

John E. Yacup

U.S. Army

Patton's 6-25th Engineers/6th Armored Division



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I was inducted into the United States Army on March 24, 1942 from Thayer, Illinois. I was 21 years old. I was placed in the Headquarters Company, 25th Engineers, 6th Armored Division under General Patton at Scott Air Force Base, Belleville, Illinois. From there, I was sent to Camp Chaffee, Arkansas and stayed there for about 6 months. I spent the next 6 weeks in the desert at Camp Cooke, California. In the morning, you would have to cut through the fog to get where you were going. I was sent to the deportation center at Camp Shunk, New York and it took 10 days to go overseas. We arrived at a base in Scotland and stayed about a week.

From there we were sent to England until the invasion of Normandy. Ten days later, we hit the beaches in Normandy, France and from there on it was push and fight and go. We went through France, Belgium and Germany.

I was discharged on the 4th of December

1945 at Camp Grant, Illinois. I was glad to be back in the United States and had made a promise to myself while overseas that if I ever got home I would never return again. The time I spent in service, I will remember for the rest of my life. I hope my son never has to serve in a war.

John E. Yacup
Thayer, Illinois