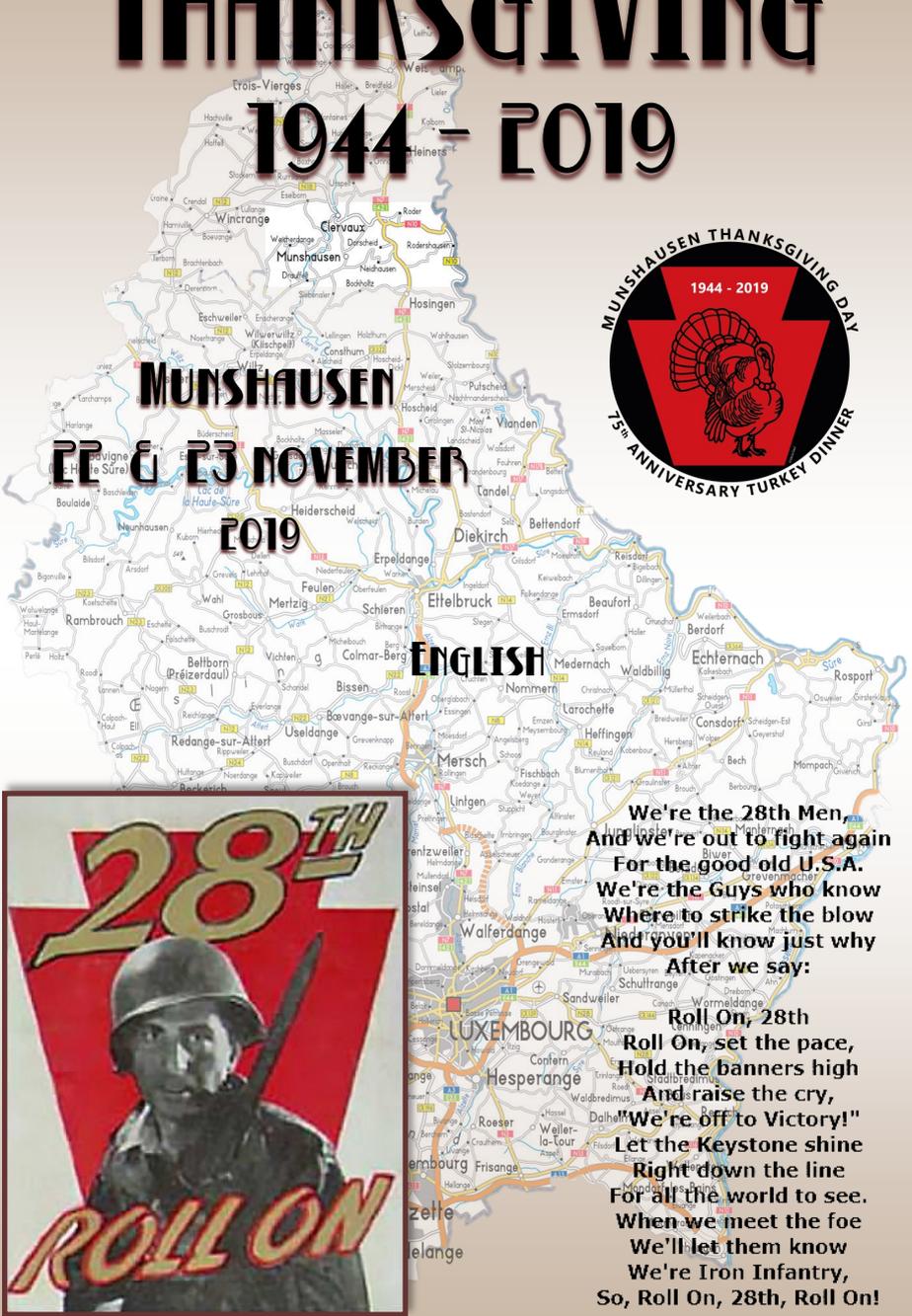


# THANKSGIVING

## 1944 - 2019



**MUNSHAUSEN**

**22 & 23 NOVEMBER**

**2019**

**ENGLISH**



**We're the 28th Men,  
And we're out to fight again  
For the good old U.S.A.  
We're the Guys who know  
Where to strike the blow  
And you'll know just why  
After we say:  
Roll On, 28th  
Roll On, set the pace,  
Hold the banners high  
And raise the cry,  
"We're off to Victory!"  
Let the Keystone shine  
Right down the line  
For all the world to see.  
When we meet the foe  
We'll let them know  
We're Iron Infantry,  
So, Roll On, 28th, Roll On!**

**You are entering a stage on which a historical reconstitution is being performed. Please don't disturb this in any way, don't talk to the actors or disrupt the scenes!**

## MUNSHAUSEN 1944

In November 1944 the village of Munshausen becomes a U.S. army camp and billeting area. Regular village buildings became a.o. Military Head Quarters, medical aid station, a field bakery, and an APO military Postoffice. The sawmill, just outside Munshausen was used by the army as well. Many men sleep in their tents in the camp, but also quite a few are staying with civilians.

Military vehicle traffic, even heavy, such as tanks, has become a common sight. So are the guns in the south of the village, their noise no longer frightens the people of Munshausen.

The soldiers belong to the 28th Infantry Division. They have just fought a fierce battle in the "Huertgenwald" Forest, Germany, led by General Norman Cota. On their sleeve they carry the insignia of their division: the "red key-stone". The Germans, however, nicknamed it: the "bloody bucket". Now they've been stationed in Munshausen to regain strength, both physically and mentally. Lots of new recruits have arrived from the U.S. to compensate the many casualties of the battle and are now trained by the veteran soldiers.

There's time to play games, read letters and have a bit of fun in the village, besides normal army life such as practice and roll call.



Thanksgiving will be a real feast! Frozen turkeys are flown in from the USA, as well as lots of letters and parcels from home!

The men did not know that they were soon to play a crucial role in the Battle of the Bulge that broke out only a few weeks later. It was this division that took the first blow. Many of the men lost their lives in a fierce defense that eventually slowed the Germans down long enough for the Allied Forces to come to bring relief.

**Head Quarters (7):** Heart of the camp: radio messages come in constantly, orders are given, reports written, contact with other units as well as the regimental staff in Clervaux.

**General Cota:** After very brave conduct on the beaches of Normandy he led his men on a victory tour over the Champs Elysees in Paris. Not all went that easy. The order to move through the Huertgenwald to capture footholds on the Rhine was not realistic. Cota expressed his concerns in vain but carried out the higher orders with many losses as a result.

**Medical Aid Station/Hospital (3a):** Wounded men receive first aid here. Not only in battle, lots of accidents happen inside the army! Trenchfoot, cuts and bruises: everyday's work. Operation equipment for small or urgent operations is here, as well as bandages and medicine. A few patients are still here. Most of the wounded from the Huertgenwald have been transferred to larger echelon- and better-equipped hospitals.

**Post office (3b):** Lots and lots of mail comes in every day! Letters and parcels. The Postman has a busy job. The men themselves write often too, especially the survivors of the Huertgenwald.



**Kitchen (13):** All meals are cooked in the field kitchen. Lots of canned food comes from the USA, as well as flour and other bulk materials. Today the turkeys, that have been flown in -frozen- too, will be cooked. The birds are huge, they have to cook slowly all day!

**Bakery (2):** Fresh bread is baked all day, for every meal. The supply of flour is sufficient to make this possible. There are even enough sugar and eggs to make a cake for the visit of General Cota.

**Armored unit :** Maintenance and practice are very important! When called into action they have to move swiftly and accurately. Their aim is to strike fast (tank eating Tigers!) and sudden!

**Quartermaster (12):** Men like to drop by here, as the QM keeps the supplies! Not only uniforms, dry socks, gear etc. But mostly because he also has PX articles such as cigarettes, chocolate and booze! The money the soldiers use for payment is special war money. Trading against other goods is also common practice.



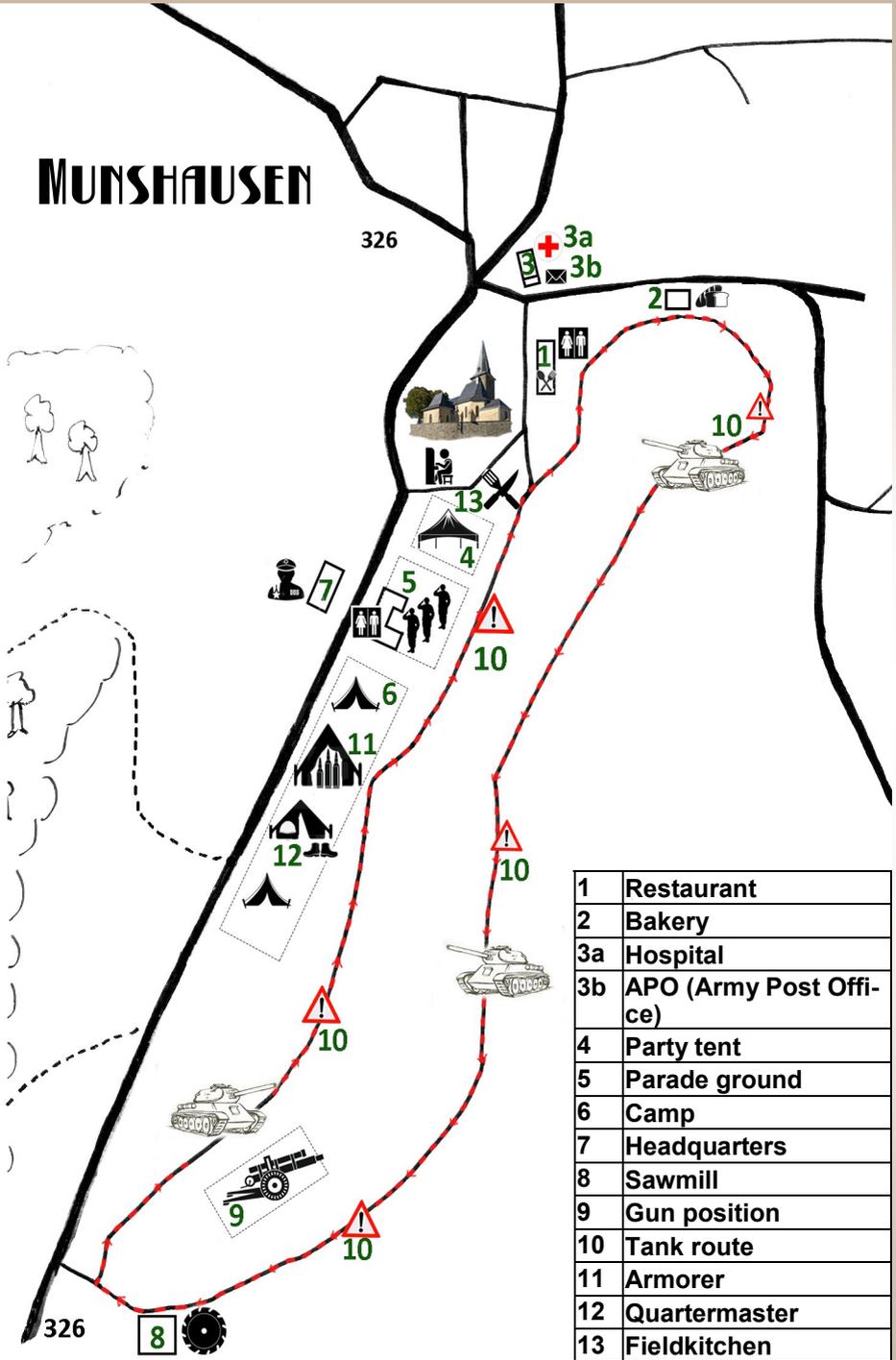
**Patrol Unit:** Not too long ago this area was previously occupied by the Germans. Constant awareness and alert thru patrols or reconnaissance units is necessary

**Armorer (11):** Ammunition is kept in the ammunition depot. The armorer has to keep records of every piece that is used or brought back. Nothing must get lost and in time new ammo has to be ordered.

**Sawmill (8):** Here are the Combat Engineers at work to make a shower unit. They also build bridges, barracks, roads, whatever is needed to keep the army moving or get settled.



# MUNSHAUSEN



1	Restaurant
2	Bakery
3a	Hospital
3b	APO (Army Post Office)
4	Party tent
5	Parade ground
6	Camp
7	Headquarters
8	Sawmill
9	Gun position
10	Tank route
11	Armorer
12	Quartermaster
13	Fieldkitchen

**Programme: from 10.00 till 19.00 there is a lot to see everywhere!**

Listed below a few highlights:

<b>10.00</b>	Roll Call	Paradeground (5)
<b>10.55</b>	Patrolunit leaves to check out on Germans	Depart from H.Q.
<b>11.00</b>	General Cota arrives	H.Q. (7)
<b>11.20</b>	Ambulance picks up wounded German POW	Near the village
<b>11.30</b>	General Cota visits sawmill	Sawmill (8)
<b>11.45</b>	Pianomusic in the street	Near the church
<b>12.00</b>	General Cota visits hospital	Hospital (3a)
<b>12.45</b>	General Cota visits camp	Camp (6)
<b>12.30</b>	Lunch	Fieldkitchen (13)
<b>13.00</b>	Roll Call	Paradeground (5)
	General Cota hands out medals to two men!	
<b>13.30</b>	Armored unit leaves to shell Germans	Headquarters (7)
	General Cota visits Quartermaster	Quartermaster (12)
	Operation on wounded German POW	Hospital (3a)
<b>13.45</b>	General Cota visits armorer	Ammunition depot (11)
<b>14.45</b>	Interrogation German POW	H.Q. (7)
<b>16.00</b>	Show	Party tent (4)

