U.S. Army Military History Institute 950 Soldiers Drive Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013-5021 30 May 2012

## US/ALLIED ARMOR, WWII

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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U.S. War Dept. <u>Bulldozer, Tank-Mounting, Hydraulic-Operated, LaPlant-Choate, Model BM 4, for M4A1-A2 and-A3, Medium Model Tanks: TM 5-1310, dated 15 Apr 1944.</u> MilPub-TM. And Change 1 (27 Jun 45), 11 p., is on file.

The Corps of Engineers, which had been developing the tank dozer concept since 1940, successfully tested a model in Jun 1943. Production of the resultant kits for modifying M4 tanks began Dec 1943, with the standardized equipment distributed to field troops in time for the spring 1944 offensive in Italy and the cross-channel invasion of France. See:

Coll, Blanche D., et al. <u>The Corps of Engineers: Troops and Equipment</u>. In series <u>USAWWII</u>. Wash, DC: OCMH, 1958. pp. 470-75 & 481-82. D769.A533v6pt6v1.

<u>Military Engineer</u> (Oct 1944): p. 341. Per. Includes photo of test model.

Meanwhile in Italy, within the confines of the Anzio beachhead, ordnance troops of VI Corps devised their own tank dozer for fire- fighting duty in burning ammunition dumps. They adapted bulldozer blades to M4 tanks and T2 tank recovery vehicles, Apr 1944. Sources:

Army Ordnance (Jan/Feb 1945): p. 101. Per.

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Also in Italy, but preceding the Anzio expedient, the 16<sup>th</sup> Armored Engineer Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division, created its own versions of the tank dozer in Dec 1943. Later, tanks of the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division were equipped with the standard modification kits supplied by the Corps of Engineers. See:

- Howe, George F. <u>The Battle History of the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division</u>. Wash, DC: Combat Forces, 1954. 471 p. #05-1AR.1954.

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Pertinent field manuals include:

U.S. War Dept. Armored Force Field Manual, Tactics and Technique: F	Field Manual	<u>17-</u> 10, dated
Mar 1942. MilPub-FM.		
See especially pp. 134-42.		
<u>Field Service Regulations, Operations: FM 100-</u> 5, dated 1941. p See also <u>FM 100-5</u> , Aug 1949, pp. 181-89.	рр. 192-200.	MilPub-FM.
. Tank Battalion: Field Manual 17-33, dated Sep 1949. 514 p. M	ilPub-FM.	
See especially pp. 366-76.		

No detailed report or study of river crossing operations was found in a quick search of our unit history holdings, other than the 29-page Nancy Bridgehead, prepared by Combat Command A, 4<sup>th</sup> Armored Division (Ft Knox, 1949; #05-4AR.1946). A methodical screening of all the pertinent unit histories, as well as other WWII campaign narratives, should uncover bits and pieces of information.

A brief but detailed article by Charles E. Wright, "Moselle River Crossing at Catternom," appears in <u>Armored Cavalry Journal</u> (Jan/Feb 1948), pp. 50-53. Additional articles may be found in other issues and in related journals, such as <u>Military Engineer</u>.

Our manuscript collections include material of a number of World War II veterans and units. Especially promising, it appears, for river-crossing research is the collection of the 66<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment.

A unique source for information on German and Russian armor in river crossings is the series of <u>Foreign Military Studies</u> of U.S. Army Europe and predecessor commands. See the index to the series on subjects "Armored Operations" and "River Crossings." We have English-language copies of most of the reports.

## OTHER SPECIAL ASPECTS-Canal Defense Project

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- \_\_\_\_\_. The Armored School. Student Committee. "Armor on Okinawa." Report, May 1949. 155p. D767.99.O45.A75.

#### See also:

-Bibliography on AMTRACS in Amphibious-WWII; and personal papers of Willis D. Crittenberger; Alvan C. Gillem; and Ernest N. Harmon.

## PACIFIC THEATER-US Provisional Tank Group, Philippines, 1941-42

Created from the mobilized National Guard of several states, consisting of: HHD, 194<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion, 192<sup>nd</sup> Tank Battalion, 17<sup>th</sup> Ordnance Company. The units deployed to the Philippines and the provisional group formed there on 1 Nov 1941. On Bataan that December, it engaged in the first US tank action of the war. See:

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Firsthand accounts of experiences, w/index.

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2<sup>nd</sup> **Armored Division:** Ernest Harmon
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6<sup>th</sup> Armored Division: Robert Grow

7<sup>th</sup> **Armored Division:** Robert Hasbrouck, Bruce Clarke 9<sup>th</sup> **Armored Division:** William Hoge, John Leonard

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