

## 8. Mat Thompson's Troop Cars



During WWII, the U.S. Office of Defense Transportation contracted with the Pullman to build 2,400 troop sleepers, and with American Car and Foundry to build 440 troop kitchen cars.

Sleeper Cars were 50'-6" single-sheathed steel boxcar designs. Cars had Allied Full Cushion high-speed trucks to be fully interchangeable with all other passenger equipment. They slept 29 servicemen plus the Pullman porter.

Troop sleepers were declared surplus in 1947 and sold to railroads for use as baggage cars, express service boxcars, refrigerator cars, cabooses, and MoW bunk cars. The Army retained many of the kitchen cars for use as Guard cars and special transports.

These are HO scale Walthers models of troop sleepers and kitchen cars. I formatted the picture in black and white to replicate how they would have looked in newspaper photos of the era. *Mat Thompson, MMR*

