**Significant Dates in the 30th's History**

Below are listed some of the most significant dates in the history of the 30th Division upon its creation, and since its activation in 1940 and throughout WWII.

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| July 18, 1917 | The 30th Division, Old Hickory, was created. (2006 - 89th Birthday!) |
| August 3, 1917 | The 30th Division assembled at Camp Sevier, S.C. |
| May 1, 1918 | The 30th Division sailed for England |
| July 9, 1918 | The 30th Division was committed to the Front Line |

**Significant Dates at Camp/Ft. Jackson, SC and during WWII.**

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| August 15, 1940 | Camp Jackson becomes Fort Jackson, per G.O. #7, and AR 210-10, par 2c. |
| September 16, 1940 | 30th Division activated and called to Federal active duty at Ft. Jackson, S.C. where the Division trained until October 1942. |
| September 25, 1940 | 117th Infantry Regiment & 118th F.A. Bn. arrive at Ft. Jackson |
| October 1, 1940 | 113th F.A. Bn. Arrives at Ft. Jackson |
| January 9, 1941 | First contingent of Selective Service men assigned to the 30th Infantry Division. |
| March 9, 1941 | President Roosevelt visits the 30th Infantry Division at Ft. Jackson, S.C. |
| May 20-28, 1941 | 30th Division departs for Tullahoma and the Tennessee maneuvers. |
| August 1, 1941 | Maj. Gen. Henry Russell relieved of command of the 30th Division, and assumes command of the First Army Corps in Columbia, S.C. |
| September 21, 1941 | 30th Division departs for the First Army Carolina maneuvers. |
| December 2, 1941 | 30th Division returns to Ft. Jackson from the Carolina maneuvers. |
| December 7, 1941 | Japanese attack Pearl Harbor. |
| February 21, 1942 | 30th Division reorganized from a Square Division, (4 Regiments) to a Triangular Division, (3 Regiments) and renamed the "30th Infantry Division". |
| May 3, 1942 | Maj. Gen. William H. Simpson assumes command of the 30th Infantry Division. |
| May 30, 1942 | B.G. Arthur M. Harper assumes command of the 30th Div. Arty. |
| June 15, 1942 | Lt. Col. Richard W. Stephens assumes position of G-3, 30th Infantry Division. |
| June 24, 1942 | Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson visits 30th Infantry Division and witnesses demonstrations. |
| July 23, 1942 | Gen. Ben Lear visits Ft. Jackson and inspects 30th Infantry Division. |
| August 3-16, 1942 | 118th Infantry Regiment relieved from duty with the 30th Infantry Division and departed for duty as a Separate Regiment in Iceland. |
| August 28, 1942 | Maj. Gen. William H. Simpson is relieved of duty with the 30th Infantry Division and assumes command of the XII Corps at Columbia, S.C. |
| September 10, 1942 | 119th Infantry Regiment activated and assigned to the 30th Infantry Division. |
| September 12, 1942 | Maj. Gen. Leland S. Hobbs assumes command of the 30th Infantry Division |
| October, 1942 | 30th Infantry Division moves to Camp Blanding, Florida for 1 year of intensive training. They trained here until May, 1943. |

**Significant Dates at Camp Blanding, Florida**

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| November 1942 | B.G. William K. Harrison Jr. becomes Ass't. Div. CO |
| February 9, 1943 | Sale of beer or other liquor, stronger than 3.2 % is strictly forbidden on any Old Hickory premises, by order of Maj. Gen. L. S. Hobbs!! |
| April 29, 1943 | Last Division Review at Camp Blanding, Fla. |

**Significant Dates at Camp Atterbury, Ind.**

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| November 1943 | 30th Infantry Division arrives at Camp Atterbury, Ind. |
| February 1, 1944 | 30th Infantry Division leaves Camp Atterbury, Ind. |
| February 2, 1944 | 30th Infantry Division arrives at Camp Myles Standish, Mass. |

**Significant dates during Combat Era**

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| February 12, 1944 | 30th Division leaves Boston POE for Europe, aboard the SS *Argentina*, SS *Brazil*& SS*John Ericsson* |
| February 22, 1944 | 30th Division arrives at Glascow, Scotland (120th), and Liverpool England (117th & 119th) and proceeds to south coast of England by train. |
| Feb.- June 6, 1944 | Intensive training period in England. |
| June 8-15, 1944 | 30th Division crossed the English Channel. |
| June 15, 1944 | 30th Division went into combat south of Isigny, relieving elements of the 101st A. B. Division and the 29th Infantry Division. |
| June 17, 1944 | Col. Hammond D. Birks, C.O. 120th Regiment, awarded a Silver Star Medal. The First man in Division to receive this high award. |
| July 7, 1944 | Liberated St. Jean-de-Daye, the 1st major town in Normandy to be liberated by the 30th Infantry Division. |
| July 12-13, 1944 | Designated as the lead unit in Operation Cobra, to spearhead the breakthrough at St. Lo. |
| July 15, 1944 | Col. Edwin M. Sutherland assumes command of the 119th Reg't. |
| July 24, 1944 | Bombed by the 8th Airforce, in error, killing 25 men and wounding 131 men. Delayed jump-off for one day. |
| July 25, 1944 | Bombed again, in error, by 8th Airforce, killing 111 men, including Lt. Gen. Leslie Mc Nair, and wounding 490 men. Operation Cobra took off despite these two tragic errors and losses. |
| July 26, 1944 | B.G. Raymond S. McLain relieved of duty as CO of the 30th Division Artillery, to assume command of the 90th Inf. Div. |
| July 26, 1944 | B.G. James M. Lewis assumes command of the 30th Div. Arty. |
| July 29, 1944 | Col. Walter M. Johnson assumes command of the 117th Reg't. |
| August 6-12, 1944 | Battle of Mortain - 2nd Battalion of the 120th Regiment surrounded on Hill #314 for 5 days. German High Command declared this Battle to be the major turning point of the war, leading to the ultimate defeat of the German Army. |
| August 14, 1944 | Started the 'Rat-Race' across northern France. |
| August 17, 1944 | First contact made with the King's Own Scottish Battalion, 3rd Division, 2nd British Army, was made at Flers at 1630. |
| August 23, 1944 | Evreux liberated. |
| August 27, 1944 | First troops of the 30th crossed the Seine River at Mantes-Gassicourt, France. |
| September 1, 1944 | First Allied troops to enter the Kingdom of Belgium. |
| September 3, 1944 | Captured and liberated the City of Tournai, the 1st City liberated in Belgium. |
| September 10, 1944 | 30th Division crossed the Meuse River at Vise and Liege, Belgium. |
| September 12, 1944 | First Allied troops to enter The Netherlands. |
| September 14, 1944 | Liberated the City of Maastricht, Provincial capitol. 1st City in The Netherlands to be liberated. |
| September 17, 1944 | First troops of the 30thInfantry Division enter Germany, (120th) at Horsbach. |
| September 24, 1944 | Evacuation of Kerkrade begins. |
| October 2, 1944 | Attack on Seigfreid Line at Aachen, Germany begins. |
| October 6, 1944 | Col. Birks transferred to 9th Inf. Div. as Ass't Div. C.O. |
| October 6, 1944 | Col. Branner P. Perdue assumes command of the 120th Reg't. |
| October 16, 1944 | Captured the City of Aachen, Germany, in conjunction with the 1st Inf. Div. First City in Germany to fall to the Allies. |
| October 18, 1944 | Maj. Gen. Raymond S. Mc Lain assumes command of the XIX Corps. October 22, 1944 XIX Corps transferred into the newly formed Ninth Army under Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson. |
| December 17, 1944 | Beginning of the participation of the 30th Inf. Div. in the Battle of the Ardennes at Malmedy, Belgium. Stopped the penetration of the 1st SS Panzer Division at Stavelot-Stoumont-La Gleize. |
| December 27, 1944 | Col. Russell A. Baker assumes command of the 119th Inf. Reg't. |
| January 13, 1945 | 30th Division launched the counteroffensive to return the front line to original position as of December 16, 1944. |
| January 30, 1945 | Line of the Breakthrough returned to original line. |
| February 2, 1945 | 30th Division returns to original Roer River position in Germany. |
| February 23, 1945 | The Roer River was successfully crossed near Julich, Germany. |
| March 24, 1945 | 30th Division crossed the Rhine River. |
| April 12, 1945 | 30th Division reached the Elbe River, 40 mi. SW of Berlin. |
| April 18, 1945 | Captured the City of Magdeburg, one of the easternmost penetrations in the Ninth Army sector. |
| May 4, 1945 | Russians were contacted by 30th Inf. Div. at Grunewald on the Elbe River. |
| May 8, 1945 | Victory in Europe |
| May 9, 1945 | 30th Infantry Division starts Occupation duties in Germany. |
| June 1945 | 30th Infantry Division was alerted for deployment for action in Japan. |
| August 16-21, 1945 | 30th Infantry Division returned to the U.S.A. aboard the *Queen Mary*, except the 119th Regiment which returned to Boston, Mass., on the USS *Gen. Black*. |
| November 25, 1945 | 30th Infantry Division deactivated at Ft. Jackson, S.C. |

Frank W. Towers 2/04  
Revised 2/06