

Introduction to the Battle of the Bulge Resource Packet

1. Battle of the Bulge

This section is a step-by-step explanation of the Battle of the Bulge. It contains links to photographs, maps, and quotations that also appear in the Battle Binder.

2. Bütgenbach

This section is a step-by-step explanation of the Battle at Bütgenbach, along with six lessons that can be learned from studying the battle.

3. Quotations

These are excerpts of memoirs and books that soldiers at Bütgenbach have written. They can all be found in the Cantigny MHS book, *Blue Spaders*. These quotations are meant to augment the explanation of Bütgenbach in section two. Look for the quotation links at the end of certain paragraphs to learn more details about the battle.

4. Journal Entries of Paul Bystrak

These are the actual daily journal entries of 1st Division soldier, Paul Bystrak. The journal offers a first hand account of the events around Bütgenbach as they were unfolding. Entries have been shortened in some places for brevity and clarity.

5. Maps

These maps move from the general outline of the Battle of the Bulge, to the specific terrain and troop positions of the Battle at Bütgenbach. Many of the maps are available online for classroom use, and the web address can be found at the bottom of the map or in the bibliography.

6. Photographs

Sixteen photographs of soldiers (German and American), weapons, vehicles, terrain, weather, and Belgian refugees involved in the Battle of the Bulge. At the beginning of the photograph section there is a list including the official army captions from the backs of most photographs, and classroom questions that relate to the photograph.

7. Medal of Honor Citations

The Medal of Honor is the United States' highest military award for acts of bravery. It is awarded to soldiers whose valor in combat goes "above and beyond the call of duty." This section is a transcript of the Medal of Honor citations for heroes of the Battle of the Bulge.

- a. Francis S. Currey
- b. Archer T. Gammon
- c. Vernon McGarity
- d. Henry F. Warner

8. Biographies

These are one page biographies of major personalities involved in the Battle of the Bulge.

- a. Dwight D. Eisenhower
- b. George S. Patton
- c. Bernard L. Montgomery
- d. Clifton Andrus
- e. Gerd von Rundstedt

9. Newspaper Articles

These are newspaper articles out of the Chicago Tribune. A beneficial classroom activity would be to discuss the strengths, weaknesses, and differences between different primary resources: journals, memoirs, after action reports, and newspaper articles.

10. Annotated Bibliography

This bibliography provides a variety of books, websites, and articles related to the Battle of the Bulge. The websites include links to internet maps and excellent information for student research projects.