

EMBARKED
18 JULY 1944

THE MARCH OF THE XX CORPS

FROM ST JACQUES TO VERDUN, FRANCE
600 MILES IN 30 DAYS
ONE OF THE FASTEST SUSTAINED MARCHES IN HISTORY



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LEGEND

- XX CORPS HQ ROUTE OF ADVANCE
- DIVISION ROUTES OF ADVANCE
- 36 DISTANCE BETWEEN BIVOUACS IN MILES
- ⌘ MAJOR BRIDGING OPERATION
- DISTANCE ACROSS WATER IN NAUTICAL MILES

PASSED FOR PUBLICATION
53
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Army Reveals 'Ghost Corps' Saga in France

Mysterious Column That Sped Across Nation Was Walker's 20th Corps

ARMY, Sept. 30.—The secrecy which for weeks has surrounded the mysterious "Ghost Corps" was lifted today, revealing Major General Walton H. Walker's 20th Corps as the spearhead of Lieutenant General George S. Patton's 3d Army's great eastward drive across France, distinguished by bold tactics of encirclement which won 200 enemy tanks, 350 personnel carriers, 500 guns of large caliber, eighty planes and ninety vehicles. Enemy troops killed or captured exceeded 20,000.

Walker led his corps across six rivers—the Lorr, Seine, Vesle, Marne, Aisne and the Meuse—to liberate scores of towns and cities, including Charleville, Meun, Montereau, Fontainebleau, Chateau-Thierry, Epernay, Reims and Verdun. The corps' speed was such that it thrust through the Argonne Forest in a matter of hours, as compared with the several months required to take these woods in the World War.

At one place the armored columns of the 20th Corps knifed through the enemy's defenses with such force and speed that staff officers of a high German headquarters scrambled out of their mess hall and joined the fleeing troops to avoid capture. Their untended food was still hot when General Walton H. Walker's 20th Corps as the spearhead of Lieutenant General George S. Patton's 3d Army's great eastward drive across France, distinguished by bold tactics of encirclement which won 200 enemy tanks, 350 personnel carriers, 500 guns of large caliber, eighty planes and ninety vehicles. Enemy troops killed or captured exceeded 20,000.



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In Parliament the other day, Prime Minister Churchill's praise ber, eighty planes and ninety vehicles. Enemy troops killed or captured exceeded 20,000.

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At one place the armored columns of the 20th Corps knifed through the enemy's defenses with such force and speed that staff officers of a high German headquarters scrambled out of their mess hall and joined the fleeing troops to avoid capture. Their untended food was still hot when the Americans moved in. Incessantly pushing the Germans back and off balance, the 20th Corps captured or destroyed 200 enemy tanks, 350 personnel and 200 enemy tanks, 350 personnel captured or destroyed.

