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FYI--here I go again! June 12, 2008

Ken Robinson mentioned another segment of my WWII experiences in his Telecom Review

As a current 94 year old fugitive from the actuarial tables, I appreciate reminders of how lucky I was to survive my overseas 32 consecutive month WWII tour of duty.

I'm compelled to mention that my battalion crossings of the Rhine and Danube and attacking the SS college in northern Munich were a bit more harrowing than Ken's thoughtful quotes of Sicily and Italy.



Remember, you are invited to my 100th birthday dinner at the Army Navy c.c. saluting WWII vets. Chairman Dan George Dingell Ted Stinson and John Jay date--
 April 21, 2014



Best, Jim
 GOD BLESS AMERICA and you

But is that really true? Look at the casualties in Korea, Vietnam, or even now. They're significant, aren't they?

Well, there are obviously lots of books and movies on D-Day. The Longest Day and Saving Private Ryan are probably Hollywood's best. But an interesting book on the war in Europe was actually written by a retired FCC Commissioner, Jim Quello. Quello's autobiography tracks his early years in upper peninsula Michigan, his years as a major Detroit radio station manager -- and, his years of service in Europe during WW II.

The Quello book isn't easy to find. But it's an interesting read. The author for year wrote advertising and radio copy. Thus, sentences are short and the book's succinct. Subtleties are obvious. And, there's lots of FCC history and regulatory lore. Quello was fortunate to serve almost 24 years at the center of all the technological and commercial changes affecting the "Information Economy." Here's a brief excerpt from this good book --

I landed in Gela, Sicily, late on that invasion's D-Day Plus One. By that time, the landing was secure although we remained under attack. ... [O]verall, the campaign was a smashing success. Americans under the aggressive leadership of General Patton overtook four-fifths of the island... as our courageous, indomitable allies... the British Eighth Army... was bogged down south of Messina. ...

After two or three months of mopping up in Sicily, we started all over again in Italy. I landed in Salerno D+2. The initial landing was more bitterly fought and hectic than the initial press reports conveyed. ...

The battles in Italy have been reported and analyzed by experts over the years. Several articles I wrote ... were published by the Military Review. ... However, my further authorship was abruptly interrupted by a sudden transfer to an all-consuming combat infantry assignment. ... The upside was that a battalion command would put me in position to be promoted from major to lieutenant colonel. It would also put me much closer to the line of fire.

James H. Quello, My Wars: Surviving WW II and the FCC (2001) at pp. 17-21 (excerpted).

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