

## #26 At Ease



*U.S. mechanized troops enjoy a break at a French farm during their drive across that country.*

Most armies during WW2 used halftracks and/or trucks allowed infantry to keep up with tanks during advances.

Stratford resident Robert (Bob) Swirsky was a radio operator, tech sgt. for the 3rd Armored Division of the US First Army in such a halftrack. He saw front-line combat during the war for 323 days. His halftrack, 3-Baker, was a part of the army that pushed across Europe from landing at Omaha Beach to the end of the war on VE Day. His service included fighting across Europe from Normandy (D+18) to the liberation of the Nordhausen concentration camp.

He recorded his experiences in the book *My War: A Story Which Involves Horror and Humor*.