

## Alamo in the Ardennes



Major General Norman "Dutch" Cota, commanding officer, 28th Infantry Division. Cota's division bore the brunt of the German offensive in the Bastogne corridor.



Testy and cantankerous as ever, Colonel Hurley Fuller (far left) glowers at a defendant in a military court proceeding. Fuller took command of the 110th Infantry Regiment just three weeks before the German offensive. Outnumbered ten to one, the 110th was annihilated but fought a courageous delaying action

that cost the Germans valuable time. The pain of his regiment's annihilation stayed with Fuller until his dying day.



Clervaux castle, burning fiercely on December 18, 1944. One hundred men from Headquarters Company, 110th Infantry, held off the Germans here for three days.



The aftermath at Marnach. B Company of the 110th Infantry held out in this little village for two days, impeding the German advance to Bastogne. American soldiers recaptured the town in January 1945, when these photos were taken.



A famous image of two 28th Division soldiers in Bastogne after several days of hard fighting. These men were probably part of Task Force Snafu, the scratch force that helped the 101st Airborne Division hold Bastogne. Notice the mud on the trousers of the soldier on the right. Hundreds of 28th Division soldiers trudged through mud and snow to escape captivity and keep fighting the Germans.



A lieutenant munches on a C ration biscuit after making it back into American lines. Thousands of 28th Division soldiers wandered the Ardennes and fought in small groups. Many were captured or never heard from again.



Weary members of the 28th Division band who were pressed into combat service to defend the division command post at Wiltz.



The outskirts of Heinerscheid, where A Company, 110th Infantry, and tankers from the 707th Tank Battalion fought waves of German attackers. Weeks after the battle, two GIs are inspecting destroyed German vehicles. German corpses, barely visible, are strewn around the field.



The Bouvier Château in Urspelt as it looks today. This was the command post of Lieutenant Colonel Donald Paul, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry.



The little town of Clervaux today. This view is from Reuler, to the east, over the prominent ridge that separates the two towns. Many German soldiers saw Clervaux from this vantage point before they attacked. Notice the restored castle in the middle of this image.



The courtyard of Clervaux castle today. This area was under intense fire on December 17 and 18, 1944.



The Claravallis Hotel today. On the evening of December 17, 1944, Colonel Fuller and his headquarters soldiers came under close-range attack here. They fled from the fire escape of the hotel rather than surrender.



A present-day photo of Colonel Ted Seely's ill-fated command post at Allerborn. On the evening of December 18, 1944, German attackers overran the house, capturing Seely and scattering many others west toward Bastogne.



After the battle, a little girl kisses a 9th Armored Division soldier on the cheek, while several other soldiers and a pet dog watch. Notice the censor mark obscuring the unit identification on the left sleeve of the soldier sitting next to the dog. The 9th Armored Division was on the "secret list" for the first few weeks of the Bulge and never got the credit it deserved for its part in keeping the Germans out of Bastogne.





Combat Command (CCB) of the 10th Armored Division arrives in Bastogne. The commander of CCB, Colonel William Roberts, spread his troops out among three key roadblocks around the city.



Troopers from the 101st Airborne Division arriving in Bastogne, where they fanned out into defensive positions around the town.





A makeshift 101st Airborne Division aid station in Bastogne. Although short on medicine, surgical instruments, and other necessities, the medics did the best they could for the growing number of wounded men they had to treat.



The American cost: dead soldiers of the 28th Division, possibly executed in cold blood by the Germans, lie in the snow. Notice that the Germans have taken their boots and gone through their pockets for valuables. The 28th was shattered in the Bastogne corridor. The 110th Infantry alone suffered 2,750 casualties out of an original complement of 3,250 soldiers.



The German cost: the frozen body of a dead German soldier lies in the snow near Neffe. There were many others around the Ardennes. The Germans lost approximately 100,000 soldiers in the Battle of the Bulge.



General Dwight D. Eisenhower presents troopers of the 101st Airborne Division with a unit citation for their successful defense of Bastogne. The 101st received most of the postbattle citations and historical plaudits for holding Bastogne.

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