

**Mervin Gordon**  
**Staff Sergeant**  
**United States Army**  
**World War Two**



## How the Chicagoland Combined Veterans Museum and Library acquired the effects of Staff Sergeant Mervin Gordon



On October 20, 2021 CCVML President, Lorenzo Fiorentino, accepted the effects of Staff Sergeant Mervin Gordon an anonyms donor at the Chicagoland Combined Veterans Museum and Library.

Staff Sergeant Mervin Gordon served during World War Two with the United States Army from June 17, 1941 through September 29, 1945. This binder is a tribute to him and all other Veterans that have served our great nation.

We are proud to have been able to save and place all of these personal effects in our archives.

To see this and much more American history come visit our museum.

12/30/21

Lorenzo A. Fiorentino, MA-HAS  
Major, Military Police, U.S. Army (ret.)  
Commander, American Legion Post 335  
President, Chicagoland Combined Veterans Museum  
Adjutant, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5979

He registered for the draft on October 16, 1940.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT				
DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT				
SEX	HEIGHT (Approx.)	WEIGHT (Approx.)	COMPLEXION	
Male	5-7	138	Below	✓
	EYES	HAIR	Light	
Name	Blue	Black	Dark	
	Gray	Red	Dark	
Complexion	Dark	Black	Dark	
	Black	Black	Light brown	
Build	Black	Gray	Dark brown	
		Red	Black	
Frame				

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification.

*Bad Stomach*

I certify that the answers are true, and that the person registered has read and has had read to him the entire contents that I have witnessed for purposes of oath and that all of the contents of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

*None*

*Anna J. Doyle*  
*1000 Broadway No. 11*  
 Date of registration *Oct-16-1940*

**L. B. No. 3**  
**MARKET SQ. BLDG.**  
**HONOLULU, T. H.**

*Legal Events Sec. 3*  
*San Francisco City*  
*San Francisco*

According to a clipping in The Indianapolis News, Indianapolis, Indiana, he married Mrs. Adele Eleanor Levy on November 22, 1942.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo E. Levy announce the marriage of their daughter, Miss Adele Eleanor Levy, to Staff Sergeant Mervin D. Gordon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Gordon, Harrisburg, Pa., which took place November 22 at Beth-El Temple in Harrisburg. Rabbi Ruben J. Magill officiated. The bride, given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs. Irving J. Kaufman, Allentown, Pa., sister of the bridegroom, and the Misses Hilda and Helen Gordon, Harrisburg. Irving Kaufman was best man and Bud Rosenthal, Baltimore, was usher.





DEC 1944

*Photo of  
Janice  
whole 79*

Sweet heart:  
 Such a request —  
 always for you  
 I love you dad.  
 Always your  
 Dottie

IMPRIMÉ EN FRANCE  
 P. F. Paris  
 Reproduction interdite

18  
 944  
 79  
 Mrs. Sarah J. Gordon  
 268 Broad St.  
 Harrisburg  
 Penna.

return to



From  
 July 12, 1944  
 Hello Sandy my darling:  
 How I think of you  
 all the time and soon I'll  
 be home to collect that big  
 kiss you have for me. We'll  
 be together always and do all  
 the things we planned. Your  
 mother sends no pictures and  
 well, I think you're just like  
 your mommy. I love you always  
 Your Daddy

IMPRIMÉ EN FRANCE

P. F. Paris

Reproduction is terdite

Miss Sarah J. Gordon  
 268 Broad St.  
 Harrisburg  
 Penna.





*"Quelque part en France"*



*Bon et Joyeux Noël*

*Heureuse Année !*

*Merry Xmas my Darling  
The coming year, will be the happiest. Our  
year home together, forever.*

*I love you dad.*

*With all my heart.*

*Your Hubby  
Daddy*





HELIOGRAVURE D'ART  
20 CARTES DÉTACHABLES

**P**  
**A**  
**R**  
**I**  
**S**









ENGLAND

START

79th INF.

DIVISION



315th INFANTRY

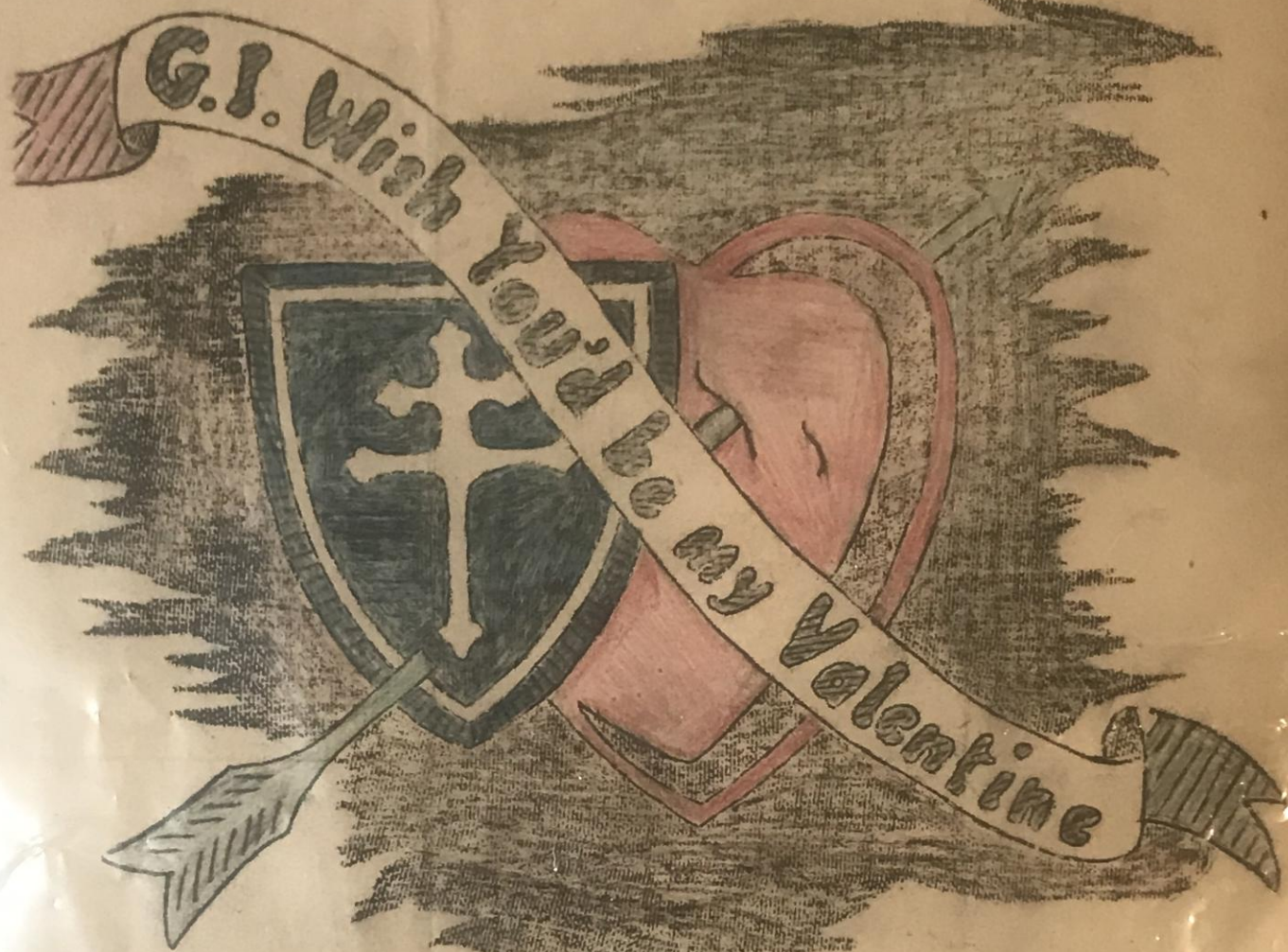


The Route Of The Fighting

79th OR—

HOW "I" MISSED  
— PARIS —





Darling:

I don't have to wish. You'll always  
be my Valentine Sweet heart. And I'll love  
you Mrs. I. always.

And always Yours.  
Daddy  
8



DREAMING

I'M sitting here just dreaming, of the things I love the best,

And because you're you my darling, you are way above the rest,

I can dream of the things I've had, dear, or the things I've wanted so much,

But compared to the dreams I have of you, the others never touch.

I can dream of the days spent to-gether, the days we had fun or fights,

I can dream of the mornings and afternoons, and ever so much of the nights.

I dream of the time that we met, dear, the hour, the day, the year

The time spent apart, though in our hearts we're not apart, we're near.

So all of the time that I dream dear, my thoughts are all with you

And no matter how tired or miserable, you keep me from feeling blue,

Then I talk in my dreams, to you darling, and my troubles fade away,

And in their place, I see your face, as I have on many a day.

So to-night as I dream, I'll dream my best, I'll dream of the one I adore,

And dream of the day we'll say Good Morning, as we have so often before.

\*\*\*\*\*

And soon when we want be dreaming for  
Daddy, and Pansy will be together forever.





**They sleep with their boots on** This picture was made near the front in Alsace-Lorraine, when the boys dropped in at a farmhouse to get some sleep. Here they are trying one of the beds for size. They have piled the bed covers back to serve as pillows, and they are wearing their GI Winter

fatigues, fur-lined jackets and boots for warmth. The caption says all three are with the 79th Division, which was the first to break through to Cherbourg last Summer during the invasion. Left to right are Pfc. Howard J. Baker, of Rochester, N. Y.; Isaac N. Illecton, of Cincinnati, and George Patin, of Lafayette, La.



ARTICLES DE VOYAGE  
MAROQUINERIE  
**LOUIS VUITTON**  
PARIS-NICE-CANNES-VICHY-LONDON

PARIS  
FROM  
SHOP  
IN PARIS

au printemps  
PARIS

RAYON

Taille 52 45 33

R<sup>e</sup> IMP 10-11-13

Preis 1995

where Dima  
had pictures  
taken "NANCY"

Photo - Cinéma  
Radio - Sport

**René LASCH**

6, rue Saint-Dizier, NANCY  
(Coin rue Gambetta) Tél. 35-4

# 7th in Siegfried Line, 2 Miles from Reich

## Nazis South of Strasbourg Hurt 36th, Gain on French

ADVANCED 6TH ARMY GROUP HEADQUARTERS, Dec. 15—Spearheads of three American divisions of the 7th Army, each less than two miles from the German frontier, today were hammering at the Siegfried Line along a 16-mile front west of the Rhine River.

Striking closest to pay dirt was the 79th Division, which, advancing north-east from Seltz, was last reported fighting near Lauterbourg in positions only 1,000 yards from Germany west of the Rhine.



**CREDIT WHERE DUE.** After the men of the 79th Infantry Division opened the German boundary they erected this sign so that those following would know who led the way in their sector of France.

# NEWS EVENTS

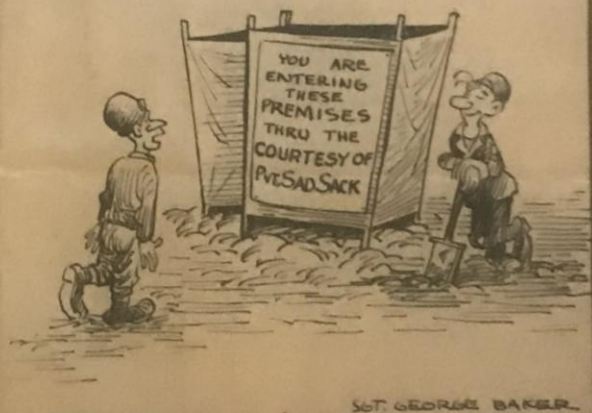


**GIVEN A 24-HOUR FLING AFTER 110 DAYS OF CONTINUOUS FIGHTING,** these soldiers of the 79th Division are shown flocking around American Red Cross clubmobiles in a front-line town waiting "just to talk" with the Red Cross workers.



# THE SAD SACK

"SCREEN CREDIT"

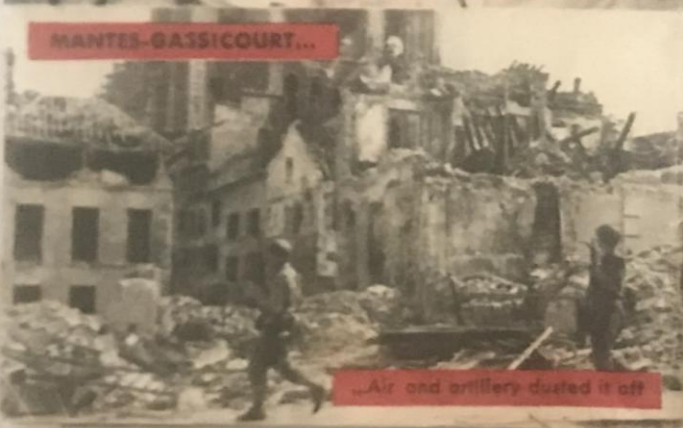


SGT. GEORGE BAKER



BLOOD PLASMA...

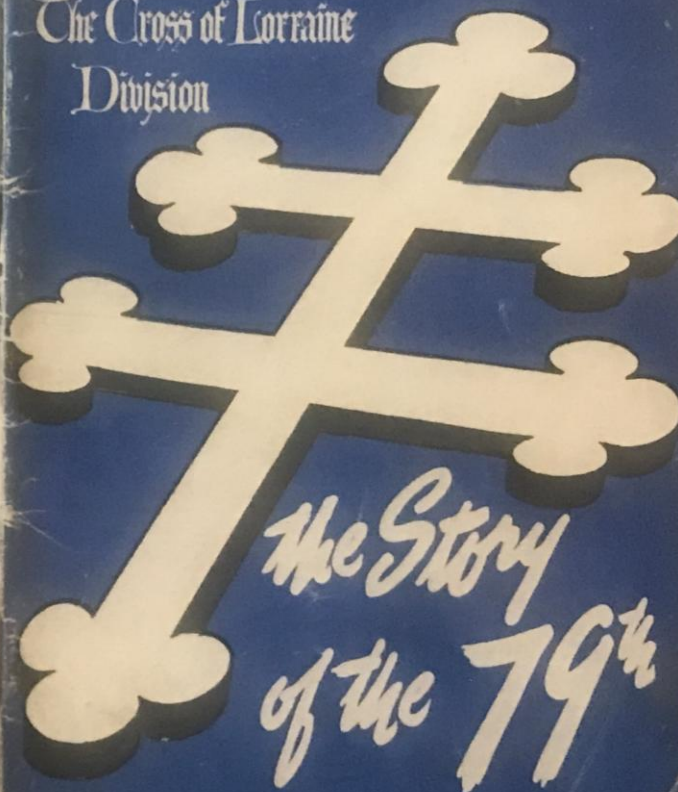
...Clearing Station, La Haye du Puits



MANTES-GASSICOURT...

...Air and artillery dusted it off

## The Cross of Lorraine Division





14th Armored: Loading Marseille, scheduled to clear port yesterday.

**AT BOSTON**—Elements of the 14th Armored Division.

The following Army units arrived in the United States yesterday:

**AT NEW YORK**—The following units of the 69th Division: 273rd Infantry Regiment; Headquarters and Headquarters Company; Military Police Platoon; 769th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company; 69th Quartermaster Company; 569th Signal Company; 369th Medical Battalion; 69th Reconnaissance Troops; 69th Counter-Intelligence Corps Detachment.

**AT NEWPORT NEWS**—30th Photo Reconnaissance Squadron; 500th Air Service Group; Headquarters and Base Squadron of 918th Air Engineer Squadron; 742nd Air Map Squadron; 16th Photo Technical Unit; 655th Medical Ambulance Company; 125th, 134th Evacuation Hospital; 629th Quartermaster and Laundry Company; 486th Heavy Construction Battalion; Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 14th Armored Division; 499th Armored Field Artillery Battalion; 15th, 47th, 48th Tank Battalions; 19th Armored Infantry Battalion; 94th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron; 514th CIC Detachments; 250th General Hospital; 152nd Quartermaster and Laundry Detachment; 380th Medical Collecting Company, 1-2-4th Quartermaster Laundry.



**EL CENTRO, CALIF.**—"Nice landing," said Navy nurses to Lt. Tyrone Power after movie star, now Marine pilot, set them down near the Marine Corps Aid Station.

## 60 DISCHARGED AT GAP CAMP

### Four Officers, 56 Enlisted Men From Area Quit Armed Forces

Four officers and 56 enlisted men from the Harrisburg area received honorable discharges on Friday and Saturday, September 28 and 29, at the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation.

The Harrisburg men are: Capt. Elmer H. Miller, 2965 North Second street; First Lt. Fred R. Hess, 1938 Chestnut street; First Lt. Herman J. Bruehl, 640 Maclay street; Pfc. Frank A. Sgrignoli, 1937 North Sixth street; Pfc. Edward W. Edmondson, 1725 Fulton street; Cpl. John Popovici, 1917 North Sixth street; Pvt. Robert W. Winger, 332 Hamilton street; M-Sgt. Michael W. Demko, 42 North Eighteenth street; S-Sgt. James S. Rankin, 1150 Market street; Pvt. William C. Lathan, 1316 North Second street; T-4 Alfred Scott, 1211 North Sixteenth street; S-Sgt. Richard E. Bryner, 2145 North Second street; Pfc. Arthur C. Meade, 1220 Oyler road; Pfc. Joseph F. Hughes, 1153 Derry street; Pfc. James E. Gordon, 1102 Cloverly road, and S-Sgt. Mervin D. Gordon, 268 Broad street.



Staff Sergeant Gordon's unit, the 79<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division arrived in Liverpool on 17 April, 1944 and began training in amphibious operations. After training in the United Kingdom, the 79th Infantry Division landed on Utah Beach, Normandy, 12–14 June and entered combat 19 June 1944, with an attack on the high ground west and northwest of Valognes and high ground south of Cherbourg Naval Base. The division took Fort du Roule after a heavy engagement and entered Cherbourg, 25 June. It held a defensive line at the Ollonde River until 2 July 1944 and then returned to the offensive, taking La Haye du Puits in house-to-house fighting, 8 July. On 26 July, the 79th attacked across the Ay River, took Lessay, crossed the Sarthe River and entered Le Mans, 8 August, meeting only light resistance. The advance continued across the Seine, 19 August. Heavy German counterattacks were repelled, 22–27 August, and the division reached the Therain River, 31 August. Moving swiftly to the Franco-Belgian frontier near St. Amand (east of Lille), the division was then moved to XV Corps in eastern France, where it encountered heavy resistance in taking Charmes in street fighting, 12 September. The 79th cut across the Moselle and Meurthe Rivers, 13–23 September, cleared the Forêt de Parroy in a severe engagement, 28 September – 9 October, and attacked to gain high ground east of Emberménil, 14–23 October, when it was relieved, 24 October.

After rest and training at Lunéville, the division returned to combat with an attack from the Mignevine Montigny area, 13 November 1944, which carried it across the Vezouse and Moder Rivers, 18 November – 10 December, through Haguenau in spite of determined enemy resistance, and into the Siegfried Line, 17–20 December. The division held a defensive line along the Lauter River, at Wissembourg from 20 December 1944 until 2 January 1945, when it withdrew to Maginot Line defenses. The German attempt to establish a bridgehead west of the Rhine at Gernsheim resulted in furious fighting. The 79th beat off German attacks at Hatten and Rittershoffen in an 11-day battle before withdrawing to new defensive positions south of Haguenau on the Moder River, 19 January 1945. The division remained on the defensive along the Moder until 6 February 1945. During February and March 1945, the division mopped up German resistance, returned to offensive combat, 24 March 1945, crossed the Rhine, drove across the Rhine-Herne Canal, 7 April, secured the north bank of the Ruhr and took part in clearing the Ruhr Pocket until 13 April. The division then went on occupation duty, in the Dortmund, Sudetenland, and Bavarian areas successively, until its return to the United States and inactivation.

#### Campaign participation credit

Normandy;

Northern France;

Rhineland;

Ardennes-Alsace;

Central Europe

#### Decorations

French Croix de Guerre with Palm, World War II, streamer embroidered NORMANDY TO PARIS

French Croix de Guerre with Palm, World War II, streamer embroidered PARROY FORREST

French Croix de Guerre, World War II, Fourragere

[illegible]

מאיר בן מנחם מענדל הלוי וחנה  
DITTY GORDON  
ALWAYS LOVED AND REMEMBERED  
1919  1981