

23RD HEADQUARTERS, SPECIAL TROOPS

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

This unique unit implemented WWII deception operations, having the capability to simulate one armored and two infantry divisions by sound, visual, and electronic means. Although part of 12th Allied Army Group troops, its operational control came from Special Plans Section of US Army, European Theater of Operations (ETOUSA), which planned cover and deception activities. See:

From Normandy into the Reich. Vol. 16 of Covert Warfare series. NY: Garland, 1989. ca. 300 p. D810.S7.C66.

Selected NARA documents on 4 tactical deception operations, all involving the 23rd.

Gawne, Jonathan. Ghosts of the ETO: American Tactical Deception Units in the European Theater, 1944-1945. Havertown, PA: Casemate, 2002. 342 p. D769.25.G39.

Gerard, Philip. Secret Soldiers: The Story of World War II's Heroic Army of Deception. NY: Dutton, 2002. 400 p. D769.2.G47.

Kronman, Mark. "The Deceptive Practices of 23d Headquarters, Special Troops During World War II." Study, US Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, Jan 1978. 67 p. #2113-23HST.1978.

Military Signals (Jan/Feb 1950): p. 24. Per.

Brief description of 23rd Special Signal Company at Ft Riley, KS, which specialized in broadcasting realistic battlefield sounds during training exercises. Apparently this constituted peacetime application of its wartime function.

Simenson, Clifford G. "World War II: My Story After Fifty Years: Unclassified Analysis of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, Tactical Deception." Boulder, CO: By the Author, 1995. 29 p. D811.S548.

Thompson, George R, & Harris, Dixie R. The Signal Corps: The Outcome (Mid-1943 Through 1945). In USAWWII series. Wash, DC: OCMH, 1966. p. 115. D769.A533v.6pt.5v.3.

U.S. Army. 12th Army Group. Report of Operations (Final After Action Report). Weisbaden, Germany: 1948. Vol. V, pp. 11-12; Vol. XI, pp. 155-56, 178 & 196. #02-12.1948.

U.S. Dept of Army. Unit Citation and Campaign Credit Register: DA Pam 672-1, Jul 1961. MilPub-Pam.

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U.S. War Dept. Signal Company, Special, 23d Headquarters, Special Troops: Table of Organization and Equipment 11-78, dated 4 Apr 1944. 12 p. w/1 change (2 p.). MilPub-TOE.
See DA Circular 34, 1953.