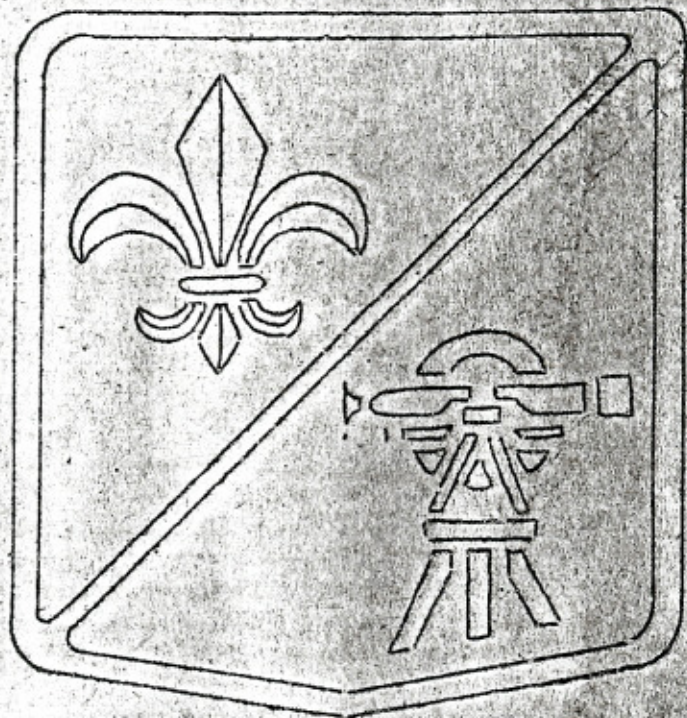


SERVICE
COMPANY



1301 ENGR. REGT.

"THIS IS IT -
AT LAST"

FORWARD

This book is the story of a company, a company which made history as a part of a crack Engineer regiment, and as a part of the most brilliant army that fought in Europe.

The story of the accomplishments of the company has already been written. It is an account of the steadfast courage and skillful effort, of unselfish cooperation with other units, and of constant improvement in technique. No job done by any part of the regiment was entirely independent of the help of H&S Company, and the larger jobs could not have been accomplished without a large measure of the company's talent.

The outstanding task of the regiment, the Rhine crossing, was to a greater extent than most have appreciated, the work of its headquarters unit. For six months before most of the line companies took any active part in the job, the S-3 Section was drawing designs, planning procedure, and making experiments. The tremendous transportation problem was solved largely by the company's transportation platoon. The efficient performance of administrative and supply functions left the tactical units free to concentrate on constructive action and kept the whole operation running smoothly.

Just to know these things, however, is not to know H&S Company. These are only the effects, and not the cause. For a knowledge of the company itself, we must look deeper.

To know a tractor or a truck, to understand what it can do and why, to recognize its limitations and its weaknesses, a mechanic must be familiar with every part. He must know what the carburetor is for and how it functions. He must be able to call by name each gear of the transmission and differential. Those are the things the machine is made of.

To know a set of records, a clerk must comprehend the meaning and value of every entry in it. He must know the source of each bit of information, its dependability and its accuracy. Those are the factors that make the record.

In the same way, to know a company, one must know each man in it: what he can do and what he would like to do; his troubles, interests, and ambitions; what he has done for the company, and what the company has done for him. Those are the things that will live in our memories.

So as we look over the names of the men that comprised this company, let us realize that it is of these that the company and its history are made; that without them the company is merely a table of organization, without a spark of life. The story of the company is the story of these men.

Francis X. Purcell
Col., CE
Commanding