

## Twitter Thread by WTF Grand Admiral of Propaganda



**WTF Grand Admiral of Propaganda**

@WTFIOGuy



**Actions executed to deliberately mislead adversary decision makers as to friendly mil capabilities, intentions, and operations, thereby causing the adversary to take specific actions (or inactions) that will contribute to the accomplishment of the friendly mission. Buckle up! <https://t.co/6jMp61TTJX>**



# MILITARY DECEPTION AND THE GHOST ARMY

A THREADED CASE STUDY

@WTFIOGUY

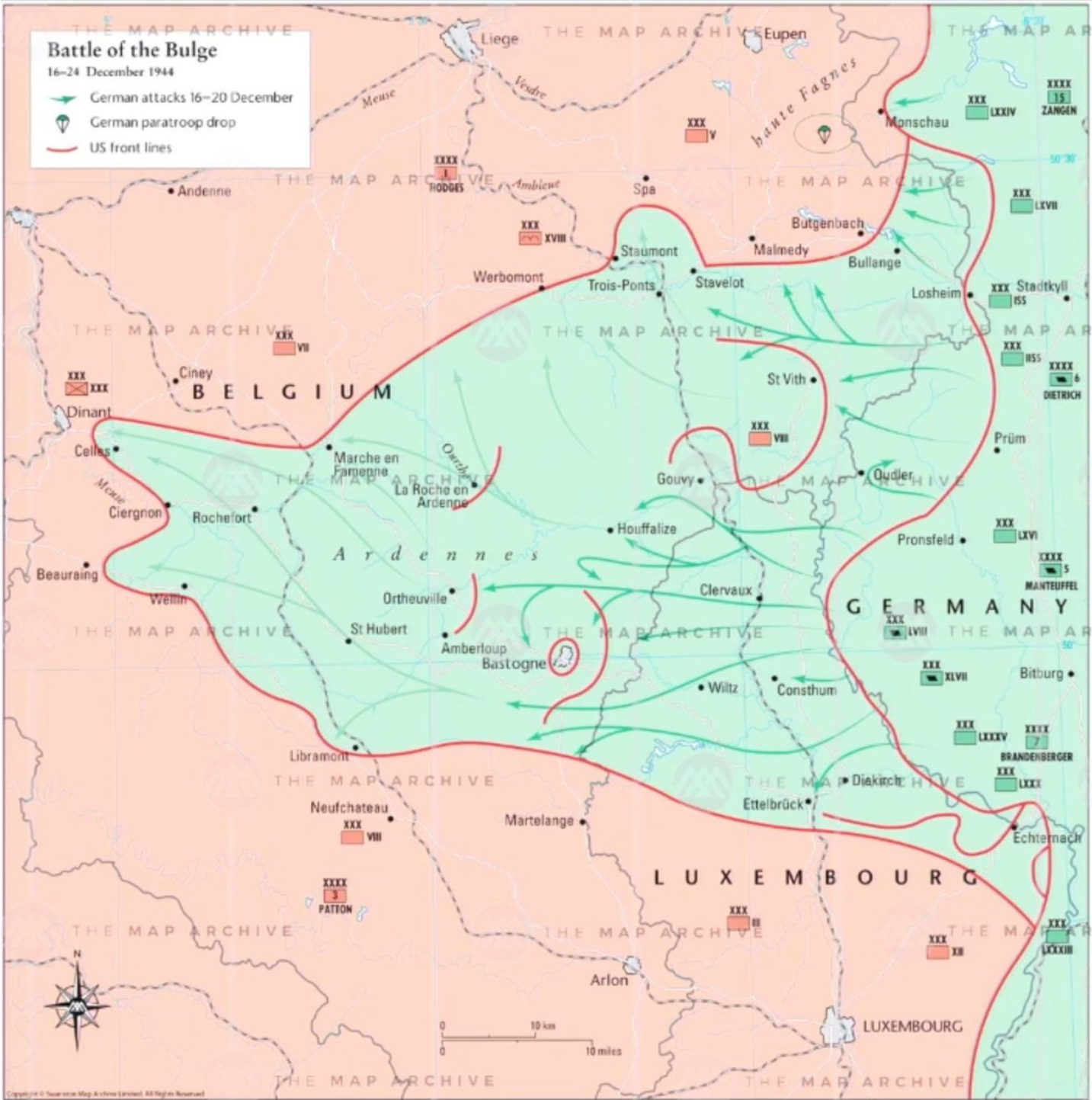


The story of the Battle of the Bulge continues with an MoT classic. Tanks, Paratroopers, WWII. A lot of detail and history packed into the tweets. Worth your time.

Now let's pass the mic over to [@WTFIOGuy](https://t.co/vm06m7yDFg) for another aspect of this story. What do ya got for us, Ken?  
<https://t.co/vm06m7yDFg>

— XVIII Airborne Corps\U0001f409 (@18airborne corps) December 24, 2020

The Operational Environment looked pretty bleak for the "Battled Bastards Of Bastogne" of the @101stAASLT DIV. All this talk of "Patton this..Patton that..".."Commanded massive formations.." ...or did he? We will come back to this question later in the thread. For now..2/



Allow me to introduce the secret weapon Patton had at his disposal..3/





ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING UNITS OF WW2 WAS THE 23RD HEADQUARTERS SPECIAL TROOPS. A UNIT SPECIALIZED IN MILDEC. FORMED JANUARY 1941, THIS ORGANIZATION HAD ONE MISSION: TO DECEIVE THE ENEMY ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

CAMP FOREST, TENNESSEE; WOULD SERVE AS THE ARMY POST TO ARRANGE THE MOST UNIQUE FORMATIONS IN ARMY HISTORY.

CLASSIFIED "TOP SECRET" UNTIL 1996, THE 23RD WAS THE SIZE OF JUST 1,100 PERSONNEL. THE COMMANDER OF THE ORGANIZATION, COL HARRY L. REEDER (THE ONLY COMMANDER) SAW THE UNIT JUST AS A HOLLYWOOD PRODUCTION TEAM AND HAD ARTISTS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION.

The unit was organized with one battalion, 3 company separates and one headquarters company. Each unit had its specific role that was the personification of MILDEC doctrine...or shall I say PSYOP Doctrine? 4/

# THE UNIT

## Colonel and Staff

Producer → Directors ("stars")



Hq Co

business, box office → housekeeping



603  
Cam. Engr  
Bn.



scenery - props  
shoulder patches  
road signs  
costumes - insignias



244 Co.



radio scripts  
scenarios  
dialogue



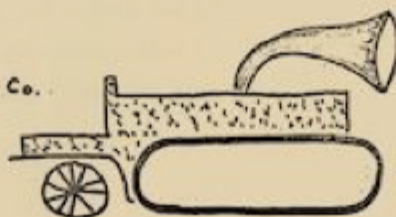
406  
Camm.  
Engr  
Co



spear carriers  
stagehands  
guards



3132 Co.

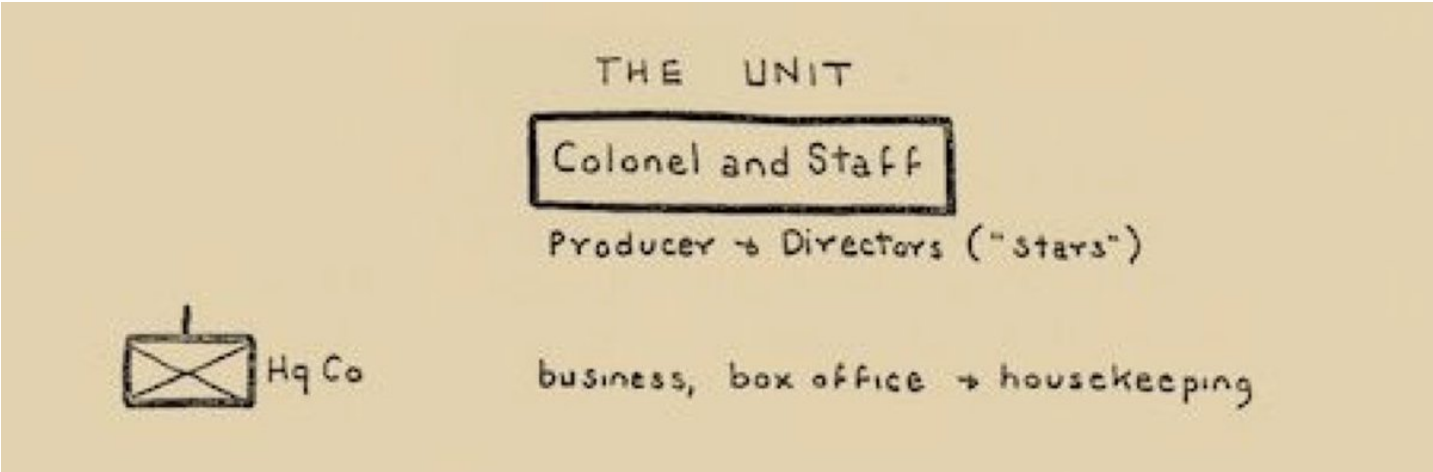


sound  
effects  
orchestra  
off-stage noises

Members of the Ghost Army..Post! Name, Rank, and Serial Number Please...



The Command Group and Headquarters Company managed talent and provided command and control. Unorthodox in command guidance, the headquarters company was viewed as directors, stars and producers. 6/



603rd Engineer Camouflage Battalion Special was the largest of the formations; with a primary mission of using inflatable tanks, trucks, artillery pieces and "props". These props also included uniforms, false patches and road signs to fake German spies. 7/

