

81st Infantry Division

The 81st Infantry Division, nicknamed the "Wildcat Division," was activated at Camp Rucker, Alabama, on 15 June 1942. Two years later the division found itself in the Pacific Theater of Operation where it participated in several amphibious landings. Ultimately, the division became part of the Army of Occupation in Japan. The division was inactivated on 30 January 1946 in Aomori Prefecture, Japan.

In 1942 a typical infantry regiment consisted of a headquarters and band, a headquarters company, a service company, an anti-tank company, a cannon company, and three infantry battalions.

In March 1943 the basic infantry regiment was reorganized to include a headquarters, a headquarters company, a service company, an anti-tank company, and three infantry battalions.

Each of the three infantry battalions consisted of a headquarters and headquarters company, three rifle companies and a heavy weapons company. Within each regiment, the 1st Battalion consisted of Companies A through D, the 2d Battalion consisted of Companies E through H, and the 3d Battalion consisted of Companies I through M (there was no Company J).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Contents</u>
<u>Headquarters and Headquarters Company</u>				
Takahashi, Hiroki	Box 1	T/3	Interpretation and Interrogation Team	Survey and several newspaper clippings
<u>321st Infantry Regiment</u>				
Bailey, Edward B.	Box 1	SFC	2d Battalion, Company F	Survey
Climie, Thomas G.	Box 1	SGT	Service Company	Typed memoir, "The Memoirs of SGT. Thomas G. Climie," photocopy of <i>Highlights in the History of the 81st Infantry Division</i> , and two oversized map-style documents (Folder 1); collection of assorted documents, newspaper clippings, and photocopies of several issues of the division's newspaper, "Wildcat" (Folder 2)
Grossman, Paul W.	Box 1	LTC	1st Battalion, Company C	Survey, unit history, <i>Highlights in the History of the 81st Infantry Division</i> , miscellaneous booklets, four issues of the division's newspaper, "Wildcat," and the 25 March 1958 issue of <i>Hac Post</i> [Unit history transferred to the Library holdings; unit newspapers transferred to the Periodical holdings]

Heatley, Robert F.	Box 1	SGT	3d Battalion, Company M	Typed memoir, "Red Rain, the Palau Islands Campaign 1944-45: An Infantryman's Perspective"
Hoffman, Ronald A.	Box 1	SSG	1st Battalion, Headquarters Company	Survey
Rasula, George A.	Box 1	COL	2d Battalion, Company G	Survey

322d Infantry Regiment

Brookshire, John B., Jr.	Box 1	T/2	Headquarters Company	Survey
Garrett, Jack T.	Box 1	CPT	1st Battalion, Headquarters Company	Survey
Hoppe, Frederick C.	Box 1	PFC	1st Battalion, Company C	Survey
Lang, Eugene J.	Box 1	T/5	Headquarters Company	Survey
Manning, Robert E.	Box 1	PFC	1st Battalion, Company C	Survey
McCormick, James A.	Box 1	PFC	1st Battalion, Company C	Survey
Renna, Antonio	Box 1	PFC	1st Battalion, Company C	Survey

323d Infantry Regiment

Clift, Wendall R.	Box 1	PFC	2d Battalion, Headquarters Company	Survey
Kenney, Robert N.	Box 1	CPT	Cannon Company	Survey
McCann, Lyle E.	Box 1	T/2	3d Battalion, Company I	Survey
Simoneaux, Murphy D.	Box 1	CPL	2d Battalion, Company H	Survey
Taffe, Richard P.	Box 1	LTC	Headquarters Company	[See: 26th Infantry Division, 181st Infantry Regiment]

81st Reconnaissance Troop (Mechanized)

Ross, Hatfield	Box 1	LT		Survey
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81st Counter Intelligence Corps Detachment

306th Engineer Combat Battalion

Kuhn, Edward G., Jr.	Box 1	PFC	Company C	Survey
Nelmes, Gordon	Box 1	SFC		Survey

306th Medical Battalion

Myers, Robert C.	Box 1	1LT	Company D	Survey and typed memoir, "Active Military Service, Army of the United States, 9 June 1942 to 9 May 1946"
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81st Infantry Division Artillery**Headquarters and Headquarters Battery****316th Field Artillery Battalion****317th Field Artillery Battalion****318th Field Artillery Battalion**

Ballinger, Rodney P.	Box 1	MAJ	Battery B	Survey
Spengler, Nelson W.	Box 1	LTC	Service Battery	Survey

906th Field Artillery Battalion**Headquarters, Special Troops****Headquarters Company****781st Ordnance Light Maintenance Company****81st Quartermaster Company****81st Signal Company****Military Police Platoon****Attached / Unidentified Units**

Attached units supported the 81st Infantry Division at some point during the war, but were not organic to the division. Unidentified unit means that the veteran's survey indicated service with the 81st Infantry Division, but did not provide sufficient information regarding the specific subordinate unit.

Killian, Albert F.	Box 1	Donor		Opelika, Alabama <i>Daily News</i> newspaper clippings about the 81st Infantry Division at Camp
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Rucker and a 1999 booklet,
"Alabama NG Mobilization,
Opelika Units"