



Fig. 1. Lieutenant Colonel Granville Attaway Sharpe (Courtesy Alice Sharpe)



Fig. 2. Second Battalion, 329th Infantry, May 1945: Front Row: Left to Right: Devenney (S-1), Gaudio (S-3), Sharpe (Commanding Officer), Benion (Executive Officer), Hastings (S-2). Back Row: Miotti (S-4), Swartz (Chaplain), Overdyke (Doctor), Cailor (Transportation Officer), Hughes (Communications Officer), Zemel (Assistant Doctor) (Courtesy Granville Sharpe)





Fig. 3. Granville Sharpe, Tailback for Davidson College. Sharpe makes eight yards around right end against Rollins College. (Courtesy Alice Sharpe)





Entrance to the camp.



Post Headquarters.

Fig. 4. Camp Atterbury, Indiana 1943 (US Army)





Fig. 5 Soldier in a Foxhole (Invasion Journal)



Fig. 6. Major General Robert C. Macon, Inscribed: "To Lt. Col. Granville A. Sharpe. The best battalion combat commander of World War II." (Courtesy Alice Sharpe)

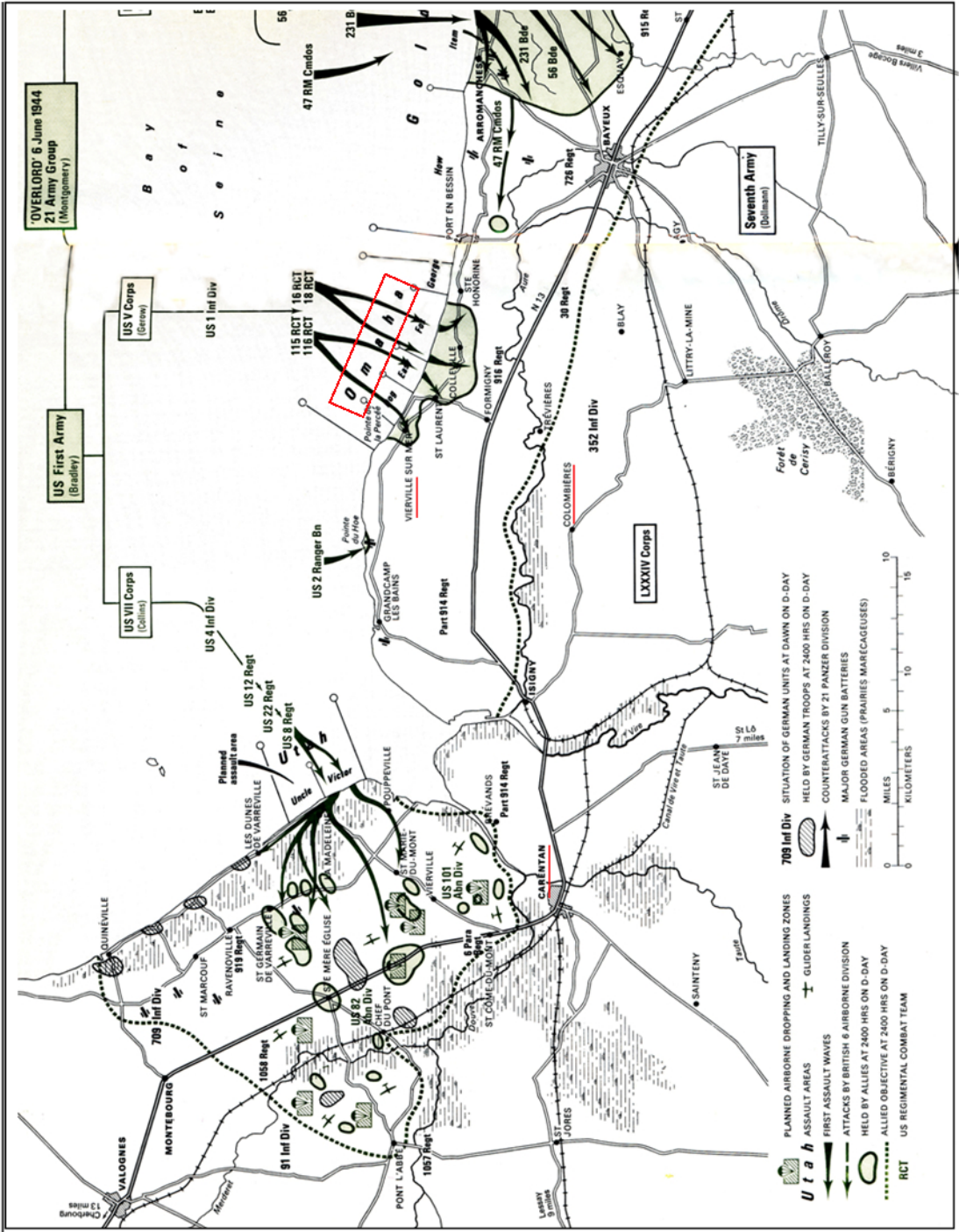


Fig. 7. D-Day Beaches (US Army)





Fig. 8. General J. Lawton Collins (US Army)



Fig. 9. The Hedgerow Battle (Invasion Journal)



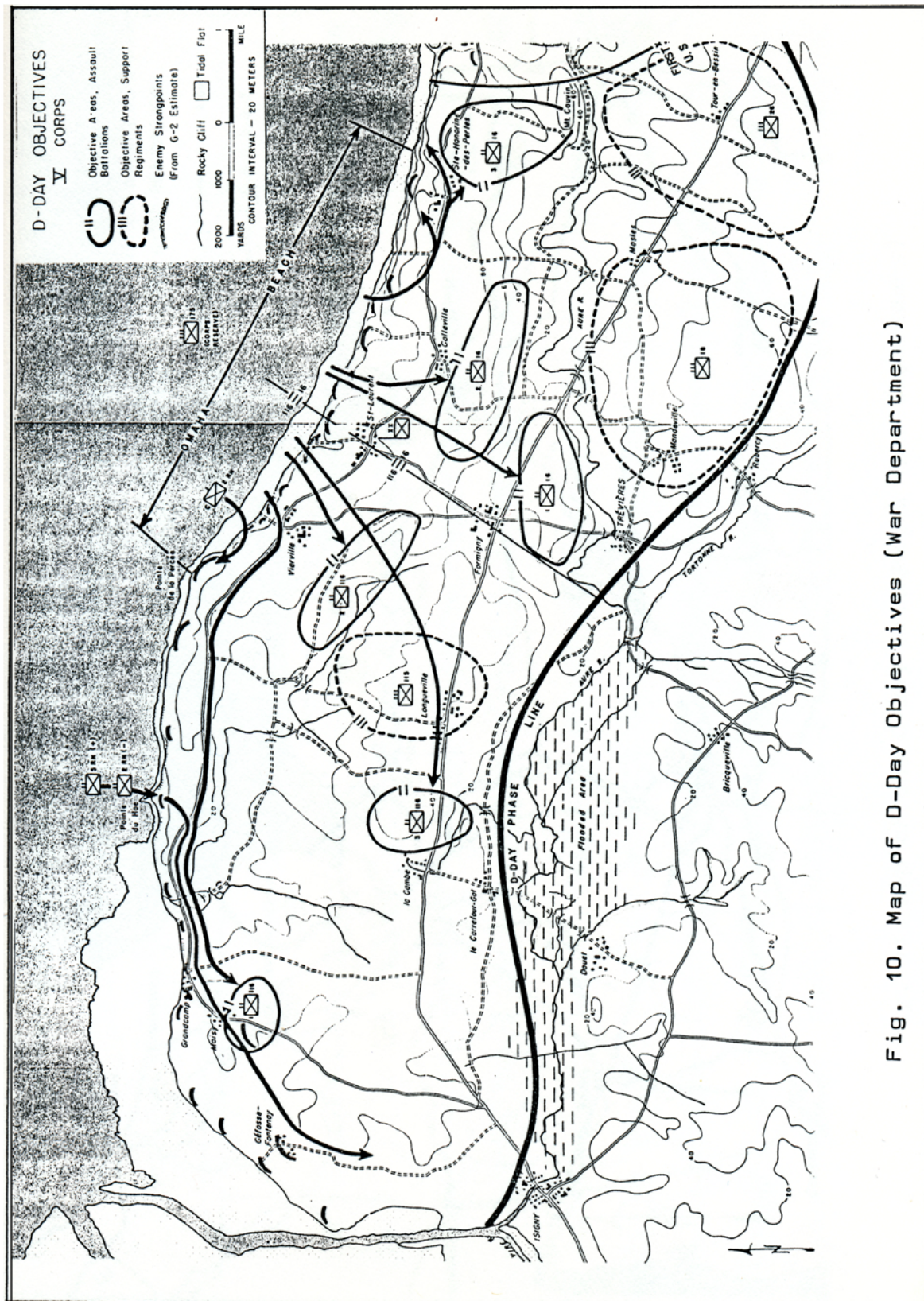
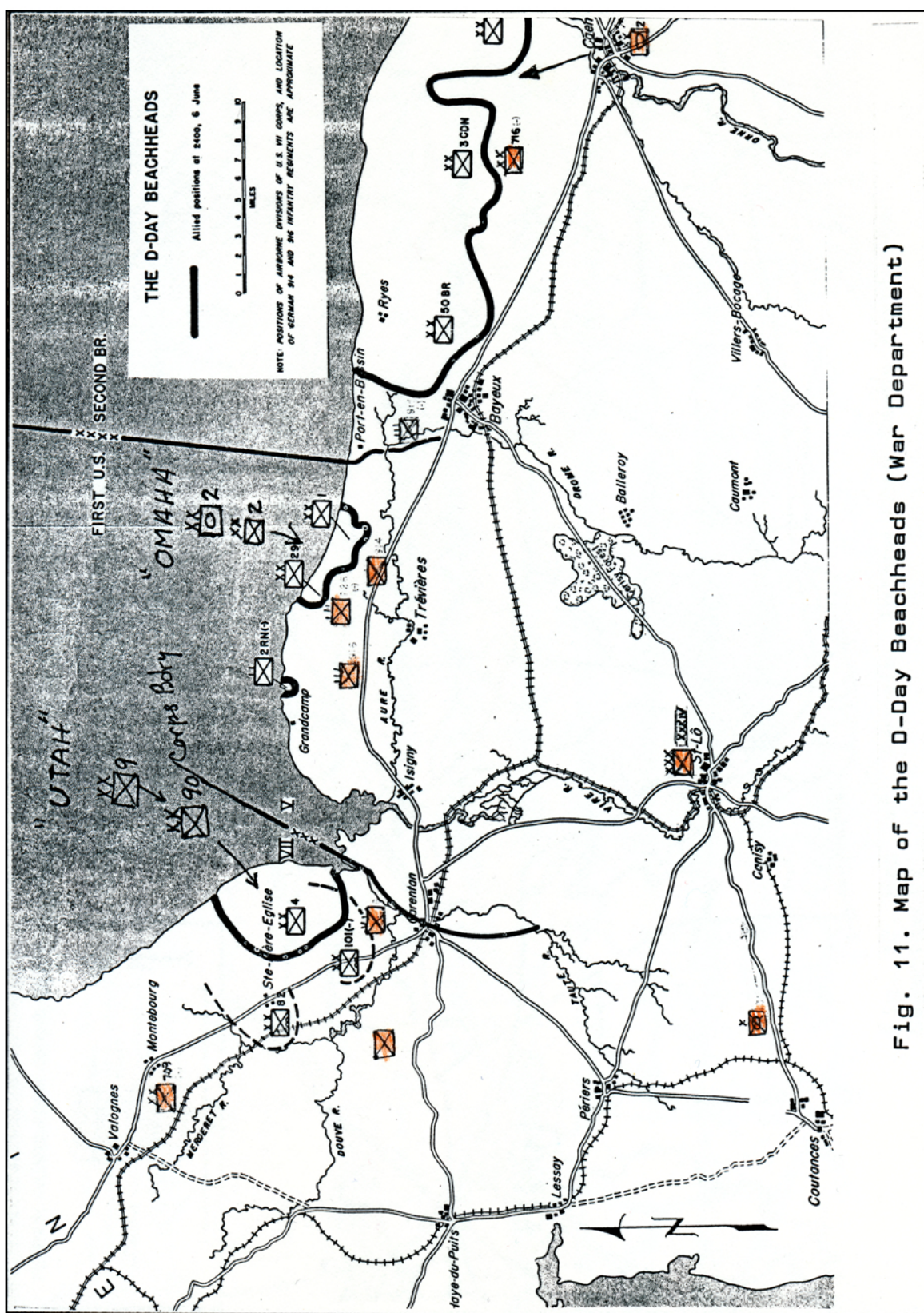
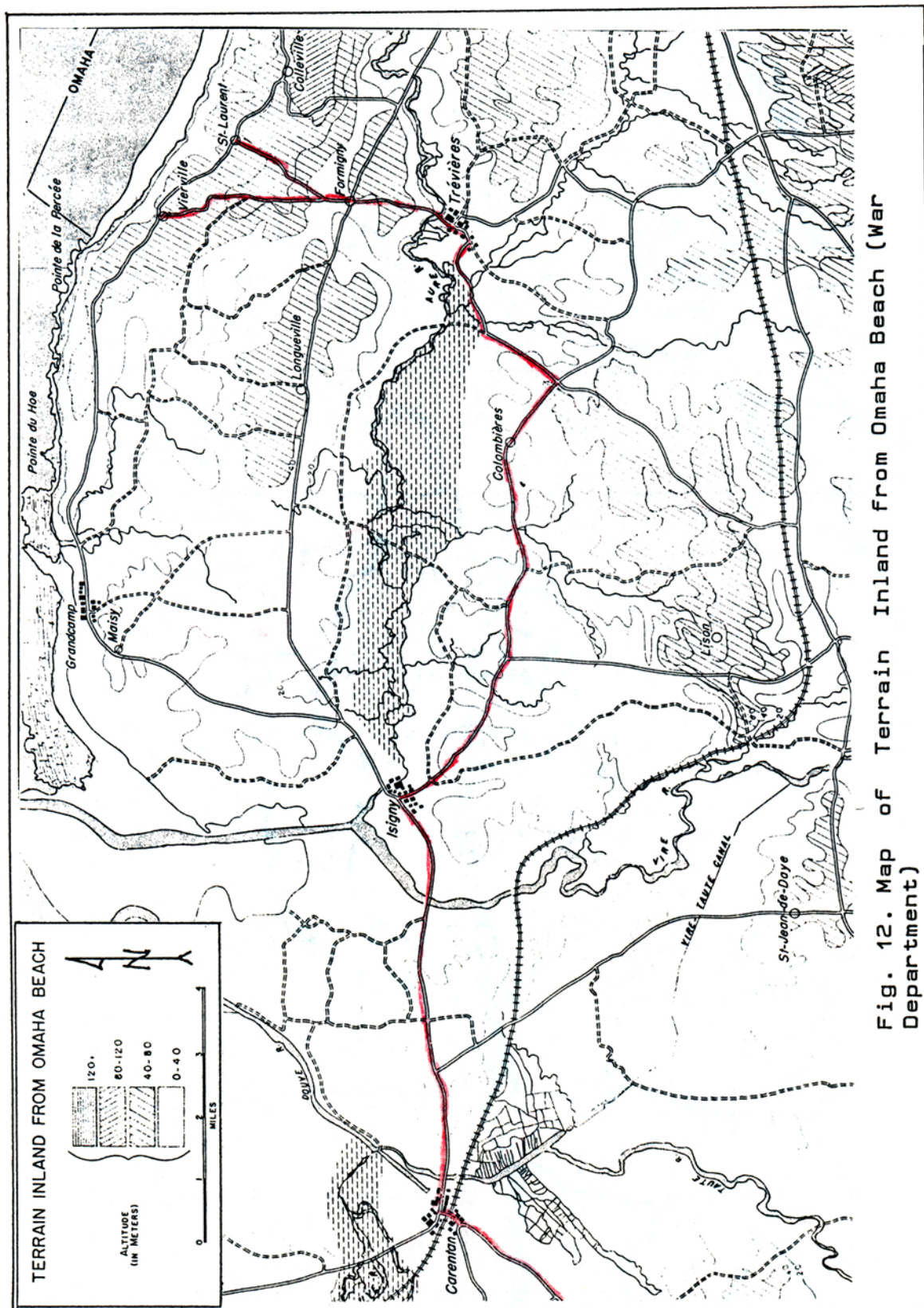


Fig. 10. Map of D-Day Objectives (War Department)











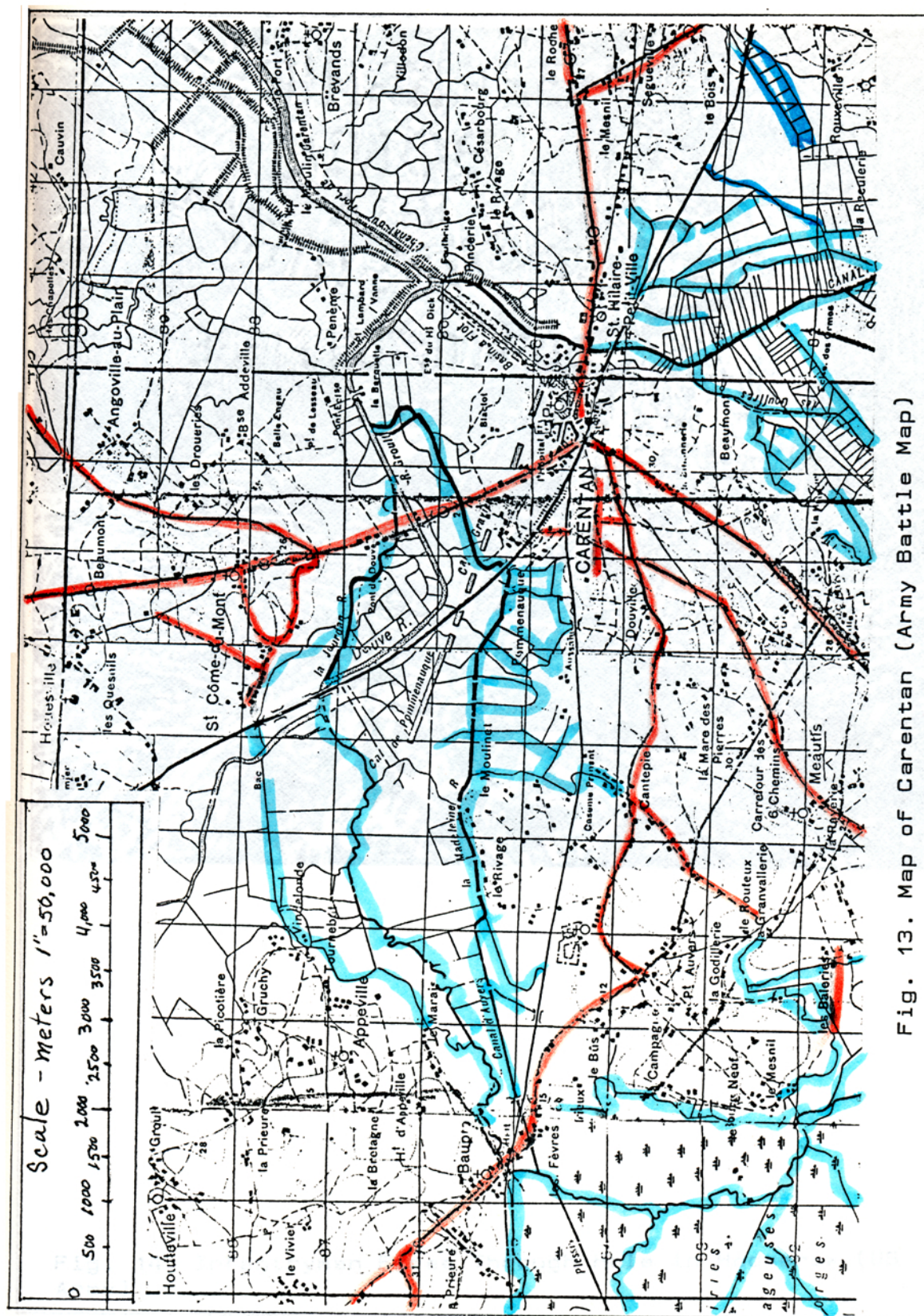


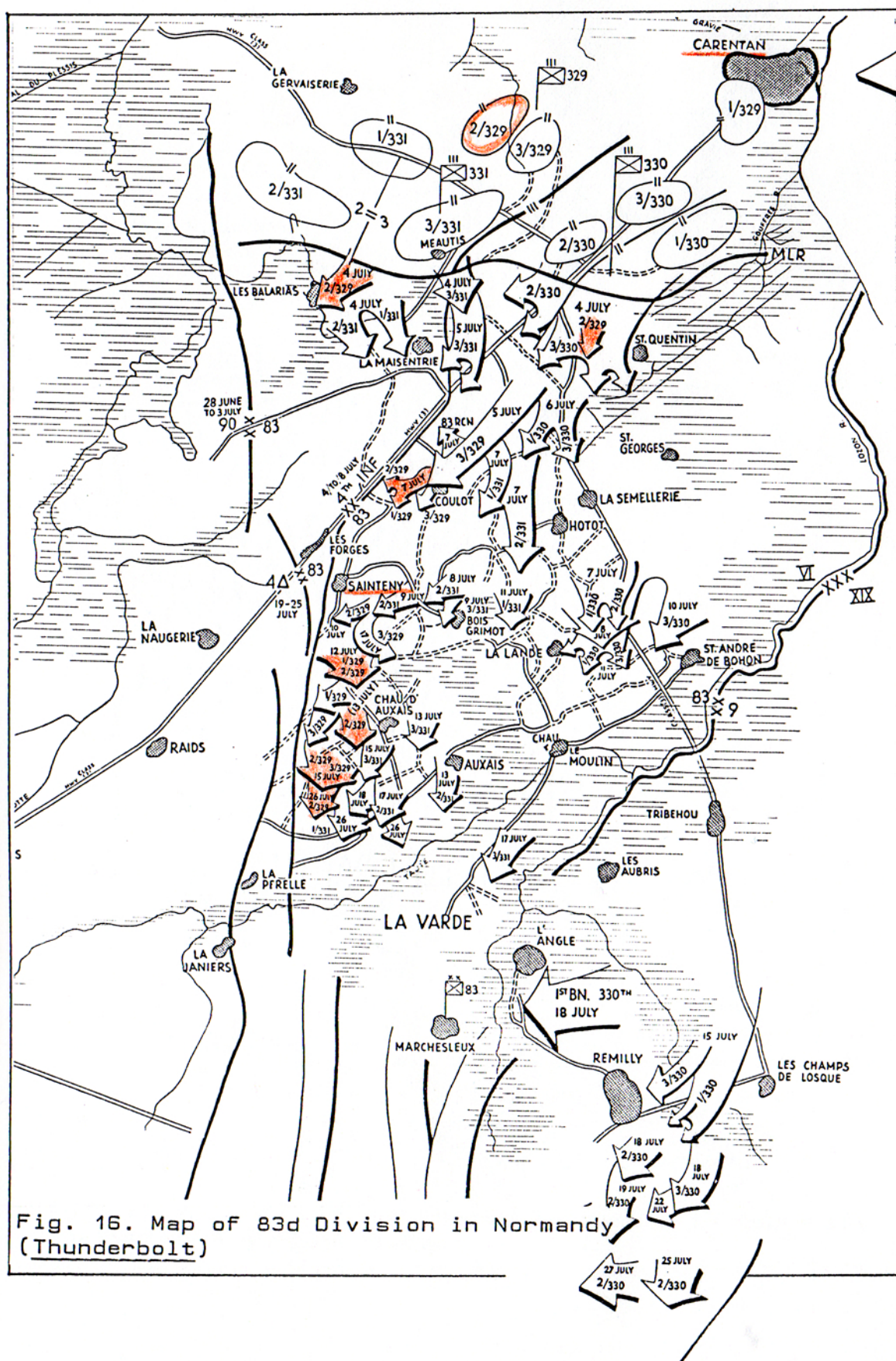


Fig. 14. Infantryman Fires Through Hole in Hedgerow  
(US Army)





Fig. 15. Cautious Soldiers Near Gap in Hedgerow  
(Invasion Journal)



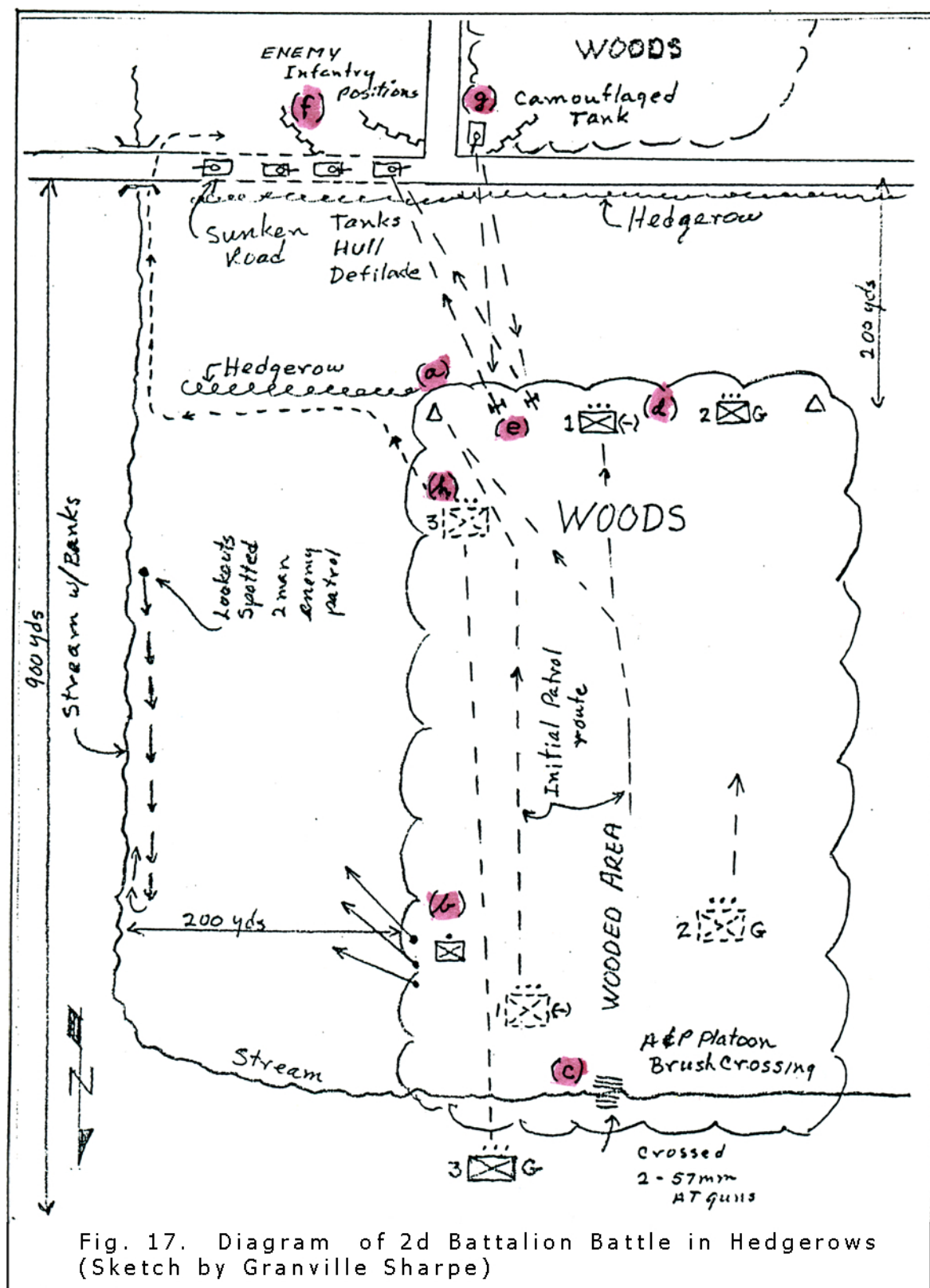


Fig. 17. Diagram of 2d Battalion Battle in Hedgerows (Sketch by Granville Sharpe)



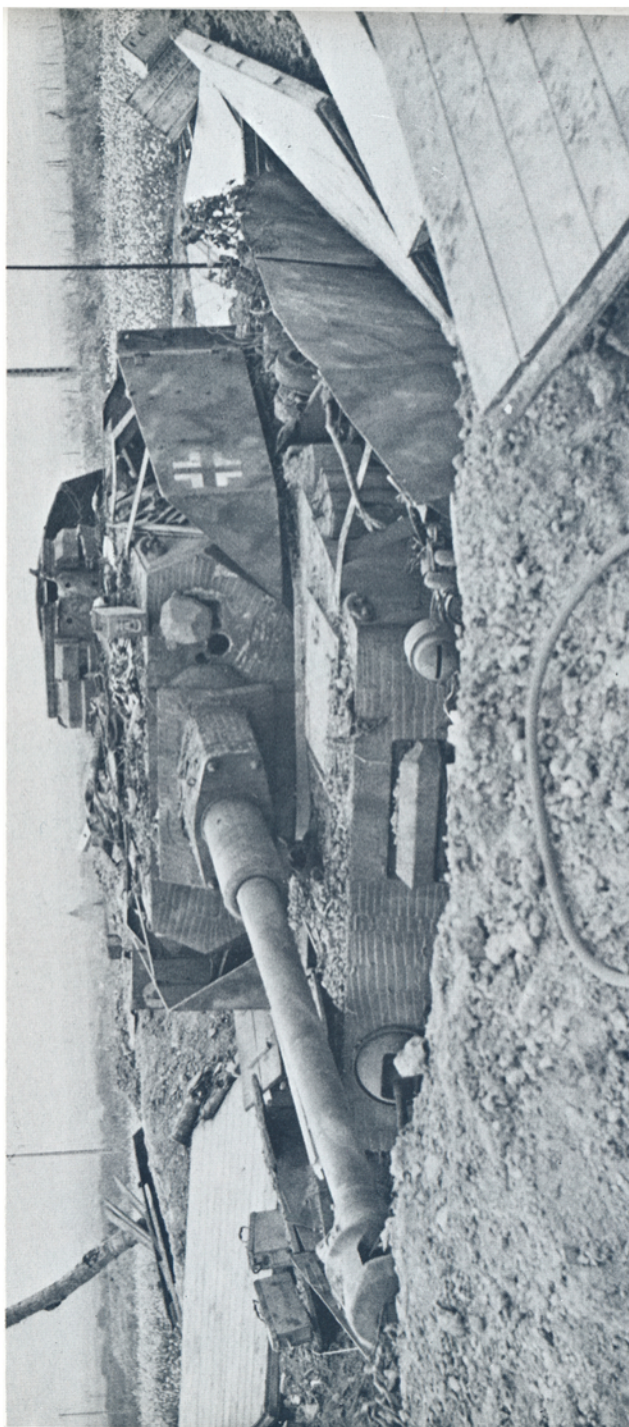


Fig . 18. German Tank in Hull Defilade (Invasion Journal)



Fig. 19. Sunken Road in Hedgerows (Invasion Journal)



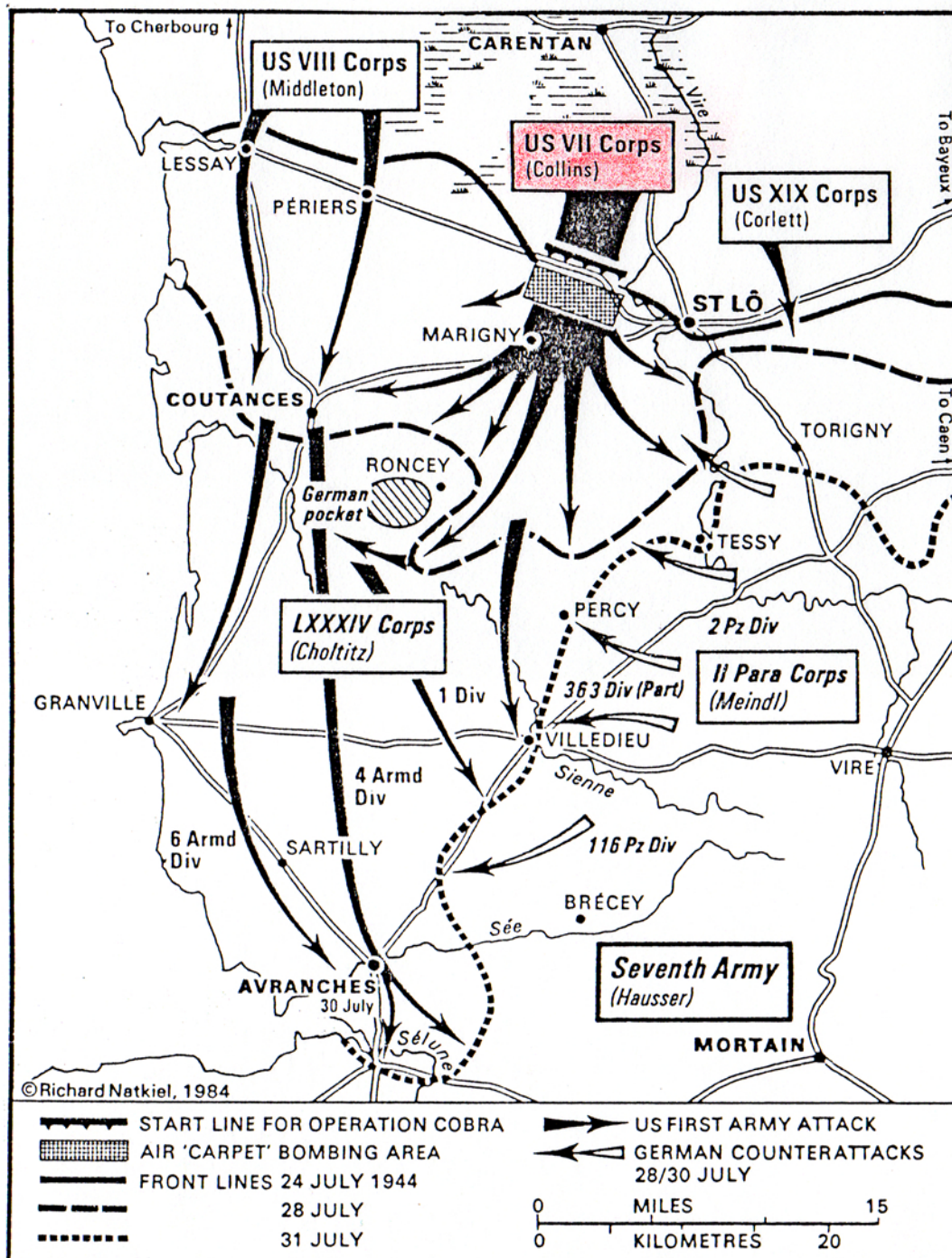


Fig. 20. Map of Breakout (US Army)



Fig. 21. Ruins of the City of Periers (Invasion Journal)



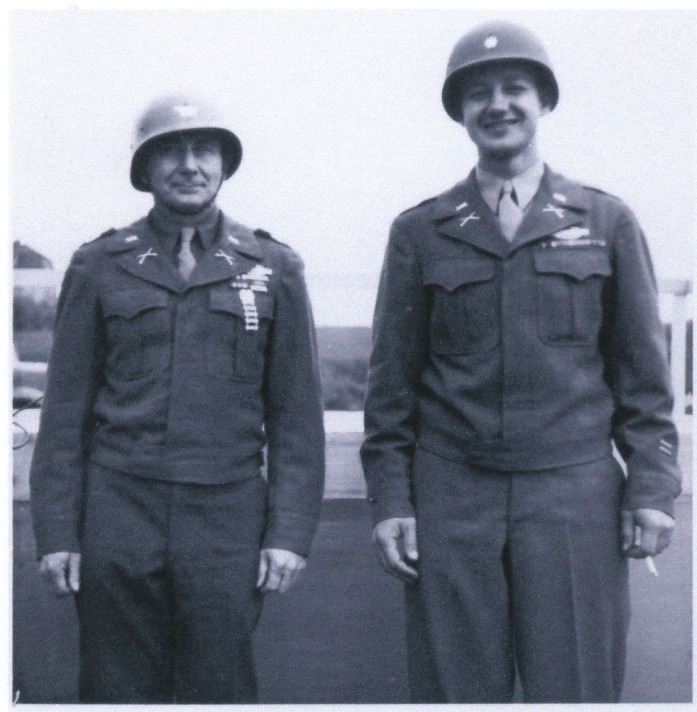


Fig. 22. Top: 329<sup>th</sup> Infantry Signpost, Bottom: Colonel Edwin B. Crabill, Lieutenant Colonel Granville A. Sharpe (Courtesy Granville Sharpe)



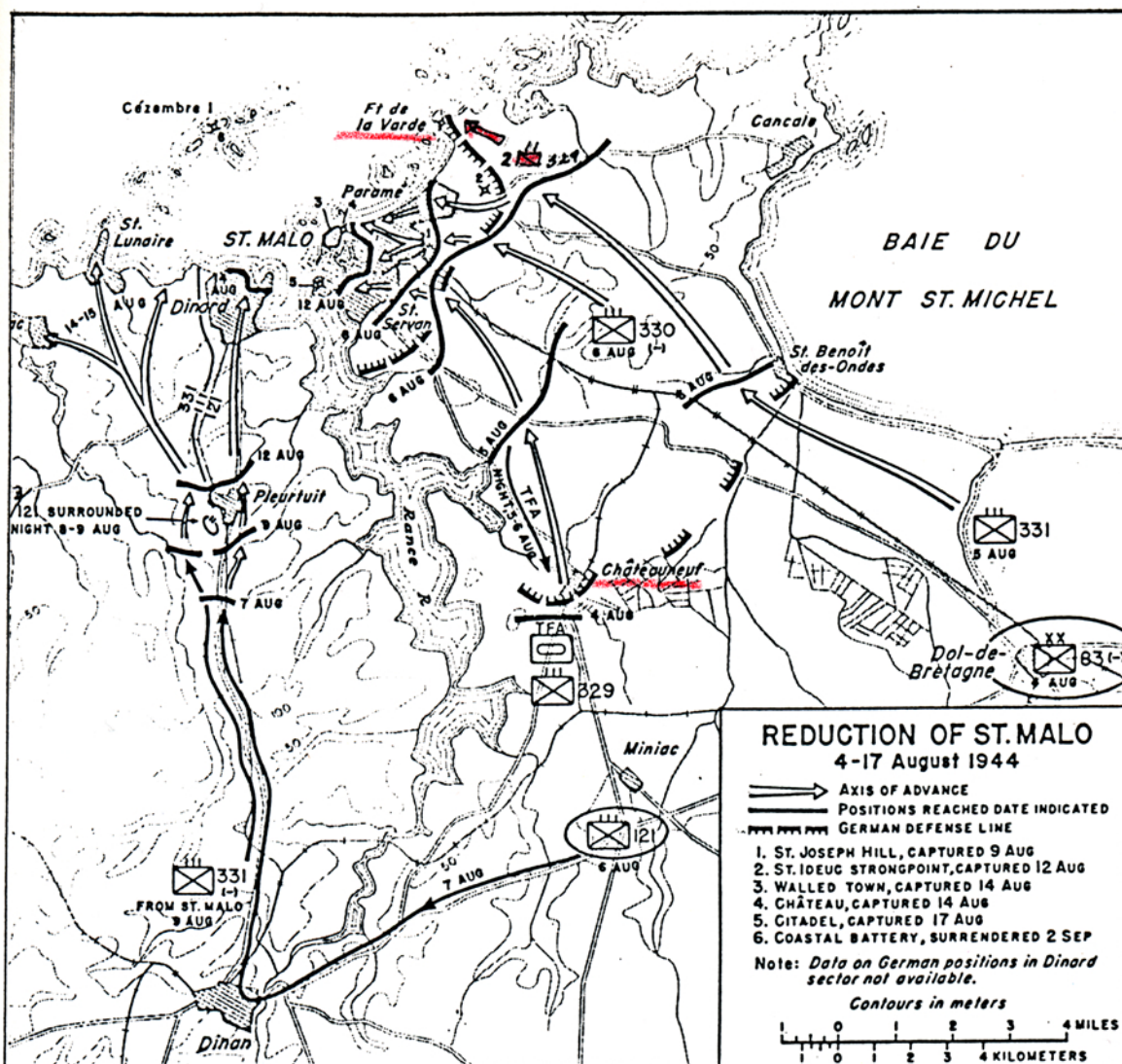


Fig. 23. Map of Defenses at St. Malo (US Army)



Fig. 24. Map of St. Malo (After the Battle)



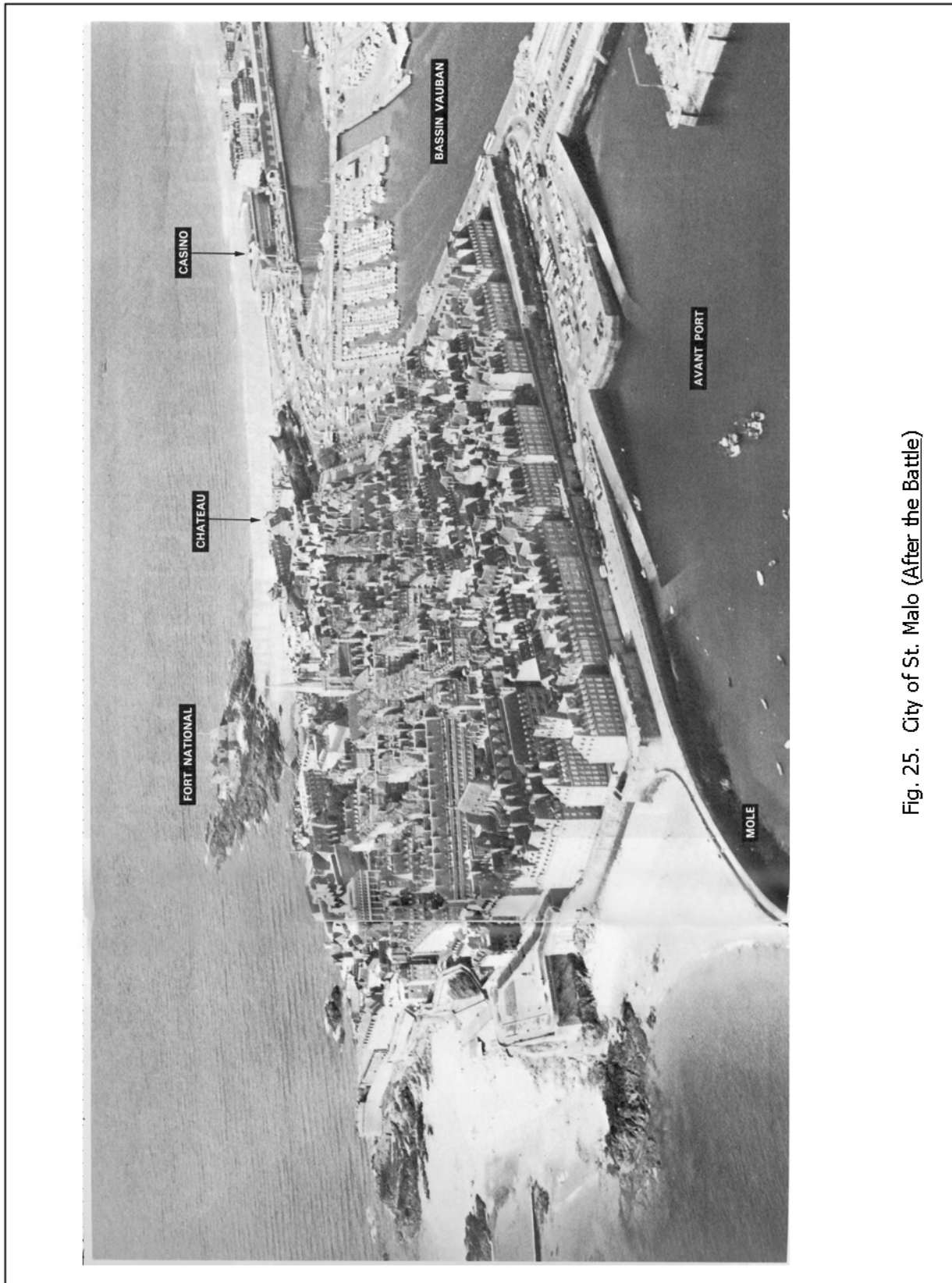


Fig. 25. City of St. Malo (After the Battle)



Fig. 26. Map of Brittany (French Tourist Bureau)





Fig. 27. Beach at Dinard with Obstacles (US Army)



Fig . 28. Tetrahedrons (Invasion Journal)





Fig. 29. Generals Macon and Ferenbaugh Observing Port at St. Malo (US Army)



Fig . 30. Part of Fortifications at Fort de la Varde  
(Courtesy Granville Sharpe)





Fig . 31. Granville Sharpe Jr. beside Steel Cupola, 1962  
(Courtesy Granville Sharpe)



Fig . 32. Fighting in Streets of St. Malo (US Army)





Fig. 33. German Prisoners Captured at St. Malo (US Army)

## Battle Cry, Music, Beat German Unit



CAPT. G. A. SHARP.

### Davidson Alumnus' Soldiers Took Fortress in 15 Minutes.

DAVIDSON, Sept. 13.—A communication from the Allied Armies U. S. infantry division, somewhere in France and received at Davidson college today, contains the remarkable story of the 15-minute capture of a strongly held German fortress by an American battalion under the command of Capt. Granville A. Sharp. Captain Sharp declared it was a battle cry and martial music that spurred his battalion to this unique and sudden victory.

The Davidson captain's battalion reorganized before the fort after fighting its way through a town, and an American using a loud speaker told the Germans holding behind their walls that defeat was all they could hope for and surrender would at least spare their lives. But no white flag appeared, so Capt. Sharp's unit attacked. Shouting an old battalion cry, "Haba, Haba!" his men charged through machine gun and mortar fire. As they neared the fort, the Germans hurled hand grenades down on them. It was like a knights of old charge. The battalion, stopped monetarily, took up the "Haba, Haba" cry again, and from behind came the martial strains of the victory march over the loud speaker system—and the Americans charged on. After the fighting had finished, the doughboys dramatically raised the American flag and played the "Star Spangled Banner" over their loud speaker system.

A native of Burlington, Captain Sharp will be remembered as a mighty passing star of the Wildcats in 1939, 1940, and 1941. His poise and coolness under fire was remarkable, and was learned on the golf course where he was number 1 man in his student days. He graduated from Davidson in 1941,

and in August 1942 he was married to Miss Alice McCoy Withers of Davidson.

Fig . 34. Newspaper Account about Sharpe (Charlotte Observer)



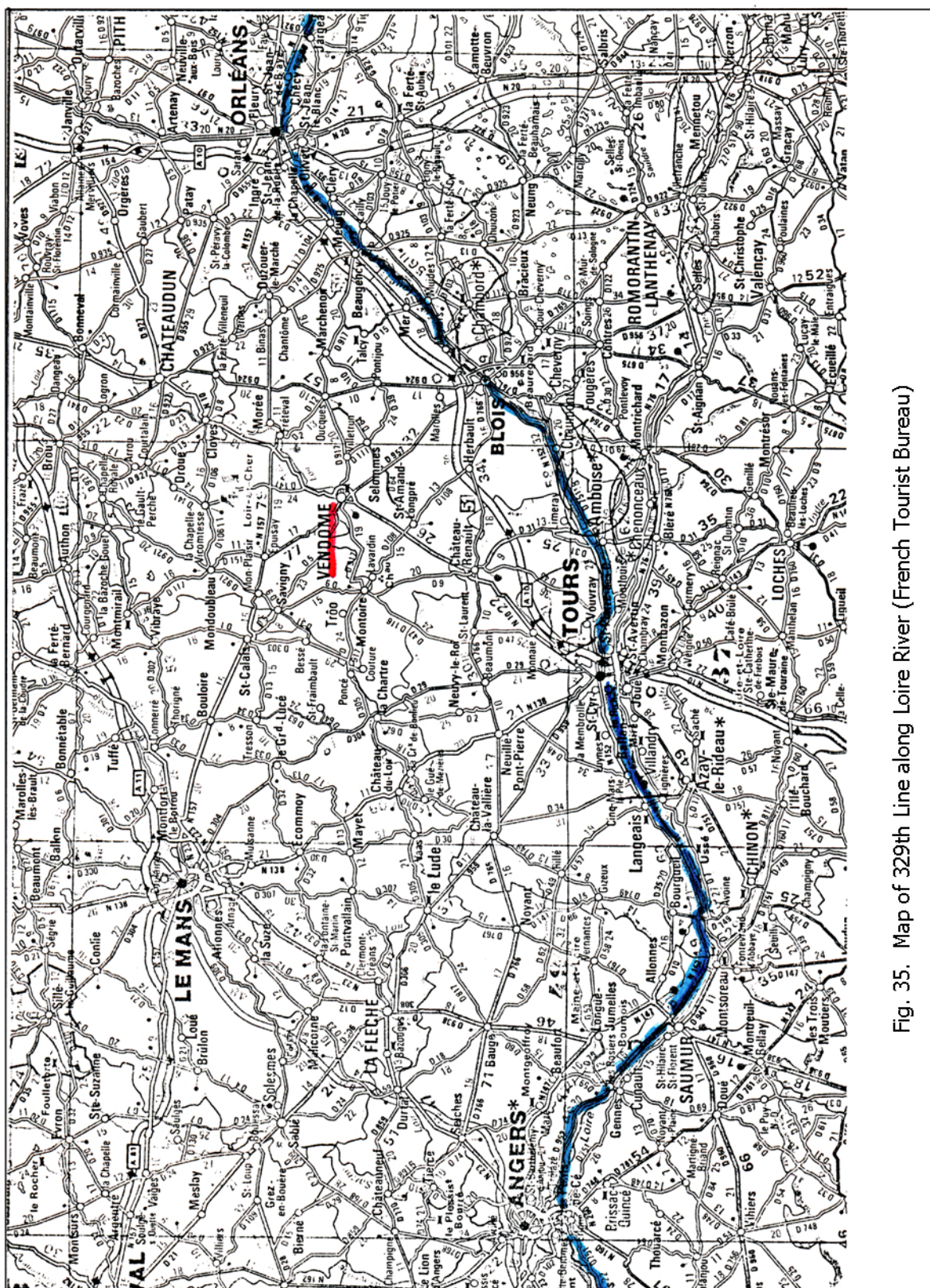


Fig. 35. Map of 329th Line along Loire River (French Tourist Bureau)



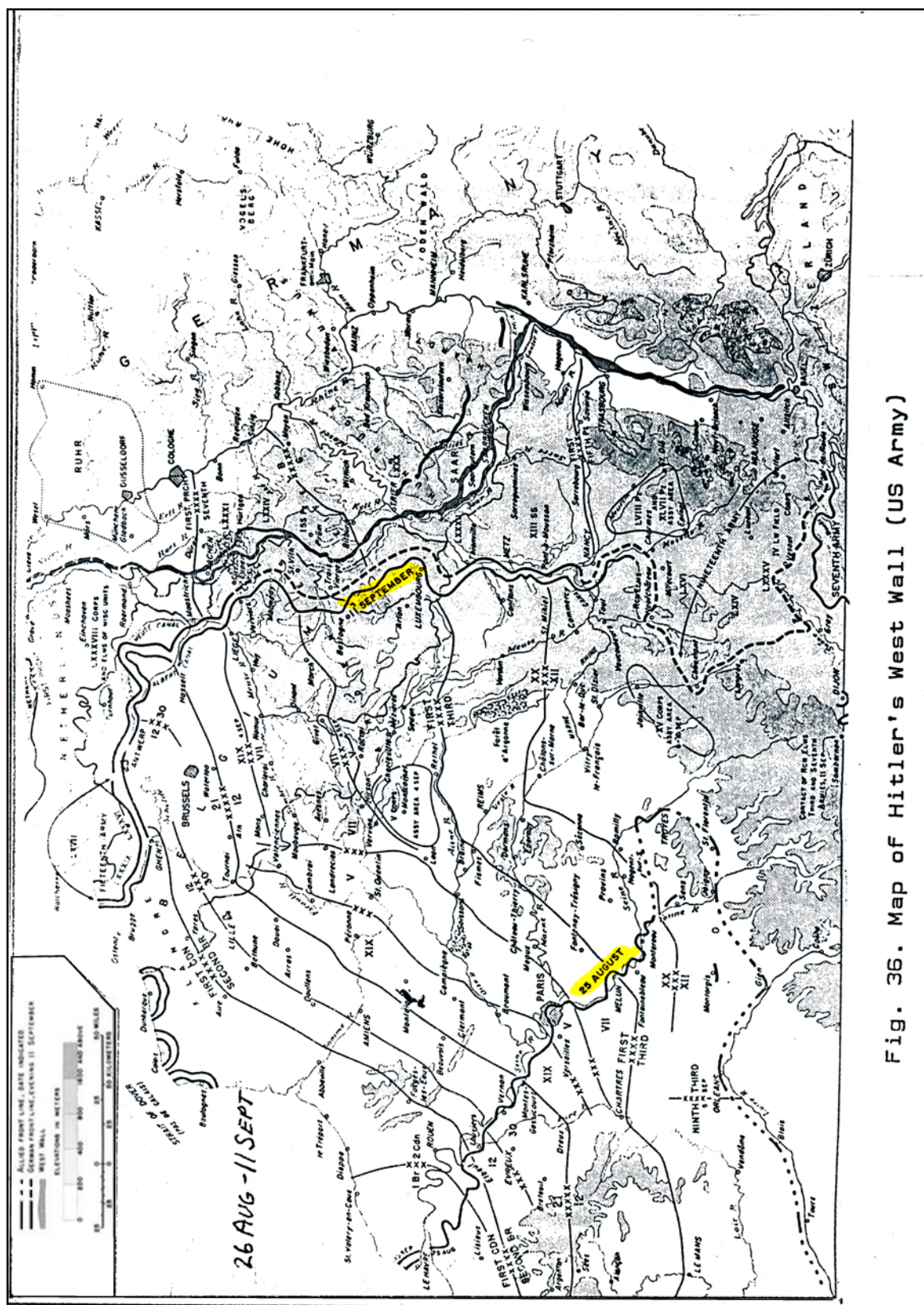






Fig. 37. Dragon's Teeth (US Army)

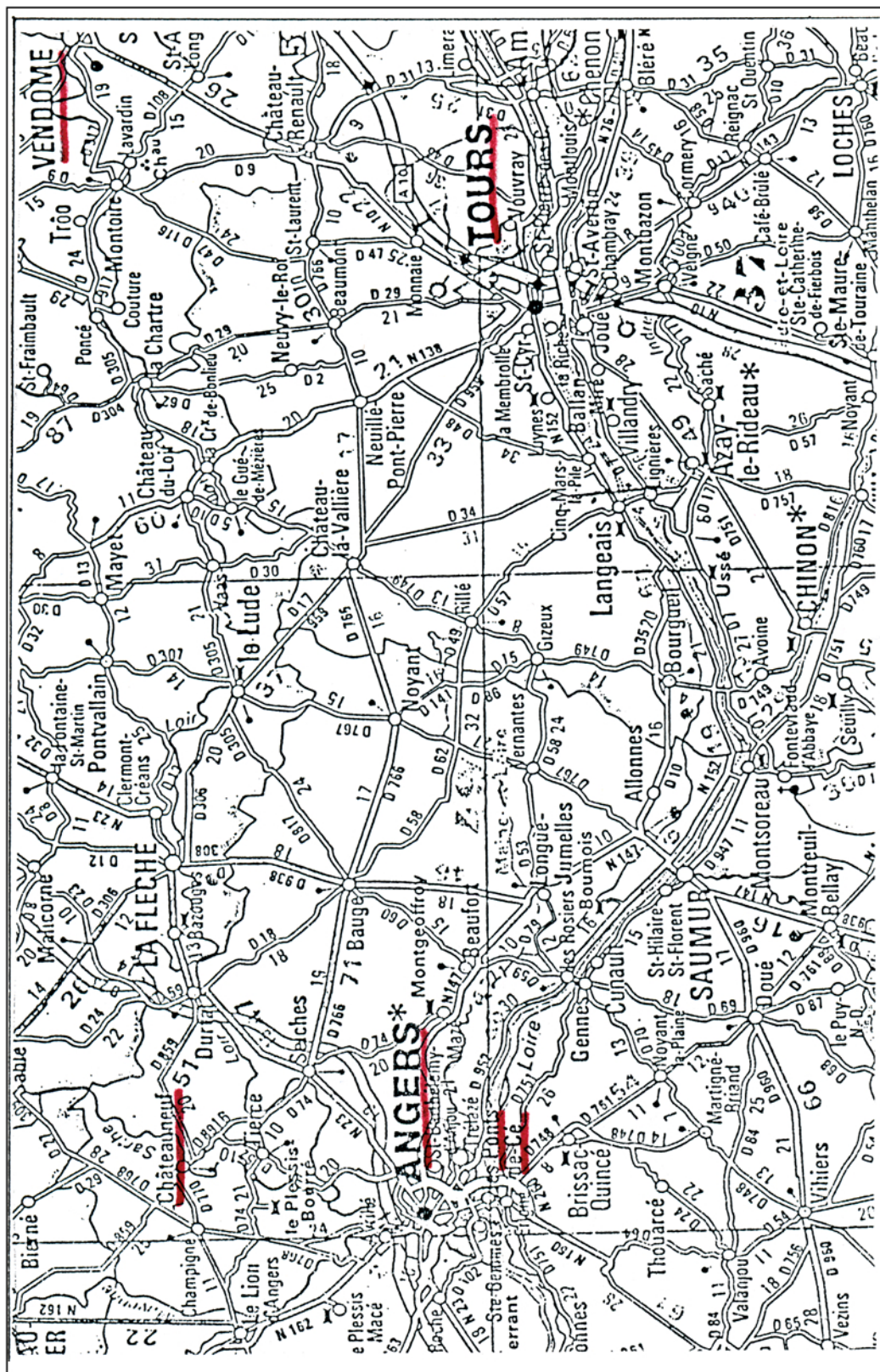


Fig. 38. Map of Angers (French Tourist Bureau)





Fig. 39. Top: Cook Makes Batch of Doughnuts, Bottom: Typical Army Holiday Meal; turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, peas, cauliflower, bread, cranberry sauce, apple pie, cookies, coffee, and candy. (Courtesy Granville Sharpe)



Fig. 40. Newly Commissioned Second Lieutenant Marvin Floyde Hughes  
(Courtesy Theodore Morris)





Fig. 41. Vendome Parade (Courtesy Granville Sharpe)

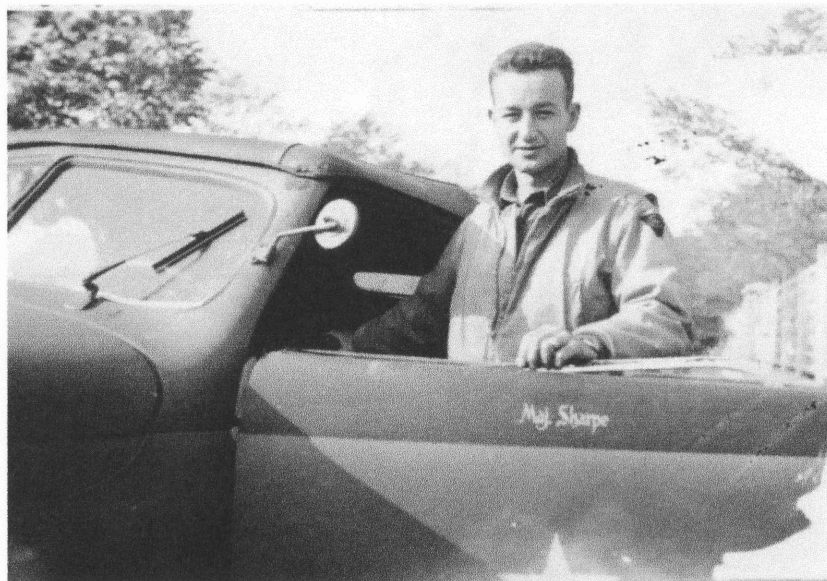


Fig. 42. Ford V-8 Staff Car (Courtesy Granville Sharpe)



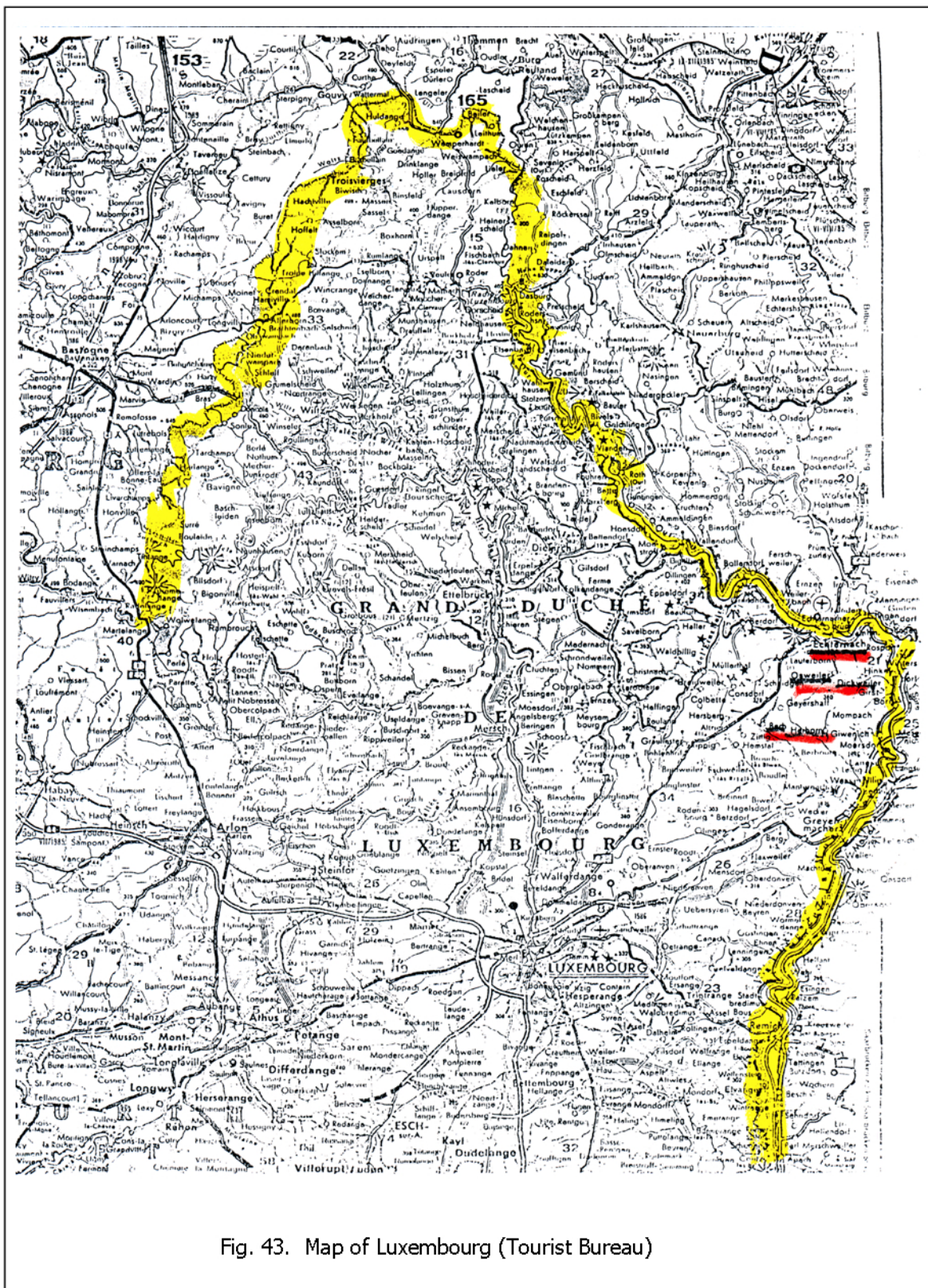


Fig. 43. Map of Luxembourg (Tourist Bureau)



Fig. 44. Medic's Helmet with Sniper Bullet Hole (Courtesy Granville Sharpe)



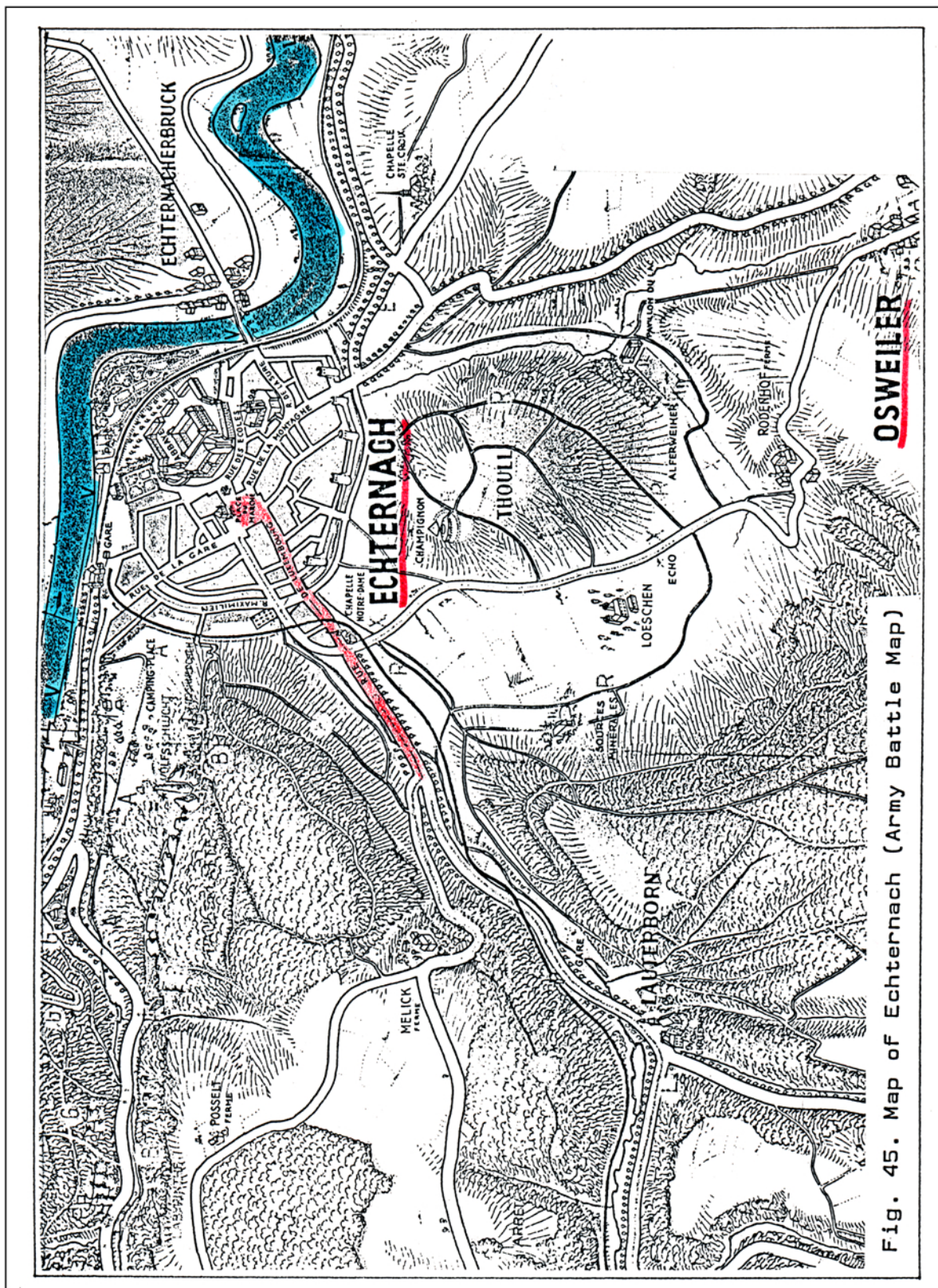


Fig. 45. Map of Echternach (Army Battle Map)



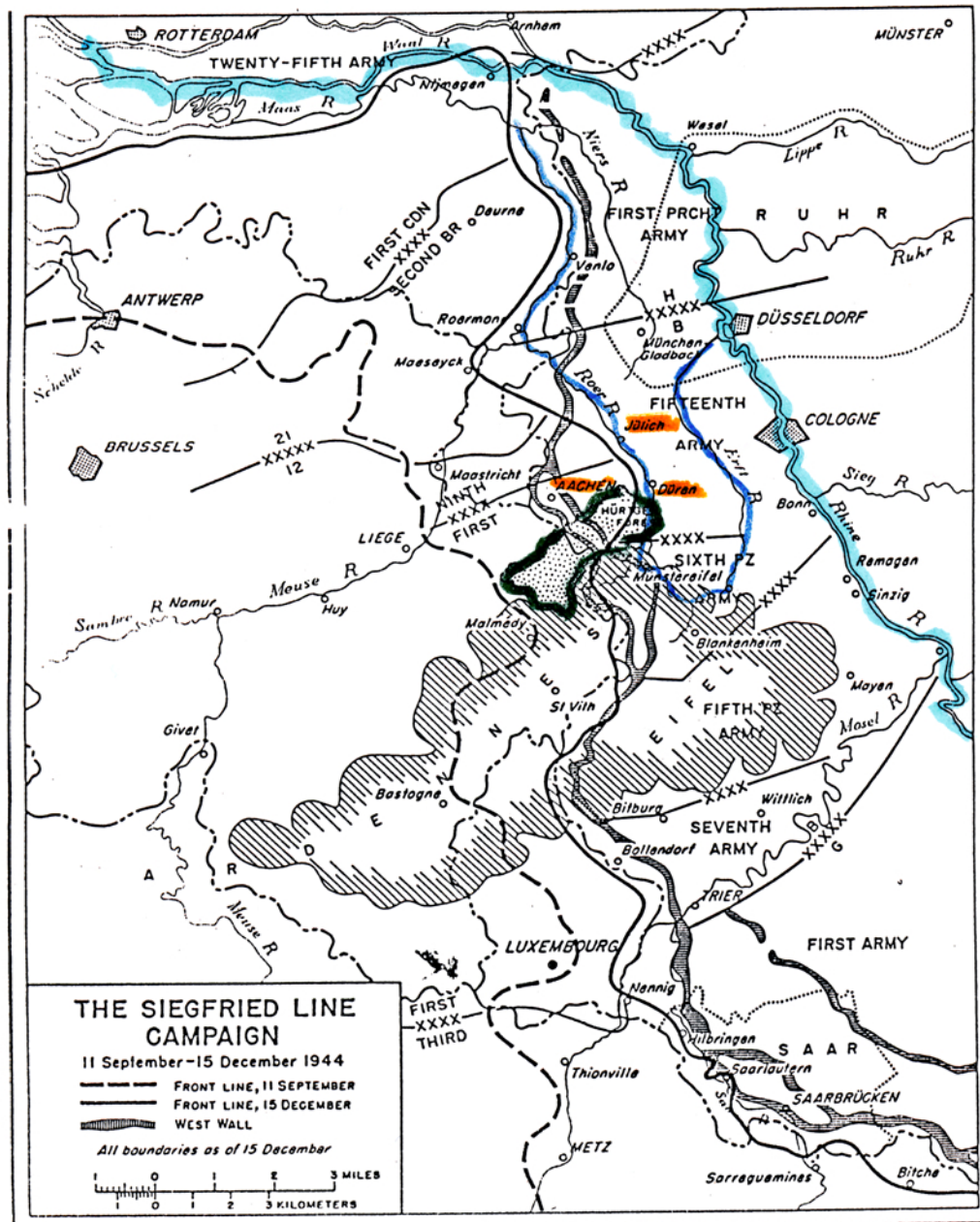


Fig. 46. Map of Siegfried Line Campaign (US Army)



# THE GRIMMEST THANKSGIVING

After reading an interview with General Gavin in a newspaper, a major who had fought in the Huertgen Forest wrote the general the following letter:

December 26, 1978  
 Dear General Gavin,  
 ... I was S-8, 2nd Bn. 121 Inf., 8th Div., and my outfit was the only one to secure the village of Huertgen, and hold on to it.

Your remark that the generals had no idea of what the men were up against really hit home. It started out with all the making of a debacle. Someone seemed to think this was a Ft. Benning exercise, instead of a penetration of a thickly mined, well fortified, dense forest where you were lucky if you could see twenty feet. Our introduction to this hell hole was to be dumped off our trucks, and before the advance party could do a thing we were to make a "passage of lines" through the holding troops and continue on to attack. It was a mess that took days to straighten out!

To emphasize your point about not knowing what the men were up against I could like to cite one incident that still haunts me. On Thanksgiving day we were not in Huertgen, but still strung out in the dense forest outside the town. Any slight activity brought down a rain of mortars and artillery, and I'm sure



Major Freeman knew that a hot meal such as this one was just what his men didn't need on that Thanksgiving.

US ARMY

you know the devastating effects of tree bursts I was in the forward C.P. [command post] when I was informed the cooks would bring up cannisters of a hot turkey dinner and serve it to the men in the lines. I called the Bn. commander and told him that in our present position this would be murder—plain and simple—that as soon as the men got around the cannisters Jerry would turn all hell loose. I was told this was a

Regimental order and I got permission to talk to the Regimental commander. I was told this was a Division order and somehow or other talked him into letting me talk to the Division commander. I tried to explain the conditions, and requested a delay of a day or two until we could get out of this position, but was told in no uncertain terms that the men would be fed to-day!

Hindsight says I could have stalled off the dinner and I doubt that the higher echelons would have known about it—but I didn't. Granted that greater control could have been used all down the line... but dangle hot turkey to men in a cold, wet forest, that have had nothing but K rations, and it's not that easy to keep them from bunched.

Jerry turned all hell loose! Branded in my mind is position after position with men torn to shreds around busted up turkey cannisters—as many as ten in one place.

For many, many years after the war I would go to one of my relations for Thanksgiving dinner, and before I could touch a bite I would get up and go to the back yard and cry like a baby. I passed up a helluva lot of turkey dinners.

Don't really know why I have told you this, but somehow it seems to have helped...

Respectfully yours,  
 Wm. S. Freeman Jr.  
 Ex-Major, Inf.

Fig. 47. Letter to General James Gavin (American Heritage)



Fig. 48. Jeep in the Hürtgen Mud (US Army)





Fig. 49. Top: Sherman Firefly with British 17 Pounder Gun, Middle: Jagd-Panzer 88mm, Bottom: Panzer IV with 75mm (Second World War)

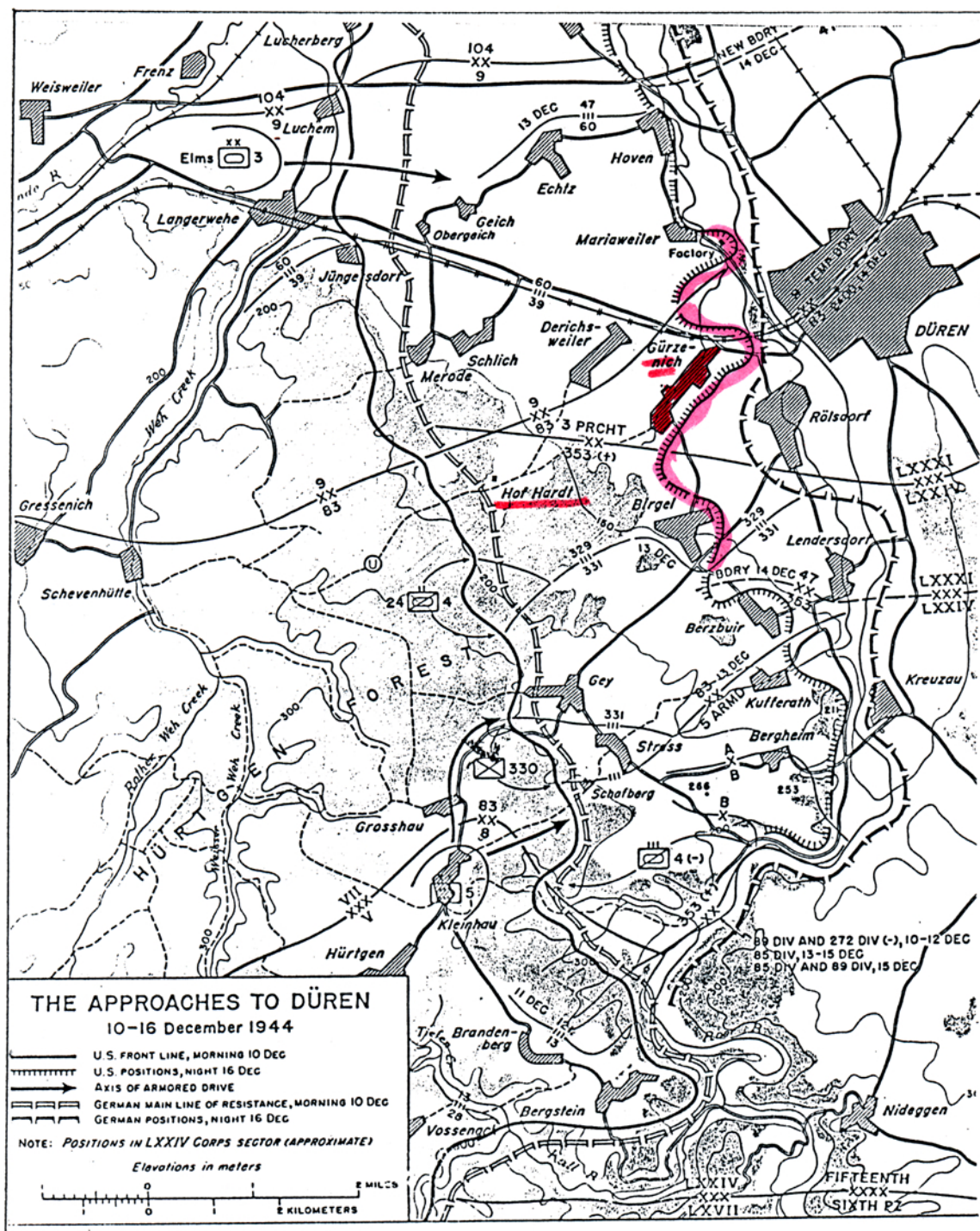


Fig . 50. Top: Sherman Tank, Bottom: Tank Destroyer  
(Courtesy Granville Sharpe)





Fig. 51. Camouflaged Log Command Post in Hürtgen  
(Courtesy Granville Sharpe)





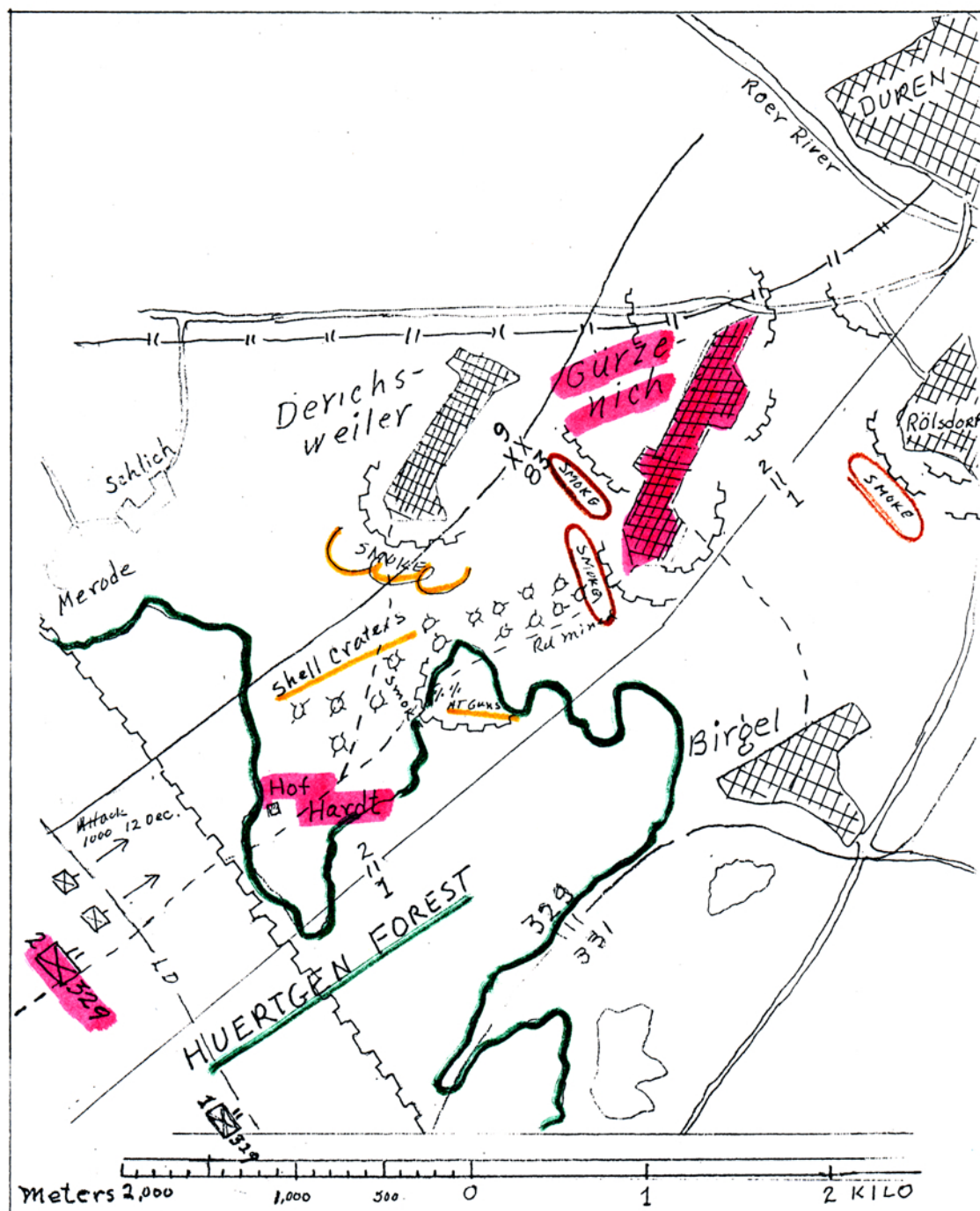


Fig. 53. Sketch by Colonel Sharpe of Attack on Gürzenich



Fig. 54. Left: Lieutenant Arthur Littlepage (G Company Executive Officer), Right: Captain Hugh Bates (G Company Commander) (Courtesy Granville Sharpe)



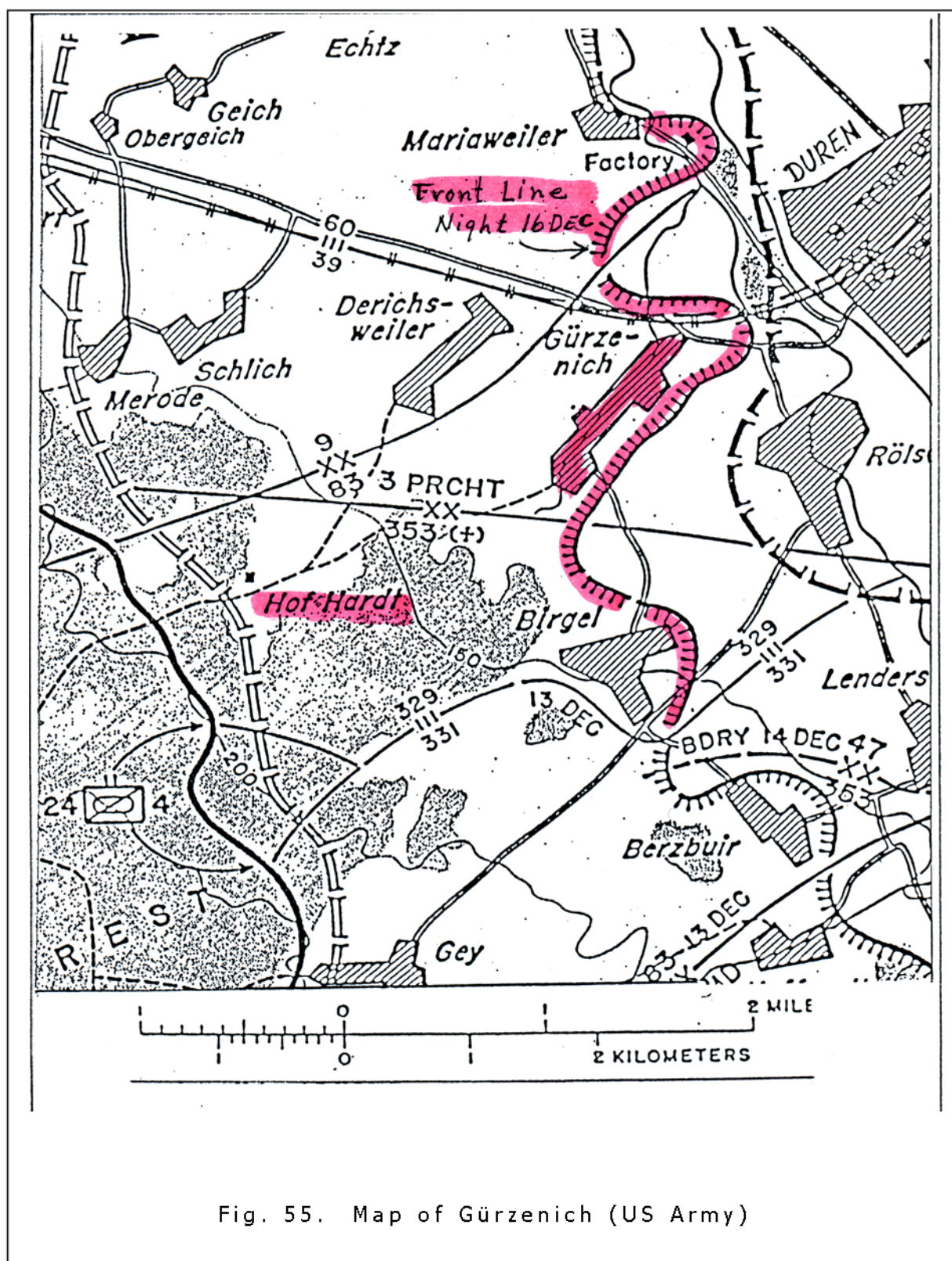




Fig. 56. Men of 329th in Gürzenich (US Army)





Fig . 57. Two Tank Destroyers in Gürzenich (Note: knocked out German "Tiger Royal" tank on the right) (US Army)