

= 188th Infantry Brigade (United States) =

The 188th Infantry Brigade is an infantry training brigade of the United States Army based at Fort Stewart , Georgia . It is a subordinate unit of the First United States Army , Division East .

Active from 1921 to 1942 as part of the 94th Infantry Division , the brigade was transformed into a reconnaissance troop during and after World War II , supporting the 94th Division as it fought in Europe . Activated again from 1997 ? 1999 and again in 2006 , the unit gained responsibility for conducting training for other reserve component army units with a variety of purposes . Today , the unit is responsible for training selected United States Army Reserve and National Guard units East of the Mississippi River .

= = Organization = =

The brigade is subordinate to First Army Division East of the First United States Army , one of several regional training brigades spread throughout the United States .

The brigade consists of seven primary elements . The brigade 's Headquarters and Headquarters Company , along with its Special Troops Battalion , provides support and oversight to the other six battalions in the brigade . The 1st Battalion , 306th Regiment trains primarily infantry units , while the 2nd Battalion , 306th Regiment trains field artillery units . The 1st Battalion , 347th Regiment provides training for combat support units , while the 3rd Battalion , 345th Regiment oversees combat service support units . The 2nd Battalion , 349th Regiment provides support training for the other battalions and large @-@ scale training operations . The 3rd Battalion , 395th Regiment (recently realigned from First Army Division West) trains primarily armor / cavalry units .

= = History = =

The 188th Infantry Brigade was first constituted on 24 June 1921 in the organized reserves at Boston , Massachusetts . It was organized with two infantry regiments , the 376th Infantry Regiment and the 419th Infantry Regiment . It was , in turn , assigned to the 94th Infantry Division . From 1921 to 1942 the division remained on the Massachusetts organized reserve rolls , though the unit did not assemble except for regular weekend training . In 1925 , the brigade relocated to Worcester , Massachusetts and in 1940 it moved to Springfield , Massachusetts .

= = = 94th Reconnaissance Troop = = =

The 94th Infantry Division was mobilized for deployment for World War II on 15 September 1942 at Fort Custer , Michigan . During this mobilization the 188th Infantry Brigade went through a series of reorganizations . The 376th Infantry Regiment continued as part of the 94th Infantry Division and the remainder of the 188th Infantry Brigade became the 94th Reconnaissance Troop , still assigned to the 94th Infantry Division .

The 94th Infantry Division , with the troop in tow , landed on Utah Beach on 8 September 1944 , 94 days after D @-@ Day . It and moved into Brittany to assume responsibility for containing some 60 @,@ 000 German troops besieged in the ports of Lorient and Saint @-@ Nazaire . The 94th inflicted over 2 @,@ 700 casualties on the German forces and took 566 prisoners before being relieved on 1 January 1945 .

Moving west , the troop followed the division as it took positions in the Saar @-@ Moselle Triangle , facing the Siegfried Switch Line on 7 January 1945 , and shifted to the offensive on 14 January , seizing Tettingen and Butzdorf that day . The following day , the Nennigberg @-@ Wies area was wrested from the German army , but heavy counterattacks followed and Butzdorf , Berg , and most of Nennig changed hands several times before being finally secured . On 20 January , an unsuccessful battalion attack against Orscholz , eastern terminus of the switch position , cost the division most of two companies . In early February , the division , with troop in tow , took the woods of Campholz and later Sinz .

On 19 February 1945 , the division launched a full @-@ scale attack , storming Munzigen Ridge , the backbone of the Saar @-@ Moselle Triangle , and captured all of its objectives . Moving forward , the 94th Infantry Division , along with the 10th Armored Division , secured the area from Orscholz to the confluence of the Saar and Moselle Rivers by 21 February 1945 . Then , launching an attack across the Saar , it established and expanded a bridgehead . By 2 March 1945 , the division stretched over a 10 @-@ mile (16 km) front , from Hocker Hill on the Saar through Zerf , and Lampaden to Ollmuth . A heavy German attack near Lampaden achieved penetrations , but the line was shortly restored , and on 13 March , spearheading the XX Corps , the 94th broke out of the bridgehead and drove to the Rhine River , reaching it on 21 March . Ludwigshafen was taken on 24 March , with assistance from elements the 12th Armored Division .

The 94th Infantry Division then moved by railroad and motor to the vicinity of Krefeld , Germany , assuming responsibility for containing the west side of the Ruhr pocket from positions along the Rhine on 3 April . With the reduction of the pocket in mid @-@ April , the 94th Infantry Division was assigned military government duties , first in the Krefeld and later in the Düsseldorf areas . Soldiers of the troop participated in this assignment .

The 94th Infantry Division participated in four World War II campaigns on mainland Europe . The 94th Reconnaissance Troop supported the division throughout its push through Europe . Upon the end of fighting in Europe , the 94th Infantry Division began conducting occupation duty in Europe until it returned to the US at the end of 1945 . The Troop was demobilized at Camp Kilmer , New Jersey and deactivated on 7 February 1946 .

The troop was reactivated on 13 February 1947 in Boston , Massachusetts . However , the troop did not see any significant actions during its post war years , still a part of the 94th Infantry Division , which itself was never called on for service . The troop was moved to Cohasset , Massachusetts in 1953 , remaining there for another six years as an inactive reserve unit until 1959 , when it was again disbanded and inactivated .

= = = Training brigade = = =

On 24 October 1997 , the 188th Infantry Brigade was reactivated again in the Active duty force at Fort Stewart , Georgia . It was a reflagging of the 4th Brigade , 87th Division . The brigade was reactivated to provide training support to Reserve Component units in the region .

As of 1998 there were 248 soldiers assigned to the Brigade in five training support battalions and the Brigade Headquarters . At that time , the 188th Infantry Brigade supported the training of over 5 @, @ 000 National Guard and Reserve Component soldiers in infantry , armor , cavalry , aviation , artillery , communications , medical , maintenance , and supply units .

The Brigade was composed entirely of active duty senior noncommissioned officers and officers who conducted training assistance and valuations for a variety of combat arms , combat support and combat service support units . A new building was constructed on Fort Stewart , Georgia for the Brigade and was occupied in August 1997 . The First United States Army , the Brigade 's higher headquarters , also purchased new furniture and computers for the Brigade 's use . In 1999 , the brigade was again reflagged as the 4th Brigade , 87th Division .

= = = Present day = = =

The brigade was reactivated on 1 October 2006 as part of another consolidation of US Army training commands , again at Fort Stewart . The division fell under the command of Division East of the First United States Army . During the consolidation , the brigade was given a larger area of responsibility , supporting the training of over 18 @, @ 000 National Guard and Reserve Component soldiers in infantry , armor , cavalry , aviation , artillery , communications , medical , maintenance , and supply units both at and around the Fort Stewart area . The brigade grew to over 600 soldiers assigned to 6 training support battalions and the Headquarters .

On 15 January 2008 , the brigade received a shoulder sleeve insignia and distinctive unit insignia . Both of these allude to the brigade 's service to the 94th Infantry Division both during peacetime and

as the 94th Reconnaissance Troop during and after World War II .

= = Honors = =

= = = Unit decorations = = =

The brigade has never received a unit decoration from the United States military .

= = = Campaign streamers = = =