

Cold War Combat Chronology (1946-1952) (2)

1946 Feb 9 Soviet Union: Stalin effectively declares on the West. He does in Moscow speech. Feb 10 Czechoslovakia: 12 Americans infiltrate on an intelligence mission - 3 are captured and held 21 days. 1 GI of the 126th Combat Engineer Bn. earns a Soldiers Medal for heroism. Mar 3 Germany ? Berlin: 1 Army ordnance officer is killed by a Soviet sentry. Jul 12 Yugoslavia Border: Firefight at Ursina 8-man squad from L Co., 351st IR, is ambushed. U.S: 0 Yugoslavs: 2 KIA. Jul 16 Yugoslavia Border: 1 GI is killed along a road from Trieste by Yugoslav Partisans. Aug 9 Yugoslavia Border - Ljubljana: U.S. C-47 transport is forced down by Yugoslav aircraft: 7 airmen briefly held captive. B-17s begin flying the route, with gunners ordered to "shoot if interfered with." B-17 flights end Oct. 23. Aug 19 Yugoslavia Border: U.S. transport of the 305th TCS is shot down by a Yugoslav plane, killing the 5-man crew and causing an international incident. Oct Yugoslavia Border. 88th 10 (11,352 men) is the only **division** in the entire U.S. Army at full operational strength, as a result of tensions with the Yugoslavs. 1947 Mar 12 Europe: Truman Doctrine. U.S. officially declares "war" on Soviet expansion and subversion. Sep 15 Yugoslavia Border: Outpost 5 3 GIs of Co.B, 351st IR, are captured by Partisans and held for 5 days. 1948 Jul 8, 1948 - Jul 12, 1949 Germany ? Berlin: Berlin Airlift. 31 U.S. airmen die in 12 fatal accidental aircraft crashes during Operation Vittles between these dates. 733 incidents of Soviet harassment in the air reported. Jul 17 Britain: 60 B-29 bombers of SAC's 28th & 307th BGs arrive at Marham Royal Air Force Base. Oct 30 Austria ? Vienna: 1 U.S. diplomat is abducted and beaten to death by Soviet NKVD. Dec 10 Czechoslovakia - Ceska Kubie: 2 GIs of the 6th ACR are captured and not released until February 1949. 1949 Jan 22 Greece: 1 U.S. Air Force officer is captured and KIA by Communist guerrillas after his AT-6 is shot down by ground fire while directing a strafing mission. 1950 Apr 8 Baltic Sea ? Latvia: Soviet fighters shoot down a PB4Y (Det. A, VP-26): 10 KIA. May 18 Azores ? Lajes: B-29crashes: 16 crew die. 1951 May 3 Austria ? Vienna: 1 soldier of the 796th MP Bn is killed by two Soviet soldiers. 1952 Apr 26 Atlantic: USS Hobson collides with the carrier Wasp: 176 destroyermen die.