

“Dear, I’ll Be Back In A Year”

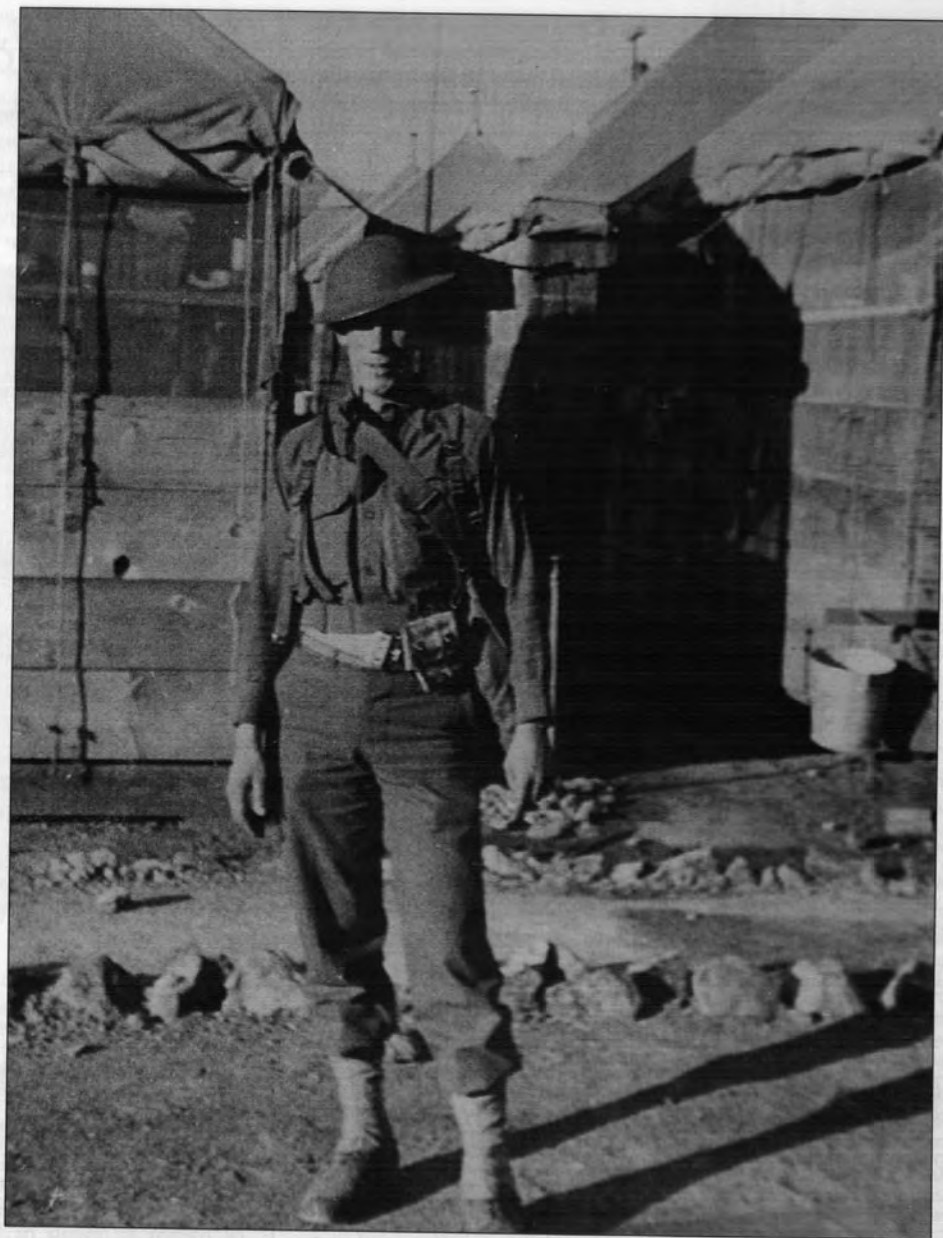
The Mobilization of the Thirty-Fifth Infantry Division in 1940

by Christopher C. Lovett

After World War I, the National Guard in general, and the Kansas Guard in particular, were in a serious state of decay. Rarely did the guard receive the funding, equipment, and guidance from the War Department to conduct adequate training to maintain combat efficiency. The Great War was to have been the “war to end all wars,” and the public thought that military preparedness was no longer important. Likewise, a wave of pacifism swept the nation, partially fostered by popular literature, a bitter peace, and the economic boom of the 1920s. All of the above, in one way or another, contributed to the public’s disdain for the army.

The austerity that plagued the army and navy in the 1920s continued during the Great Depression. Budget cuts created a dilemma that further limited the guard’s effectiveness to meet any potential national emergency. At the same time, the rise of fascism and the threat of military expansionism posed a significant danger for the security of the western democracies. As Benito Mussolini’s legions swept through Ethiopia in 1935, and Adolf Hitler occupied Austria and acquired the Sudetenland in 1938, U.S. Army advisors to the National Guard were overlooking the deficiencies in the readiness of guard units, which further hampered preparedness by 1940. When war en-

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When the Thirty-fifth Division was officially activated in 1940, the men of the Kansas National Guard left their homes, loved ones, and jobs for what they thought would be a one-year training period. Events in Europe and Asia would alter their lives forever.

"DEAR, I'LL BE BACK IN A YEAR"

gulfed Europe, United States ground forces were ill-prepared to meet any potential enemy menace. A few guard officers in Kansas were well aware of the international situation, but few thought that the day would come when they would mobilize.¹

The fall of Poland in September 1939 and especially the German offensive in the Low Countries the following spring, which led to the unexpected collapse of France in June 1940, shocked the American public. The United States soon realized that stern measures were necessary to protect the country from possible foreign aggression. With Edward R. Morrow reporting from war-torn London, and by the aggressive efforts of internationalists in educating the electorate, the tide began to turn against isolation-

ism. Congress proceeded to tackle the delicate issue of a peacetime draft with the introduction of the Burke-Wadsworth Bill.² Lawmakers debated the draft issue while the Luftwaffe attempted to gain air superiority over the Royal Air Force in the summer of 1940.

On August 27, 1940, in an atmosphere of crisis, Congress authorized the president to call the National Guard and Reserves into federal service for one year's training. Coinciding with the enactment of the Selective Service and Training Act, Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the first guard units to active duty on September 16, 1940. This decision changed the lives of all those in uniform on that date; it also opened old wounds, still left unhealed from World War I, between the U.S. Regulars and the National Guard. Age-old arguments concerning the formation of a professional army or reliance on a citizen army were rekindled. As the debate heated up, the first Kansas National Guard unit was about to be summoned to active duty.³

1. For more information on the history of the U.S. Army and the National Guard, see John W. Shy, "A New Look At The Colonial Militia," in *The Military In America: From the Colonial Era to the Present*, ed. Peter Karsten (New York: Free Press, 1980); John K. Mahon, *The History of the Militia and The National Guard* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1981); Warren W. Hassler, Jr., *With Shield and Sword: American Military Affairs, Colonial Times To The Present* (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1982); Allan R. Millett and Peter Maslowski, *For The Common Defense: A Military History of the United States of America* (New York: Free Press, 1984); Emory Upton, *The Military Policy of the United States* (New York: Greenwood Press, 1968); Russell F. Weigley, *History of the United States Army* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1974); Russell F. Weigley, *The American Way of War* (Bloomington: University of Indiana Press, 1973); Geoffrey Perret, *A Country Made By War: From The Revolution To Vietnam—The Story of America's Rise To Power* (New York: Random House, 1989); Geoffrey Perret, *There's A War To Be Won: The United States Army in World War II* (New York: Random House, 1991); Marvin A. Kreidberg and Merton L. Henry, *History of Military Mobilization of the United States Army, 1775-1945* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1955).

2. For information concerning the Selective Service issue, see J. Garry Clifford and Samuel R. Spencer, *The First Peacetime Draft* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1986); John Whiteclay Chambers II, *To Raise An Army: The Draft Comes To America* (New York: Free Press, 1987); Philip A. Grant, Jr., "The Kansas Congressional Delegation And The Selective Service Act of 1940," *Kansas History* 2 (Autumn 1979): 196-205.

3. For life in the old army, see Charles Willeford, *Something About A Soldier* (New York: Random House, 1986); Robert K. Griffith, Jr., *Men Wanted For The U.S. Army: America's Experience With An All-Volunteer Army Between The World Wars* (New York: Greenwood Press, 1982); Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., *The Twilight Of The Old Cavalry: Life in the Old Army, 1917-1942* (Lawrence: University Press of

Mobilization of the Kansas National Guard

The State Detachment, headquarters platoon of the Kansas National Guard, was activated on October 8, 1940, to support the adjutant general as state director for the Selective Service System. Commanded by Major Raymond F. Montgomery, the State Detachment comprised twenty-five enlisted men, and it became the first Kansas unit mobilized under the National Emergency Declaration of August 27. Montgomery ordered his men to report to the armory at 1400 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, on Thursday, October 10. The unit had been supporting selective service since mid-September, enrolling men for the forthcoming draft lottery on October 16. The activated men would serve twelve months "unless relieved" sooner.⁴

From the start of national mobilization on August 27, all Kansas guardsmen had expected to be called to active duty. Some men, often World War I veterans, sought a return to their old outfits, such as the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division, in which they

Kansas, 1989); James Jones, *From Here To Eternity* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1951); Anton Myrer, *Once An Eagle* (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1968); Gene Smith, "The Seventeenth Largest Army," *American Heritage* 43 (December 1992): 98-107. For the results of the army's armory and field inspections of the Kansas National Guard (August 1938-December 1939), see Records of the Adjutant General's Office, General Correspondence, Library and Archives Division, Kansas State Historical Society, hereafter cited as Records of the Adjutant General's Office.

4. "First Guard Unit From Kansas Into Service Thursday," *Topeka Daily Capital*, October 9, 1940.

had served during the Great War; but most of those veterans were in their early to mid-forties, too old for active service. Other men, often college students or minors, had second thoughts about active duty and sought to avoid the mobilization order. One such case involved the question of com-

manding officer had told him "if a boy was under 21 and his parents didn't protest after six months, he was officially in the guard." The private claimed that since he was originally from New Orleans, his parents never realized he was enrolled. Thus he wanted to be released before his

minors "not having parental consent will not be accepted for Federal service. With this possibility in mind, it is thought advisable that due consideration be given to the request in basic communication." However, Bentley feared the impact that the release would have on the rest of his men. He wrote McFarland that he "would be better off by discharging this man, but would appreciate immediate advise [*sic*] on this matter" since he was twelve men short only ten days before M-day, the actual call-up date of the unit.⁶

Despite those concerns, troops reported for duty at the appropriate time and place, and the morning reports of the first day of mobilization show that attendance was nearly 100 percent. The men had joined the guard for a variety of reasons—money, the uniform, camaraderie—but most realized the dangers involved and were willing to meet their military obligations.

The Thirty-fifth Division was officially activated on December 23, 1940. From Horton to Garden City, Topeka to Great Bend, and Wichita to Kansas City, the men of the Kansas National Guard left their homes, loved ones, and jobs for what they thought would be a one-year training period. Events in Europe and Asia would alter their lives forever.

The day before M-day, December 22, 1940, newspapers across the state described, for the public and guardsmen alike, the procedures the troops should fol-



From towns and communities across the state, men of the Kansas National Guard reported to their home stations on December 23, 1940, where they would train until sent to Camp Robinson, Arkansas, under the command of General Ralph E. Truman (above).

pleting an education or spending twelve months on active duty. On December 9, a private in Battery B, 127th Field Artillery in Coffeyville, wrote to the adjutant general requesting a release from the guard in order to return to college, since initially he had joined the guard without his parents' consent. He noted that his

battery was called into federal service.⁵

Colonel Paul T. McFarland, assistant adjutant general, informed Battery B commander Captain Braum L. Bentley that

5. Leonard Banowetz to Milton R. McLean, December 9, 1940, Records of the Adjutant General's Office.

6. Paul T. McFarland to Adjutant General's Office, December 12, 1940; Braum L. Bentley to Adjutant General's Office, December 14, 1940, *ibid*.

low during their stay at their home stations. For the most part, the guardsmen were to report between 7:30 and 8:00 A.M. In Topeka the Rock Island terminal functioned as an armory for the antitank company of the 137th Infantry, and the troops of Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the Sixty-ninth Brigade made the Trinity Methodist Church home during their stay. While at home station, the *Topeka Daily Capital* reported, the men would undergo "intensive drill in the basic points of military science and a general 'toughening up' in a physical way. All men in the companies, whether they be officers or just plain 'buck privates,' will be given a thoro [sic] review of fundamentals."⁷

Since M-day occurred so close to Christmas, guardsmen were given twenty-four-hour passes to spend time with their families. In Topeka a special dinner was provided for those unable to leave the mobilization centers. These men were quartered on the grounds of the Kansas Free Fair, or they could return to their homes in the evenings, depending upon the proximity to their home stations.

Due to inclement weather, the Gas Service Company installed heaters at the mobilization centers, and in Topeka, Kansas Power and Light provided a transformer and lights. The *Topeka Daily Capital* noted that the "object of the whole home stay is to whip the Topeka soldiers into units which will make General R.E. Truman, divisional commander from Kansas City,

7. "Topeka Guard Units To Federal Service," *Topeka Daily Capital*, December 22, 1940.

swell with pride when he sees the local boys in action."⁸ In actuality, Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, was not yet ready to accommodate the Thirty-fifth Division. The mobilization caused a major brouhaha around the country, and the corps of engineers and civilian contractors

and good will to accomplish the task.⁹ A comprehensive physical examination provided by local doctors for all personnel, regardless of rank, was also part of the routine at home station. The War Department had hoped that rigorous physicals at this phase of mobilization would eliminate the



The move to Camp Robinson was scheduled for January 1-6, 1941, with advanced detachments departing for Little Rock shortly after the new year and the main body following on January 3. These soldiers posed for a group picture some months after their arrival at the camp.

hastily prepared billets at the training centers for guardsmen and selectees.

The prolonged stay at a local armory meant special problems for a commanding officer. He often had to demonstrate his resourcefulness to provide meals for the troops, in many instances utilizing community resources

need for a second examination. Unfortunately, local examiners, more often than not, overlooked the medical conditions of many superior officers, some of whom would be relieved later at Camp Robinson.

9. *Ibid.*; "Guards To Eat In The Armory—Getting Ready for the Mobilization Here Monday Morning," *Emporia Gazette*, December 23, 1940.

8. *Ibid.*

During the initial stage of mobilization, other health concerns surfaced. In late December a number of men from Company B contracted influenza. Nearly 10 percent of the company was treated at St. Mary's Hospital, and local health officials received notification of further spread of the epidemic. Fortunately it never approached the level of the infamous Spanish flu pandemic of 1918.¹⁰ The housing and living conditions at Camp Robinson, where the troops lived in tents during the winter, would later cause similar problems.

The move to Camp Robinson was scheduled for January 1-6, 1941, with advanced detachments departing for Little Rock shortly after the new year and the main body following on January 3. According to VII Corps directives received by the adjutant general's office, the 161st Field Artillery, 127th Field Artillery, and the 130th Field Artillery were to follow the January 1-3 transportation plan. The 137th Infantry would adhere to the January 4-6 schedule. Advanced troops moved by road with the main body following by train. To make the overland move possible, the Kansas Guard received eighty new trucks from the Second Cavalry Division at Fort Riley.¹¹

10. "Soldiers to Take Physical Exams," *Emporia Gazette*, December 28, 1940. For additional information on this pandemic, see Judith R. Johnson, "Kansas in the 'Grippe': The Spanish Influenza Epidemic of 1918," *Kansas History* 15 (Spring 1992): 44-55.

11. "Guard Gets Orders To Leave For Camp," *Topeka Daily Capital*, December 27, 1940.

As the troops moved out, state and local dignitaries often appeared at the railroad station to bid them farewell. On New Year's Day in Topeka, Governor Payne Ratner arrived to address the Kansas contingent of the Sixtieth Field Artillery Brigade and the 127th Field Artillery. The *Topeka Daily Capital* reported that the governor "was on hand nearly half an hour before the train left, visiting with the officers, laughing and joking with the privates, inspecting the kitchen car, discussing menus with the chefs."¹²

Other voices also were raised—those warning the public of the dangers to the troops' moral welfare from exposure to army life. Mrs. T.E. Madden, president of the Emporia Chapter of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU), wrote the *Emporia Gazette*, "These young men, many scarcely more than boys, come in large numbers from homes where high moral and religious standards are held, where safeguards for clean living are maintained." However, those soldiers faced a hidden enemy, according to Mrs. Madden, "an enemy which will undermine their health, their physical strength, their efficiency." That enemy was alcohol. The WCTU encouraged the public "to do something to defend our country in this critical time from the effects that alcohol will bring if permitted to be sold or given away in the training camps."¹³

12. "Topeka's Units Off For Year's Camp Training," *ibid.*, January 2, 1941.

13. "The Wailing Place," *Emporia Gazette*, January 3, 1941.

Responding to those concerns, the army attempted to provide a wholesome atmosphere for servicemen, even providing hostesses of the "highest moral character" to render comfort for the troops. Concerned civilians sought to expose the troops to the right kind of women; for example, Dr. Charles C. Hawke, a physician from Winfield, wrote the adjutant general:

We have in this town a very deserving and capable lady who is extremely desirous of securing a position as a hostess at one of the army cantonments. She has made her application through the Omaha office but realizes, as well as we all do, that some personal connection is quite essential to securing such a position. This woman is about 38 years of age, has a pleasing personality, and would be capable in such a position.¹⁴

Despite the best efforts of the WCTU, War Department, and parents, the battle to keep America's fighting men away from the infamous "four Ws" (wayward women and watered-down whiskey) was a lost cause. Mobilization was not the reason for a soldier's fall from grace, but it did give many younger men, who were away from home and free from parental control for the first time, the freedom they always dreamed about.

14. Charles C. Hawke to M.R. McLean, January 21, 1941, Records of the Adjutant General's Office.

Army Life At Camp Robinson

The troops that arrived at Camp Robinson resided in Spartan conditions during their army orientation. The Thirty-fifth Division lived in stove-heated tents that barely kept out the Arkansas winter. Still, the men adjusted to the typical day that started at 4:00 A.M. when the cooks and buglers fought their way out of their blankets. The bugler sounded "first call" at 6:00 A.M., which allowed the troops the luxury of ten more minutes of slumber before reveille was sounded at 6:10 and soldiers had "to hit the deck." Reveille was followed by assembly at 6:15 when roll was taken and company commanders made their daily announcements. The troops then marched to breakfast for "eggs, bacon, stewed apples, bread and butter, coffee and half a pint of milk."¹⁵

Training occupied most of the day, with lights out at 10:30 P.M. Despite the rigors of training, other activities were available for the men. Soldiers could watch a first-run movie for twenty cents at the post theater, or they could participate in basketball. The men of Company B organized a respectable team led by Private Jack Buckman, which defeated the Arkansas School for the Deaf and the Little Rock Fireflies. But as the *Emporia Gazette* reported, "Soldiering . . . still is the important thing and the company has been getting its share of that work."¹⁶

15. T.S. Adams, "Camp Robinson Buglers, Cooks Up at 4 AM," *Emporia Gazette*, January 22, 1941.

16. *Ibid.*; "In Camp and Field," *ibid.*

During the first month at Camp Robinson, emphasis was placed on individual soldier skills and military courtesy in order to refresh the newly activated guardsmen of their responsibilities. Soldiers, both officers and enlisted men, went to special schools—chemical warfare, mess, .30 calibre machine gun, physical training, camouflage, and drill and ceremony. The training schedule was designed for all personnel regardless of unit assignment or military occupational skill. One area of training that attracted the attention of the Second Army Command involved military courtesy and discipline. Lieutenant Colonel Harold S. Searle, acting chief of staff, directed that the *Soldier's Handbook*, especially chapter three, "will be studied and reviewed by all members of a command, at set times." To reinforce the subject's importance, company and platoon commanders were to conduct discussions and examinations following instruction.¹⁷

According to the War Department's Mobilization Training Program, the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division in 1941 was about to begin a more advanced stage of readiness. To evaluate the level of instruction, the War Department often examined the training status of the most recent unit attached to a division.¹⁸ However,

17. "In Camp and Field," *ibid.*; Training Order No. 127, 1941, box 972, Record Group 338, Unit Records, Infantry Division, 1940-1967, National Archives, Suitland Branch, Suitland, Md., hereafter cited as National Archives. Training Order No. 170, 35th Infantry Division, June 21, 1941, National Archives.

18. Training Memorandum No. 1, 35th Infantry Division, April 5, 1941, *ibid.*

the division by this period had shifted from individual to battalion and regimental combat team training in preparation for major field exercises in Tennessee and Louisiana.

The divisional staff outlined twin objectives: progressive combat training and additional unit training, which included the integration of selectees into the division's formations. When individual combat training was conducted, however, the division was hampered by World War I era equipment ranging from French artillery to Springfield Rifles. To accomplish the division's instructional objectives, forty-four hours of instruction were anticipated. If night training was scheduled, an equivalent period equal to the normal training day interval for sleep was authorized. The only exception involved training on Wednesday afternoons, which was reserved for "recreation, organized athletics, and the improvement of living and administrative facilities." In this phase, ten regimental combat teams and six brigade exercises were planned for the 153d Infantry, while two command post and six brigade exercises were reserved for the divisional commander.¹⁹

During this instructional stage, which included extensive regimental combat team exercises during May, the schedule still allowed for advanced individual training for specialists. All radio operators in the division, for instance, had to attend "the Division School for at least two hours each available day." The divi-

19. Training Order No. 127, 35th Infantry Division, April 29, 1941, *ibid.*

sional staff realized the necessity to employ signals communication as much as possible during the division's training cycle. Members of the Thirty-fifth Signal Company, when not actually involved in a field problem, were expected to maintain their communications proficiency.²⁰

ment of tactics and techniques." Reaching divisional standards was at such a crucial stage that unit commanders were advised that "field exercises will not be called off because of inclement weather, except on Division order." Unit training, however, could be conducted indoors due

calibre rifle range fire and send the troops indoors [to watch]. . . a series of training movies on bayonet drill, defense against aircraft and parachute troops." By May 5 the company managed to complete record fire with approximately 83 percent of Company B exceeding the standards, no doubt a result of Captain John J. Donnellan's excellent premobilization training. The divisional record for range fire, however, belonged to Company I, 138th Infantry. Range fire training terminated the first thirteen-week segment of instruction. Following this phase, units reviewed the previous thirteen weeks of training.²²

As summer approached, the division prepared for the first round of the army's ambitious maneuvers scheduled for the fall of 1941. Elements of the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division were assigned to support the Tennessee Maneuvers, June 2-28, 1941, directed by the Second Army Command. The Thirty-fifth Signal Company, Thirty-fifth M.P. Company, each less a detachment, and a composite battalion of the 110th Quartermaster Regiment participated in the war games.

The initial location of the 110th Quartermaster Regiment was at Murfreesboro, the site of the famous Civil War Battle of Stone's River.²³ Reports indicate that the situation was difficult, and it appeared to be another example of Murphy's Law. *The Covered Wagon*, the divisional newspaper, recounted, "the kitchen of



The troops that arrived at Camp Robinson resided in Spartan conditions during their army orientation. Here equipment and uniforms are arrayed on a company street at the camp.

Likewise, similar training objectives were to continue for medical, quartermaster, and draftees. To facilitate that level of education, "regimental, company and battery schools . . . [were] continued during the evening periods, preparatory for the instruction of the troops, and for the improve-

ment of tactics and techniques." Reaching divisional standards was at such a crucial stage that unit commanders were advised that "field exercises will not be called off because of inclement weather, except on Division order." Unit training, however, could be conducted indoors due

to weather factors or be postponed or substituted for regimental instruction.²¹ Late April rains interrupted range fire when the troops were to qualify with their weapons. According to Sergeant Robert Mott, rain forced Company B, 137th Infantry to reschedule "³⁰

20. Ibid.

21. Ibid.

22. Robert A. Mott, "In Camp and Field," *Emporia Gazette*, April 28, 1941; *ibid.*, May 5, 1941.

23. Training Directive No. 10, Second Army, Corps Training, June 1941, April 10, 1941, National Archives.

Provisional B Company [was] playing hide and seek with the soldiers of the 110th Quartermaster Regiment. [Twice] the mess section has been moved while soldiers were out in the field" and the troops had not been notified. The unit constructed a ditch to protect it from the rain, but not "on the scale of Tennessee rains." As a result, the mess section searched for higher ground, "causing confusion at chow time."²⁴ The remainder of the exercise occurred without serious incident.

When Major General R.E. Truman announced that forty-five hundred men of the division participating in the Tennessee Maneuvers would return to Camp Robinson immediately following the exercise, no one at the time visualized what would happen next. Traveling by truck to Camp Robinson, the 110th Quartermaster Regiment observed a number of "pretty babes with wicked figures" playing golf on a nearby Memphis course. The troops greeted the women with a considerable volume of all-American "wolf whistles." Lieutenant General Ben Lear, commanding general of the Second Army, who was also playing golf at the time, considered the behavior of the 110th, according to the *Emporia Gazette*, "a severe breach of discipline." The general immediately stopped the vehicles and harangued the officers for their men's behavior, but he

24. "Tennessee Rains Too Much For QM Kitchen," *The Covered Wagon*, June 20, 1941. For more information on training and readiness issues, see Mark S. Watson, *Chief of Staff, Prewar Plans and Preparations* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1950).

allowed the vehicles to proceed to Camp Robinson.²⁵

Once there, the officers and men of the 110th were ordered to mount up and return to Memphis and route march back to Camp Robinson. The incident, involving military injustice, at-

The Associated Press referred to those men as the "footsore, blistered-nosed troops of the 35th Division's 'doghouse battalion.'" The men were required to march fifteen miles of the 150-mile route, with "open collared officers" marching with their men.



Range fire was part of basic training at Camp Robinson. Although April rains interrupted these drills when the men were to qualify with their weapons, by May 5 the company managed to complete record fire with approximately 83 percent of Company B exceeding the standards.

tracted national attention to the men of the Thirty-fifth Division. A group of Wichita World War I veterans wired a Texas congressman "approving his censure of Lieutenant General Ben Lear who disciplined the 350 soldiers" for whistling at the "shorts-clad girls on a Memphis golf course."

The AP reported that some men collapsed in the ninety-seven-degree heat. General Truman privately warned Lear not to carry out his order and said that he (Lear) would become a public laughing stock. Events that followed proved Truman correct in his prognostication.²⁶

25. "Tennessee Troops Head Home as War Games End," *The Covered Wagon*, June 27, 1941; "Can't A Soldier Even Whistle At A Girl In Shorts?" *Emporia Gazette*, July 8, 1941. For more information drawn from U.S. Army studies of G.I. sexuality, see Lee Kennett, *G.I.: The American Soldier In World War II* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1987), 77-78.

26. "Approved Criticism of General Lear," *Emporia Gazette*, July 10, 1941; see also J.R. Shurleff, interview by Dennis Droge, March 21, 1990, 102d Military History Detachment, Oral History Collection, Kansas Army National Guard, Topeka; "Some Soldiers Collapse on Long Disciplinary March," *Emporia*

During the early months of activation, the citizen soldiers of the Thirty-fifth Division, both guardsmen and selectees, still harbored many of their civilian traits; these traits—using native talents to solve problems—made the U.S. Army a formidable fighting force but frequently created havoc for superiors. Often officers were extremely concerned about misbehavior toward women and soldiers' "insulting and/or ungentlemanly" remarks. Major W.C. Elliot, serving on the divisional staff, noted "that the majority of the soldiers who have been engaging in this practice or similar practices, did not do so with any intent to bring discredit upon the name of soldiery." If such incidents occur in the future, "unit commanders will be held responsible." Commanders were reminded that the conduct of their men was a reflection on their units and the army.²⁷

Major Elliot's memo exhibited the temper of the times and the generational differences that separated senior officers, often set in their ways, from younger enlisted men, basking in the glories of manhood. Clearly the divisional staff overreacted to the

Gazette, July 9, 1941; Olive Truman, interview by Joy Cole, July 11, 1981, Kansas City, Mo., 102d Military History Detachment, Oral History Collection; see also Forrest C. Pogue, *George C. Marshall: Ordeal and Hope, 1939-1940* (New York: Viking Press, 1965), 100.

27. Training Memo, 35th Infantry Division, June 27, 1941, National Archives; for more information concerning the draft and morale of the army in 1940-1941, see John J. O'Sullivan, *From Volunteerism to Conscription: Congress and Selective Service, 1940-1945* (New York: Garland Publishing, 1982). For a more vivid portrayal of the "Yoohoo" incident, see *Dear, I'll Be Back In A Year*, video, 1991, presented by KTWU Television, Topeka.

"Yoohoo" incident, as it came to be named. But the incident clearly indicated the role sex played for the soldiers of 1941. Ever since man first donned a military uniform, he believed it somehow served as an aphrodisiac. The men of the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division likely thought they were upholding a long and glorious tradition of *combat d'amour* when they arrived at Camp Robinson in January 1941. Psychologists support that contention and relate that "the sight of a girl, a raised skirt in the movies, or representations of the anatomy will evoke tremendous responses. Anyone who has ever attended a post theater will be cognizant of this hyperesthetic sexual attitude."²⁸

On one level, the troops placed women on pedestals and demonstrated concern about their well-being at home, while on another, they were worried about receiving the infamous "Dear John" letter. One soldier, Private Allen Paris, writing for the Associated Press, informed the "folks back home" how to write their men in uniform. He told the story about his friend, Red, who had received too many letters from his wife telling him that "she was lonesome; she cried herself to sleep." The problem was that Red was "an excitable guy," and one day he failed to appear for roll call. Nine days later he reappeared and "took his medicine like a man." The moral of Paris' tale was that women should tell their men in uniform how proud they are of them rather than how lonely they are. Had Red's wife followed that ad-

28. Kennett, *G.I.*, 76-77.

vice, Paris wrote, "Red probably wouldn't be in the guardhouse."²⁹

The Covered Wagon went so far as to run a column entitled "Keep 'Em Happy Club." The logo claimed "Uncle Sam Wants Girls To Be True To Soldiers," and the author declared that "it's a pretty sad state of affairs when your girl at home writes about the fine times she's having with Johnnie Jones." The division experienced an unusual increase in the number of broken hearts by June 1941. One company formed the "Jilted Lovers' Club," and the 134th Infantry created the "The Protective Society for Girls Back Home" that stressed the need "to keep both girls at home and soldiers on the straight and narrow." But the author asked if national defense is an "all-together, all-out affair. How about the girls?" The wits of *The Covered Wagon* adopted and modified the slogan "Keep 'Em Flying" by asking why not "Keep 'em happy too." A coupon was attached to the article that had the signee's acknowledgement:

1. I agree to refrain from mentioning my dates with other men when I write a soldier.
2. I agree to be honest with a soldier in camp. I will not, therefore, lead him to believe I am being true to him when I am not.

29. Allen Paris, "What Not To Write To Soldiers In Camp," *Emporia Gazette*, October 14, 1941; To dramatize the concern G.I.s had for "Dear John" letters, see cartoon, "Route Step," *The Covered Wagon*, June 20, 1941. For more on women and morale, see Kennett, *G.I.*; John Costello, *Virtue Under Fire: How World War II Changed Our Social and Sexual Attitudes* (New York: Little, Brown, 1985); Judy Barrett Litoff and David C. Smith, *Since You Went Away: World War II Letters From American Women On The Home Front* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991).

3. If my feelings toward a soldier change, I will not cause him mental anguish by simply stopping my letters to him. I will let him know, as quickly as possible, that there is someone else.
4. I will remember at all times that the soldier is serving his country, and should be entitled to utmost consideration when other men compete with him for my attention.³⁰

To dramatize the plight of the lonely G.I.s of the Thirty-fifth Division, the staff of *The Covered Wagon* orchestrated a campaign to have Betty Grable selected as the division's sweetheart. The paper boldly asserted that "the men chose a blonde with a pretty face and a wicked figure. She was a movie star—name of Betty Grable." After a successful election campaign, a letter was sent to the starlet requesting "a picture and a column for *The Covered Wagon*." Weeks passed and Miss Grable failed to respond. With hurt feelings, the paper declared that "as any fool can plainly see [she] is not interested in the 35th Division. There is no fun in having a sweetheart who pays no attention to you. Is there?" The journalists knew how to mobilize public opinion and before long, Betty Grable responded with pictures and excuses to explain her delay. The Thirty-fifth Division had its sweetheart, and the leggy blonde dotted the pages of *The Covered Wagon*.³¹ But while this

30. "Let's All Use Clubs To Keep Girl Friends True To Army," *The Covered Wagon*, June 27, 1941.

31. "Frigid Betty Grable Turns Cold Shoulder on Division," *ibid.*, June 13, 1941; "Betty Grable Accepts Sweetheartship; Is Glad We Like Her Work," *ibid.*, June 27, 1941.

was a pleasant distraction from the rigors of training, the division had to prepare for a more arduous stage of its combat readiness.

The Tennessee field exercises, which started on June 2, 1941, began the longest and most detailed peacetime maneuvers in American history. This training program ultimately merged into the Louisiana Maneuvers of 1941. Whether the maneuvers actually prepared the troops for what they would eventually experience in 1944 on the battlefields of Western Europe remains in doubt. However, according to Christopher Gabel of the Combat Studies Institute at Fort Leavenworth, the maneuvers provided the army "the medium in which an embryonic Army completed an important formative process, setting the stage for its metamorphosis into an Army that could fight and win the greatest battles in American [military] history."³²

Following the Tennessee war games, a series of large Second Army and VII Corps exercises conducted in southern Arkansas occupied the division until August 28. That phase of the maneuvers involved more than one hundred thousand men from Fort Leonard Wood, Fort Riley, Camp Forrest, and Camp Robinson. The field exercise was scheduled for September 15–30; the Second Army, commanded by Lieutenant General Ben Lear, an

32. Christopher R. Gabel, "The 1941 Maneuvers: What Did They Really Accomplish?," *Army History* 14 (April 1990): 7; see also Richard M. Ketchum, "Warming up on the sidelines for World War II," *Smithsonian* 22 (September 1991): 88–103.

old cavalryman, was pitted against the Third Army, commanded by Walter Krueger, an innovator destined to win fame in the Pacific theater with Douglas MacArthur. It is generally acknowledged that the bold use of the Third Army's motorized forces, referred to as "shuttling," overwhelmed Lear's superior numbers, which included armor in the heavily wooded vegetation near Camp Polk. Krueger, aided by Colonel Dwight D. Eisenhower, proved adept at moving his motorized forces with such speed that columnist Drew Pearson compared Krueger with Stonewall Jackson.³³

For the average G.I., war games were a test of endurance and newly acquired soldier skills. Sergeant Robert Mott from Emporia, serving with Company B, 137th Infantry, wrote the *Emporia Gazette* from the company's first bivouac area that "the 23-mile march was tough." But "most men agreed that the march was still not as tough as last summer's 'Minnesota's march.'" According to Mott's account, only three men from Company B dropped out, "but proof that the march was [demanding] was furnished by the two medics who [were] attached to Company B. The two men used more than three rolls of tape and gauze . . . bandaging B Company's 320 feet."

33. "Army Draws Definite Plans For Arkansas, Louisiana War Games," *The Covered Wagon*, July 11, 1941; "35th All Set For Action: Big Parade To Battle Ground Starts Tuesday," *ibid.*, August 8, 1941; "Inspiring Feats In War Games," *Emporia Gazette*, October 2, 1941; "Armies Poised for War Maneuvers," *ibid.*, September 13, 1941; Training Order No. 190, 35th Infantry Division, September 29, 1941, National Archives.

During the night move, the men were issued new "C-rations," which could only be opened on divisional orders. The troops called them "iron rations" and wondered how they would taste in the field. But food was not the problem; it was the rain that followed the Thirty-fifth Division



The Tennessee field exercises, which started on June 2, 1941, began the longest and most detailed peacetime maneuvers in American history, ultimately merging into the Louisiana Maneuvers of 1941 (above).

from location to location. The rain made it difficult for the troops to break down their tent poles which were swollen by the moisture. Sergeant Robert Mott had no major complaints, "the maneuvers were interesting, though strenuous, while the meals . . .

have been prompt and good," and there was no slow down in mail deliveries to the front.³⁴

When the troops returned to Camp Robinson in October, they soon discovered they had a new divisional commander, Major General William H. "Big Bill" Simpson, who replaced a fine soldier and friend to the men of the Thirty-fifth Division. The relief and transfer of Major General Ralph Truman did not come as a complete shock. Earlier, in February, barely two months into the activation, many senior officers and company commanders were discharged because of their age and their medical condition. Company B, 137th Infantry, lost its commanding officer, Captain John J. Donnellan, a veteran of World War I; also released were Colonel Charles H. Browne, regimental commander of the 137th Infantry; Brigadier General Amos Thomas, commander of the Sixty-ninth Brigade; and Brigadier General George Wark, commander of the Sixtieth Field Artillery Brigade, who was transferred to VII Corps Headquarters. Charles Browne, publisher of the *Horton Headlight* and commander of the 137th Infantry since 1922, did not readily accept his relief. He actively sought reinstatement, but he eventually settled for command of the Kansas State Guard.³⁵

34. Mott, "In Camp and Field," *Emporia Gazette*, August 27, 1941.

35. "Two Emporians Out of the Army," *ibid.*, February 22, 1941; "In Camp and Field," *ibid.*, February 16, 1941. For more information on the state guard, see Christopher C. Lovett, "Don't You Know That There's A War On?: A History of the State Guard in World War II," *Kansas History* 8 (Winter 1985/86): 226-35; "Two Robinson Generals Replaced by Regular Army Men," *Emporia Gazette*, April 29, 1941.

Many politicians at the time, and most recently historian Brian Fowles, implied that the "ripping" of National Guard officers was either politically or professionally motivated. Fowles presents evidence that 30 percent of all officers were disqualified for further service, while only 2 percent were from the enlisted ranks; however, that only explains a portion of the incident. Historically, a split has existed between the regulars and the National Guard over the leadership abilities of senior guard officers. This timeless dispute stretches back to John Logan and William Tecumseh Sherman during the Civil War, with similar problems occurring in World War I. The discharged officers were too old to take a combat command, but many of them were assigned to the Army Air Corps or, like Charles Browne, took commands in state guards. Modern war requires that command positions be placed in the hands of competent battle captains; to do otherwise would have been criminal regardless of the political consequences.³⁶

The new commanding general, Major General Simpson, who had worked miracles with other units, assumed command of the Thirty-fifth Division in mid-October. He had a reputation for being a hard charger, and he was destined to lead the U.S. Ninth Army in Europe. General Omar

36. Brian Dexter Fowles, *A Guard in Peace and War: The History of the Kansas National Guard, 1854-1987* (Manhattan, Kans: Sunflower University Press, 1989), 94-95. "Rifting" is a military term describing reduction in force, which is a euphemism for the removal of a soldier for being too old, unfit, or having been in a certain rank for too many years.

Bradley described Simpson as "uncommonly normal," unlike Generals George Patton and Courtney Hodges. Eisenhower went so far as to claim that he was one officer who "never made a mistake." It was Simpson's job to raise the level of training of the Thirty-fifth Division to a higher level of proficiency as the dark clouds of war approached the nation's shores.³⁷

Morale at Camp Robinson

The importance of the home front should never be overlooked in examining the training of American servicemen for this great crusade. From August 1940 to December 1941, servicemen were particularly vulnerable to disinformation and other attempts to weaken the morale of American military personnel. The day after President Roosevelt declared the State of National Emergency on August 27, 1940, the adjutant general's office received a memorandum from the War Department warning about misinformation and rumors spread by hysteria or organizations intent on weakening the national defense, much of which came from congressional isolationists. The troops were well aware that they could make more money working in defense plants than they could in uniform. "The War Department," according to the directive, was

"very concerned over this whole affair and desires to offset the effect of the erroneous information thus disseminated."³⁸

In the period from activation to Pearl Harbor, morale was a vital concern to the War Department. Thus, it reached an agreement with A.H. Sulzberger, publisher of the *New York Times*, which was investigating army, including guard, morale. Sulzberger agreed that if information gathered by his staff was negative, he would not authorize publication. He assigned Hilton Howell Railey, a World War I veteran, to write the article. "He talked to over a thousand officers and men," wrote historian Lee Kennett, "taking copious notes." Railey composed a two-hundred-page report entitled "Morale In The U.S. Army" that shocked the War Department, which immediately classified the document. When General Lesley J. McNair read the report, he advocated the immediate demobilization of the guard. Other officials believed that Nazis and Communists were responsible for low morale and advocated that the FBI provide security at army posts.³⁹

Following activation, the likelihood of extending the length of service from one year to two became a distinct possibility. The War Department feared that a release of such a large number of selectees and guardsmen would

seriously weaken the army's training program. Congress played a role as well by blurring party lines. Senators Bennett Clarke, Democrat from Missouri, and Arthur Vandenburg, Republican from Michigan, leading isolationists, believed that an extension would keep the selectees and guardsmen in service "for life." William Allen White challenged that assumption by describing Sergeant Robert A. Mott: "Sergeant Mott, a college student and correspondent for the *Gazette* and the *Teacher's College Bulletin*, is a good soldier. He likes the army and he knows plenty of other boys who like it." White discovered the problem. Older men sought a way out and found it in the popular expression "OHIO" ("Over the Hill In October"), while younger men found the army experience exciting, a cross between Jack Armstrong and the Boy Scouts.⁴⁰

37. The Bradley and Eisenhower quotations are from Charles B. MacDonald, *The Mighty Endeavor: The American War In Europe* (New York: William Morrow, 1986), 381. "General Simpson Stresses Officers' Leadership, Morale of Soldiers," *The Covered Wagon*, October 17, 1941.

38. "Misinformed Publicity and Rumor," John F. Williams, chief of the National Guard Bureau, to the Adjutant General of all States . . . , August 26, 1940, Records of the Adjutant General's Office.

39. Kennett, G.L., 69-71; Stephen D. Westbrook, "The Raily Report and Army Morale, 1941: Anatomy of a Crisis," *Military Review* 60 (June 1980): 11-24.

40. "National Guard May Be In Service for Two Years," *Emporia Gazette*, March 7, 1941; "FOR to Ask Longer Training," *ibid.*, July 18, 1941; "Agree on Limit of 30 Months' Army Training," *ibid.*, August 1, 1941; "We're Not Worried," *ibid.*, October 29, 1941. For more information concerning isolationism, see Manfred Jonas, *Isolationism in America 1935-1941* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1966); Mark Lincoln Chadwin, *The Warhawks: American Interventionists Before Pearl Harbor* (New York: W.W. Norton and Co., 1968); Wayne S. Cole, *America First: The Battle Against Intervention* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1953); Wayne S. Cole, *Senator Gerald P. Nye and American Foreign Policy* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1962); Wayne S. Cole, *Charles A. Lindbergh and the Battle Against American Intervention in World War II* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1974); Wayne S. Cole, *Roosevelt & the Isolationists, 1932-45* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1983); William L. Langer and S. Everett Gleason, *The Challenge To Isolationism, 1937-1940* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1952); James C. Schneider, *Should America Go To War?: The Debate Over Foreign Policy In Chicago, 1939-1941* (Chapel Hill: North Carolina University Press, 1989).

The army was aware of a possible discharge of troops at the conclusion of the training cycle. Unlike the soldiers eligible for benefits under the G.I. Bill of 1944, these men had no method of obtaining jobs or regaining the jobs they had left behind. In an effort to address the problem, se-

tally accurate unless the guardsmen could find employment in the new defense plants.⁴¹

The War Department realized that the army had a potential problem on its hands, and it instituted an early release program for men over twenty-eight years of age or soldiers with depen-

and were discharged on October 22, 1941. By the end of November, the division estimated that 2,491 men were scheduled to be released under the War Department's program.⁴² The anticipated release of so many troops would amount to approximately a 23 percent turnover, a possible barometer of discontent in the ranks. However, adequate figures are not available to determine the composition of those who sought a discharge.

Army authorities did everything possible to alleviate the obvious hardships for both selectees and guardsmen during their stay at Camp Robinson. The division's plans and operations sections reserved Wednesday afternoons for either sporting or recreational activities for the troops. Some units, notably Company B, 137th Infantry, fielded respectable athletic teams that managed to successfully compete with civilian teams in the Little Rock area. Dances were held with army-approved young women of impeccable backgrounds serving as partners. Even dignitaries visited the troops and gave lectures for those interested in world events. William L. Shirer, respected and well-known CBS radio announcer and author of the popular bestseller *Berlin Diary*, visited Little Rock in early May. More than 150 men from the division took the opportunity to listen to Shirer put the European war in proper perspective.⁴³



Because of reports of low morale, army authorities did everything possible to alleviate the obvious hardships for both selectees and guardsmen during their stay at Camp Robinson. Taking some time from their training duties, these men of Battery B, 127th Field Artillery of Coffeyville, pose for a group picture.

lectees and guardsmen had filled out vocation cards at the time of mobilization. During their military careers, additional jobs or skills that soldiers acquired were added to the cards. *The Covered Wagon* told its readers that information gathered from the military "will be forwarded to the employment service of [the soldier's] home state." Despite these efforts, the government's claim that the vocational card system made locating jobs easier following discharge was not to-

dents. At Camp Robinson, the division established an office to facilitate processing those seeking discharges and looking for jobs. The Associated Press reported that the War Department hoped the men would find positions "preferably in defense industries, if they are not already assured of a job." Initially, seven hundred men received both their final pay

41. "Jobs After Army Discharge Will be Made Easier by the Government," *The Covered Wagon*, June 27, 1941.

42. "Discharges for 700 at Camp Robinson," *Emporia Gazette*, October 22, 1941.

43. Mott, "In Camp and Field," *ibid.*, May 12, 1941.

Sometimes ex-guardsmen visited Camp Robinson to say hello to their old friends. Twenty-one-year-old Lucien E. Conien of Kansas City spoke to the men of Company G, 137th Infantry concerning his recent experiences in Europe in 1940. Conien held dual U.S. and French citizenship and was forced to leave the Kansas National Guard to serve in the French Army in an antitank unit. Following the Franco-German Armistice on June 20, 1940, he fled to Martinique and made his way to New York. The men of his old unit hoped he could return to Company G and regain his old rank of corporal; however, Conien had other plans that would take him from the Office of Strategic Services to the Central Intelligence Agency and the coup that toppled President Ngo Dinh Diem of South Vietnam in November of 1963.⁴⁴

Overall, opportunities existed for the men of the Thirty-fifth Division to expand their horizons; however, nothing, with the possible exception of going home, alleviated the hardships, loneliness, and boredom associated with the army. An attack on Pearl Harbor, however, solved the morale problem. When the United States entered the war, the attitudes of most changed; they now saw the necessity for military proficiency.

By December 1941 the Thirty-fifth Division also had changed. No longer was the division a National Guard outfit. Through individual and unit transfers, the composition of the Thirty-fifth

44. "G-Men of the 137th Seek Lowdown from Refugee," *The Covered Wagon*, June 13, 1941.

Division was drastically altered by the arrival of selectees from New York, California, Wyoming, and Massachusetts. The replacements now filled the ranks once held by guardsmen from Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. As a result, a new era was about to begin for the Thirty-fifth Division.

division's activities in Kansas ceased after December 7, and its destination was withheld. However, the first units ordered to California included the Thirty-fifth Engineer Regiment and the 110th Observation Squadron. The move began on December 14, 1941, with unit commanders as-



Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Thirty-fifth Division was transferred to California (above), where the hysteria of a possible Japanese invasion was reaching its peak.

Epilogue

As soon as word of the Japanese attack reached Washington, orders were issued to move the Thirty-fifth Division to California where the national hysteria of a possible Japanese invasion was reaching its peak.⁴⁵ Press coverage of the

45. Field Order No. 1, 35th Division, December 14, 1941, Box 971, Record Group 94, National Archives.

signed the responsibility for providing their own security while entraining and detraining. The transfer from Camp Robinson to Fort Ord required considerable coordination between the division and the railroads. For instance, the 130th Field Artillery needed four box cars, five coaches, four kitchens, and fifty-five flat cars to make the trip.⁴⁶

46. *Ibid.*

After the division's arrival, it moved into positions in the Southern California sector, with all subordinate units receiving instructions to take up posts at key locations in and around Los Angeles. The Thirty-fifth Engineers moved to the Hollywood Race Track, and the 137th Infantry garrisoned Houghton Park. It was not long before the infantry patrolled the beaches between Malibu and El Segundo, taking in Venice as well, as the division moved its headquarters to Camp San Luis Obispo.⁴⁷ The move to California ended one phase of the Thirty-fifth Division's training and started another designed to prepare it for eventual deployment to the European Theater of Operations.

In reviewing the mobilization of 1940, we must realize how unprepared the military and public were for armed conflict. Senior officers were too old and held key posts for too long, which kept younger officers from gaining the necessary command experience required in wartime. The War Department paid a dear price for failing to effectively evaluate the National Guard during annual training between 1937 and 1940. Because of the Great Depression, training funds were reduced; this deficiency ultimately limited combat readiness.

President Roosevelt and the war planners in the War Department came to realize that the guard had to be called up to rearm guard units and improve the state of combat readiness of the U.S. Army. The general headquarters (GHQ) maneuvers improved army doctrine and pro-

vided tactical commanders with an understanding of the complexities of modern war, especially for those who have never experienced combat. But as Christopher Gabel notes, those events were significant to the nation's military history since the 1940 mobilization and the 1941 GHQ maneuvers provided the United States with a "field-tested, nearly combat ready Army before the declaration of war," something rare in American military annals.⁴⁸

The Louisiana and Carolina Maneuvers did not come without cost. All told, sixty-one G.I.s were killed. Likewise they were expensive by the standards of the day; the War Department spent \$20.6 million on the war games. But the army received a hefty dividend when the general public developed a more positive appreciation for the military. Even skeptical journalists, Gabel claims, "went so far as to compare the 1941 Army with the apparently invincible German Wehrmacht—and the comparison was not altogether unfavorable."⁴⁹

The Thirty-fifth Infantry Division was fortunate. Unlike a few of the National Guard divisions, such as the Thirty-second Infantry Division (Wisconsin and Michigan National Guard) rushed to the Southwest Pacific to serve with General Douglas MacArthur, the Thirty-fifth received time to train, and the War Department had time to evaluate

the quality of officers placed in key division billets.⁵⁰

As a result, the combat readiness of the division increased dramatically. The extended training in the United States between 1941 and 1944 prepared the troops to face the Germans on more than even terms when the Thirty-fifth landed in France. By V-E Day, the division was no longer a guard unit, even though it maintained its distinct National Guard lineage. Approximately 65 percent of the men who served and survived the war were draftees from all parts of the country. The Thirty-fifth Division, initially from Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, had clearly lost its regional character. Yet, when veterans meet in their annual reunions in Topeka, Little Rock, and Omaha and recount the events of 1940-1945, they share a common bond with all veterans of the World War II generation; when called they served, much like other men at other times in our military history.⁵¹

50. For an understanding of the problems that a guard division could face in battle, see Robert L. Eichelberger, *Our Jungle Road To Tokyo* (Washington, D.C.: Zenger Publishing, 1982), especially p. 21.

51. After World War II the Department of Defense broke up National Guard units to reduce the impact of one locality experiencing excessive casualties. The introduction of large numbers of selectees into the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division reflected the cadre nature of the mobilization and the mission of the National Guard during the national emergency. However as the war dragged on, especially after the heavy losses of the Thirty-sixth Infantry Division (Texas National Guard) crossing the Rapido River in Italy on January 22-23, 1944, that policy changed. Martin Blumenson, *Mark Clark* (New York: Congdon and Weed, 1984), 168; John K. Mahon, *History of The Militia and The National Guard* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1983), 190.

48. Christopher R. Gabel, *The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1991), 192.

49. *Ibid.*, 193.

47. *Ibid.*

National Guard Divisions In World War II*

<u>Division</u>	<u>States</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Popular Name</u>
26	MA, NH, ME, VT	1,587	12,077	Yankee
27	NY	1,844	4,689	Orion or New York
28	PA	2,683	14,079	Keystone
29	MD, VA, DC	4,515	16,105	Blue Gray
30	NC, GA, SC	3,516	14,930	Old Hickory
31	TN AL, FL, MS, LA	414	1,319	Dixie
32	MI, WI	1,985	5,283	Red Arrow
33	IL	524	1,902	Golden Cross or Prairie
34	IA, MN, ND, SD	3,350	13,051	Red Bull
35	MO, KS, NE	2,947	12,935	Santa Fe
36	TX	3,636	15,830	Texas
37	OH	1,344	4,616	Buckeye
38	KY, IN, WV	784	2,680	Cyclone
40	CA, UT	748	2,277	Sunshine
41	WY, ID, OE MT, WA	950	3,310	Sunset or Junglers
43	CT, ME, RI, VT	1,416	4,610	Winged Victory
44	NY, NJ	1,206	4,449	
45	NM, OK, AZ	4,080	16,913	Thunderbird**

** The Forty-fifth Division unit patch before the war was an old Indian symbol for good luck, the "swastika," but since it was similar to the Nazi symbol, the division replaced it with the Thunderbird.

Deployment of Guard Divisions In World War II*

<u>Division</u>	<u>Federal Service</u>	<u>Theater</u>	<u>Initial Combat</u>	<u>Months Before Combat</u>
26	Jan. 16, 1941	European	Sept. 29, 1944	44
27	Oct. 15, 1940	Pacific	Nov. 21, 1943	37
28	Feb. 17, 1941	European	July 22, 1944	41
29	Feb. 3, 1941	European	June 6, 1944	40
30	Sept. 16, 1940	European	June 15, 1944	44
31	Nov. 25, 1940	Pacific	July 13, 1944	46
32	Oct. 15, 1940	Pacific	Sept. 16, 1942	20
33	Mar. 5, 1941	Pacific	Dec. 18, 1944	45
34	Feb. 10, 1941	European	Nov. 8, 1942	20
35	Dec. 23, 1940	European	July 11, 1944	42
36	Nov. 25, 1940	European	Sept. 9, 1943	33
37	Oct. 15, 1940	Pacific	July 22, 1943	32
38	Jan. 17, 1941	Pacific	Dec. 1944	47
40	Mar. 3, 1941	Pacific	Jan. 9, 1945	45
41	Sept. 16, 1940	Pacific	Jan. 2, 1943	27
43	Feb. 24, 1941	Pacific	July 1943	28
44	Sept. 16, 1940	European	Oct. 10, 1944	36
45	Sept. 16, 1940	European	June 1943	32

* SOURCE: John K. Mahon, *History Of The Militia and The National Guard* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1983), 190-91, 188.

Kansas National Guard Units Mobilized
On December 23, 1940*

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
35th Military Police Company	Garden City	Headquarters, 1st Battalion	Topeka
35th Signal Company	Kansas City	HQ Battery, 1st Battalion	Burlington
		Battery A	Salina
Headquarters, 60th Field Artillery Brigade	Topeka	Battery B	Ottawa
HQ Battery, 60th Field Artillery Brigade	Topeka	Battery C	Lyons
		Headquarters, 2d Battalion	Topeka
		HQ Battery, 2d Battalion	Humboldt
		Battery D	Olathe
		Battery E	Fort Scott
		Battery F	Arkansas City
127th Field Artillery Regiment	Topeka	Regimental Supply and Maintenance Platoon	Great Bend
Headquarters		Medical Detachment	Kansas City
HQ Battery	Topeka	Band	Emporia
Headquarters, 1st Battalion	Topeka		
HQ Battery, 1st Battalion	Topeka	Headquarters, 69th Infantry Brigade	Topeka
Battery A	Iola	HQ Company, 69th Infantry Brigade	Topeka
Battery B	Coffeyville		
Headquarters, 2d Battalion	Kansas City		
HQ Battery, 2d Battalion	Kansas City		
Battery C	Wichita		
Battery D	Pleasanton		
Headquarters, 3d Battalion	Topeka		
HQ Battery, 3d Battalion	Kansas City	137th Infantry Regiment	Horton
Battery E	Haskell Institute	Headquarters	
Battery F	Paola	Headquarters Company	Wichita
Medical Detachment	Lawrence	Antitank Company	Topeka
Band	Kansas City	Service Company	Wichita
		Band	Wichita
130th Field Artillery Regiment	Topeka	Headquarters, 1st Battalion	Newton
Headquarters		HQ Detachment, 1st Battalion	Cottonwood Falls
HQ Battery	Salina	Company A	Atchinson
Headquarters, 1st Battalion	Hutchinson	Company B	Emporia
HQ Battery, 1st Battalion	Sterling	Company C	Council Grove
Battery A	Hutchinson	Company D	Dodge City
Battery B	Hutchinson	Headquarters, 2d Battalion	Emporia
Battery C	Hutchinson	HQ Detachment, 2d Battalion	Kansas City
Headquarters, 2d Battalion	Hiawatha	Company E	Holton
HQ Battery, 2d Battalion	Troy	Company F	Newton
Battery D	Sabetha	Company G	Kansas City
Battery E	Hiawatha	Company H	Lawrence
Battery F	Horton	Headquarters, 3d Battalion	Wichita
Regimental Supply and Maintenance Platoon	Hiawatha	HQ Detachment, 3d Battalion	Wichita
Medical Detachment	Hutchinson	Company I	Wichita
Band	Hiawatha	Company K	Wichita
		Company L	Kingman
		Company M	Lawrence
161st Field Artillery Regiment	Topeka	Medical Detachment	Wichita
Headquarters			
HQ Battery	St. Marys	110th Ordnance Company	Wichita

* State Headquarters Detachment was mobilized on October 8, 1940, to support the adjutant general.

[KH]