

Patton the Ghost: His Last Hurrah

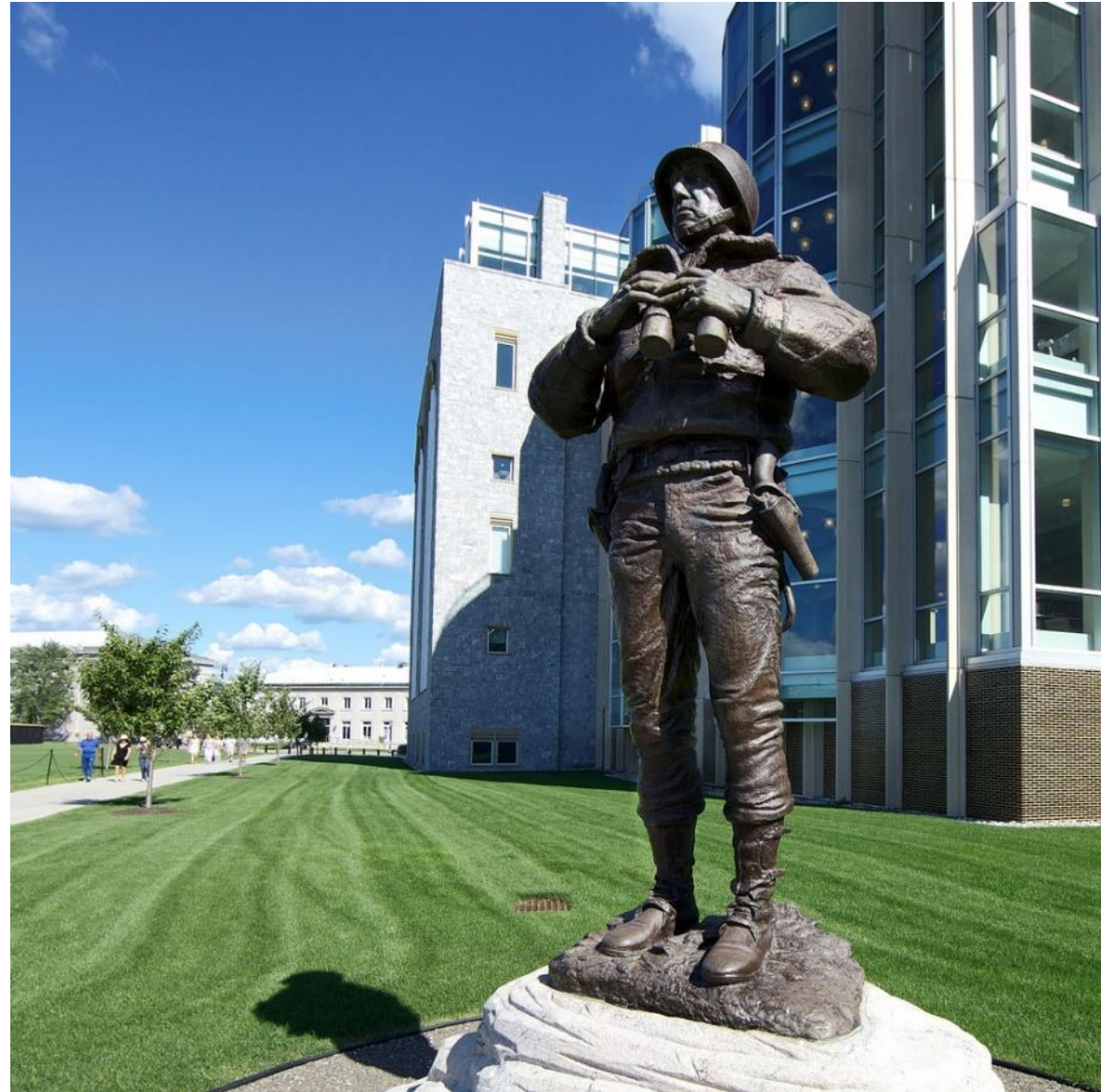


Tankers

Yeah, we're basically like Elvis and Brad Pitt

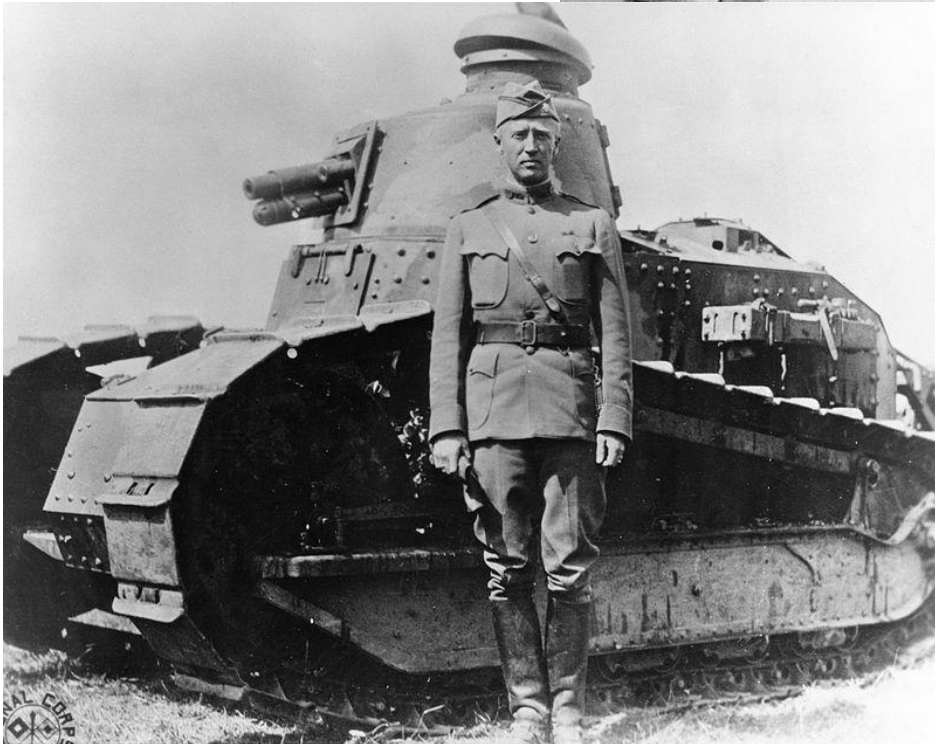
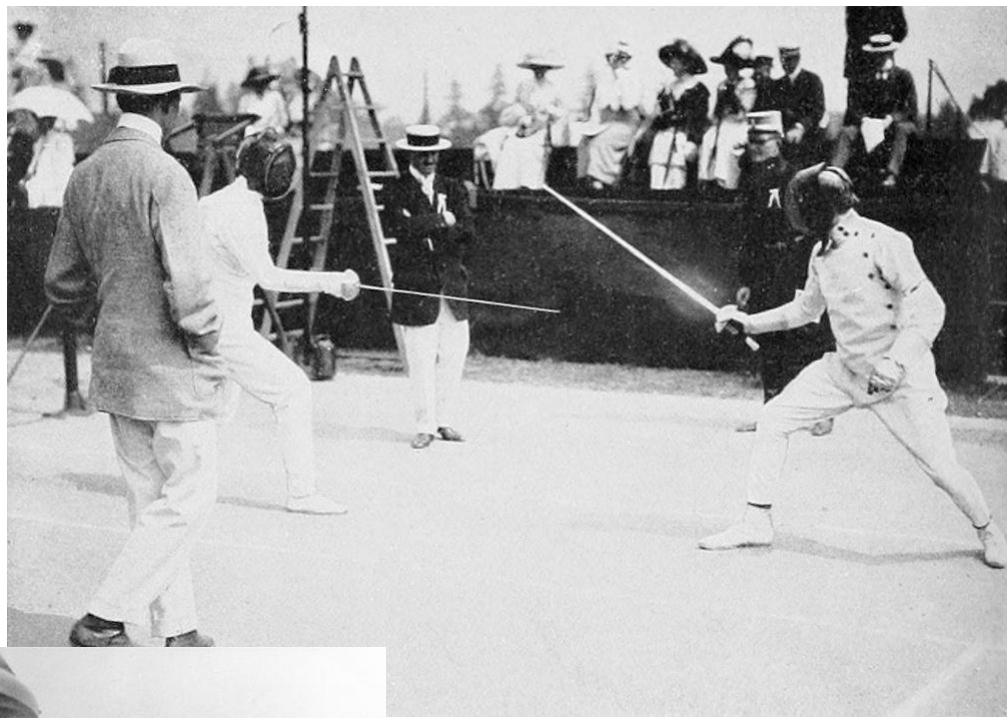


Who is this character?



Early Career

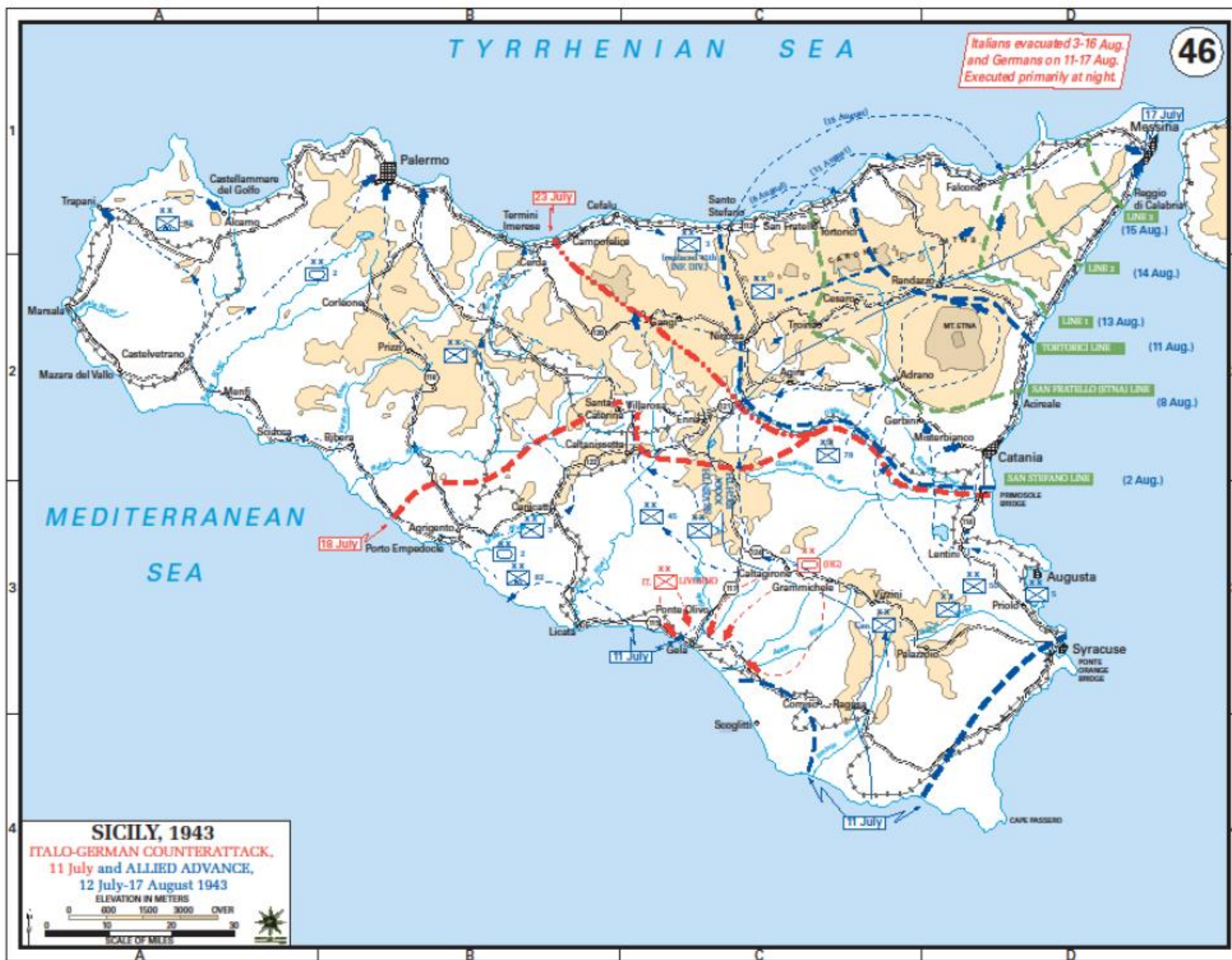
- Olympic Athlete
- Staff Officer
- Armor Pioneer
- Fashion Designer?



Model 1913 Cavalry Saber
"The Patton Saber"

Operation Torch





Sicily Triumph and Disgrace

Eisenhower on Patton after the slapping incident

“Dear Mr. Secretary [of War]... Patton was of course guilty of the most reprehensible kind of conduct and I had time and again, in advance, warned him against manifestations of temper and irritation that might finally destroy his usefulness. It is my conviction that he has really learned his lesson and I expect him to do such good work in the future, that his past offenses will be forgiven, even by his most severe critics. –
Eisenhower to Stimson, 26 December 1944

After yet another public relations disaster...

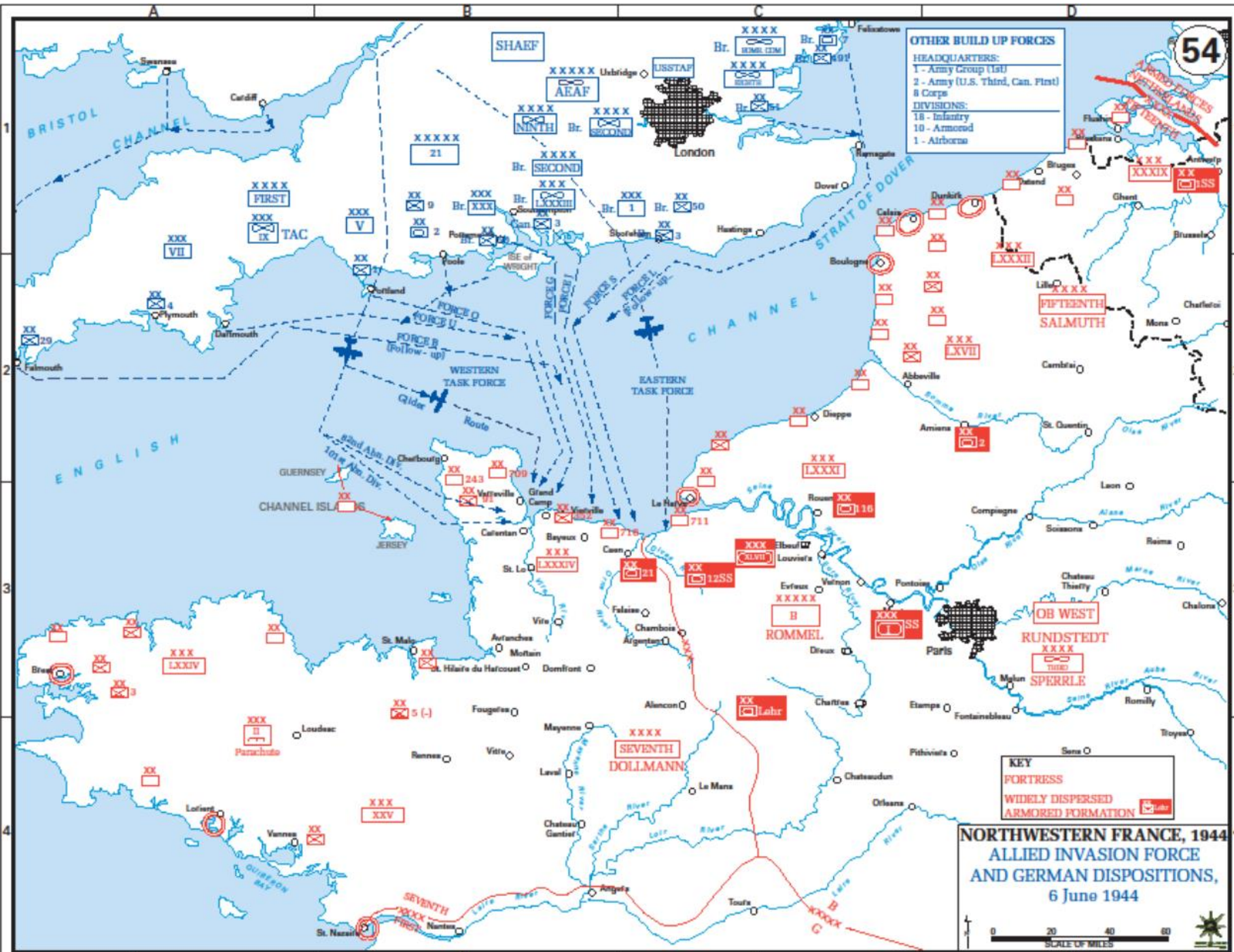
“Dear General Marshall: This morning I sent you a telegram about the Patton case. Frankly I am exceedingly weary of his habit of getting everybody into hot water through the immature character of his public actions and statements.” — Eisenhower to Marshall, 29 April 1944

Eisenhower on Patton

“There is no question that relief of Patton would lose to us his experience as commander of an army in battle and his demonstrated ability of getting the utmost out of soldiers in offensive operations.” – Eisenhower to Marshall, 3 May 1944

Eisenhower to Patton

“...I am once more taking the responsibility of retaining you in command in spite of damaging repercussions resulting from a personal indiscretion. I do this solely because of my faith in you as a battle leader and from no other motives.” – Eisenhower to Patton, 3 May 1944



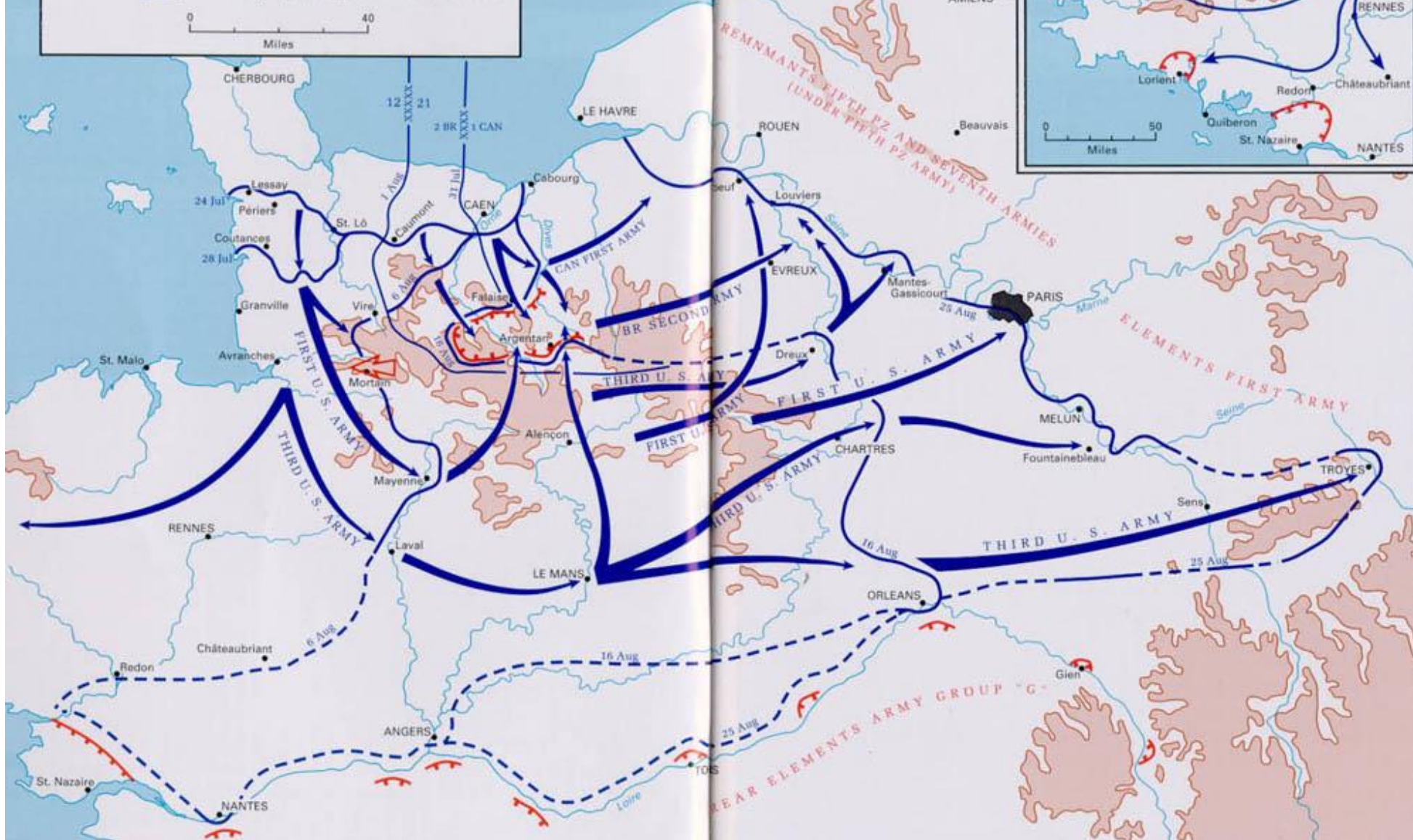
Operation FORTITUDE SOUTH

Why it mattered

BREAKOUT AND ADVANCE TO THE SEINE

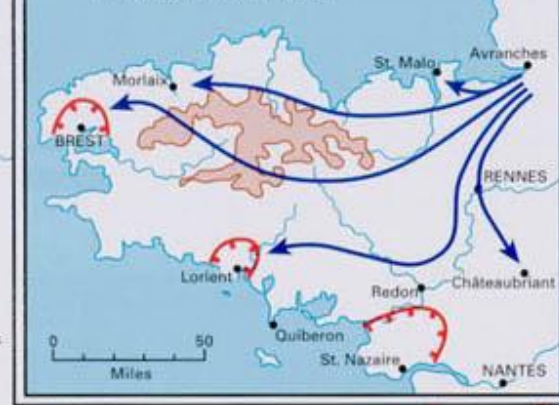
25 July-25 August 1944

- Axis of Allied Advance
- Front Line, Date
- German Counterattack, 7 Aug
- High ground, 200 meters and above



THE SWEEP THROUGH BRITTANY

VIII Corps, 1-7 August 1944



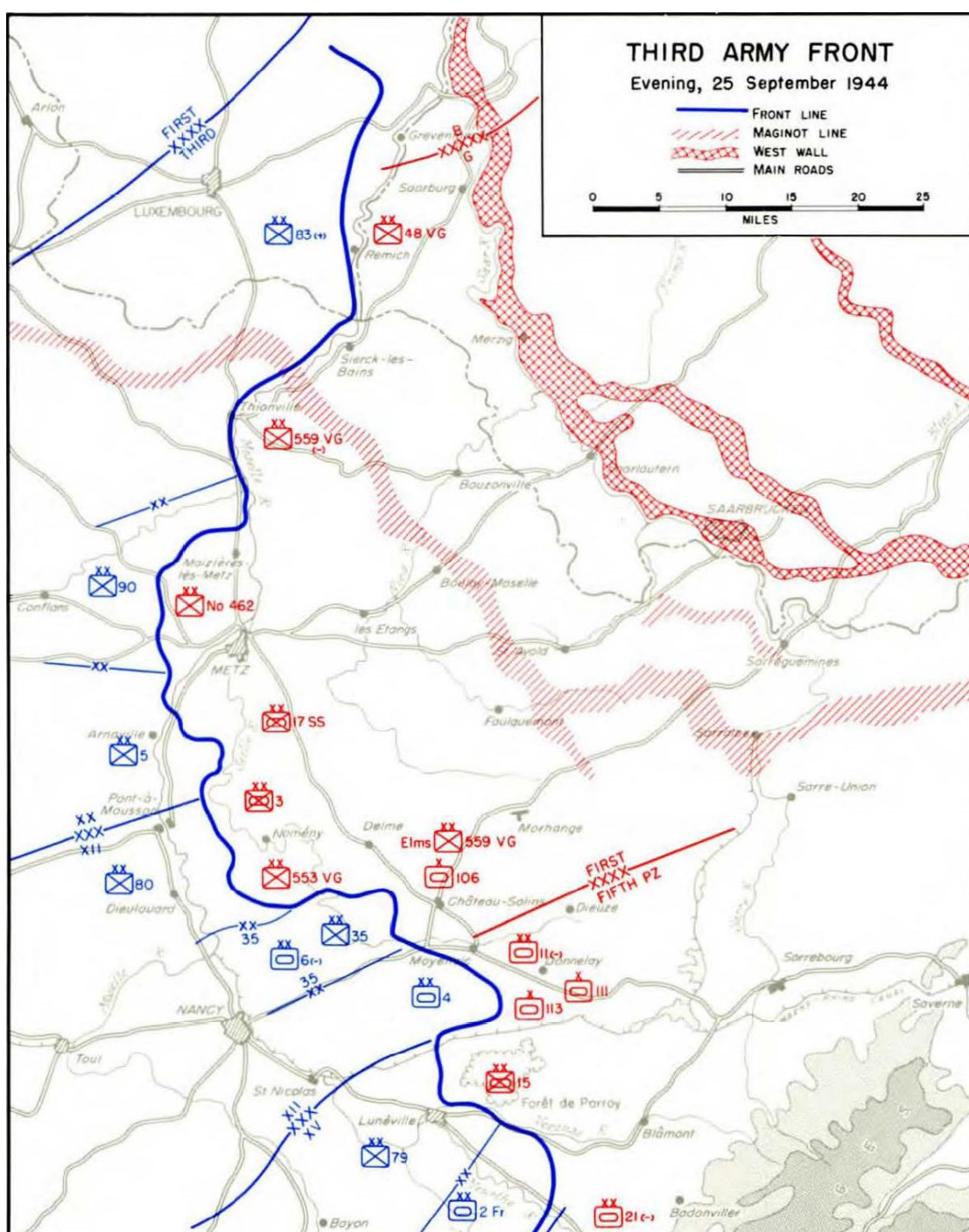
Patton on
the loose!!

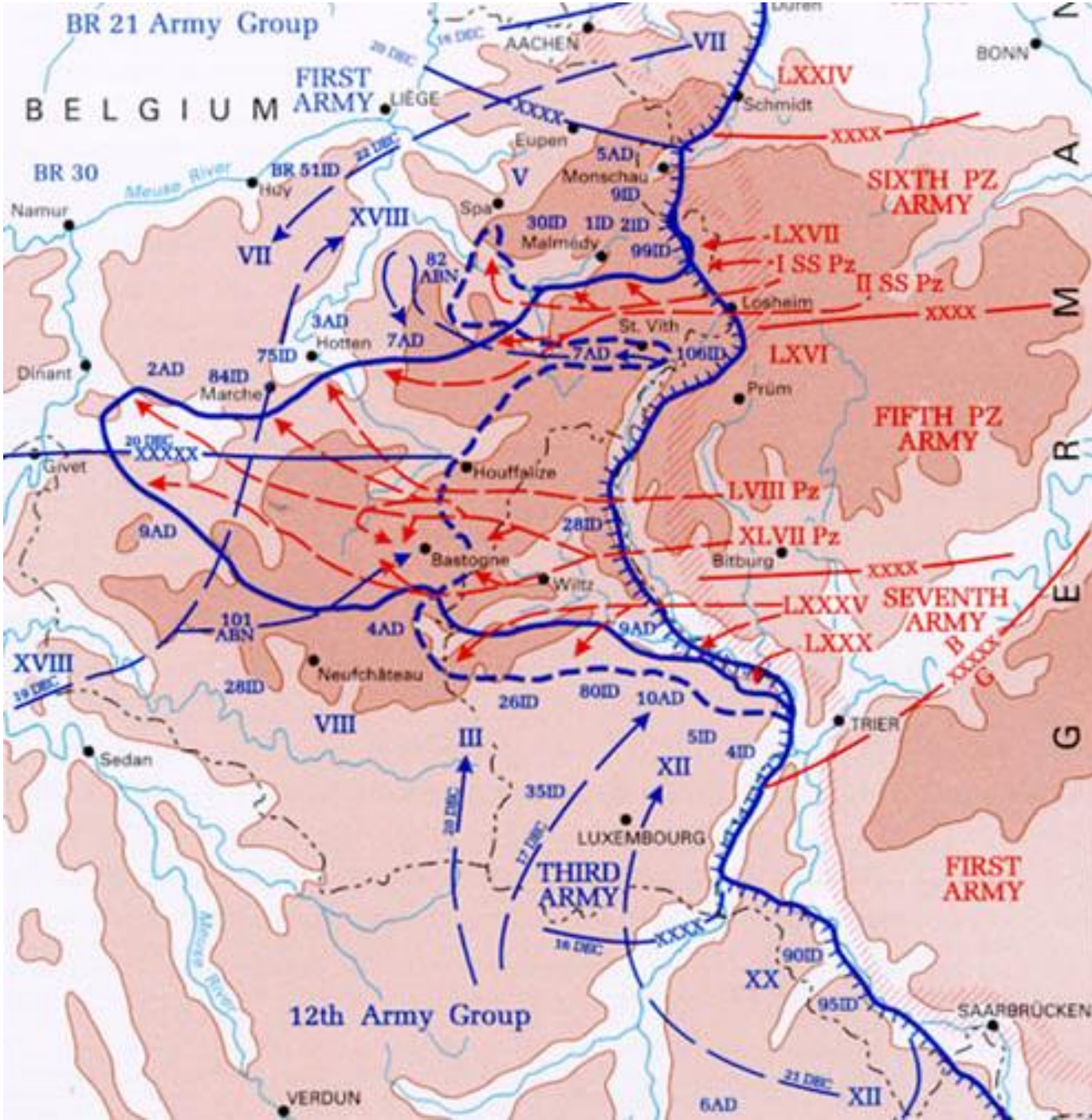
Patton's Household Cavalry



Keeping the U.S. Army informed since 1861!

Patton Delayed The Lorraine Campaign



[illegible]



Patton and the Rhine River

Patton Diary 24 March 1945

“Drove to the river and went across on the pontoon bridge stopping in the middle to take a p---- in the Rhine, and then pick up some dirt on the far side...in emulation of William the Conqueror.”

What did Ike really think?

“Dear George... I continue to have reason to cheer that you came with me to this war.” – Eisenhower to Patton, 22 March 1945

[Dear General Marshall] “Patton is a problem child, but he is a great fighting leader in pursuit and exploitation.” – Eisenhower, 15 April 1945



Further Reading

- *The Patton Papers* by Martin Blumenson
- *Patton at Bay: The Lorraine Campaign, 1944* by John Nelson Rickard
- *Advance and Destroy: Patton as Commander in the Bulge* by John Nelson Rickard
- *Patton's Way: A Radical Theory of War* by James Kelly Morningstar
- *Patton's Third Army: A Chronology of the Third Army Advance, August 1944 to May, 1945* by Charles M. Province