

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMPANY "F" 40TH ARMOR
APO NEW YORK 09742

23 July 1970

SUBJECT: Unit History of Company "F", 40th Armor
(Second Quarter of 1970)

THRU: Deputy Brigade Commander
Berlin Brigade
APO 09742

TO: ACofS, G-3
Berlin Brigade
APO 09742
ATTN: COMMAND HISTORIAN

1. On the 17th of April, Brigadier General HAROLD I. HAYWARD visited Turner Barracks to present the Commanding General's Tank Gunnery Trophy to the outstanding tank crew for the fiscal year 1970. The high tank was F-22 commanded by SGT JAMES S. LEFLER. His crew members were: Gunner: SP5 LUTHER J. LaRUE, Driver: SP4 ROBERT M. GOMEZ, Loader: PFC HENRY W. McCALL. The crew was awarded a plaque to be displayed on F-22 in parades and each man received \$25.00 cash award for his superior performance on the Grafenwoehr Tank Crew Qualification Course.
2. The tank small arms were augmented on the 21st of April when Company F, traded the M-73 machineguns for the M-73 E-1 Coaxial machineguns. This new weapon came with glowing reports of its outstanding performance in field testing in Grafenwoehr.
3. The annual celebration of the birthday of St. George, the patron saint of the cavalry, took place in several events hosted by our French counterpart unit in Berlin, the 11th Regiment of Chasseurs. Festivities started in the evening of the 21st in a non-tactical bivouac in the French Heiligensee training area. 1LT DOUGLAS S. AYKROYD and his four men were very well fed with French rations which

included wine, bread, and commercial canned goods. On the 22nd the Regimental Rallye (an Armor Stakes type event) carried participants over a twenty kilometer course. That night the entire regiment paraded in an impressive torchlight review. Finally, the next day was dedicated to traditional toasts, banquets and a final party.

4. The Honorable THADDEUS R. BEAL, Under-Secretary of the Army, visited Turner Barracks on the 27th on April. A briefing and static display of vehicles were set up so that the Under-Secretary could better understand the company mission and see the means we have at hand to accomplish the mission. He then went to the Four Ring where First Platoon had set up an Immediate Ready Force display with the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry. Characteristics of the Under-Secretary's visit was his conversation with every soldier.

5. On the 29th of April, Company F hosted a visit with a troop from the 13th/18th Royal Hussars, who were in Berlin while most of A Squadron, 9th/12th Royal Lancers were on parade in England. It was the first opportunity for the British cavalry men to get a good look at American Tanks.

6. The first days of May were highlighted by our British counterpart unit, A Squadron, 9th/12th Royal Lancers. On the 4th of May, one troop of three tanks and the tracked vehicle retriever (from the units Light Aid Detachment) came to the company area. While we were very impressed by their demonstration of their stabilized gun, our VTR defeated theirs in a tug-of-war. That Friday the Fourth Platoon returned the visit by taking five tanks to Smuts Barracks. Rides on the Ferret Scout Car were very popular among our troops who had no experience with a lightly armored wheeled vehicle.

7. On 9 May Captain PHILIP D. RILEY was married to the former Carol Ann Hayward, daughter of the Berlin Brigade Commander. After a lively reception in the Harnak House, the couple left for a honeymoon in Majoroa.

8. The rest of the month was spent in preparation for the Allied Forces Day Parade on the 23rd. After many hours of late night painting sessions and early morning practices, the parade started. Despite warnings of student extremist demonstrations, the parade went smoothly for the 23 tanks and the VTR. Brigadier General HAROLD I. HAYWARD complemented the company "for its outstanding appearance and wholehearted participation" in the parade.

9. Elements of five platoons participated in Berlin Brigade FTX "Cartridge IV" from the 25th to the 27th of May. First and Sixth Platoons were attached to 2nd Battalion 6th Infantry as aggressors while Second, Fourth, and Fifth Platoons remained under normal Brigade control. While new techniques (like indirect fire) and (greater Move-

ment) were involved, the play sometimes became unrealistic because of administrative procedures and unrealistic umpires. Many tankers felt that the use of blank ammunition would add more realism to the play.

10. The last day of May saw a member of Company "F" take third place honors in the French Military horse riding-jumping event. SP4 ROBERT B. COX, along with Captain WILLIAM PORTIER of Berlin Brigade Headquarters, had the fastest time in the international event but were reduced to third place by one fault. It is noteworthy that Specialist COX's horse had been on the course twice without finishing before making the prize winning run.

11. The Command Personnel Management Inspection, a new innovation in the Army, hit Company F on the 8th through the 11th of June. As a result of this inspection many errors in personnel records were corrected.

12. The 9th of June saw the first use of a tank crew proficiency course set up on Park's Range by 2LT RICHARD L. LOPEZ, Jr. The idea behind the course was to get the Third, Fourth, and Sixth Platoons, then training for Grafenwoehr qualification, used to a Range 80 course. Despite the short ranges, the quick lay and crew drills were designed to help the gunnery platoons get the best training available in Berlin.

13. Turner Barracks was honored by the visit of forty Scandinavian students on the 16th day of June. After being shown static displays of equipment and vehicles, they were treated to tank rides. A highlight of their visit was the number of individual conversations that took place after lunch in the Company mess.

14. Three troopers were found guilty of violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice during April.

a. [REDACTED], PFC (E3)--General Court-Martial

10 April 1970

CHARGES: Violation of regulation (Art 92, Chge I and Spec.)
Negligent Homicide (Art 134, Chge II, Spec. 1)
Fleeing scene of accident (Art. 134, Chge II, Spec.2)

PUNISHMENT: Reduction to grade of E-1
Confined at Hard Labor for 6 months (confinement suspended after 36 days)
Forfeiture of \$40.00 per month for 6 months

b. [REDACTED] PV2 (E2)--Special Courts-Martial

30 April 1970

CHARGES: AWOL (from 1Apr70 to 5Apr70 and from 11Apr70 to 15Apr70)

PUNISHMENT: Reduction to grade E-1
Confined at hard labor for 4 months
Forfeiture of \$80.00 per month for 4 months

c. [REDACTED] PFC (E3)--Special Courts-Martial

25 April 1970

CHARGES: Willful disobedience of a superior commissioned officer.
Willful disobedience of a superior NCO
Disrespect toward a superior NCO

PUNISHMENT: Reduction to grade of E-1
Confined at hard labor for 4 months
Forfeiture of \$80.00 per month for 4 months

15. The men of Company "F" 40th Armor have been hard at work and the fruits of their work were evident after the Green Tab meeting covering the month of June 1970. Company F was the top in the Brigade.


DOUGLAS S. ATKROTD
1LT, Armor
Unit Historian

