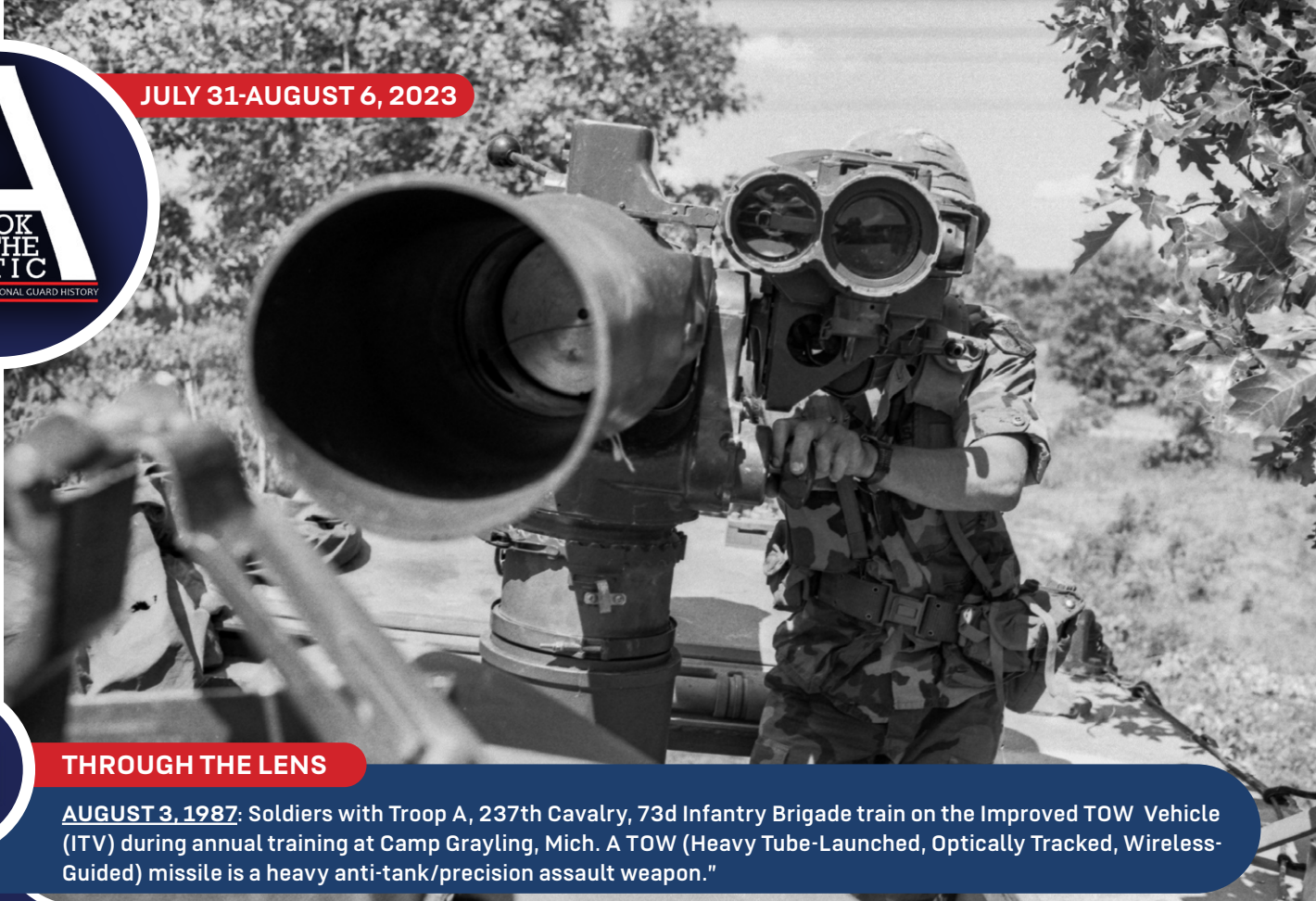




JULY 31-AUGUST 6, 2023



THROUGH THE LENS

AUGUST 3, 1987: Soldiers with Troop A, 237th Cavalry, 73d Infantry Brigade train on the Improved TOW Vehicle (ITV) during annual training at Camp Grayling, Mich. A TOW (Heavy Tube-Launched, Optically Tracked, Wireless-Guided) missile is a heavy anti-tank/precision assault weapon."



WEEK IN REVIEW

M JULY 31, 1876: Troop C, 2d Squadron, 107th Cavalry Regiment is organized in Hillsboro as the Scott Dragoons.

JULY 31, 1943: Pfc. Frank Petrarca of the Medical Detachment, 145th Infantry and Pvt. Rodger Young of Company B, 148th Infantry are both killed during the Battle for Munda Airfield on the island of New Georgia. Both would be awarded the Medal of Honor for their final heroic deeds.

Tu AUGUST 1, 1943: Lt. Col. Addison Baker, formerly of the 112th Observation Squadron, is shot down in his B-24 Bomber over Ploesti, Romania and is later awarded the Medal of Honor.

W AUGUST 2, 1898: The 4th Ohio Volunteer Infantry lands at Arroyo, Puerto Rico during the War with Spain.

Sa AUGUST 5, 1877: The 945th Engineer Company is organized in Norwalk as Company G, 16th Infantry Regiment (Western Reserve Guards).

AUGUST 5, 1917: The Ohio National Guard is drafted into federal service for World War I.

AUGUST 5, 1943: The 37th Infantry Division captures Munda Airfield and the Battle of New Georgia comes to an end.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Description of the attack against Horse Shoe Hill on July 31-August 1, 1943 by the 2d Battalion, 145th Infantry from the battalion's after action report.

"The 81mm mortar platoon of H company placed an intense mortar barrage (81mm HE heavy shells) on the enemy positions of Horse Shoe Hill during the morning of July 31, 1943. A mortar observer, Cpl. Seeiling of H company also registered a section of 81mm mortars of 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry, on the west end of Horse Shoe Hill and assisted in the barrage.

Orders were received to resume the attack on the enemy stronghold at 1400. The attack formation was the same, with G company and F company in the assault position. The north side of the hill was swept with heavy machine gun fire before the attack. The assault units gained the top of the hill after overcoming heavy resistance. Members of the leading platoon of F company killed fifteen Japs in one pill box during the advance. E company with the heavy machine gun platoon from H company successfully covered the flanks and the rear. Efforts to clear the hill of the enemy were continued. This resulted in the bitterest fighting thus far engaged. The attack was continuous without a lull, but advances were slow, due to extremely heavy and accurate enemy small arms fire. At 1750 approximately one third of Horse Shoe Hill was cleared of the enemy. At 1745 an intense barrage of enemy knee mortar fire was directed on the portion of the hill held by the 2nd Battalion. All companies withdrew and dug in positions below the crest of the hill at 1800. Many casualties were suffered in this days battle. 1st Lt. Winn P. Rach and 2nd Lt. Steven J. Fejes were seriously wounded by enemy mortar fire at 1745.

The morning of August 1, 1943 was devoted to patrolling and directing mortar fire on the enemy held area. Orders were received to resume the attack at 1650. This attack was coordinated with the 2nd Battalion, 161st Infantry on the left. Horse Shoe Hill was secured at 1800 without firing a shot or losing a man. Large quantities of enemy equipment were captured with the taking of the hill. The 2nd Battalion reverted to control of the 145th Infantry at 1800 August 1, 1943.

