



FREE
PUBLIC
LECTURE

Presented by the
York County Historical Committee

**“Elite Assault: The 85th
Infantry Division in Italy
1944-1945”**

with Guest Speaker, Local Historian

Ross Patterson II

Sunday, November 13th, 2016

3:00 - 4:00 PM

York Hall

301 Main Street – Yorktown, VA

Yorktown resident Ross Patterson II tells the story of the draftees of the 85th Infantry Division, who left from Camp Patrick Henry on the Peninsula to fight in Italy during World War II and returned there at war's end. He will present the relatively unknown story of the 85th Division and its men while undergoing training and during battle in the Italian Campaign, with accompanying maps and photographs. This all-draftee division participated in three brutal campaigns, but received little notice from the public. Mr. Patterson studied the 85th Division from formation to disbandment. His research provides a unique perspective on how the units and men trained and fought.