1942 - 2017

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

STARS AND STRIPES

16-PAGE SPECIAL SECTION

Service, sacrifice and an enduring partnership

When United States forces arrived in England in 1942 and when its allies celebrated V-E day in May 1945, it was not envisioned how the world would change, and that the United States and others would be military partners in Europe today.

American soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines — along with civilian employees and their families from the U.S., as well as allies from Italy, the United Kingdom, Germany, Turkey, France, Spain and other nations — have spent 75 years living and working to support the peace and development of Europe as part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. That former allies would become enemies, and enemies would become allies and good friends, was unthinkable.

During those 75 years, through stories, photographs and videos, Stars and Stripes has chronicled this partnership never before undertaken in world history. The Stars and Stripes staff has embraced the mission, with honor and privilege, to record this history. The good, the bad, the happy, the sad, the shocking and the routine are part of the story.

Arguments about the need for the United States in the region, the size of the force, the location and purpose of military stationing matter little to the men and women who commit themselves to live and work in support of U.S. military objectives. The individuals who have stepped forward to be part of the 75-year history have left the comfort of their lives, a decision accepted valiantly by their loved ones, to protect all of us and create an environment of peace and security.

The spirit of sacrifice is the mark of all parts of the military community and its families.

Stars and Stripes is commemorating the U.S. participation in the alliance of nations, serving to protect and maintain peace in Europe. The words and the images collected here are intended to illustrate the past and provide context for the future. The European region bears a special significance for the U.S. and its role as a global power. Relations are centuries old, and the bonds are not only political, military and economic but historical and social. We share many of the same values regarding human rights, freedom, democracy and a civil society.

The violent period of World War II saw as many as 3 million U.S. military personnel in Europe. After the war, an urgency to bring the troops home or send them to the Pacific war zone dropped forces in Europe to about 100,000. There were still important tasks to complete — the rebuilding of Germany and other war-ravaged areas as well as participation in the trials of war criminals, such as those at Nuremberg. The rise of Communism changed this perspective.

The threat of the U.S.S.R. created a need to grow the U.S. military presence, reaching a zenith of more than 450,000 U.S. personnel spread over 100 communities in the early 1960s. The patrolling of the Berlin Wall, guarding the Fulda Gap and holding the annual REFORGER exercises were part of the fabric of the Cold War and of the education of the children of the United States. U.S. personnel holding the line in Europe helped to deter a nuclear attack that children prepared for across America by learning to "duck and cover" under their desks at the sound of a warning.

When the Wall came down in 1989 and later Germany was reunified, a sigh of relief was exhaled around the world. This allowed military strength in Europe to be diverted to fight other enemies. The war against Iraq and Saddam Hussein — to respond to Iraq's aggression against its neighbor Kuwait — is a primary example of the massive movement of forces from Europe to other areas. But when these troops returned to their Europe stations, they were confronted with new challenges created by the crumbling stability of the former Soviet bloc. Conflicts in the former Yugoslav countries of Bosnia and Kosovo occupied the focus of the European command for much of the later part of the 1990s.

The U.S. was not prepared for the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, the resulting conflicts and the hatred directed at the American way of life by Osama bin Laden and his followers. Once again, the well-trained and skilled forces in Europe were diverted to conflicts in the Middle East. And again, the infrastructure of the European command was essential to the forward-operating activities in the Middle East. The logistic bases in Europe, troop transport and medical care provided by Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and in other areas have been integral to sustaining operations and saving lives.

Always ready for the next challenge, European-based forces deployed in support of humanitarian missions including providing earthquake relief in Turkey and combating the Ebola virus in Africa. In parallel to these humanitarian efforts and involvement in the Middle East, U.S. troop strength in Europe continued to decline during the first two decades of this century. Today, the U.S. force in Europe is much smaller at 62,000 personnel across 28 communities and 14 countries. Despite a much smaller presence, the need for forward-deployed troops in Europe is as essential as it has been at any time. The resurgence of Russia in Crimea and other actions again have U.S. military men and women serving at the tip of the spear.

Through all these transitions, Stars and Stripes has chronicled what has occurred: the pain and suffering, the successes and failures, the heroic and the dishonest actions of members of the force. Reporters and photographers have traveled the roads and trails of the military community. The staff lives with the troops and families as members of their communities. No matter the weather or the conflict, the Stars and Stripes team delivered a newspaper on the "most dangerous paper routes in the world," including the early days of the Bosnia and Kosovo conflicts, to Afghanistan, Iraq and to Africa, where service personnel risked their lives to fight Ebola.

Recognizing a need, Stars and Stripes has also brought events to the military community to improve the quality of life — sponsoring runs, commissary food contests, trip giveaways and more. Our storytellers have sought to be the voice of everyday servicemembers, to make sense of where they live and work, and to explain the messages of the leadership. Stars and Stripes has changed as you, our reader, have changed.

Today, how the story is delivered is different — now digital and print — but the content goal is the same. To tell the story of the military to the military — a goal no other news organization seeks to accomplish. After our first 75 years, it is still with awe of the sacrifice of the U.S. military community that Stars and Stripes proudly seeks to chronicle your lives.

— Max D. Lederer Jr.
lederer.max@stripes.com

Max D. Lederer Jr.

The publisher of Stars and Stripes news media organization was appointed in 2007 after holding various positions with Stars and Stripes since 1992 including chief operating officer, general counsel and general manager of Europe operations. Before his employment with Stars and Stripes, Lederer served as a U.S. Army judge advocate with assignments in Europe and South Korea, and Fort Ord, Calif., and Fort Sill, Okla.

During his time with the Army, he was Airborne-qualified. He also deployed with 2nd Armored Division (Forward) to operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm to liberate Kuwait in 1990-91. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Richmond law school in Virginia and Bachelor of Arts from Marshall University in West Virginia.

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Multimedia presentation at stripes.com

Take a more immersive look at how Stars and Stripes has covered the military in Europe over the past 75 years.

stripes.com/go/europe75

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

1D THE STARS AND STRIPES 1D

INVASION!

Allies Chase Nazis Across River Tiber In Italy Advance

King Transfers Royal Powers To Crown Prince Umberto

ALLIES LAND IN FRANCE

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force announced this morning that Allied naval forces, supported by Allied air forces, began landing Allied armies this morning on the northern coast of France.

Forts, Libs Hit Calais, Boulogne

Aviation Output Exceeded Goal By 2 Pct. in May

Open Black Drive For 3 Airfields

The Northern Ireland edition announcing D-Day

WORLD WAR II AND STRIPES RETURNS

June 6, 1944: U.S. and Allied troops launch the largest invasion in history on the beaches of Normandy. Stars and Stripes follows.

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, troops in a landing craft approach Omaha Beach. At Omaha, one of five landing areas on the coast of Normandy, France, the U.S. 1st and 29th divisions came under heavy fire. Despite bombardment from air and sea, the Nazis still had plenty of firepower, turning Omaha into a killing field.

Photograph from the Army Signal Corps Collection in the U.S. National Archives

1942

1944

April 18, 1942: Stars and Stripes is launched in London for the first time since World War I. (The first U.S. troops arrived in Europe — specifically in Northern Ireland — on Jan. 25, 1942.) Stars and Stripes launches regional editions, following the troops as fighting moves through North Africa, Sicily/Italy, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and later, Germany.


3D THE STARS AND STRIPES 3D

President in 10th Year

U.S. Winning In the Battle of Production

General Marshall Sets a Goal for Stars and Stripes

Troops Are Getting Up As U.S. Is Going to Bed

Labor Peace

Members of the 34th Infantry Division look at the first Stars and Stripes issue published in World War II. The London edition rolled off the presses April 18, 1942. For a short time the newspaper was published once a week. Page 1 of the first issue tells of the goal set for the newspaper by then-Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall.

■ Read the Gen. Marshall interview as it was published on April 18, 1942.
stripes.com/go/FirstEdition

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

■ See a gallery of Mauldin's cartoons at **stripes.com/go/mauldin**

"Remember that warm, soft mud last summer?"

"Beautiful view! Is there one for the enlisted men?"

1940s

WWII STARS OF STRIPES

Stars and Stripes was meant to be a GI's newspaper, and that sometimes put it in conflict with the brass. Nowhere was the conflict more apparent than in the cartoons of Bill Mauldin, a GI-turned-cartoonist whose characters Willie and Joe chronicled the war from the foxhole perspective. For millions of ordinary servicemembers, Willie and Joe symbolized the European war. Mauldin's cartoons earned Stars and Stripes a special place in the hearts of America's citizen soldiers.

Other standouts at Stars and Stripes include war correspondents Andy Rooney and Jack Foisie.

Bill Mauldin

Mauldin in 1992

Willie and Joe lie in their sleeping bags in the snow up against a log. "Remember that warm, soft mud last summer?" Willie says.

The pair of unshaven, weary grunts slogged their way from Italy to Germany in the pages of Stars and Stripes during World War II — along with their creator, Army Sgt. Bill Mauldin.

The mud-spattered, butt-smoking infantrymen illustrated the bleak and absurdly comic lives of them all. Mauldin's unsentimental work — teetering on the line between funny and tragic, unafraid to mock authority — spoke to and for front-line soldiers. They loved him for it. It's difficult to overstate how much.

As the war went on, Willie and Joe and other soldiers that Mauldin drew only got dirtier and wearier. In one 1944 cartoon, bedraggled, hollow-eyed soldiers trudge through a downpour with likewise pathetic prisoners, one with his arm in a sling.

"Fresh-spirited American troops, flushed with victory are bringing in thousands of hungry, ragged, battle-weary prisoners," Mauldin's caption said.

That cinched his first Pulitzer Prize, at the age of 23.

Mauldin, a westerner who went to art school in Chicago, joined the Army in 1940. In 1943, he waded ashore in Sicily with the 45th Infantry Division. By the end of a year of tedium interspersed with terror, almost all the men in Mauldin's rifle company had been killed, captured or wounded.

Mauldin's cartoons appeared first in the division newspaper, sometimes drawn using motor oil or wine. Initially a contributor to Stars and Stripes, he joined the staff in 1944, publishing six cartoons a week.

Gen. George C. Patton was not a fan. One of Mauldin's cartoons particularly incensed him: a Patton-esque general overlooking a beautiful vista and asking an aide, "Is there one for the enlisted men?"

Patton, who threatened to cease the paper's distribution within his Third Army, ordered Mauldin to his palatial Luxembourg headquarters to harangue him. "You know (expletive) well you're not drawing an accurate representation of the American soldier," Patton told him, as cited in his autobiography. "You make them look like (expletive) bums. No respect for the Army, the officers or themselves. You know as well as I do that you can't have an army without respect for officers. What are you trying to do — incite a (expletive) mutiny?"

Mauldin was unfazed. And by the end of the war he'd been awarded the Legion of Merit.

After the war, Mauldin continued his career as a cartoonist, made an unsuccessful bid for Congress, acted in movies, wrote books, made the cover of Time magazine and won a slew of prizes, including another Pulitzer.

He died in 2003 and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Mauldin drew about 1,500 cartoons in his career. His favorite, he said, was one from the war years — of an old cavalry sergeant, grief-stricken, covering his eyes as he points his pistol at the radiator of his broken-down jeep. There is no caption.

— Nancy Montgomery, Stars and Stripes

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

Dick Wingert, creator of the Hubert cartoon, sketches his favorite character while visiting the Stars and Stripes headquarters in Griesheim, Germany, in June 1955.

GENE BANE/Stars and Stripes

Dick Wingert

Dick Wingert went to art school to become an illustrator. The Army turned him into a cartoonist.

He graduated in 1940 and was inducted into the Army in February 1941. After spending a year in Louisiana with the 34th Infantry Division he was sent to Ireland. Wingert was drawing cartoons and submitted samples to the newly re-established Stars and Stripes, which had ceased publication after World War I. After several were printed, Wingert requested a transfer to Stars and Stripes and was moved to London. He spent the rest of the war there and created his main character Hubert — an unshaven, disheveled GI popular with deployed readers. Hubert started as an illustration and later became a single-panel cartoon.

Hubert, Wingert said, was "a poor clunk caught in a war he didn't understand. He was frustrated, baffled and bewildered at every turn by Army life."

That idea found an appreciative audience. "There is no end of material," Wingert once said, "and all you have to do is make a humorous comment on how you personally feel about any given situation of Army life and you have a million other guys who feel the same way you do."

Wingert went to the front with Gen. George C. Patton's Third Army for inspiration. "It wasn't very funny," he said.

The Iowa-born Wingert settled in Connecticut after the war, and made a deal in 1945 with King Features to syndicate his comic to newspapers across the country. Hubert evolved from a baffled GI to a baffled husband who was oppressed by his sexy wife and abused by his mother-in-law. The comic strip was printed for decades.

Wingert died in 1993. His cartoon collection is archived at Syracuse University.

— Bios by Nancy Montgomery, Stars and Stripes

Allan Morrison

Allan Morrison was Stars and Stripes' first and only black reporter in World War II, when the services were segregated and most African-American units had support duties in the rear.

But not all of them. "During and since D-Day, barrage balloons flown by a Negro barrage balloon battalion have provided a screen of rubber several miles long on the two main beachheads assisting in the protection of troop landings and the unloading of supplies," one of Morrison's stories began. It detailed the work of the only black combat group in the first assault forces to hit the coasts providing cover from enemy strafing on D-Day with their blimps. "Some of the men died alongside the infantryman they came in to protect," he wrote.

Morrison, born in Toronto in 1916 and at heart a New Yorker, was then an Army sergeant. But he'd gained journalism experience in civilian life and co-founded a publication in New York City, the Negro World Digest.

The Digest, published from July-December 1940, sought to condense the best writing by or about blacks into a monthly publication.

Morrison was still in uniform, strolling along the Champs-Elysees in Paris, when he met with a Chicago newsman who plucked him for a new national magazine designed for African-American readers. Called Ebony, it would become one of the most successful and important black publications, and still exists today.

Morrison became Ebony's New York editor in 1948, and an influential voice on civil rights and the arts.

Morrison was "one of the most gifted and conscientious black journalists I have known," according to one of his editors, Ben Burns.

Described as a man of "superb wit and expansive memory," he was a cricket fan who had "an English air," according to one obituary in 1968, when he died at 52. He was also considered an authority on jazz and classical music.

■ Read a selection of Morrison's WWII stories at **stripes.com/go/Morrison**

1940s

Andy Rooney

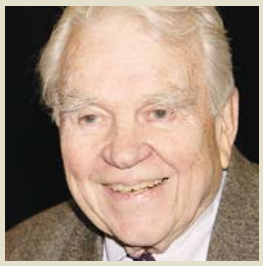
Andy Rooney was best-known as the curmudgeonly commentator who for three decades of Sunday nights opined on the annoyances of everyday life on "60 Minutes." He detested soap on a rope, for instance.

But Rooney also wrote books and a syndicated newspaper column that amused — or enraged — readers. During the Iran-Contra affair in the 1980s, for instance, after he wrote a column critical of Col. Oliver North, the response was intense. "Your views on Col. North are disgusting. Your views on cats are worse," one reader said.

Drafted in 1941, the Albany, N.Y., native, wiseacre and authority skeptic always considered himself foremost a writer. He got his start at Stars and Stripes.

Based in London, Rooney covered almost every theater of the war. He was among the first into liberated Paris and the Nazi death camps, and got to Normandy while it was still stacked with the dead. His first story was about a maintenance unit.

"The Purple Heart may never be awarded to the grease monkey in olive-drab overalls who works seven days and nights a week to keep Army wheels rolling. But he is made of the same basic stuff that puts the men in the Flying Fortresses in the headlines day after day," he wrote. "The grease monkey is the unglamorous, backstage — and very necessary — human element of the war."



Rooney in 2002

He rode along on the second bombing mission from London into Germany. "I got in my bomber and I thought to myself, 'Why am I doing this? I'm scared to death. I mean, I don't have to risk my life' — except that I felt so bad for all the men who did have to risk their lives all those times that it just seemed like it was the honest thing to do," he later recalled.

Rooney achieved the rank of staff sergeant and was awarded numerous medals, including the Bronze Star. He went on to fame and fortune. But his experience at Stars and Stripes was foundational.

"God, it was a great paper," he said in 2011, six months before he died at 92.

■ Read some of Rooney's field reports from World War II at **stripes.com/go/Rooney**

Jack Foisie

Jack Foisie was a sports and local news reporter on the West Coast when war broke out in 1941. Foisie, 22, quit his newspaper job, joined the Army and went into combat with the 1st Armored Division. He fought all through Tunisia, driving a half-track, operating a .50-caliber machine gun, keeping his typewriter handy until it was blown up. After 15 months, he wrote to Stars and Stripes asking to join the staff. "Why not?" then-editor Capt. Bob Neville replied in a two-word letter. Orders arrived for Foisie to report to Naples, Italy, 10 days later.

It was the start of a beautiful friendship.

For his combat coverage of the 1943 invasion of Sicily, Foisie was awarded the Legion of Merit. When units requested a reporter to cover their exploits, they most often asked for Foisie.

"Americans today patrolled the gloomy streets of once sunny Naples," began Foisie's story about the city after it was taken. The story detailed destruction by retreating German engineers, leaving the city without lights or water. "As a result Naples has become a city of 700,000 candles — about a candle per person," he wrote.

After the war, Foisie had a long, highly successful career, serving as bureau chief for the Los Angeles Times in then-Saigon, Bangkok, Cairo and Johannesburg. But he was best known as a top war correspondent, including in Korea and Vietnam, questioning the official story based on what he had witnessed.

Foisie in Vietnam

In his 2001 obituary, his former foreign editor at the Los Angeles Times said that Foisie had been a legend among war correspondents. "All the civilians knew about Ernie Pyle, but the guys in the Army knew Foisie," Robert Gibson said.

Pyle knew Foisie, too. Perhaps the most beloved correspondent of World War II, Pyle wrote about Foisie in his book, "Brave Men." Foisie had talent and an "ephemeral, intuitive sense" to be able to write stories from a soldier's viewpoint, Pyle wrote.

"Among correspondents Foisie had the reputation of always being willing to go anywhere and do anything," Pyle wrote.

75 YEARS IN EUROPE


THE STARS AND STRIPES
MARSEILLES
Americans Check Drive In North; Germans 40 Miles Inside Belgium
Nazis' Greatest Bid May Become Their Worst Defeat, Gen. Ike Says
Rundstedt Drive Scores Germans In Path Of Nazis
Order Of The Day
Doughboys Use Nazi Gun To Free Trapped Outfit
Roosevelt Mum At Press Meet
Screaming Banners Startle U. S.
Guerrillas Quiet Since Dilsation

Marseille edition describing the Battle of the Bulge

BATTLE OF THE BULGE: BEGINNING OF THE END

December 1944-January 1945: A half-million German troops launch a major attack along an 85-mile front in what became known as the Battle of the Bulge. About 75,000 Americans are killed, wounded or captured before the German offensive collapses, opening the door to the German heartland.

Two U.S. soldiers dug into the snow east of Bastogne, Belgium, man .50-caliber guns as they keep an eye out for German troops.

Photograph from the U.S. Army

1944

1945

April 25, 1945: Stars and Stripes is there as U.S. and Soviet forces link up in the German town of Torgau. Over the next two weeks, Hitler commits suicide, Berlin falls to the Soviets and Germany surrenders. The war in Europe is over.


STARS AND STRIPES
U. S., REDS LIN
Hodges' First Joins Koniev On Elbe, Bradley Announ
Austrian Frontier Crossed
Germans Stampede As Reds Approach
Split in Nazi High Brass Over Goering's Dismissal
HARDSHIP VETS TO GET RELEASE


GERMANY EDITION
THE STARS AND STRIPES
Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations
Russian Lesson
HITLER DEAD
7th Clears Munich
Yank Armor Across Elbe With British
Reds Gain on Baltic, Race Into Moravia
Heil-Style Salute Banned for PWs
Bernadotte Denies Second Himmler Bi

Above: The Nice-Marseille edition announcing the linking of the U.S. troops with those of the Soviet Union

Right: The Germany edition announcing the death of Adolf Hitler


EXTRA THE STARS AND STRIPES EXTRA
PARIS EDITION
VICTORY
Nazis Reveal Surrender To Western Allies, Russia
Nazis Still Fight Reds At Prague
Prayer, Tears, Laughter —The World Celebrates
Ticker Tape Showers Wall Street


THE STARS AND STRIPES
WAR ENDS
ruman Announces Total Surrender

Above: The Southern Germany edition announcing the Japanese surrender, end of war

Left: The Paris Extra edition announcing the surrender of Germany

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

Lore Lizabeth Back

Back in 2002

Lore Lizabeth Back was a war refugee when she arrived at Stars and Stripes in Germany in 1947 and became its first female photographer.

She was born in Vienna and was attending art school and working as a photographer's apprentice as that stately, civilized world came crashing down.

She and a sister fled the Nazi annexation of Austria in 1938, heading to Czechoslovakia, where her family owned a brewery. But there was no safety there. The same year, Hitler annexed the northern and western regions of the country. A few months later, the Germans occupied the rest of the country.

Back and her sister escaped to Britain in a small airplane. Much of the family died at Auschwitz.

Back was living in London when the Nazis were defeated in May 1945. Fluent in English and German, she got a job in occupied Germany with the Civil Censorship Division.

"The pay was terrific. I could never dream of earning that kind of money in England, but the clincher was that the training was to be in Paris," she later told Kenneth Zumwalt, the former managing editor who hired her in 1947.

Back, who went by "Liz," was charged with taking on the photo lab and its files — packs of negatives stashed willy-nilly in cabinets. Back made order out of the chaos. The next year, Back took her first photo for the newspaper. An editor was getting married, and the male photographers were unavailable or unwilling to shoot a wedding. Back volunteered. After that, Back was sent out on special assignments.

In 1950, Back married photo editor Jerry Waller. They moved to Los Angeles and had two children. She died in 2010 at 92.

■ See her work at **stripes.com/go/LoreBack**

■ See more of Grandy's photos, plus a video, at **stripes.com/go/Grandy**

Red Grandy

Francis J. "Red" Grandy sure got around.

If he wasn't in Koblenz, Germany, catching the priceless look on Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's face at the precise moment he learned a key piece of news, he was in Libya documenting the devastation following an earthquake, or in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, shooting the Olympic Games or on the Mediterranean Sea capturing F-4 Phantom jets streak across the sky over the USS John F. Kennedy.

Or he was maneuvering his way into Elizabeth Taylor's party at Cannes or a presidential inaugural ball or Sophia Loren's hotel room to drink cocktails. Time after time, Grandy outfoxed others and insinuated himself up close and personal to take some of most iconic photographs in the world. "He's with us," Mitzi Gaynor or Walter Winchell or some other grandee who'd just met him would say.

That mix of canniness, charm and chutzpah, combined with technical skill, made Grandy — Stars and Stripes chief photographer for more than three decades — a legend.

His take on his craft was that good photography required luck but was more reliant on "anticipation."

The usually besuited Grandy was born in 1922 on a dairy farm in upstate New York. Starting in 1942, he spent four years in the Army Air Corps, then studied photography at the University of Southern California. In 1950, he sailed for Europe to work on a master's degree in cinema. In 1951, he hired on as a photographer at Stars and Stripes, and quickly made an impression.

Within four months, he'd snapped a photo of Eisenhower at the moment the supreme Allied commander in Europe was told that his fellow five-star general Douglas D. MacArthur had been dismissed as Korean War commander by President Harry Truman. The photo was published all over the world and was named by The Associated Press as best news photo of the year for 1951.

Two weeks later, Grandy caught the reunion in Vienna of Robert Vogeler and his wife, Lucille, when the business executive was released after 527 days in a Hungarian jail for spying. That image was named second-best news photo.

Grandy was promoted to chief photographer, a post he held for the next 35 years.

He was competitive. Stars and Stripes' small staff of six shooters won major newspaper photo contests year after year under his supervision.

His enviable assignments took him to military maneuvers, natural disasters, plane crashes, sporting events and film and jazz festivals in 37 countries. It was "movie stars, cocktail bars and shiny cars," he told one interviewer at age 91.

Grandy, 95, lives in upstate Hermon, N.Y., on the Grass River, where he's proprietor of the historic Lazy River Playground and owner of an Amphicar. Grandy imported the German vehicle, operable on land and water, in 1965 after seeing one in use on the way to an assignment near Koblenz. There's a photo of him in a 2013 edition of the Watertown Daily Times at the wheel of the sleek vessel, sporting a yachting cap as he cruises along the river.

— Bios by Nancy Montgomery, Stars and Stripes

GENE BANE/Stars and Stripes

GUS SCHUETTLER/Stars and Stripes

Stars and Stripes photographer Red Grandy posing with his award-winning photo of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower during an exhibit in Frankfurt.

POSTWAR STANDOUTS

1940s 1950s

Don Sheppard

Don Sheppard's cartoons for Stars and Stripes wouldn't pass muster today. In fact, the cartoons featuring blowsy frauleins in swastika-edged petticoats, including one whose initials were V.D. (pictured at right), barely passed muster in 1946.

The popular cartoons spoke to military efforts to discourage GIs from associating with German women in the war's immediate aftermath. But after German complaints, the U.S. decided that the cartoons were offensive enough to potentially jeopardize the occupation. U.S. authorities ordered that the cartoons be toned down and appear in Stars and Stripes only three times a month. The matter was covered in a 1946 issue of Life magazine, which, true to the tenor of the times, described the cartoons as "hilarious."

The artfully drawn cartoons would today be considered wildly misogynistic and ethnically incendiary. Sheppard, a 20-year-old soldier from Mill Valley, Calif., has said his intention was to "discourage soldiers from taking their fraternization … too seriously."

Historians say that such cartoons illustrated the socio-sexual tensions in devastated, occupied Germany, in which women who associated with occupation troops — most of whom had been sent fresh from the U.S. to replace hardened combat troops — were demonized. The U.S., which was concerned about sexually transmitted disease and Nazi ideology, cast them as impure sirens. Fellow Germans, on the other hand, considered the women impure traitors. Sheppard spent at most a year at the newspaper. His later fortunes are unclear.

"Sarge, I'd like to have ya meet the sweetest little gal in Deutschland—Miss Veronica Dankeschön."

Julia Edwards

Edwards in a 1948 Europe Edition

Soon after Julia Edwards landed her first reporting job in 1946 at Stars and Stripes, she learned female journalists were accorded "special treatment." Male colleagues, she noted, "gossiped outrageously" about them. Military officials, who had often barred them from the front lines during the fighting, remained dismissive.

The women persevered anyway.

"With as much stamina and more persistence than the challenge demanded of men, women have reported all the great and catastrophic events of the past 140 years," Edwards wrote in "Women of the World: The Great Foreign Correspondents," published in 1988.

Edwards was best-known for the well-received book, which paid tribute to correspondents such as Dorothy Thompson, who covered Nazi Germany in the 1930s, and Marguerite Higgins, the first woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for combat reporting. Edwards, a Louisville, Ky., native and graduate of Barnard College and Columbia University, decided to be a foreign correspondent after being discouraged from becoming a criminal lawyer like her father. No one would hire a female lawyer, they told her.

She made a successful career that spanned 25 years reporting from 125 countries, including as a war correspondent in Korea and Vietnam. Edwards was a prolific reporter for Stars and Stripes, covering the formation of the new, western Germany, a return of German prisoners of war by the Soviets, the Berlin Airlift and other issues.

She died in 2000 at 79.

■ Read more about some of our staffers at **stripes.com/go/Europe75**
■ Watch a video about our history at **stripes.com/go/Europe75Video**

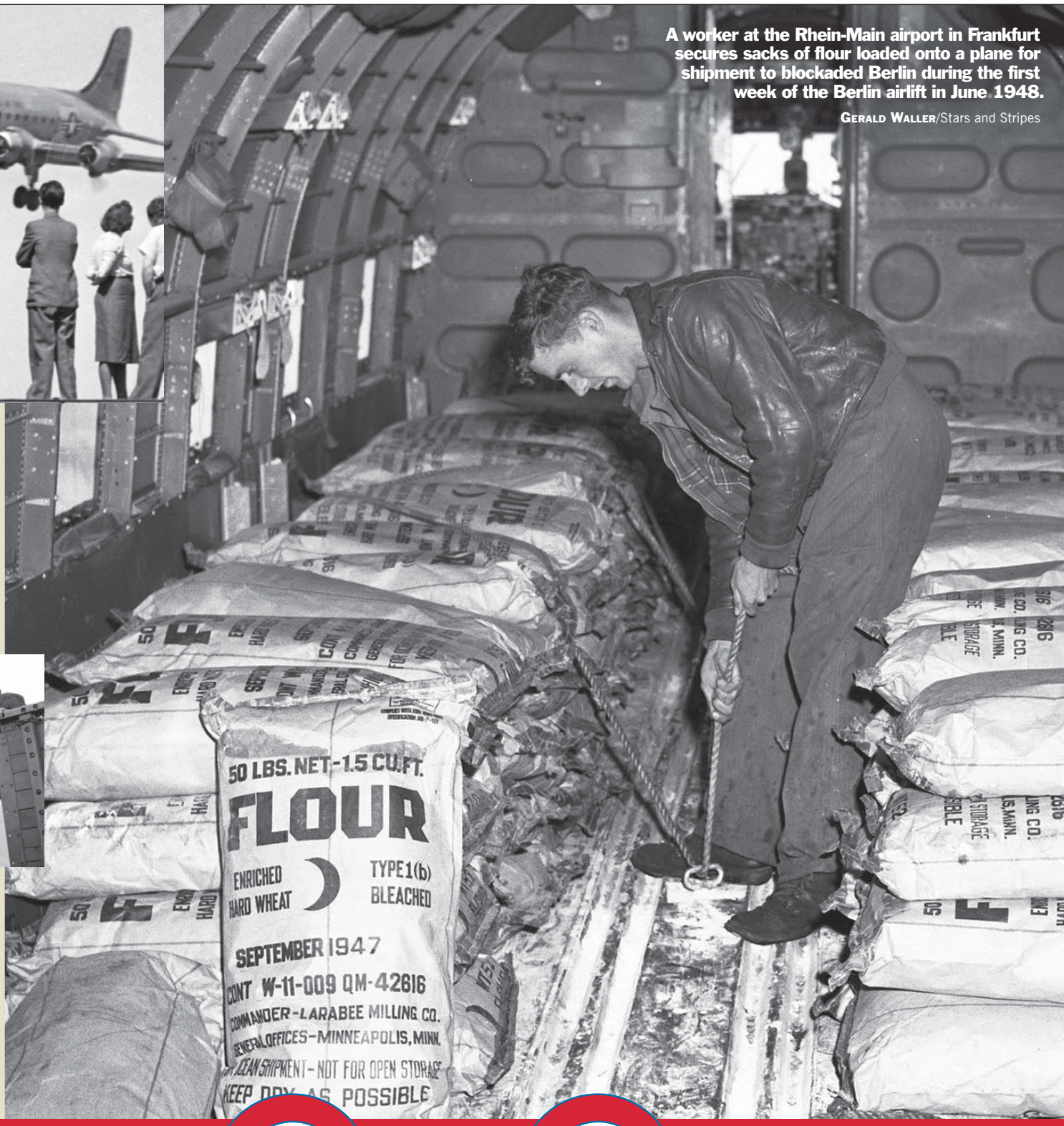
75 YEARS IN EUROPE

On the first anniversary of the start of the Berlin airlift, local residents stand on an overpass and watch as planes return to a West German airfield for reloading in June 1949. The relief effort to beat the Soviet blockade reached its peak on April 16, 1949, when 12,940 tons of food, coal and newsprint reached Berlin in 24 hours.

GORDON CURVAN/Stars and Stripes

Rolls of newsprint are loaded on an airlift transport plane bound for Berlin in Wiesbaden, Germany. One hundred tons of paper were being flown to the blockaded city by the Air Force every week, as allocated by Gen. Lucius Clay, to allow newspapers of the three Western sectors to combat the Soviet-controlled Berlin press.

Stars and Stripes



A worker at the Rhein-Main airport in Frankfurt secures sacks of flour loaded onto a plane for shipment to blockaded Berlin during the first week of the Berlin airlift in June 1948.

GERALD WALLER/Stars and Stripes

1948 1949 1952

June 24, 1948: Soviets block all land routes to Berlin, which is under Four-Power occupation. The U.S. and its allies begin a massive airlift — Operation Vittles — flying food, fuel and essential supplies into Berlin. Unable to force the Allies out of Berlin, Moscow lifts the blockade May 12, 1949.

FROM WARFIGHTING TO OCCUPATION TO ALLIED PRESENCE

The U.S. rushed a troop withdrawal when the war ended, but built up as tensions with Moscow rose.

The Soviets sought to force the Western allies out of Berlin, cutting land supply routes in what the U.S. and its partners saw as a first step to dominate Germany and all of Europe. Joint resolve to stand up to the Soviets gave birth to the NATO alliance, as Washington backed its words with thousands of troops.

April 4, 1949: The U.S. and 11 allies sign a treaty establishing the NATO alliance for common defense against the Soviet threat.

Twelve nations sign the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington on April 4, 1949. Minister of Foreign Affairs Dean Acheson signs the NATO Treaty for the United States.

NATO Media Library

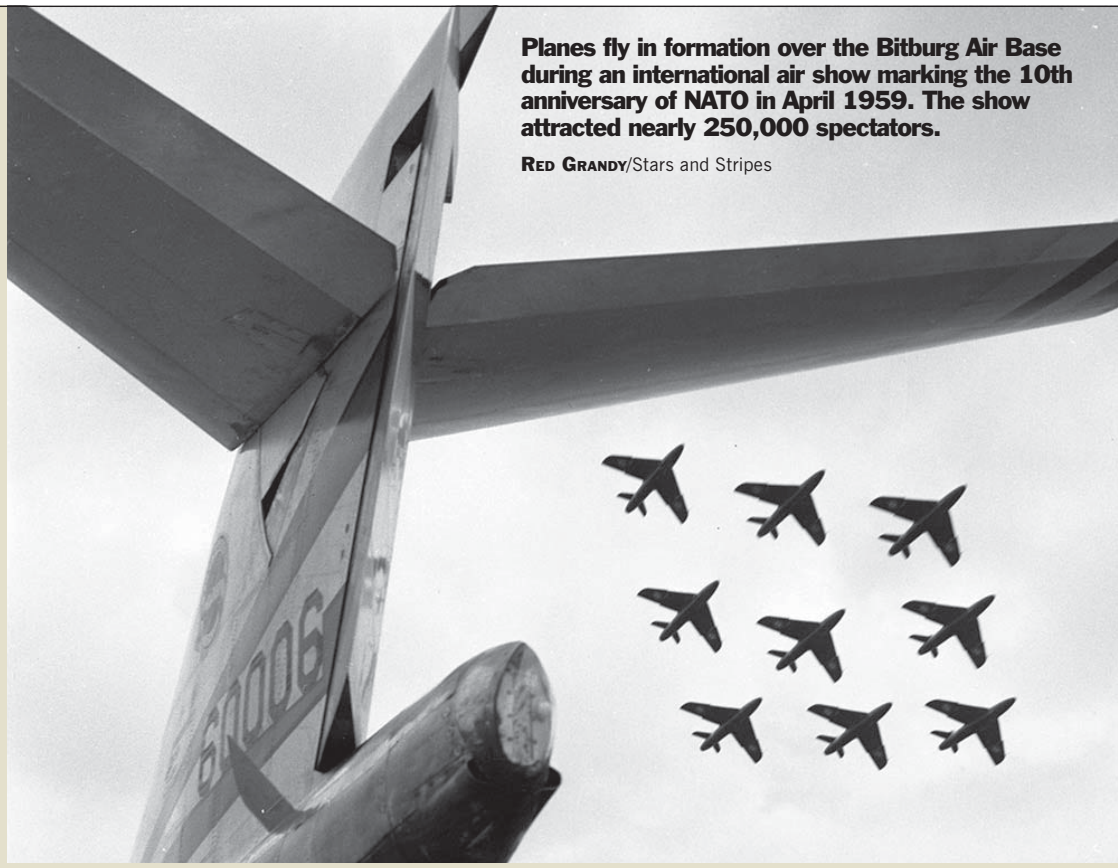
Aug. 1, 1952: After a buildup of U.S. forces in Europe, the U.S. military establishes the U.S. European Command in Frankfurt. By the end of the year, U.S. troop strength in Europe reaches 252,000.

HEADQUARTERS United States European Command

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

The U.S. military buildup in Europe in the early 1950s brought dependents into the equation for the first time. Families would factor large into the shaping of the U.S. military presence in Europe. Sometimes it carried over to the next generation. In this December 1951 photo, 15-year-old Ted Rees and his brother, David, 8, get their bearings after arriving in Frankfurt. The boys' father, a pilot, rose to the rank of major general. Ted Rees also joined the Air Force, retiring as a lieutenant general in 1992 after a stint as vice commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

Stars and Stripes



Planes fly in formation over the Bitburg Air Base during an international air show marking the 10th anniversary of NATO in April 1959. The show attracted nearly 250,000 spectators.

RED GRANDY/Stars and Stripes

Frankfurt, May 1957: Curious German visitors swarm over American armor during an Armed Forces Day open house at Rhein-Main Air Base. Thousands of local residents attended festivities at bases across the nation that included flyovers, fireworks and parades.

RED GRANDY/Stars and Stripes

October 1961: Two East Berliners look out their window onto a newly strengthened section of the first-generation Berlin Wall at Bernauerstrasse. It would be 28 years before the blight in their backyard vanished.

GUS SCHUETTLER/Stars and Stripes

Aug. 13, 1961: East Germans begin construction of the Berlin Wall around the Communist eastern sector of the city.

1950s

1960s

FROM OCCUPIERS TO ALLIANCE PARTNERS

The U.S. presence normalizes in the 1950s as dependents arrive and schools open, along with PXs, theaters and housing areas.

The U.S. is in Europe for the long haul. Patrols are set up along the inner German border and in Berlin. Elvis Presley shows up in October 1958 and is stationed in Friedberg, Germany.

■ Read about the hubbub surrounding Elvis Presley's 1958 arrival.
stripes.com/go/Elvis

Sgt. Elvis Presley relaxes during an interview in Friedberg, Germany, in February 1960. Presley was awaiting his discharge from the Army the following month after two years of service.

GUS SCHUETTLER/Stars and Stripes

Oct. 27, 1961: After Communist harassment of U.S. officials trying to enter East Berlin, Soviet and American tanks face off at Checkpoint Charlie as the two superpowers come close to war. The standoff ends 16 hours later after frantic negotiations between Washington and Moscow.


Saturn Scores Success on 1st Test Firing

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Soviet Tanks Face U.S. Armor Across Berlin Sector Border

Tanks Show Russ Role, U.S. Says

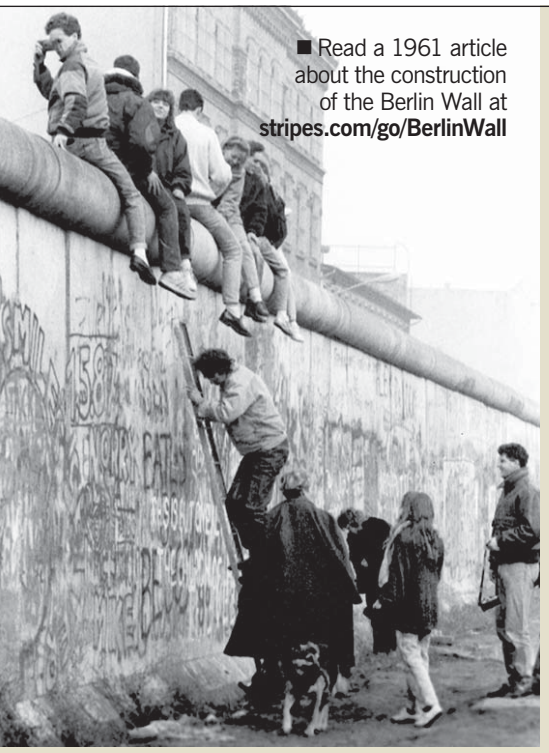
Khrushchev Defends Albania Attacks

Oct. 28, 1961: Europe edition reporting on the tension along the East-West Berlin border and the face-off between the allied and Soviet armies.

January 1969: The U.S. and NATO allies hold their largest exercise in Europe, known as REFORGER. The exercise is held annually with one exception (1989) until 1993 as a demonstration of the U.S. commitment to Europe's defense.

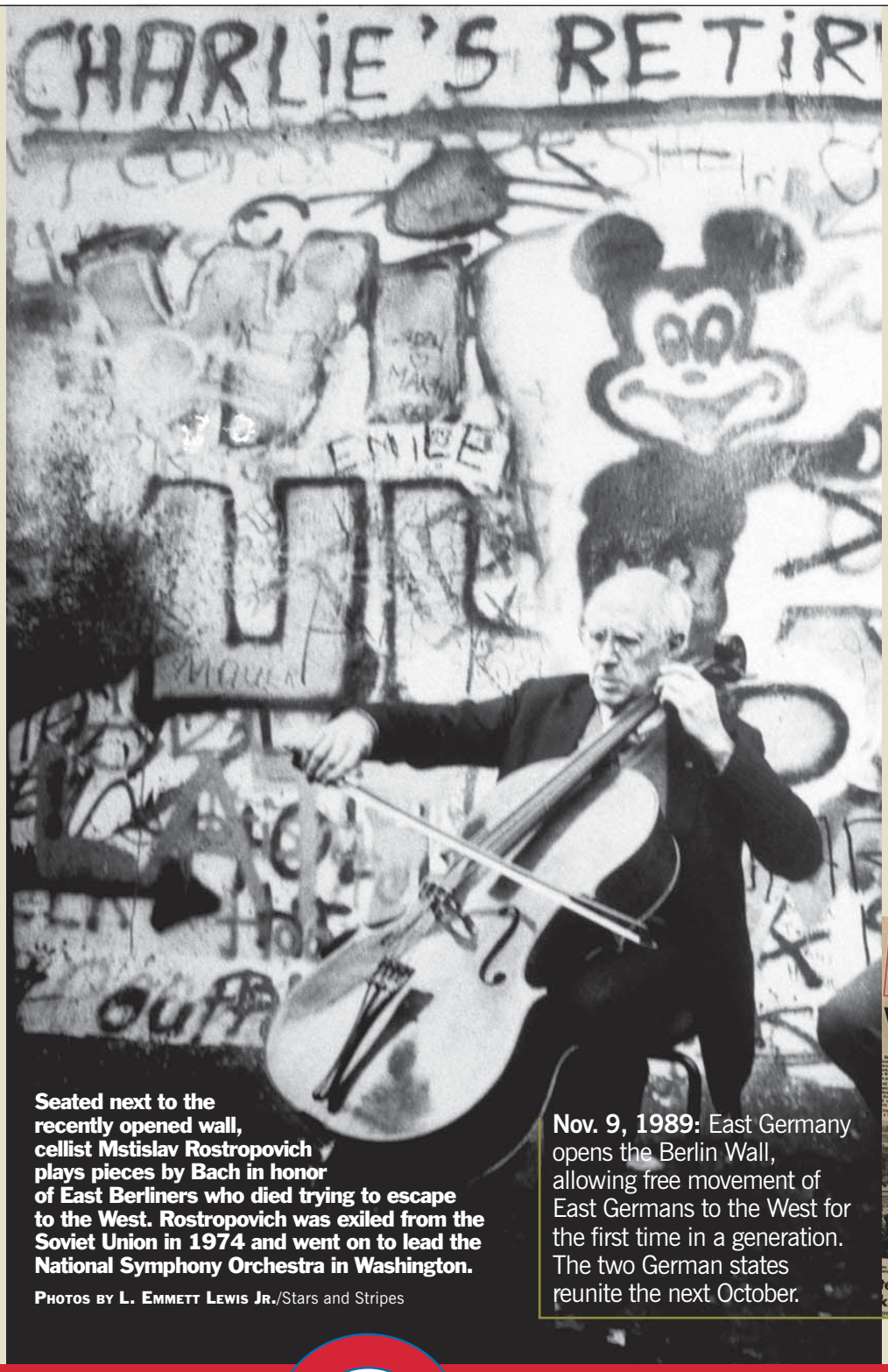
75 YEARS IN EUROPE

■ Read a 1961 article about the construction of the Berlin Wall at **stripes.com/go/BerlinWall**



In the days after the opening of the wall, visitors flocked to sit atop the barrier and look into the no-man's land where many died in attempts to escape the Eastern sector.

A souvenir hunter chips away at the edges of a seam in the recently breached Berlin Wall.



Seated next to the recently opened wall, cellist Mstislav Rostropovich plays pieces by Bach in honor of East Berliners who died trying to escape to the West. Rostropovich was exiled from the Soviet Union in 1974 and went on to lead the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington.

PHOTOS BY L. EMMETT LEWIS JR./Stars and Stripes

Nov. 9, 1989: East Germany opens the Berlin Wall, allowing free movement of East Germans to the West for the first time in a generation. The two German states reunite the next October.

FALL OF THE WALL

The Berlin Wall came to symbolize the Cold War and the division of Europe. And its opening in 1989 marked the beginning of the end of great struggle between Communism and freedom. The U.S. Armed Forces and its NATO partners had protected freedom and prevented war. However, the end of an era raised new questions. What would be the new role for the U.S. military in a post-Cold War Europe? Would there be a place for NATO in a continent no longer divided between hostile camps? Had the time come for wealthy nations of Europe to take full responsibility for their own defense?


The STARS and STRIPES

Wall crumbling

Americans join East Germans in jubilation

ed E. Germans waste no time king use of newfound freed

1970s

1980s

TERRORISM THREAT RISES

On May 11, 1972, the German radical left-wing Red Army Faction, also known as the Baader-Meinhof Gang, detonates a bomb at a U.S. Army barracks in Frankfurt, killing one and injuring 13. The bombing is followed by attacks against U.S. forces, including simultaneous bombings May 24, 1972, at the Officers Club in Heidelberg and Campbell barracks that left three dead, five injured; a Jan. 4, 1977, attack on the 42nd Field Artillery Brigade headquarters in Giessen; a car bombing Aug. 31, 1981, at Ramstein Air Base; the June 25, 1979, assassination attempt against Supreme Allied Commander Europe Gen. Alexander Haig in Mons, Belgium; an RPG attack Sept. 15, 1981, against U.S. Army Europe commander Gen. Frederick Kroesen in Heidelberg; the Aug. 8, 1985, bombing at Rhein-Main Air Base that killed two Americans and wounded 20; and the Nov. 24, 1985, bombing outside a U.S. military shopping complex in Frankfurt that wounded 35 people.

Investigators search for clues to the November 1985 bombing at the U.S. military shopping center in Frankfurt.

LYNDA SPARKS/Stars and Stripes


Bombs Hit V Corps Hq; Colonel Killed; 13 Hurt

3 Blasts Set Off i Frankfur

McGovern Grabs 2 More

The STARS and STRIPES

Bombs Kill 3, Hurt 5 In USAREUR Hq Area

Haig escapes bomb attacl

The STARS and STRIPES

35 injured as bomb blast rips U.S. shopping area in Frankfurt

April 5, 1986: Three people, including two American servicemembers, are killed when a bomb explodes at the La Belle disco in West Berlin. Ten days later, U.S. jets attack the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi because the U.S. believes Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi sponsored the disco bombing.

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

An Abrams tank from the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment roars through a breached sand berm separating Saudi Arabia from Iraq, paving the way for advancing allied troops in February 1991.

WAYNE J. BEGASSE/Stars and Stripes

■ From 1990: A unit prepares to ship out for Desert Storm
stripes.com/go/VIICorpsDeploys

GULF WAR

The wind down of the Cold War brought a new spirit of cooperation between Washington and Moscow. That offered opportunities for resolving crises in ways not possible when the world stood on the brink of nuclear destruction. So when Iraq's Saddam Hussein seized Kuwait in August 1990, President George H.W. Bush responded with force when diplomacy failed. Major U.S. air and ground forces from Europe joined the international coalition that drove Iraqi troops from Kuwait. It was a stunning victory that restored Kuwait's independence but opened the door to decades of painful involvement in Iraq.

1990

November 1990: Major USAREUR units including VII Corps Headquarters, 3rd Armored Division and 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment deploy from Germany to the Middle East to take part in the February 1991 ground attack that drove Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Right: The Europe Extra edition announcing Operation Desert Storm, the start of the war with Iraq.

EXTRA EDITION
The STARS and STRIPES
AUTHORIZED UNOFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE U.S. ARMED FORCES
Vol. 49, No. 277 Thursday, January 17, 1991 D 8693 A

WAR ERUPTS

Air armada hammers Iraq

From wire reports

CENTRAL SAUDI ARABIA — The United States and its allies hurled a mighty air armada against Iraq early Thursday in the first step to crush that Arab nation's military power and drive it from conquered Kuwait.

Wave after wave of warplanes streaked north from Saudi Arabian bases on a starlit night to punish Iraq for its five-month defiance of the rest of the world. In Baghdad, reporters said bomb explosions shook the ground of the Iraqi capital. An oil refinery 10 miles away was in flames, and flashes of light — apparently antiaircraft fire — brightened the night sky, they said.

"Operation Desert Shield" became "Operation Desert Storm" around 12:50 a.m., local time, as F-15E fighter-bombers took off from the largest U.S air base in central Saudi Arabia.

The air offensive, aimed at strategic sites in Iraq and Kuwait, included U.S. Air Force planes, British Tornado fighter-bombers, 150 Saudi Arabian F-15s and Tornados and aircraft of Kuwait's exiled military, allied officials said.

U.S.-led forces launched a second wave of air attacks on Iraq Thursday morning from air bases around the region, a Western military officer said

See WAR on back page

A Marine photographed during the drive toward Kuwait City in February 1991.

WAYNE J. BEGASSE
Stars and Stripes

1992

April 1992: With the breakup of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, the Army's VII Corps is inactivated, beginning a multiyear reduction that closes many U.S. installations in Europe and sharply reduces American troop levels.

1994

August 1994: The U.S. Army's Berlin Brigade is deactivated and American, French and British troops leave the city.

Sgt. David Rogers holds the colors during the final retreat ceremony for the American flag at Clay Headquarters, marking the departure of U.S. troops from Berlin on Sept. 7, 1994.

KEN GEORGE
Stars and Stripes

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

At Zupanja, Croatia, U.S. Army armored vehicles roll across the Sava River into Bosnia-Herzegovina on Dec. 31, 1995.

Carlos Bongioanni/Stars and Stripes

President Bill Clinton shakes hands with 1st Armored Division soldiers following his speech in Baumholder, Germany, on Dec. 2, 1995. Less than a month later, the 1st AD was crossing the Sava River as part of the Implementation Force.

Michael Abrams/Stars and Stripes

The War Extra edition reporting on the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the first attacks of U.S. forces against Iraqi forces.

March 20, 2003: The U.S. invades Iraq with Europe's V Corps as the main ground element. The 173rd Airborne Brigade based in Italy jumps into Iraq in the biggest airborne assault since World War II.

December 1995: U.S. Army units deploy to Bosnia to enforce the Dayton Agreement, which ended the three-year war. USAREUR passes the mission to the European Union in November 2004.

1995 — 1999 — 2001 — 2003

COLD WAR OVER; MISSION EXPANDS

The Cold War was over but the "peace dividend" was slow in coming. As the threat of nuclear war receded, other issues long suppressed bubbled to the surface in Europe. In the Balkans, the breakup of Yugoslavia unleashed small but intense wars that threatened European stability. NATO and American troops found themselves in a new role as continental policeman in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo and even in the Middle East, where European-based forces drove Saddam Hussein from Kuwait. The 9/11 attacks in the U.S. opened new fronts in Afghanistan and the Middle East as Islamic extremism replaced Soviet Communism as the new threat to America and its European allies.

March 24, 1999: U.S. jets — many from bases in Germany — launch airstrikes to force Serb troops to withdraw from the contested province of Kosovo. The air campaign lasts for 78 days until the Serbs withdraw. NATO deploys peacekeepers to Kosovo with USAREUR troops in the lead.

Air Force photo

A pilot from the 31st Air Expeditionary Wing, Aviano Air Base, Italy, gives the famous "Buzzard Claw" as he taxis out to support the NATO contingency over Kosovo.

Sept. 11, 2001: Coordinated terrorist attacks by militants associated with al-Qaida involving hijacked airliners killed 2,977 people at the World Trade Center towers in New York, the Pentagon and an empty field in rural Pennsylvania. It is the deadliest terrorist attack on U.S. soil in history and triggers a huge U.S. effort to combat terrorism.

The Europe edition showing the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York burning after the terror attack of Sept. 11, 2001, before the towers collapsed.

October 2001: U.S launches attacks against al-Qaida and Taliban forces in Afghanistan after the 9/11 attacks. EUCOM elements deploy in support of the mission.

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

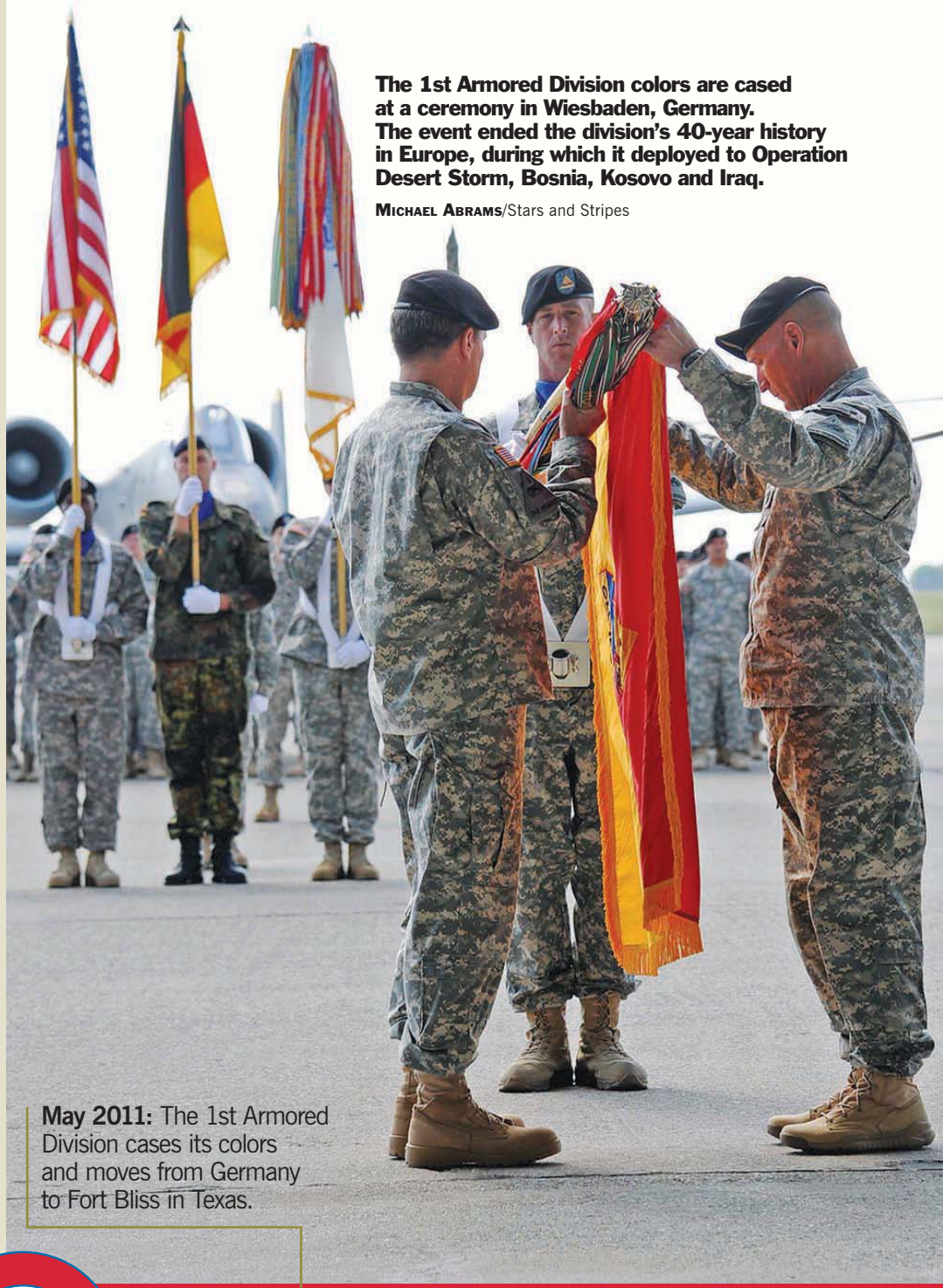
Left: U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander Gen. Robert "Doc" Foglesong gives Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, a final salute following his speech at the closure ceremony for the historic air base Oct. 10, 2005.

Below: The sign on the hangar says it all. The C-17 Globemaster III in the hangar was named "Spirit of Rhein-Main" in honor of the base.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

DOWNSIZING AND RESTRUCTURING

The new era brought new challenges, and for the U.S. military in Europe, that meant restructuring and downsizing. Storied units such as the 1st Armored Division were transferred from Europe to the United States. Rhein-Main Air Base, once the gateway to Europe for millions of servicemembers, was shuttered. U.S. Army Europe's headquarters shifted from Heidelberg to Wiesbaden. Some dissenters suggested the downsizing was moving too fast and that in an uncertain world, the United States would eventually rue the day that it no longer had as many forward-deployed forces.



The 1st Armored Division colors are cased at a ceremony in Wiesbaden, Germany. The event ended the division's 40-year history in Europe, during which it deployed to Operation Desert Storm, Bosnia, Kosovo and Iraq.

MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

May 2011: The 1st Armored Division cases its colors and moves from Germany to Fort Bliss in Texas.

2005

Oct. 10, 2005: Rhein-Main Air Base, once the gateway to Europe, closes.

2010

June 2010: U.S. announces final stage of "transformation" and downsizing in Europe. USAREUR headquarters moves from Heidelberg to Wiesbaden.

August 2010: "Leaving Iraq: The Long Goodbye" special staff report looks at unresolved issues as U.S. combat troops exit Iraq, a country facing an uncertain future.


Petraeus urges patience with Afghan progress
Page 3
New team, something to prove for Tomlinson
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Page 12
STARS AND STRIPES
stripes.com
Monday, August 16, 2010
50¢
Hundreds of PTSD troops were likely misdiagnosed
THE LONG GOODBYE
As U.S. combat troops exit Iraq, unresolved issues are left behind in a country facing an uncertain future
About this series
ANALYSIS

2011

March 2, 2011: Two airmen are killed and two wounded by a lone Islamic extremist as they board a military bus to Ramstein Air Base en route to deployment in Afghanistan.

June 15, 2011: Pfc. Kyle Hockenberry, injured in an improvised explosive device attack, has a tattoo that reads: "For those I love I will sacrifice." The 19-year-old — a member of the 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team from Fort Riley, Kan. — lost both legs and his left arm in the blast. Laura Rauch, a Mideast reporter for Stars and Stripes, won a 2011 Sigma Delta Chi Award for excellence in journalism for her photograph of the wounded soldier being transported in a medevac helicopter to the Role 3 hospital at Kandahar Air Field in Afghanistan.

LAURA RAUCH
Stars and Stripes

June 22, 2011: President Barack Obama announces plans to withdraw 33,000 U.S. troops stationed in Afghanistan by the end of 2012.

75 YEARS IN EUROPE

RETHINKING FORCE LEVELS

Russia's invasion and annexation of Crimea changed the strategic thinking in Europe and the United States. For many the new post-Soviet Russia was looking a lot like the old Soviet Union. Former Soviet Bloc countries like Poland and Romania, which joined NATO after the Cold War, felt the chill of what they saw as an aggressive Russia. America and its NATO partners responded by sending rotational forces into Eastern Europe, to reassure the new allies and to deter Russian expansionism. Pundits began to forecast a new Cold War. Those developments breathed new life into America defense commitments in Europe at a time of uncertainty over Russia's intentions, the threat of terrorism and the rise of nationalism in Western Europe.

PHOTOS BY MARTIN EGNASH/Stars and Stripes

Above: American soldiers in front of their vehicles in Zagan, Poland, on Jan. 30.

Below: A U.S. Army M1 Abrams tank speeds to its firing position during a live-fire exercise involving Polish and American troops in Zagan.

Jan. 30, 2017: U.S. soldiers from the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, take part in a combined live-fire demonstration with Poland's 11th Armored Cavalry Division at Karliki range near Zagan, a small town in western Poland. "Poland will become the center of gravity for U.S. (Army) operations in Europe," U.S. Army Europe's Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges says.

2017

Feb. 17, 2017: US troops deploy to Bulgaria as part of a NATO operation to support Eastern European allies from potential aggression by Russia.

Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Bradley fighting vehicle crews drive into the motor pool after the vehicles were offloaded from a train at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria, on Feb. 21. The U.S. joined other NATO countries in support of Atlantic Resolve.

STARS AND STRIPES TODAY

Today, Stars and Stripes operates as a multimedia news organization, offering content on digital and mobile platforms in addition to print. The daily newspaper is published Monday through Thursday, a special Weekend Edition comes out on Friday for Europe and Pacific, and a separate Mideast edition is produced Friday through Sunday. In addition, we publish several weekly and monthly publications and numerous special supplements. On any given day, readers and visitors number just over 1 million.

THE STARS AND STRIPES
Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations
Vol. 1—No. 241 1 Fr. 1 Fr. Sunday, March 25, 1945

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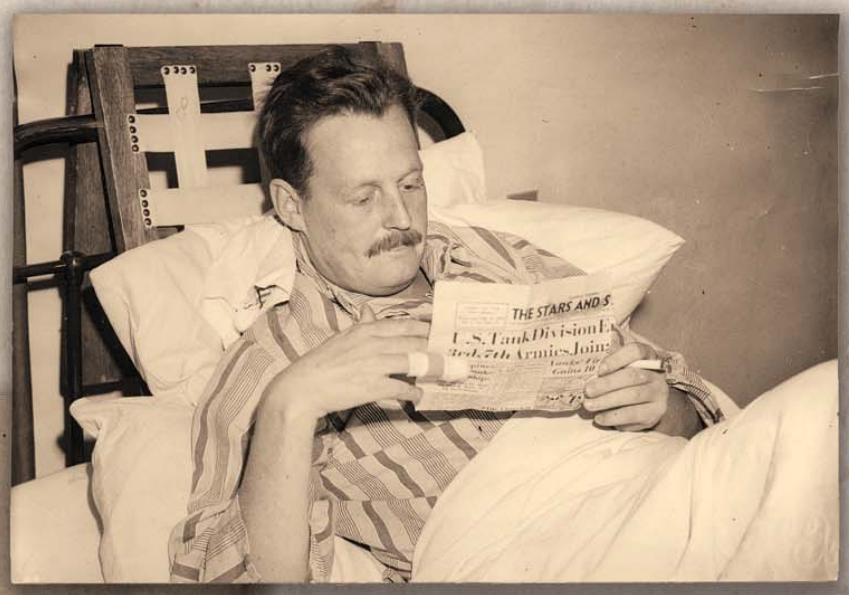

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