

Military History

Enlisted 21 December 1936 in the Kentucky National Guard
Serial #20523423.

Inducted into Active Duty status 20 November 1940 as a Staff Sergeant
of Company D, 192nd Tank Battalion and served in that capacity
until 12 February 1941.

Commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant 12 February 1941 (Serial #0-404976).

Commissioned a 1st Lieutenant 19 December 1941 (Serial #0-404976).

Commissioned a Captain 18 February 1945 (Serial #0-404976).

Arrived at Fort Stotsenburg, Philippine Islands, 20 November 1941.

Served as Communication Officer Headquarters Company 192nd Tank
Battalion from about 19 February 1941 until 14 December 1941.

Joined C Company 192nd Tank Battalion 14 December 1941 as
Maintenance Officer and Platoon Leader.

Joined C Company 192nd Tank Battalion at Rossario, fought Japanese
at Rossario, Sison, Pozorrubio, Asingan, Tayug, fought rear guard
action for 26th Cavalry from Tayug to Umingan. Encountered
Japanese at Bongabong (Cabu) and Cabanatuan. Fought 3 hour
battle at Cabu with 7 tanks while the Japanese lines were south
of St. Rosa bridge 10 miles to our rear. Encountered 10 Japanese
tanks at Baliuag with 8 tanks, fought a running fight from 5:10 p.m.
to 7:10 putting out of action 8 Japanese tanks and withdrew under
order of C.G. of Provisional Tank Group.

Encountered the Japanese at Calumpit Bridge, fought 3 hour battle
and withdrew after exhausting all our ammunition.

Encountered Japanese 75 MM gun battery at Porac knocking out 3 guns.

Fought with the battalion at Hermosa line, fought with the
battalion at Abucay Hacienda withdrawal, beach defense on east side
of Bataan and went from there to the Agloloma point, went from
Agloloma pocket to Tuol pocket. Support for 45th Inf. P.S. on
Pantangan River and later in support of the 11th Div. P.A. at time
of surrender.

Awarded Silver Star by Brigadier General James R. M. Weaver for
action at Baliuag 13 January 1942.

Awarded Silver Star by Brigadier General William E. Brougher for
action in Tuol pocket on about 20 February 1942.

Constant encounter with the Japanese Army from 22 December 1941 to
11 April 1942.

Prisoner of War 12 April 1942 until January 1945, of the Japanese.

Left Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, 11 March 1945.

Reported to Nichols General Hospital, Louisville, Ky., 16 March 1945.

9 August 1945 left Miami Beach, Florida for Fort Knox.

14 August 1945 reported to Headquarters Armored Center Fort Knox.

Assigned to the Wheeled Vehicle Department of the Armored School.

Went on inactive status 22 January 1946.

Took regular Army examination 28 January 1947 - physically disqualified.

7 May 1947 assigned to 22D Ky. Comp. Bn 285 Comp. GP Danville, Ky.

25 April 1949 released from assigned to 285 Composite Group ORC
Danville, Kentucky and assigned to Hq Hq Det. 2613 Repl. Tng. Bn.
Danville, Ky.

30 June 1949, reld fr asgmt w/Hq and Hq Det 2613th Repl Tng Bn
Danville, Ky. and asgd to Ky. Casual Adm. Gp.

Stayed in Reserves until 1 April 1953.

WILLIAM H. GENTRY

Medals Earned During World War II

The Silver Star with 1 Oakleaf Cluster

The Bronze Star

Prisoner of War Medal

The Purple Heart

The American Defense Medal with 1 Star

The Asiatic Pacific Theater Medal with 3 Stars

The Philippine Defense Medal with 1 Star

The Philippine Liberation Medal with 1 Star

The Presidential Unit Citation with 2 Clusters

The Philippine Independence Medal

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Joined C Company 192nd Tank Battalion 14 December 1941 as Maintenance Officer and Platoon Leader.

Appointed Battalion Maintenance Officer 6 April 1942 but never assumed that assignment as I remained with C Company until the surrender