A MODEL

The dignity of a courtroom had to be maintained, and seating arrangements had to provide adequate space for about three hundred and fifty people in a room fifty feet

ASSEMBLY STEPS

1. The base and walls of the structure are made of plywood.
 2. The presentation screen, witness box, chief marshal's desk, translation tables, and a photographic booth are combined in one section.
 3. A desk for court reporters is placed directly in front of the judges' stand.
 4. The defendants' box is a closed section providing space for four guards behind the benches.
 5. Four tables are provided for the defense counsel.
 6. Five tables are provided for the prosecution.
 7. A special speaker's table is provided for the prosecutors.
 8. A balcony seats 130 spectators and provides a place for a projection booth.
 9. Risers at one end of the room on the first floor seat 206 members of the press, and on each side there is a photographic booth.
 10. Folding chairs complete with armrests are used in the press and visitor section.
- To facilitate the assembly and disassembly of the structure, the following steps were followed: (1) floor and wall structure, (2) translation and presentation section, (3) judges' section, (4) defendants' box, (5) defense counsel, (6) prosecution, (7) speaker's table for the prosecution, (8) visitor's gallery, and (9) the press section.

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A MODEL

The dignity of a courtroom had to be maintained, and seating arrangements had to provide adequate space for about three hundred and fifty people in a room fifty feet wide and a hundred feet long. This was the problem confronting army engineers responsible for rebuilding the Nuremberg courtroom in which the Nazi warlords of Germany were put on trial in December, 1945.

The engineers in charge of the design and remodeling of the bomb-torn building deemed it necessary to build an exact-scale miniature model of the courtroom to aid in working out the final arrangements for seating and placing of necessary furniture and equipment in the room.

Materials used in the construction of the model consisted of plywood for the base and wall structure, illustration board for the furniture, and green velvet for the carpets and drapes. Clear acetate was used for glass windows and glass panels in the motion picture booths.

To facilitate use of the working model it was built in sections for ease in disassembling. The individual units were as follows: (1) floor and wall structure, (2) translation and presentation section, (3) judges' section, (4) defendants' box, (5) defense counsel, (6) prosecution, (7) speaker's table for the prosecution, (8) visitors gallery, and (9) the press section.

Four benches were provided to seat the twenty-one defendants in the trial. Sufficient space behind the benches provided room for four guards.

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1. Floor and Wall Section

The entire floor section was covered with carpet fashioned from green velvet, and drapes of the same color were hung on each side of the large windows on one side of the room. The lower part of the walls was stained dark walnut to simulate the walnut siding in the actual courtroom. Five four-legged, simply constructed tables provided

2. Translation and Presentation Section

A special wall panel was designed to hold a motion picture screen and to support charts five feet wide and eight feet long diagramming organization of Nazi government and military system. Tables enclosed with glass on three sides were provided for the four translators. (Four were needed, because every word spoken in the trial was immediately translated into four languages, so that it could be readily understood by all persons of the five different nations participating in the trial.) The witness box, the chief marshal's desk, and a photographic booth were also a part of this section.

3. Judges' Section

It was necessary to provide one desk long enough to accommodate eight judges and another to provide adequate seating for about twenty clerks and court reporters.

4. Defendants' Box

Four benches were provided to seat the twenty-one defendants in the trial. Sufficient space behind the benches provided room for four guards.

Reflections of a "Dogface"

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5. Defense Counsel

Four, simply designed desks were placed in front of the defendants' box for the defense counsel of one man for each defendant.

6. Prosecution

Five four-legged, simply constructed tables provided the necessary facilities for about thirty prosecutors.

7. Speaker's Table for the Prosecution

The speaker's table from which the prosecution presented the case had a prominent position in the center of the courtroom.

8. Visitors' Gallery

The balcony at one end of the room built above the press section had seating capacity for a hundred and thirty spectators. An enclosed projection booth was located at the right, front of the balcony.

9. Press Section

Two hundred and six members of the press occupied the space provided on the main floor at one end of the room. A motion picture booth was located at the right front of the press section, and a photographic booth was on the left front.

High above the floor on two sides of the room five additional, sound-proof motion picture booths were constructed to aid in procuring pictures of the trial proceedings from every angle.

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The model, built in three weeks, was completed about three weeks before the trial began and proved quite valuable for the purpose for which it was designed and constructed.

While I was working on the model, the 1st Division commander, Major General Cliff Andrus came in and I got to meet him. Another visitor to the department was Billy Rose, producer of the Diamond Horseshoe Revue. He was a friend of one of our employees and I got to meet him as well. He had brought his show over to entertain the troops and I did get to see it. His show featured tall dancing girls, six feet and over.

Each one of the infantry divisions on occupation duty had football teams made up of former U.S. College players and they were pretty good. I got to see two games, one against the 9th Division and the other was the 42nd Division. They played in a stadium where the Hitler Youth used to meet and parade. One weekend I had the opportunity to go to Ansbach, Division Headquarters, to see the Bob Hope Troupe. I got there, but unfortunately Bob could not make it because of bad weather where he was in Italy. He was able to reschedule later on, but I was not able to go. One of my friends who did go said it was a great show. At some point one soldier got up to go to the restroom and Bob Hope jumped down from the stage, grabbed him by the arm and said, "nobody, but nobody, walks out on my show". I'm not sure what happened after that.

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Nürnberg Castle & Walled City

Shenandoahan at Nuernberg



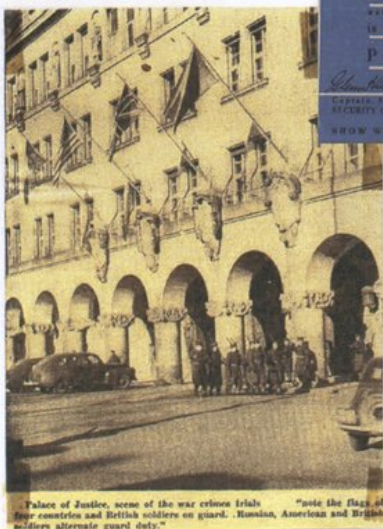
Nuremberg courtroom in miniature is studied by the designers and builder of the scale model. The courtroom which is the scene of former high Nazi officials was reconstructed by U.S. army engineers to match the miniature. Problems of seating the large number of defendants, and providing for press and spectator space, as well as the elaborate sound system and motion picture facilities were first solved on the model. Left to right are the model's designers, Capt. Dan Kiley of Franconia, N.H., and Lt. James Johnson of Boston, Mass., and the builder of the miniature, Pfc. John Meyer of Shenandoah, Iowa.

—Signal Corps Photo

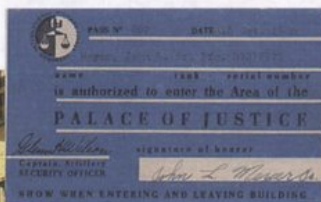
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Nürnberg, Walled City



Palace of Justice, scene of the war crimes trials. "note the flags of four countries and British soldiers on guard. Russian, American and British soldiers alternate guard duty."

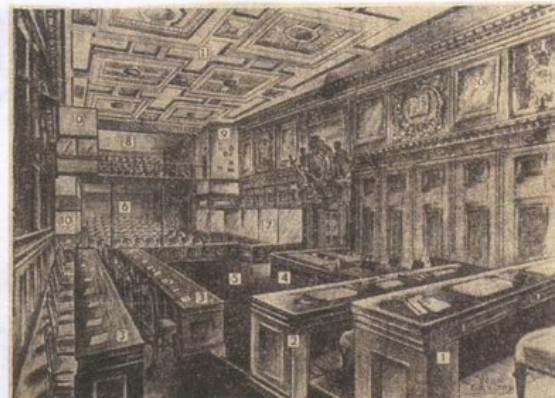


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Nazi leaders on trial at Nuernberg managed these laughs at the November 30 session. Left to right, third row: Hermann Goering, Rudolph Hess, Joachim von Ribbentrop, Wilhelm Keitel. Rear row: Karl Doenitz, Erich Raeder, Hanshart Hermann Gieseler, Schacht and Fritz Sauckel. AP Wirephoto.



This drawing, based on a United States Army sketch, shows the interior of the Nuernberg courtroom in which Germans indicted for war crimes will be tried. The numbers identify (1) judges' bench; (2) alternate judges' bench; (3) seats for 25 prosecutors; (4) seats for 60 defendants; (5) space for court reporters and interpreters; (6) seats for 250 news men; (7) glass-enclosed booth for use of news services; (8) seats for 80 distinguished visitors; (9) motion picture projection booth; (10) glass-enclosed booths for still and motion picture cameramen and radio broadcasters; (11) fluorescent lighting. Drawing by John Carlton.—AP Wirephoto.

VISITORS' GALLERY
INTERNATIONAL
MILITARY TRIBUNAL

SEAT NO
36
SESSION
21

John Meyer Assisted on German War Crime Trials

John Meyer might not have had the most varied experiences while in service, but he certainly could qualify for the "unusual duties" department. He was working with the U. S. Chief Counsel's office on the German war crime trials. He was sent from the First Infantry division to Nuernberg in September, 1945, and was attached to the office of the U. S. Chief Counsel, who is Justice Robert Jackson, of the United States Supreme Court.

"Soldiers stationed in and around the scene of the trial thought the trial was useless, and a waste of money. They are just proving to the world that what the Germans did was wrong. As far as the men on trial were concerned, they didn't even need to be there at all," said Meyer.

One of his duties was to help design and construct a model of the courtroom where the trial was to be held. The chief difficulty was getting the sound system laid out. Every person in the room connected with the trial has a set of ear phones so that the different languages could be translated. Mr. Meyer received his pre-war design training at the University of California at Berkeley.

"When I went into the courtroom the first morning of the trial, Hess was just getting up to look very intently at each person in the room. On the second day they were reading a bunch of minutes of some old Nazi meetings, and every time Goering's name headed the list of those present, he smiled. Every time his name was read farther down the list, he scowled. For the first week of the trial, Hess didn't even sit like there was anything going on, but just sat there and read book after book of love stories. And then when he made his startling statement about feeling his amnesia, I had just stepped out of the room for a bit, and missed the whole thing."

Meyer reports that the prisoners did not eat too much food. Goering stated that the food was good, but not enough to fill him up.

"The Germans on trial for their lives didn't seem particularly worried or nervous about the prospects of being killed," Meyer said.

Probably the most interesting part of his work while at Nuernberg was the preparing of many of the exhibits used in the trial. Among these were the various objects made out of human skin.

Says the ex-soldier, "they had human skin, from white men, made into lamp shades, belts, and just plain large decorative squares. The resultant leather was rather thin, almost transparent, stiff, dry, and light colored—almost like parchment. Pieces of skin for the lamp shades had been cut in his diamond shape off the abdomen and part of the chest. There was one piece about 18 inches square which had been cut off a man's chest, and had a large tattoo right in the middle of it. The tattoo was sort of a winged woman, and showed up very well. Other pieces of human leather had been taken from arms, and had tattooed dragons, a knight in a coat of mail, and many other designs on them."

Among other things, like hundreds of atrocity photos which he handled, was one of the now famous shrunken white man's head.

He says "the head had been shrunk the size of your two fists doubled up. It was very well preserved, and looked just like a small full grown head. The skin was still on it, and was colored rather brown from the heat treatment. Everything had shrunk right except the skin around the neck, which had wrinkled some. The hair had not shrunk any, and was long. It looked out of proportion."

After completing his work at the trial, Dec. 1, he returned to a replacement depot for shipment back to this country.

He received his discharge at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, and is now home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Meyer, Dismantling.

The family moved here a year ago from Phillipsburg, Kan., as Mr. Meyer is with the Consumers Co-operative Association. Mrs. Meyer is employed at Nu-Way Cleaners.

Reflections of a "Dogface"

REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE



OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL APO 404 U.S. Army

4 December 1945

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Pfc John L. Meyer, Jr.
ASN 37517977

This is to certify to the fact that Pfc Meyer was for the months of October and November on the staff of the Presentation Branch of the Office of the U. S. Chief of Counsel in the capacity of draftsman and designer. His work has earned the highest commendation not only of his immediate superiors but also of the Executive Officer, Col. Gill, and the Chief of U.S. Counsel, Mr. Justice Robert H. Jackson.

The small scale model of the courtroom is almost entirely the product of his own work. He contributed to the making of the charts used in the course of the Nurnberg trial both in the courtroom and in the trial briefs. Should he seek a similar position elsewhere, in military or civilian life, we unreservedly recommend him for his industry and meticulous work.

D. Zablodowsky
David Zablodowsky
Presentation Officer



Palace of Justice Building



War destruction in Walled City



Glen Geisler, Elizabethton, Tennessee

Reflections of a "Dogface"

REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE



Reflections of a "Dogface"

REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE

Homeward Bound

Early in December, after I had completed my work on the trial, I started home again. This time I was transferred to the 80th Infantry Division for my return. We traveled to the port city of LeHarve, France, and were assigned to Camp Lucky Strike to wait for our ship to sail. The camps were named after different cigarettes such as Lucky Strike, Camel, Phillip Morris, Chesterfield, etc. I was there on Christmas Day and we did have a good dinner, but not much else to do. Finally on December 30th we were hauled to the harbor and we loaded onto a Victory Ship. I was suffering from a bad headache and was assigned to a bunk with my head next to a heat pipe and that didn't help much. We sailed on December 31st. The English Channel and the North Atlantic were really rough. I didn't feel like doing anything the first day, but a friend brought me some food and I got to feeling good again. We had movies for entertainment.

It took us eight days to cross and we disembarked at Staten Island. Then we took a ferryboat past the Statue of Liberty, and that was a significant moment for me. We landed at Jersey City, N.J. and went to nearby Camp Kilmer.

We left the camp by train on January 12, 1946, my 21st birthday, on our way to Camp Chaffee near Fort Smith, Arkansas, where we would be discharged. While traveling through Pennsylvania we stopped in a small town. Some of the soldiers got off and went up a street to buy snacks or something. When they were

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coming back our train began to move and another train went by in the opposite direction, between them and our train. Therefore, they missed our train and were absent without leave. They did get to Camp Chaffee eventually, but their delay kept us in the army for an extra day. I received my discharge on January 16th and traveled by bus to Shenandoah, Iowa to greet my parents and sister, Donna, in a new home. The total length of my stay in Europe was sixteen months.

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS
(Sufficient cards will be distributed to each soldier when his mail address is changed to permit him to send one to each of his regular correspondents and publishers.)

Date **SEPT 14 44** 94
This is to advise you that my correct address now is—
Pvt Meyer, John L. **375/7977**
(Grade) (Name) (Army Serial No.)
INF 200 K
(Company or comparable unit) (Regiment or comparable unit)
APO No. **15487** % Postmaster **NEW YORK N Y**
(Strike out if not applicable) (Include zip code)
Signature **John L. Meyer**
NOTE.—Newspapers and magazines may need your old address for correct processing.
My old address was
Co. C, 8d Bn, 1st Regt, AGF RD-1, Ft. C. C. Meade, Md.
W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 294* (1 November 1942)
*This form superseded W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 204, 4 April 1940, which may be used until existing stocks are exhausted.

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless the deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION
A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
MLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

WMAC11 FT16= NEWYORK NY JAN 9
JOHN B MEYER=
316 FARNHAM ST SHENANDOAH IOWA=
ARRIVED SAFELY. EXPECT TO SEE YOU SOON. DONT ATTEMPT TO
CONTACT OR WRITE ME HERE LOVE=
JOHN L MEYER.
THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Reflections of a "Dogface"

REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS 18TH INFANTRY
AFO 1, US ARMY

5 December 1944

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 38)

Under the provisions of War Department Circular Number 186, dated 11 May 1944, the following named officers and enlisted men are awarded the "Combat Infantryman Badge", effective on dates indicated, for exemplary conduct in action against the enemy:

| NAME | RANK | ASN | EFFECTIVE DATE |
|------------------------|---------|----------|----------------|
| COMPANY "F" | | | |
| MENGLE, ROBERT W. | 1ST LT | O-460578 | 20 Oct 1944 |
| Cramer, Earnest A | S/Sgt | 36104845 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Folds, Ann P. | Pvt 1cl | 14029269 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Hale, Charles E. | Pvt 1cl | 6987808 | 17 Nov 1944 |
| Hanes, Arny J (KIA) | Pvt 1cl | 34376262 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Prentiss, Robert S | Pvt 1cl | 12097561 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Wilkes, Thadus O | Pvt 1cl | 34166579 | 15 Nov 1944 |
| Burkhart, Harry O | Pvt | 32243036 | 29 Oct 1944 |
| Delaney, William R | Pvt | 37593598 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Franklin, James L | Pvt | 34667663 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Geisler, Glen M | Pvt | 34987082 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Hagen, Alvin M | Pvt | 39927901 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Haisley, Howard H | Pvt | 35833114 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| May, Philip S Jr | Pvt | 34792814 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| McMeans, Kenneth | Pvt | 38405078 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Meyer, John L Jr | Pvt | 37517977 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Niewindony, Edward J | Pvt | 36967246 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| O'Keefe, Lawrence J | Pvt | 31340775 | 15 Nov 1944 |
| Pena, Robert C | Pvt | 12225454 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Perdue, Charlie W | Pvt | 34966983 | 15 Nov 1944 |
| Portis, Charles A | Pvt | 36891813 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Powell, Harold L (KIA) | Pvt | 3709867 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Quigley, Carroll A | Pvt | 33806150 | 15 Nov 1944 |
| Speelman, George E Jr | Pvt | 33849857 | 15 Nov 1944 |
| Stump, Forest J | Pvt | 35837159 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Thiele, Carl J (KIA) | Pvt | 37683639 | 15 Nov 1944 |
| Thomalia, John O | Pvt | 37361000 | 15 Nov 1944 |
| Vasilke, Charles | Pvt | 42115474 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Waugh, Louis G | Pvt | 34674133 | 19 Nov 1944 |
| Weaver, Louis F | Pvt | 35081856 | 19 Nov 1944 |

By order of Colonel Smith:

DON O CURRIER
CAIT INF
ADJ

Reflections of a "Dogface"

REFLECTIONS OF A DOGFACE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
RECORDS ADMINISTRATION CENTER
ST. LOUIS 20, MISSOURI

IN REPLY REFER TO
AGHS-DA 201 Meyer, John L., Jr.
37 517 977 (30 Oct 50)

10 November 1950

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Bronze Star Medal

TO: Mr. John L. Meyer, Jr.
629 Taylor Street
Topeka, Kansas

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (Sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), you have been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for exemplary conduct in ground combat against the armed enemy on or about 19 November 1944, in the European Theater of Operations, while assigned as Private, 18th Infantry Regiment.

2. Authority for this award is contained in paragraph 18, AR 600-45, and is based upon General Orders 43, Headquarters 18th Infantry Regiment, dated 22 December 1944.

3. The Commanding General, Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will forward an engraved Bronze Star Medal to you on 22 December 1950.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

W.A. Leary
Adjutant General

1 Incl
BSM Certificate

Copies Furnished
D & A Rec Unit Files
Statistical and Accounting
201 File