

# COMPANY ROSTER

## MOVEMENT TO THE OBJECTIVE

### COMPANY ROSTER

#### SAIPAN: D-DAY

D+1

D+2

D+3

D+4

D+5

D+6

D+7

D+8

D+9

D+10

D+11

D+12

D+13

D+14

D+15

D+16

D+17

D+18

[D+19](#)

[D+20](#)

[D+21](#)

[D+22](#)

[D+23](#)

[D+24](#)

[D+25](#)

[MOP-UP](#)

## [AFTER ACTION REPORT](#)

The following is the company muster roll and rough breakdown for Able as they landed on Saipan, June 15, 1944. This is the F-series Table of Organization; each rifle platoon consists of three thirteen-man squads (a sergeant leading four fire teams, consisting of a corporal, BAR gunner, gunner's assistant, and rifleman) with a seven man headquarters. The Weapons platoon has been eliminated and the mortars attached to company headquarters. The Machine Gun platoon is composed of the original gunners of the company, and First Platoon of D Company's gunners.

Each rifle platoon had a headquarters section composed of a Lieutenant (commanding), Platoon Sergeant, Platoon Guide (sergeant), Demolitions Corporal, and three Messengers. The muster rolls do not distinguish between platoon assignments, nor do they distinguish the difference between a sergeant rated as a squad leader or the platoon guides.

**Note that this is an approximation of the company's roster, based on battalion muster rolls for June and July, 1944.**

**Landing Strength: 233**

***Killed: 23***

*Wounded: 106*

Sick (not returned): 7

Missing: 0

Total Casualties: 135

Not Present: 2

Casualty Rate: 58%

### **COMPANY HQ1**

Commander: Captain [Irving Schechter](#)  
Executive Officer: First Lieutenant [Harry D. Reynolds](#)  
First Sergeant: Gunnery Sergeant [Walter B. Russell](#)  
Company Sergeant: Gunnery Sergeant [Thomas E. Drake](#)  
Technical Sergeant: **[Arnold R. Richardson](#)**  
Mess Sergeant: Staff Sergeant [Michael J. Graziadei](#)  
Demolitions Sergeant:  
Decontamination Sergeant:  
Armorer: Corporal [Lester C. Kincaid](#)  
Carpenter:  
Signal: Corporal [Edgar W. Collins](#)  
Clerk: Corporal [William J. Davis](#); PFC [Richard J. Brodnicki](#)  
Barber:  
Cobbler: PFC [Sylvan McKinley](#)  
Driver: Corporal [Virgil E. Cawood](#)  
Messengers (2):

Field Cook: Chief Cook [Henry J. Hufnagle](#)  
Assistant Cooks (4): [John M. Yonkers](#)

Field Musics First Class (2): [Harold J. Fritz](#), [Lester S. Spangler](#)

Duty Section (11): Sergeant [Peter Markovich](#); Corporals [Joseph H. Leitch](#), [George F. Svoboda](#); PFCs [Roy G. Alford](#)(sk), [Joseph Chifos](#), [George L. Hall](#), [Jeff E. Jowers](#), [James E. McAdams](#), [Henry Purdy](#), [Willard Roberts](#);  
Private [Raymond VanDam](#)

### **MORTAR SECTION2**

Section Commander: First Lieutenant **[Philip E. Wood Jr](#)**  
Section Sergeant: **[Arthur B. Ervin](#)**

Squad Leaders (3): Corporals [Claude T. Henderson Jr](#), [Wilbur E. Plitt](#);  
PFC [Howard F. Haff](#)

Gunners / Assistants (6): PFCs [John J. Franey](#), [Frank B. Gosiewski](#), [Edward J. Hackett](#), [Leo G. Ksiekievicz](#), [Bartholomew R. J. Wanagaitis](#)

Ammunition Carriers (9): PFCs [Ronald P. Bartels](#), [John J. Czepiel](#), [William B. Imm](#), [Tom L. Johnson](#), [Dale L. Owings](#), [Ronald R. Palmer](#), [Donald E.](#)

Peters, Joe W. Roff, Kenneth J. Shea

### **THREE RIFLE PLATOONS3**

*Platoon Leaders (3):* First Lieutenants Joseph Stevens, David E. Smith, Roy I. Wood Jr.

*Platoon Sergeants (3):* Parker S. McBride, Stephen J. Vinczi Jr

*Platoon Guides (3):* PFC Alva Perry

*Demolition (3):* Corporals **Thomas F. McCay**, Robert L. Williams

*Messengers (9):* PFCs Jesse G. Acklam, Richard H. Dues, William V.

Ellerd, Robert F. Fleischauer, James W. Jackson, William P. Loutzenhiser, Paul R. Scanlon, Robert E. Tierney, Robert N. Wise

*Squad Leaders (9):* Sergeants Warren J. Buchanan, Dallas M.

Colburn, William W. Comer Jr, Michael A. Frihauf, Randall L. Glawe, George M. Lowry, Leo C. Mann, Jack T. Sayers, Carl F. Schott, Maynard S. Worthington

*Fire Team Leaders (27):* Corporals Lee R. Anderson Jr, James J. Chvatal

Jr, Ernest M. Cubero, Henry F. Denson Jr, Albert B. Duryea, Paul T.

Geckle, Kenneth R. Gray, Oscar T. Hanson, Edward J. Horan, William P.

Linkins, Byron H. Marsh, William J. Quinn, Vernon D. Rigdon, Leon H. Roquet

Jr, Howard E. Smith, Edward L. Stewart, Fred E. Thomas, Eugene R.

Walsh, Joseph H. Wendte, Carl J. Willenborg; PFCs Harold E. Carter, Fred

**Davis Jr, James L. DeNicola, Donald R. Hart, Verner A. Lilja, Laurent R.**

Palardy

*Automatic Riflemen (27):* PFCs John C. Adelman, Lionel V. Bolduc, Winston

M. Cabe, Robert L. Conway, John M. Corcoran, James E. Davis, DeWitt L.

**Dietrich**, John M. Donnelly, Douglas B. Footit, Leonard J.

Forthaus, Sperling G. Garrett, Armand L. Guyot, Robert N. Harris, Cecil F.

Hendershot, Frederick C. Iverson, Ernest M. Jeffrey, Lawrence E.

**Knight, Davis V. Kruse**, Robert S. Larson, Andrew Loban, Joe P.

Locke, Tommy Lynchard, George C. Marion, John L. Manson, Glen

Marshall, Robert W. Mason, Virgil M. McNutt, Gerald D. Miller, Herschell O.

Miller, Eugene L. Morris, Vern J. Neeson, William J. Olson, Gustave A.

Pappas, Robert D. Price, William J. Rewerts, Blaine Riley, Edward J.

Solak, Peteus Staeyert, James A. Stokes, Odis O. Taylor, Roger W.

Trimble, Kenneth Whitehurst

*Assistant Automatic Riflemen (27):* 4

*Riflemen (27):* PFCs James H. Adams, Kenneth L. Boylan, George D.

Burch, Bernard C. Elissagaray, Burnett P. Fenger, Charles M. Fischer, James W. Freeman, **Frank R. Hester**, Wallace M. Holt, Junior E. Jones, Clyde F. Mason Jr, Hubert D. Mauney, Herbert J. Mauritz, Richard C. McGinnis, George W. Pelish, John J. Rayley, John A. Ruiz, Lionel P. Salazar, **Robert W. Vail Jr**, Philip Valley Jr, Howard S. Voeltz, Robert M. Walter, Kenneth S. Wilson, Robert P. Wynne, Clyde O. Yates, Leonard Yush; Privates Earl R. Crom, James C. Fields, Claude L. Godwin Jr, Wilford M. Goode, Edwin H. Groote, Walker Hamilton, Johnny B. Haynes, Ernest T. Henderson, Lawrence F. Pantlin, Joseph D. Sexson, Robert D. Sivertson, Harold A. Stephens, Cecil R. Tolley

### **MACHINE GUN PLATOON 5**

Platoon Commander: First Lieutenant Thomas W. Cox

Section Sergeant: Platoon Sergeant John Yaniga

Ammunition: Corporal Luther H. Diehl

Messengers (2): PFCs William A. Peck, James H. Pritchett, Aldo Passante

Section Leaders (3): Sergeants John W. Donahue Jr, **Armond D. Leisure**, **Frank A. Tucker**

Squad Leaders (6): Corporals Thomas M. Hurley, Anthony A. Pramberger, **Norman H. Reber**, Clifford J. Devoy; PFCs Edward W. DuBeck, Gerald F. Patterson

Gunners / Assistants (12): PFCs **David W. Brunjes**, Peter Colombo, John A. Cuthbertson, Richard T. Grosch, Joseph M. Peterpaul, Luca A. Durante, Prentis M. Parsons, Peter Pecori, Hamilton T. Pendergast, Dominick Piccolomini, George A. Smith, David W. Spohn

Ammunition Carriers (18): PFCs **Jack C. Comer**, Glenn E. Doster, Theodore Droszcz, Wallace W. Duncan, Merle L. Geesaman, Amedeo A. Izzo, Lawrence J. Jaster, Raymond J. Jordan, Howard M. Kerr, James A. Lemma, Louis O. Pendleton, William R. Pettyjohn, William F. Savoy, **Alan M. Smith**, Vernon E. Smith, Charles L. Stafford, Keith W. Thomas, **Henry N. Woods**

### **Unknown Assignment**

Sergeant Kenneth S. Gann (800)

Sergeant Kermit Shaw (Section Leader)

Corporal John R. Svoboda (Squad Leader)

---

1Company HQ is close to full strength, except for the lack of designated cooks that seems to have been endemic to 1/24.

2The mortar section is missing one man; they escaped relatively unharmed, with the exception of Lieutenant Wood's patrol on July 5, 1944 which killed Wood and his second in command, Arthur Ervin. Gunny Walter Russell took command but was wounded and evacuated the following day. Command may have passed to Corporal Wilbur Plitt as the senior NCO.

3The rifle platoons are near full strength. The battle of Saipan was hard on officers; of the wounded rifle platoon leaders, only Roy Wood returned to combat.

One of the extra sergeants – probably Leo Mann or Dallas Colburn – may have filled the vacant Platoon Sergeant spot.

4Assistant BAR gunners were armed with rifles but trained equally in the use and maintenance of a BAR; they also often carried extra ammo for the BAR. It is difficult to say who among the riflemen and BAR gunners were acting as assistants, so this classification has been left blank. Nearly one quarter of a platoon's strength (one per four-man fire team) acted as assistant BAR gunners.

5A new addition to the rifle company under the F-series T/O was the machine gun platoon, created by adding one platoon from the disbanded Weapons company to the gunners from the company's weapons platoon. The platoon was composed of three sections, each containing two squads with a leader, gunner, assistant gunner, and three ammunition carriers. By July 1944 the squads were increased to eight men; Able Company is operating here with squads of six. Positions within the squads could be fluid (PFC Stafford was serving as an assistant to PFC George Smith when both were wounded on Saipan), and every man in the squad knew the duties of the other as well as the proper care and maintenance of the gun. Lieutenant Cox is the most likely candidate for leader of the new platoon as he was wounded on the same day as many of the gunners, likely in the same incident. Corporal Pramberger's squad (Durante, Piccolomini, Jaster, Savoy, Alan Smith) were wiped out to a man on June 16, greatly reducing the platoon's effectiveness; the loss of Cox, Yaniga, Reber, Devoy, Jordan, Patterson, Parsons, George Smith, and Stafford on June 22 was the greatest number of casualties the platoon suffered on a single day during the war.