

## **How a German Shepherd Saved My Life**

**By Mel Kramer**

**Paris was liberated. The media went crazy, and so did the people of Paris. However, what never hit the news which was almost as important was the liberation of the Ford Motor Company plant a few miles outside of Paris. The top brass was afraid of saboteurs and infiltrators, and sent the 505th Engineer Co, to guard the plant. However the place was so large and sprawling that a second company was also assigned to guard duty. We were told that we would guard the more sensitive areas and that guard dogs would assist us.**

**I went on guard duty at midnight and a few minutes later a trainer with a large German Shepherd accompanied him. He unleashed the dog, spoke to him, and said "I just gave him his orders, he knows what to do." I said, "Fine, what are my orders?" The trainer said, "Watch his ears." If they shoot up, go for cover, or if he growls, do the same." The first hour of duty went by without a hitch. Shortly into the second hour, the dog started to pace back and forth in a state of agitation. His ears were up, and he was growling loudly. I ducked into a doorway, put a bullet in the chamber, and held my breath. I stared out but could see nothing. After a few minutes, the growling died down and we both relaxed. When the trainer came to pick up the dog, I told him what had happened. He said, "There was somebody out there, but he was clever, clinging to the shadows and doorways. When he heard the growling, he backed off.**

**The following morning, at the other end of the compound, a lot seem to be going on. I heard that one of their guards, who did not have a dog, was murdered. His throat was cut! I like to feel that if my dog had not alerted me, that I could have been the murdered guard.**

Note: Ford Motor Company had plants throughout Europe. This particular plant was probably located in the Paris suburb of Asnières. For more information on Ford Motor company: [The Fruits of Facism](#)