

AAR# 390

AFTER ACTION REPORT

95TH ARMD. FIELD ARTY BN.

5TH ARMORED DIVISION

AUGUST 1944 THRU

APRIL 1945

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895-1177-121

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Aug 44 thru 9 May 45

REF: [unclear]

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U. S. Army

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Subject: Unit History from 1 August 1944 to 9 May 1945.

To: [unclear] Officer, Division Artillery, AOC 255, U. S. Army.

Arriving on the coast at the 24th to 26th of July 1944, this unit was able to see from a distance the action during the latter days of the Normandy Campaign. The breakthrough having come to a critical state, the unit was not much time to prepare for the campaigns to come. On 1 August 1944 alert orders arrived and, as supporting artillery for 208 of the 5th Army Div, this unit moved out into the active zone of operations.

Marching through St Sauver Levidin, St Laurent, Bourgeres, Lire, toward Le Mans, the unit continued to support Combat Group 2 as it advanced against air attacks, snipers, and minefields. A few casualties were caused. The main resistance came from disorganized groups of infantry and service troops with occasional tanks in support. Though there were many periods of inactivity, the situation appeared serious due to the existence of large numbers of enemy weapons, and serious losses as the battalion advanced to establish the Falaise Gap.

On the 15th of August 1944, relieved from the Falaise Gap, the march to the Seine began. No doubt due to the fact that the advance was delayed for several days at Falaise Gap, and due also to the fan line of defense the enemy who occupied the region, resistance was somewhat increased. Counter-battery was received near Louvergne, France the night of the 15th as the battalion was going into position. Although the shelling continued for about an hour, only a few casualties were caused, and on the 16th an attack by 20 enemy tanks and at least 100 infantry with mortars, MG's, and rifles was received by Battery C while in column south of Tuboeuf. The attack was fierce at first, direct tank fire destroying an M-7 with the first several exchanges of fire and causing casualties. By the quick action of Sgt. Astry and Pvt. Barre, most of the personnel were saved when they voluntarily entered the blazing tank to retrieve the wounded in spite of enemy fire. Battery C under Captain Rush recovered from the surprise quickly and went into a direct firing position, and with the M-7's direct fire, rifles, MG's, and bazookas, struck back with vicious energy, causing the enemy to retreat into a nearby woods. Lt. Col. McNeer, Battalion Commander then put the Battalion less A Battery and Headquarters Battery into indirect firing position and the unit left the battlefield only after destroying four Mark IV and 5 Mark V tanks. In addition mortar positions and 2 MG nests, were destroyed and un-numbered infantry killed and wounded. Finally Breux, the attack continued East to close a second gap along the Seine west of Paris.

Before passing through Paris, the 85th Army Air Bn was attached to CCB, the advance continued with scattered resistance until it arrived at Dompierre Forest. There an enemy trap was set up to take place of troops which had escaped through the Falaise Gap. The strength of the resistance was broken however by 1 September 1944, and orders came to drive North into Belgium. At Bonescours on 3 September 1944 the entire march had been accomplished encountering only a few defended road blocks by retreating troops. The battalion moved into

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This report is prepared in accordance with G. M. W. 413 (cont. 14) 11 April 51.

The unit was ordered to support the 2nd Infantry and 1st Infantry Units in the defense of the front sector on the 22nd November 1944. The mission of the unit was to support the 2nd Infantry Unit and 1st Infantry Unit in the defense of an assembly area and to support the 2nd Infantry Unit and 1st Infantry Unit in the defense of an assembly area. The unit was ordered to support the 2nd Infantry Unit and 1st Infantry Unit in the defense of an assembly area. The unit was ordered to support the 2nd Infantry Unit and 1st Infantry Unit in the defense of an assembly area. The unit was ordered to support the 2nd Infantry Unit and 1st Infantry Unit in the defense of an assembly area.

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On 22 November 1944, the unit was relieved and took positions after a long march near the assembly area. There was little activity and support was not received during the entire period. One advance was taken in maintenance and assistance of relief movements. On 22 Oct 44 the battalion supported the defense of the sector in the vicinity of Waltherberg. This mission was successful except for several counter-attacks all of which were dispersed by our artillery. On 23 Nov 44 the unit was relieved of support and sent into direct support of GSR. On 11 Dec 44 orders alerted the battalion and a march was made to an assembly area near Albern, Austria, in direct support of GSR.

On 20 Nov 44 the unit left the assembly area and marched to positions in the Karawankens forest. The enemy position was strong and the terrain was not well suited for armor. Capt. Auer the Survey Officer began early to have the position cleared so that vehicles could enter and his selection was proved when our artillery fell in the area the entire time the position was occupied. In the role of supporting artillery, the unit supported elements of the 6th Inf Div, GSR of the 5th Arm Div, and the 2nd Battalion of Engineers. The enemy was strongly supported by well emplaced mortar, MG, and rifle fire as well as self-propelled guns and occasional air. Extensive mine fields were the greatest hindrance to our advance and caused the greatest number of vehicles and casualties.

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Unit history from 1 May '44 to 9 May '45 (cont'd) May 1945.

For the 25 thousand rounds were expended in this area and the lack of the road made the lack of supply a difficult task. The roads were muddy and the rain was so deep. The enemy rounds were received which were all dispersed by an illness in which lines of attacked and reinforcements were concentrated by this attack. Sgt. Miller and Zettelhut and their crews were also there. Sgt. Kerr, S/A Webb, S/A DeLoach and S/Co Can also did outstanding work in clearing artillery fire with the 24th Inf Div, 1st of the 5th Arm Div, and the 2nd Battalion of Engineers. Both officers remained with their crews the entire time the position was occupied. Our own casualties of 1 Officer killed, 1 Officer missing in action, and several men wounded were light against the casualties inflicted upon the enemy. The Battalion was commended by the Commanding General of the 5th Infantry Division for the work done during this mission and its large part in the successful close of the mission against so many difficulties.

On 15 Dec 44 the battalion was ordered to the vicinity of Roggen to support a defense and proposed attack on the Monshau area. This mission was interrupted with the beginning by an enemy counter-attack which culminated in the Battle of the Bulge. Enemy artillery shelled the position areas repeatedly during the time they were occupied. Many enemy paratroopers were captured and a few planes were shot down. On 21 Dec 44 due to the general situation, the unit was ordered to take position in the vicinity of Eupen, Belgium and moved into Kettens. With the enemy counter-attack proceeding toward Eupen from the South, the unit was ordered to support CGR in the holding of that town and be prepared to support road blocks with artillery fire. As the bulge receded the Combat command was relieved of its mission and on 25 Jan 45, was assigned with the 5th Arm Div to the 9th Army which was a part of the Command of General Montgomery.

On 28 Jan 45, movement to an area in the 9th Army area was made to Hauset, Belgium. Time was spent for maintenance of vehicles and general preparation for future operations under winter conditions. On 7 Feb 45 the unit was alerted to a new mission North of Aachen and moved to an assembly area in Hoenbroek, Holland, prepared to take positions near Ederen, Germany, for an attack across the Roer River. Under Division Artillery control we were to occupy forward positions near the Roer River to give general support to operation "GRANADE". On 8 February 1945, the battalion moved into the forward position 1/2 mile East of Ederen, Germany, within mortar range of the enemy. Because the position was so far forward and the route of approach into it quite muddy, administrative elements were left behind in a rear detachment at Hoenbroek, Holland.

There began for the forward elements a trying period of waiting under difficult weather conditions. For days they sat in the rain and mud, not firing a shot except for registration, and waited impatiently for "H" hour. Finally at 0245 on 23 February 1945 we opened fire as part of the most intense artillery concentration anyone present had ever seen. This Unit fired 2,700 pounds of 105 mm in four hours and forty minutes. No one who was present on that historical night will ever forget it. The battalion remained in position and firing until 26 Feb 45. That evening rear and forward elements joined, crossed the Roer River on the trestle bridge at Linnich, and went into position West of Kofferen. We then proceeded in short bounds to an area near Rheindahlen on 1 Mar. On 3 Mar we really entered the fray with CC"R", making a long march through Dulken, Suchtein, and Kempen, going into position East of the latter when the combat command encountered opposition. Here the unit registered and fired several Air OP missions which succeeded in dispersing the resistance. The 695th Arm'd PA Bn was attached

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Unit History From 1 Aug 44 to 9 May '45 (cont'd) 18 May 1945.

the unit marched about 20 miles to North of Hardesse, going into position four times to give fire support. On 11 Apr 45 the Battalion moved to Wiftern and destroyed most of the town of Westphal, east of Wiftern with devastating fire when resistance was encountered. The Battalion then followed the 47th Armnd I Pz (martial) on the night, while the 695th Armnd Pz followed the rest of the combat command on the left. We moved through a dense forest to Niederack where great number of Allied PWs were liberated and large numbers of enemy prisoners were taken. The advance continued in the enemy rear, with enemy personnel and administrative elements falling into our hands. We stopped that night at Stock- after a march of 20 miles. On 12 Apr 45 the Battalion marched 30 miles to Druseau, near the Elbe River. On 14 April 1945 the unit moved into position near Berge, 1,000 yards from the Elbe River. Administrative elements were left behind at Druseau. On 16 Apr 45, the Battalion moved west in support of the Combat command to clear rear areas into which the enemy had infiltrated, reaching Sipe after a march of 34 miles. The next day we continued, marching 12 miles to Zickta. On 18 Apr 45 we moved to south of Alzwedel, and went into position. Here we remained until 21 April, when the combat command attacked to the north. We supported this attack and by the 22nd had reached Helmsdorf. During this advance our artillery destroyed 8 dual purpose 88's and 9 antitankers. In addition numerous machine gun positions were destroyed. Through Zairau the Battalion was forced to fight enemy infantry in foxholes as the orders stated we would continue to Helmsdorf regardless of opposition. This was done successfully and many prisoners were taken. Many by-passed enemy soldiers were taken prisoner by the Battalion. On 23 Apr 45, the Battalion reached D Annenburg, near the Elbe and went into position there. We remained in this position until 27 Apr 45, when we moved south to new positions near the Elbe at Gross Lanzer. Here we remained until Soviet troops reached the other side of the river on 2 May 1945. The next day we left for an assembly area in the rear at Esendorf, after being alerted for a new mission. The sound of VJ Day rescinded these plans, and the Battalion remained in Esendorf awaiting the assignment of a new area.

JAMES L. MCNER,
LT COL, PA,
Commanding.

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UNITED STATES ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 3RD U. S. ARMY
WASHINGTON, D. C.
NO. 255
U. S. ARMY

444

3 March 1945.

Subject: Unit History.

To : The Adjutant General, United States Army,
Washington, D. C.

1. a. Original Unit:

- (1) 95th Armored Field Artillery Battalion.
- (2) 1 January 1942.
- (3) Fort Knox, Kentucky.
- (4) General Order No. 13, Hq, 5th Armored Division, 1941.
- (5) Cadre for the 95th Armored Field Artillery Battalion was obtained from the 58th Field Artillery (Arm) and 65th Field Artillery Regiment (Arm) including the entire 6th Battery of the 65th Field Artillery (Arm) which was transferred entirely as 4th Battery of the 95th Armored Field Artillery.

g. The original I/O & S was rescinded and a new one instituted 15 September 1943 to formulate a light armored battalion. Equipment and personnel was greatly reduced as indicated by relative strength of the command at that time:

14 September 1943:

Officers, FA:	43
Officers, AC:	2
Officers, DC:	1
Warrant Officers:	2
Assisted Men FA:	640
Assisted Men AC:	21

22 September 1943:

Officers, FA:	38
Officers, AC:	1
Officers, DC:	0
Warrant Officers:	1
Assisted Men FA:	526
Assisted Men AC:	10

On 17 July 1944 the I/O personnel were reduced by authority of letter, Headquarters 3rd U. S. Army, 12 July 1944, which ordered the reduction of the number of basics by 16. This reduction was effected 14 July 1944, and two members were transferred within the Division to fill existing shortages, while 14 were transferred to the 18th Replacement Depot.

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Ltr, H. 25th grad, sub: Unit history, 1944. (Cont'd)

g. The strength of the command:

	OFF	NO	SA	OFF	NO	SA
Strength of command 1 January 1944:	45	2	515	1		0
Strength of command 31 December 44:	35	2	492	0		0

	Gain		Loss	
	OFF	SA	OFF	SA
January...	1	9	15	10
February..	-	14	-	17
March.....	1	-	-	7
April.....	-	8	-	7
May.....	-	2	-	4
June.....	-	5	1	1
July.....	-	-	1	29
August....	2	35	-	17
September.	3	2	6	33
October...	5	32	-	7
November..	2	8	1	6
December..	1	17	1	17
TOTAL.....	15	132	25	155

g. Stations of Unit or parts thereof:

ARRIVED	STATION	LEFT
1 Jan 1942	Fort Knox, Kentucky	17 Feb 1942
17 Feb 1942	Camp Cooke, California	14 Aug 1942
14 Aug 1942	Desert Maneuvers, Calif	19 Nov 1942
19 Nov 1942	Camp Cooke, California	14 Mar 1943
14 Mar 1943	Tennessee Maneuvers, Tenn	29 Jun 1943
29 Jun 1943	Pine Camp, New York	7 Dec 1943
7 Dec 1943	Indiantown Gap Mtl Res, Pa	5 Feb 1944
5 Feb 1944	Camp Kilmer, N. J.	10 Feb 1944
10 Feb 1944	N. Y. Port of embarkation	10 Feb 1944
10 Feb 1944	USAT Edmund B. Alexander	24 Feb 1944
24 Feb 1944	Camp Chisleton, Fernham Downs, Wiltshire, UK.	10 Apr 1944
10 Apr 1944	HMS Raleigh, Cornwall UK.	25 Apr 1944
25 Apr 1944	Fort Tregantle, Antony, UK.	15 Jun 1944
15 Jun 1944	Tilshead 2 mi N W5067	22 Jul 1944
22 Jul 1944	Remy 2 mi N RCRP #2	23 Jul 1944
23 Jul 1944	Southampton Docks W8632	23 Jul 1944
23 Jul 1944	Aboard Liberty Ships USS William M. Webb & David S. Jordan	27 Jul 1944
27 Jul 1944	St Saviour la Vicomte, 1 mi West T77947	2 Aug 1944
2 Aug 1944	Metot 1/2 mi E T 1973 Lambert	2 Aug 1944
3 Aug 1944	Orisy la Salle, 5 mi NW, T 3357,	3 Aug 44.
3 Aug 1944	Avranches 3 mi SE T 3315, Lambert	5 Aug 1944

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str, 17 55th and 1st, sub: Unit History, 1944. (cont'd)

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>DAFI</u>
1 Oct 1944	Stegan 1st Div 920448	3 Oct 1944
3 Oct 1944	Schoppen Belgium 1st Div 3-1 875984	11 Oct 1944
11 Oct 1944	Lisenborn 2nd Div 3-1 925089	22 Oct 1944
22 Oct 1944	Auchensheid 3-1 922145	20 Nov 1944
10 Nov 1944	Wainern 2nd Div 3-1 793322	21 Nov 1944
11 Nov 1944	Wainern 3-1 803322	20 Nov 1944
20 Nov 1944	Welfer Germany 2nd Div 3-1 774323	16 Dec 1944
10 Dec 1944	Wotgen Germany 3-1 922134	22 Dec 1944
22 Dec 1944	Wettenis Belgium 3-1 302286.	remained in this

position until end of period.

- g. Marches: Completed. Formerly submitted in after action report.
- f. Campaigns: Completed. Formerly submitted in after action report.
- e. Battles: Completed. Formerly submitted in after action report.
- d. Commanding officers in important engagements: Completed. Formerly submitted in after action reports.
- c. Losses in action; officers and enlisted men:

Battle of Tubouf, France on Division's drive to Breux, France
10 August 1944.

Killed:

Cpt. Charlie Napier, 35233248, KIA
1st Lt. Edward G. Dillon, 10074447, KIA
1st Lt. Edwin J. Sockwood, 37228045, KIA

Wounded:

Cpl. Leon Tleva, 35233528, KIA
1st Lt. Maynard H. Soettner, 37228623, KIA
1st Lt. Frank H. Ferdue, 35233779, KIA
1st Lt. Richard C. Besseli, 20502059, KIA

Missing:

None.

Taken Prisoners:

None.

Compiègne forest near Verberie, France 31 August 1944;

Wounded:

2nd Lt. (now 1st Lt.) Donald A. Hansen, 01177826, KIA
Cpt. Everett L. Kullala, 6050433, KIA
1st Lt. Joseph W. Wilson, 35222075, KIA

Hallendorf, Germany, 10-17 September 1944;

Killed:

1st Lt. Andrew H. Davidson, 15114321, KIA

Wounded:

1st Lt. Gordon F. Davis, 01167390, KIA
1st Lt. William Hurst, 6067396, KIA

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Cpl. Chester W. Hamilton, 35232225, and
1vt. Francis W. McLaugh, 35232225, and
1vt. Charles W. Osiecki, 35207708, and
Capt. Ernest W. McLaugh, 35250000, and
1st Lt. Robert L. Fisher, 35207417, and
Cpl. Frank W. Smith, 35200325, and
1ec 4 Robert W. Darks, 35200007, and
1ic Roy W. Adams, 35254000, and
1st Sgt. William W. Adams, 35200723, and
1ec 3 William W. Adams, 35200723, and
1ec 3 Winston W. Adams, 35233079, and
1ic Edward W. Adams, 35200723, and
1vt. Jessie W. Woodruff, 35200325, and
1ec 3 Robert L. Spranger, 35207700, and
1ic Charles W. Adams, 35200723, and
1ec 3 Clarence W. Musnick, 35200775, and
1vt. Edward W. Bieski, 35200000, and
1ic Bernard W. Lucas, 35200325, and
1ic Junior W. Furstenau, 35207255, and
1vt. Royal W. Adams, 35230435, and
1ec 4 Captain Adams, 35200325, and
1ic Victor J. Corso, 35200325, and
1vt. Harrison W. Smith, 35200325, and
1vt. Felipe Medina, 35200325, and
1ic Julius W. Lindsey, 35200325, and
1ic Carl W. Butler, 35200325, and
1vt. Norman W. Howell, 35200325, and
1st Lt. Robert W. Adams, 35200325, and
1vt. Grace Hamilton, 35200325, and
1vt. Edward W. Adams, 35200325, and
1vt. Marion W. Adams, 35200325, and
1vt. Spencer W. Adams Jr. 35200325, and
1/sgt. Henry J. Adams Jr. 35200325, and

Murtgen Forest, 2 miles southwest Meifal, Germany, from 27 November
1944 to 29 December 1944:

killed:

1st Lt. John W. Schmalzer, 35200325
1ic Joseph F. Nelson, 35200325

wounded:

1vt. Rudolph W. Hamilton, 35200325, and
1vt. Eugene F. Plummer, 35287774, and
Sgt. Adalbert W. Smith, 35200327, and
Cpl. Jack W. Coltrane, 35200327, and
1ic Benjamin Frazier, 35200327, and

missing:

2nd Lt. Wade L. Stone, 35200325

1. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in
actions: action near Le Mans, France 9 August 1944, 1/sgt Henry F. Bradenhorst,
32345293. On 9 August 1944, during the attack on Le Mans, France, while recon-
nitering the battalion position, 1/sgt Bradenhorst came upon an enemy scouting

SECRET

Ltr, H, 75th Armd Div, Sub: Unit History, 1944. (cont'd)

patrol of ten (10) men. By ordering their surrender in German and giving the enemy to believe he had a company with him and firing a shot to impress them, 1/sgt Bredenerst succeeded in taking them all prisoner. 1/sgt Bredenerst was awarded a Silver Star per par 10, General Orders 1, Headquarters, 5th Armored Division, 2 January 1945.

Engagement at Orne River, near Le Mesle, France, 21 August 1944. 2nd Lt (now 1st Lt) Donald A. Hansen, OAI77824, FA, Forward Observer; 1st Lt Gordon F. Davis, OAI67390, FA, Forward Observer. These officers went forward on foot carrying telephones and a reel of wire infiltrating into enemy positions and brought fire upon the enemy into the immediate area from which they were directing fire. Lt. Davis awarded the Bronze Star per par 4, General Orders 13, Headquarters, 5th Armored Division, 13 September 1944. Lt. Hansen awarded the bronze star per par 5, General Orders 14, Headquarters, 5th Armored Division, 23 September 1944.

Engagement near Lubeauf, France, 10 August 1944 where all Personnel of Battery C, 95th Armored Field Artillery Battalion distinguished themselves when ambushed by the enemy:

- Capt. James G. Bush, OAI8910, FA
- 2nd Lt. Herbert M. Schukind, OAI69347, FA
- 2nd Lt. Melvin Ritter, OAI71737, FA
- 2nd Lt. Williard P. Zimmerman, O516687, FA

- 1st Sgt James G. Haven, 0065604
- 1/sgt Curt A. Kranig, 35126493
- 1/sgt Vernon E. Levering, 15013479
- S/sgt Joseph R. Felles, 33076516
- S/sgt Lawrence Smith, 6058544
- S/sgt Kenneth L. Witman, 15100361
- Sgt Raymond A. Curry, 6667311
- Sgt Charlie Napier, 35133248
- Sgt Eugene W. Seachris, 18084771
- Sgt Albert W. Testan, 36238012
- Sgt Brent L. Fox, Jr. 15100139
- Tec 4 Donald O. Abel, 37118485
- Tec 4 Roger G. Gunn, 39287124
- Tec 4 Lloyd C. Johnston, 34116677
- Tec 4 Clarence H. Keller, 35042108
- Tec 4 Ellsworth H. Lemman, 18084491
- Tec 4 Roy R. Tew, 34085519
- Tec 4 Robert P. Walker, 35133290
- Tec 4 Leldon L. Willis, 18044509
- Cpl Jim Aubry, 39018883
- Cpl William F. Gupfert, 39042077
- Cpl Harvey F. Iseninger, 34034138
- Cpl Robert L. McCain, 38062666
- Cpl Harold F. Moore, 39041937
- Cpl Otis Morgan, 35133299
- Cpl Willie K. Glass, 37118528
- Cpl Leon Flann, 35133288
- Cpl Wilbur H. Reichert, 34073317
- Cpl Donald Stewart, 37118529

- Cpl Anthony R. Urdiales, 15100357
- Tec 5 Frank Bailey, 37118466
- Tec 5 Donald C. Benedict, 32370111
- Tec 5 Clifford S. Bullard, 34106540
- Tec 5 Edwin G. Dillon, 18074247
- Tec 5 Elgie Allison, 34106520
- Tec 5 Dale L. Hamilton, 39270635
- Tec 5 Sylvester P. Masoth, 35164221
- Tec 5 William A. Norman, 35133521
- Tec 5 Ruston K. Putnam, 39548526
- Tec 5 Myle W. Phillips, 35034581
- Tec 5 Claude A. Howland, 35133338
- Tec 5 Vincent F. Smith, 36238066
- Tec 5 William B. Tucker, 34173926
- Tec 5 Winston A. Walls, 32138278
- Tec 5 Cecil A. Willis, 34116538
- Pfc Kenneth L. Adams, 37118408
- Pfc Edwin J. Bookwaldt, 37118645
- Pfc Maynard M. Goettcher, 37118623
- Pfc Arnold W. Fress, 37118512
- Pfc Howard Everett L., 11110787
- Pfc John L. Isen, 35133285
- Pfc Kenneth F. King, 35673177
- Pfc Herbert Lantz, 35041670
- Pfc Hyman Leibowitz, 12011144
- Pfc Miran P. Mipes, 37338474
- Pfc Edward M. McCormick, 31183325
- Pfc Vincent J. McMillan, 31104341
- Pfc George J. Munder, 33179944

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tr, 5th Armored Div, Sub: Unit History, 1944. (cont'd)

Pfc Max D. Pearce, 1402724	Pvt Byron W. Foster, 3125537
Pfc Leonard G. Sullivan, 35017085	Pvt Kyle W. Gano, 3155000
Pfc Earl W. Dearies, 37095178	Pvt Edward M. Lutz, 3074707
Pfc Lyle W. Valentine, 17000095	Pvt Milton W. Harris, 34083714
Pfc Henry W. Wilson, 34173708	Pvt Hubert Guilman, 35133400
Pfc Jonah D. Wright, 35133288	Pvt Marion G. Kirkland, 34053926
Pfc Phillip Novakovich, 27054413	Pvt Hazel G. Abbott, 7086760
Pfc Joseph A. Barney, 31385744	Pvt Maurice W. Depley, 35005733
Pvt Spencer W. Adams Jr., 0941793	Pvt Herman W. Dillinger, 19051077
Pvt Kinchen D. Barker, 19091399	Pvt Frank H. Marcus, 34083909
Pvt Constantino Barrera, 32159053	Pvt Donald W. Phelps, 35288759
Pvt Bond Deasley, 15100350	Pvt Joseph V. Piro, 31054107
Pvt Charles W. Bryson, 17059370	Pvt Edward W. Wiley, 0912500
Pvt Edward J. Burke, 35133678	Pvt Elmer W. Sanderson, 36084638
Pvt George Byrd, 1412159	Pvt John H. Smith, 31111501
Pvt Joseph M. Carson, 35042027	Pvt James J. Taggard, 32305243
Pvt Crowdon Cornett, 35133303	Pvt James C. Thomas, 30237998
Pvt Andrew W. Davidson, 15114322	Pvt Richard C. Wessell, 20505059
Pvt Everett W. Luford, 14181712	Pvt Milton G. Williams, 34116550

In the enemy ambush of Battery "C" near Tubouf, France on 16 August 1944, the enemy fired upon the battery in column without any information of such possibilities. The battery responded in an exemplary manner, all going to their respective stations with available weapons and through their tenacity of spirit and fearlessness, beat off superior numbers of infantry and tanks despite the onerous advantage of surprise and more maneuverable direct fire weapons. The entire battery was commended by the Battalion Commander and has been recommended for a citation. A Silver Star was awarded to Captain (then 1st Lt) James G. Hush, 0448310 PA per par 6 General Orders 13, Headquarters, 5th Armored Division, 13 September 1944, for his excellent leadership and fearlessness under fire. Bronze Stars were awarded for the fighting spirit and fearlessness in rescuing men from a burning tank: Cpl. Jim Autry, 39018883, per par 4 General Orders 13, Headquarters, 5th Armored Division, 13 September 1944. Pvt. Constantino Barrera, 32159053, per par 4, General Orders 13, Headquarters, 5th Armored Division, 13 September 1944.

Campagne Forest, France, 16 August 1944:

2nd Lt (now 1st Lt) Donald W. Hansen, 01177824;
Sgt. Everett W. Kellan, 6656133;
1st Lt (now Sgt) Maureen W. Kerr, 3541756;
Cpl. William W. Whittenburg, 38063710;
Pfc Joseph B. Nelson, 3542075.

These members of a forward observer tank crew went ahead of the leading elements of our forces to seek out enemy forces which were holding up our advance. When their tank was fired by a direct hit they continued to fight the enemy with small arms, destroying an anti-tank gun crew and several machine gun nests.

The entire crew was commended for their actions by the Battalion Commander.

SECRET

12

Nov, 1944. 22 April 1944, Tube it History, 1944. (cont'd)

engagement at all times, January from 16 to 21 September 1944.

1st Lt Gordon E. Davis, 0116310;
1st Lt Albert E. Smith, 0116377;
1st Lt James E. Paul, 0116317;
1st Lt Jack L. Thomas, 1504873;
1st Lt John E. Smith, 0116235.

1st Lt Robert B. Beale, 0116077;
1st Lt Robert B. Ricard, 0116303;
1st Lt John E. Smith, 0116144;
1st Lt Thomas E. Smith, 0116170;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 1501336;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116311;
1st Lt Bernard E. Smith, 1501333;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116322;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116333;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 1501330.

1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116337;
1st Lt Thomas E. Smith, 0116319;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116321;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116335;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116379.

1st Lt Robert E. Miller, 0116756;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116706;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116570;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116275;
1st Lt Albertino E. Smith, 0116222.

1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116327;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116323;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116357;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116361;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116360;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116363;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116361;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116361;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116361.

1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116317;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116334;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116335;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116333.

1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116366;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116364;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116367;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116367;
1st Lt William E. Smith, 0116367.

These observers crews remained forward in the tank CAR's, Half-Tracks, and Tanks to direct fire upon the counterattacking enemy after our friendly elements had withdrawn leaving them exposed to the entire force of enemy attacks alone. By their actions over a continued period of time they dealt disastrous blows to the enemy.

All officers and men were commended by the commanding officer. The crew of Lt. Miller received special commendation, all being recommended for awards, and all were heartily commended for their superb showing in the face of the enemy.

Silver Stars were awarded as follows:

- 1st Lt Robert E. Miller, 0116756 per par 8 GO 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44;
- 1st Lt Robert B. Ricard, 0116303, par 10 GO 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44 (posthumously);
- 1st Lt Herbert W. Schulkind, 0116227, par 8 GO 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44.

Bronze Stars were awarded as follows:

- 1st Lt Howard E. Tettelhub, 0116706, par 8 GO 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44;
- 1st Lt Robert B. Sample, 0116077, par 8 GO 16 Hq 5th Armd Div 7 Oct 44;
- S/Sgt Dan C. Quirk, 0116144, par 8 GO 16 Hq 5th Armd Div 7 Oct 44;

1st Lt. ... 1944. (cont'd)

- 1st Lt. ... 3512235, par 3 ... 18 Hq 5th Armd Div 7 Oct 44;
- 1st Lt. ... 1 034402, par 3 ... 18 Hq 5th Armd Div 7 Oct 44;
- 1st Lt. ... Texas Dr, 1308133, par 6 80 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44;

The following citations were cited for various deeds:

- 1st Lt. ... 3341335;
- 1st Lt. ... 1015221.

... these men carried on for them ... officers were ... 15th Armored Division,

... were conspicuous for their actions:

- 1st Lt. ... 3356118;
- 1st Lt. ... 1111111;
- 1st Lt. ... L. Fisher, 0111419;
- 1st Lt. ... 0111111;
- 1st Lt. ... 0111232;
- 1st Lt. ... 0111111;
- 1st Lt. ... 3378355;
- 1st Lt. ... 3408315;

These officers and men were instrumental in warding back numerous attacks ... heavy shell fire throughout the battle, these men, dis-

... were awarded as follows:

- 1st Lt. ... 3356307, par 10 ... 18 Hq 5th Armd Div 7 Oct 44;
- 1st Lt. ... 0405348, par 10 ... 18 Hq 5th Armd Div 2 Jan 1945;
- 1st Lt. ... L. Fisher, 01107419, par 8 ... 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44
- 1st Lt. ... Quinn, 01109202, par 9 ... 18 Hq 5th Armd Div 7 Oct 44;
- 1st Lt. ... Bremer, 0094154, par 8 ... 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44;
- 1st Lt. ... A. Wright, 34084315, par 8 ... 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44;

... were awarded as follows:

- 1st Lt. ... 01101193, par 8 ... 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44;
- 1st Lt. ... 3307855, par 6 ... 20 Hq 5th Armd Div 24 Nov 44;

Involved in a heroic rescue were:

- Capt. ... 0344197;
- Tec 5 ... 34153787;
- Tec 5 ... 33071779.

This officer and men on their own initiative went to the rescue of a crew ... while the ammunition was exploding.

Ltr, Bq 95th Armd Div, Sub Lt History, 1944. (cont'd)

Capt Samuel W. Hall, 3544197 was awarded a Silver Star per par 3 General Orders 16, Headquarters 5th Armored Division, 7 October 1944. Both enlisted men were also awarded the Silver Star, par 6, General Orders 20, Headquarters 5th Armored Division, 24 November 1944.

The following members of the Battalion Survey Section distinguished themselves:

- S/Lt George J. Boumy, 35042301;
- Pfc Earle W. Cox, 35040879;
- Pfc George D. Allen, 37130097.

These men carried on their survey of a new position area throughout the shelling of the area despite the fact that shells were landing casualties within twenty feet of their position. Their initiative and devotion to duty was rewarded by Bronze Stars per paragraph 6 General Orders 20, Headquarters 5th Armored Division, 24 November 1944.

Cpl. Cecil J. C. Moreno, 37537941.

Cpl Moreno carried on continuous wire repairs between his battery and fire direction center to permit continuation of fire missions despite the heavy shelling which consistently broke the lines. For his industry and devotion to duty in the face of enemy fire he was awarded a Bronze Star per paragraph 6, General Orders 20, Headquarters 5th Armored Division, 24 November 1944.

The following men of Service Battery were cited:

- 2nd Lt (now 1st Lt) Edgar J. Schreiber, 01163326;
- S/Lt Emory J. Kolner, Jr., 35041803;
- Cpl Albert A. Cohen, 35163322;
- Pfc Antonio Martinez, 18067924.

This Officer and men with true devotion to duty went to two ammunition tracks abandoned by their drivers due to a heavy artillery concentration and drove the trucks to safety despite flying shell fragments which did slight damage to the trucks. They were all awarded the Bronze Star as follows:

- 2nd Lt, Edgar J. Schreiber, 01163326, par 6 GO 15 Bq 5th Armd Div 27 Sep 44;
- S/Lt Emory J. Kolner Jr., 35041803, par 6 GO 1 Bq 5th Armd Div 2 Jan 45;
- Cpl Albert A. Cohen, 35163322, par 6 GO 20, Bq 5th Armd Div 26 Mar 44;
- Pfc Antonio Martinez, 18067924, par 6 GO 15 Bq 5th Armd Div 27 Sep 44.

Capt. John R. Mitchell, Jr., 35041803, was awarded a Bronze Star for heroic achievement as liaison officer during the action per paragraph 6 General Orders 20, Bq 5th Armored Division, 7 October 1944.

... ..

1st Lt Edward J. ... 1944. (cont'd)

- 1st Lt Edward J. ... 0117400
- 1st Lt ... 0041200
- 1st Lt ... 0000747
- 1st Lt ... 0100173
- 1st Lt ... 10011277
- 2nd Lt ... 01170744
- 1st Lt ... 1010077
- 1st Lt ... 05100187
- 1st Lt ... 10004070
- 1st Lt ... 00042070

- 1st Lt ... 0440007
- 1st Lt ... 0010010
- 1st Lt ... 1000001
- 1st Lt ... 0011000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000

These Officers and men were forward observers during this period of heavy fighting that represented one of the most contested battles of the Western front. Under shell fire continuously during the entire period, these crews went in foremost positions to gain observation to permit the advance of our troops. The first three tank crews had their tanks knocked out only to repair them amidst bursting shells and small arms fire.

Officers and enlisted men were commended by the Commanding Officer and recommendations have been submitted for awards in recognition of their gallantry. The following have already received awards of the Silver Star:

- 1st Lt Elvin E. ... 0000000
- 1st Lt Albertino V. ... 0000000

For his high manner of performance and completion of 106 combat missions, 1st Lt William F. Patrick, 01100010, was awarded the Air Medal per paragraph 5 General Orders 10, Headquarters 8th Armored Division, 7 October 1944. An Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal per paragraph 11, General Orders 20, Hq, 8th Armored Division, 24 November 1944, and a 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal per paragraph 9, General Orders 1, Hq 8th Armored Division, 2 January 1945.

For completion of 25 combat missions, 2nd Lt Robert A. ... 01100000, was awarded the Air Medal per paragraph 8, General Orders 1, Hq 8th Armored Division, 2 January 1945.

A Bronze Star was awarded to Lt. Colonel James H. ... 0000000, for outstanding service and meritorious achievement against the enemy from 19 November 1944 to 7 December 1944, per paragraph 3 General Orders 1, Hq 8th Armored Division, 2 January 1945, and an Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement from 2 August 1944 to 14 September 1944 per paragraph 14, General Orders 2, Hq 8th Armored Division, 24 January 1945.

Bronze Stars were also awarded for their outstanding devotion to duty and meritorious achievement for the period of combat during this year to the following:

- 1st Lt ... 0000000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000
- 1st Lt ... 0000000

All these awards were per General Orders 1, General Orders 1, Hq 8th Armored Division, 24 January 1945.

SECRET

1400, Eq 90th Avn 7A Reg, Sub Unit History. (Cont'd)

James H. McNear
JAMES H. McNEER,
LT. COL., FA.
Commanding.

SECRET

MINUTE-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

REPORT OF ACTION, AFTER ENEMY

August 1944

*Deep
Narrative to
be photostated*

Aug
44

Organized: 1 January 1942.

At : For Knox, Kentucky.

Strength 1 August 1944: 30 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 479 Enlisted Men.
Increase during Period: 2 Officers; 36 Enlisted Men.
Decrease during period: 2 Officers; 21 Enlisted Men.
Strength as of 31 August 1944: 30 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 493 ENL.

CP was located during period as follows:

- 0000-2300 1 Aug 44, 1 mi W of St Sauveur Le Viconte at 1793947.
- 0930-2800 2 Aug 44, 1 mi S Rotot, at 187734.
- 0350-1610 3 Aug 44, 5 mi NW Cerisy la Salle, at 3357.
- 2550 3 Aug 44 to 1045 5 Aug 44, at T 337150.
- 1220 5 Aug 44 to 0730 6 Aug 44, 2 mi S St Laurent at Y 338039.
- 1604 6 Aug 44 to 1100 7 Aug 44, 5 mi S Vitre, at J 383489.
- 0215-0650 8 Aug 44, 1 mi N St Brice at Ganes Sur Greize.
- 1720 8 Aug 44 to 1615 9 Aug 44, 2 mi S Le Mans, at V 416509.
- 0230-0615 10 Aug 44, 1 mi S St Aignan.
- 0725-2030 10 Aug 44, 3 mi N St Aignans, at V 527836.
- 2100 10 Aug 44 to 0900 11 Aug 44 2 mi S of Perthay at V 561831.
- 0250-1120 12 Aug 44, 2 mi N Le Mans.
- 1224-1530 12 Aug 44, 1 mi N Essai, at Q 47923 .
- 2015 12 Aug 44 to 1540 15 Aug 44 . 3 mi NW Nonat la Pin, at Q 442448.
- 0120 15 Aug 44 to 1003 16 Aug 44, 3 mi E Courtoner at Q 603299.
- 2045 16 Aug 44 to 1920 18 Aug 44, 3 mi NE Droux at R 272347.
- 2005 18 Aug 44 to 0715 19 Aug 44, 2 mi E Droux, at R 302352.
- 1145 19 Aug 44 to 1645 20 Aug 44, 2 mi S Anet, at R 433465.
- 1930-2145 20 Aug 44, 2 mi S Courant.
- 2330 20 Aug 44 to 1800 23 August 44, 1 mi E Chantouy Les Baudouins at R 446655.
- 2005 23 Aug 44 to 1820 24 Aug 44, 1 1/2 mi W de Fosse, at R 58777.
- 2200 24 Aug 44 to 1805 25 Aug 44, 1 1/2 mi W de Fosse, at R 577445.
- 1645-1840 25 Aug 44, 1 1/2 mi W de Fosse, at R 577445.
- 1855 25 Aug 44 to 1845 26 Aug 44, 1 1/2 mi S de Allouville la Mal, at R 745505.
- 1610 26 Aug 44 to 0700 30 Aug 44, 2 mi S de Allouville, at R 745505.
- 1600-1900 30 Aug 44, 1 1/2 mi S de Allouville, at R 745505.
- 1940-30 Aug 44 to 0650 31 Aug 44, 2 mi SW de Allouville, at R 745708.
- 1045 31 Aug 44 to end of period, 2 mi SW Verberie, at S 302505.

DOWNGRADED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED

BY AUTHORITY OF TAG HS

7 Jan 46 HSO
Date Initials

~~SECRET~~

THIRTY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

MARCHES

August 1944.

PURPOSE: Assembly Area.

FROM : 1 Mile W St Sauver to Vitre. Distance: 120.6 miles.

1 Aug 44: 1 mile W St Sauver to St Sauver. Distance: 1 mile; Weather: Excellent.

2 Aug 44: St Sauver to 5 mi NW Corisy la Salle. Marched thru the following towns- St Sauver, Lassay, Comprend. Miles travelled: 40.2; Weather: Good.

3 Aug 44: 5 mi NW Corisy la Salle to 5 mi SE Avranches. Marched thru Ronory, St Denis, Canery, St Eugenne, Tiropped. Miles travelled: 34. Weather: Straggy to Fair.

5 Aug 44: 5 mi SE Avranches to 2 mi S St Laurent. Miles travelled: 11.4; Weather: Excellent.

6 Aug 44: 2 mi S St Laurent to 3 mi S Vitre. Marched thru St Laurent, Zougerares, Vitre, Crocu. Miles travelled: 41; Weather: Excellent.

PURPOSE: Combat Mission.

FROM : 3 Miles S Vitre to Ecos.

7 Aug 44: 3 mi S Vitre to 1 mi NW St Brice. Travelled cross-country, secondary and tertiary roads. Miles travelled: 40. Weather: Excellent.

8 Aug 44: 1 mi NW St Brice to 2 mi S Le Mans. Marched thru Bevoisay, Avvers, Noyen. Miles travelled: 40.8. Weather: Good.

9 Aug 44: 2 mi S Le Mans to 1 mi S St Aginans. Marched thru Champagne, Beaufoy, Savigne, Meziers. Miles travelled: 20; Weather: Excellent.

10 Aug 44: 1 mi S St Aginans to 2 mi S Parthay. Marched on secondary roads. Miles travelled: 8; Weather: Excellent.

11 Aug 44: 2 mi S Parthay to 2 mi E Le Mesle. Marched thru Sure, Contilly, Elèves. Miles travelled: 20. Weather: Excellent.

13 Aug 44: 2 mi E Le Mesle to 3 mi NW Monat le Pin. Marched thru Essai, Monat le Pin. Miles travelled: 10; Weather: Excellent.

PURPOSE: ASSEMBLY AREA.

FROM : 3 MI NE Monat le Pin to Marmoville.

15 Aug 44: 3 MI NE Monat le Pin to Marmoville. Marched thru Monat le Pin. Miles travelled: 7. Weather: Excellent.

PURPOSE: Combat Mission.

FROM : Marmoville to River Seine.

16 Aug 44: Marmoville to 3 mi E Courtomer. Marched across country and secondary roads, march thru Narville and Courtomer. Miles travelled: 15; Weather: Excellent.

16 Aug 44: 3 mi E Courtomer to 3 mi NE Draux. Marched thru St Aubin, St Jovis and Les Aras. Miles travelled: 53. Weather: Fair to Good.

NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

M A R C H E S

August 1944 (Cont'd)

18 Aug 44: 3 1/2 mi NE Droux to 2 mi N Droux. Miles Travelled: 4; Weather: Excellent.
19 Aug 44: 2 mi N Droux to 2 mi S Auzé. Marched thru Droux, Soré, Bessy. Miles travelled: 15; Weather: Showers.
20 Aug 44: 2 mi S Auzé to 1 mi E of Chassigny les Bourisiers. Bn marched thru Gillis, Brevé, Cravon, Chassigny les Bourisiers. Miles Travelled: 17; Weather: Showers.
23 Aug 44: 2 mi E of Chassigny les Bourisiers to 1/2 mi W les Noyes. Marched thru Chassigny les Bourisiers, Darvins, la Revrère, Houllée Cocherai, Champanard, le Noyes. Miles travelled: 15. Weather: Rain.
24 Aug 44: 1/2 mi W les Noyes to 1/2 mi W la Couperie. Marched thru Champanard, La Chapelle, Baudrières, Hautes Jumeauville, La Couperie. Miles travelled: 42. Weather: Excellent.
25 Aug 44: 1/2 mi W la Couperie to 1/2 S les Aihns le Roi. Bn marched thru Crespières. Miles travelled: 6. Weather: Good.
26 Aug 44: 1/2 mi S les Aihns le Roi to 2 mi W Esquerilly. Marched thru Les Alluets le Roi, Oregat, Bémerville. Miles travelled: 6; Weather: Good.
30 Aug 44: 2 mi W Bémerville to 1/2 mi SW Sensis. Bn marched thru St Germain, Paris, Sarcollies, Villiers La Bell, Fontenay, Puisieux le Louvers. Miles travelled: 49. Weather: Showers.
31 Aug 44: 1/2 mi SW Sensis to 2 mi SW Verberie. Marched thru Sensis, Charmant Villers, Villeneuve, St Vans de Longmont. Miles travelled: 12. Weather: Excellent.

C A M P A I G N S

August 1944.

Campaigns: Western Europe.

Durations: 1 August 1944, thru period.

Battles: See narrative attached.

Commanding Officers in important engagements: Counter-attack against Btry C. Battalion Commander: LT COL JAMES W. MALLER, O-223703, PA, and CAPT JAMES G RUSE, O-440310, PA. (then 1st Lt), Btry Comdr, Btry C. Losses in action; Officers and Men Engagements: Counter-attack against Btry C.

KILLED IN ACTION: Sgt Charles Napier 35133243, 18 Aug 44; Btry C;
Tsg S Edward G Dillon 18074247 16 Aug 44, Btry C;
Pfc Edwin J Bookholt, 37118645 16 Aug 44, Btry C;
WOUNDED: Cpl Leon Plova 35133526 Btry C SWA 16 Aug 44 (Evacuated)
Pfc Raymond H Boettcher 37118645 Btry C 16 Aug 44 (Evacuated)
Pvt Frank H Perdue 34083909 Btry C 16 Aug 44 SWA (Evacuated)
Pvt Richard C Wessell 20505689 Btry C 16 Aug 44 SWA (Evacuated)
(Battle of Com- 2nd Lt Donald A Hansen, 01177824 Hq Btry SWA 31 Aug 44 (Evacuated)
paigne Forrest Sgt Everett E Kellam 6856433 Hq Btry SWA 31 Aug 44 (Evacuated)
by AF Shell) Pfc Joseph P Nelson 35042075 Hq Btry LTA 31 Aug 44 (Evacuated)

NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

C A M P A I G N S

August 1944 (Cont'd)

OTHER CASUALTIES:

Tec 5 Edward J Coleman 18088323 Btry C KIA 7 Aug 44, shot by enemy when he failed to halt or hear the challenge.

Pfc Lloyd R Cavanaugh 35133172 Serv Btry KIA 12 Aug 44, accidentally shot himself.

1st Lt Francis E Millen, 01167886 Hq Btry LTA 3 Aug 44 (Not Evacuated-Mine)

Cpl Robert F Thomson 15100372 Hq Btry LTA 3 Aug 44 (Evacuated-Mine)

Pfc Rollie C Alexander 35041730 Hq Btry LTA 3 Aug 44 (Evacuated-Mine)

1st Sgt Charles J Claxton 6643496 Hq Btry LTA 3 Aug 44 (Not Evacuated-Mine)

Tec 5 Karl W Masley 34131223 Hq Btry LTA 3 Aug 44 (Not Evacuated-Mine)

Tec 5 William P Campbell 14003227 Hq LTA 3 Aug 44 (Not Evacuated-Mine)

Sgt John D Kalisz 35041337 A Btry LTA 3 Aug 44 (Not Evacuated-Sniper)

Pfc Arthur W Gustafson 35042022 A Btry 13 Aug 44 LTA (Not Evacuated-Sniper)

Sgt Roy W Martin 35017635 B Btry 15 Aug 44 LTA (Evacuated-Sniper)

Tec 4 Thomas G Mitchell 35042037 Btry B 15 Aug 44 LTA (Evacuated-Sniper)

Pfc William J Hillen 35015678 Btry B 15 Aug 44 LTA (Evacuated-Sniper)

Pfc Everett Eford 14134712 Btry C 23 Aug 44 LTA (Not Evacuated-Sniper).

NON-BATTLE CASUALTIES:

Pvt Alex Begley 35133347 Btry A 3 Aug 44 (Evacuated)

Sgt John F Lewis 35210461 Btry C 5 Aug 44 (Evacuated)

Pfc Lyle D Valentine 17065012 Btry C 17 Aug 44 (Evacuated)

1st Lt Gordon P Davis 01167390 Hq Btry 28 Aug 44 (Not Evacuated)

MISSING: One (1) Pvt Roney Btry C.

TAKEN PRISONER: None.

MEMBERS WHO DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION

1ST LT GORDON P DAVIS 01167390 FA, Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement as Pvd Obsr 11 Aug 44, penetrating enemy positions and directing fire upon the enemy.

2ND LT DONALD A HANNEY 01177824 FA, Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement as Pvd Obsr 11 Aug 44, penetrating enemy positions and directing fire upon the enemy.

1ST CAPT JAMES G RASH 0440310 (Then 1st Lt) Silver Star. For meritorious action against the enemy 16 Aug 44. Capt Rash led his Btry in fight against enemy tanks and directing fire upon the enemy, without regard for his own safety.

Cpl Jim Aubrey 35013683 Btry C, Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement in going into a burning and exploding M-7 and rescuing therefrom several wounded who were unable to get out while under direct enemy fire.

Pvt Constantine Barrera 32150053 Btry C, Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement in going into a burning and exploding M-7 and rescuing therefrom several wounded who were unable to get out, while under direct enemy fire.

**JAMES V. McNEER,
LT COL, FA,
Commanding.**

4 Incls:

Incl-1 Journal 9th

Incl-2 3-2 Journal

Incl-3 3-3 Journal

Incl-4 Narrative.

- To be photostated and sent to the Army School.

DOWNGRAD TO
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED

BY AUTHORITY OF TAG #5

NARRATIVE

August, 1944

7 Jan 46
 Date HS

Although the battles seen during the month by this unit were a continuation of numerous running fights, several definite battles were outstanding. The first battle encountered was that of Falaise Gap which began for this unit on 2 August 1944 and lasted until 14 August 1944. During this period the unit took advantage of the break-through at St Lo to exploit the disorganization of the enemy and hit his rear and supply lines.

There was no question but that the enemy had taken a fierce beating at St Lo, and by the time we moved in, he was a number of small groups who were leaderless and whose fighting consisted of sniping, road blocks, and some defended villages, - a weak delaying action. It was apparent he was demoralized and took a lot of urging from his leaders to continue the fight. It was a case of getting out with his life and as much of his equipment as he could.

Many of the defenses set up were manned by service of supply personnel who were urged to fight rather than abandon their supply jobs. Air support was apparent at first, but once Avranches was passed, it was no longer a serious threat.

Defenses set up were artificial all along the way, and could not cope with the advance of an organized army. At most they turned out to be harrassing rather than delaying. Strongest forces were encountered along the Orne and at Le Mans, where approximately a thousand troops were met. Little artillery fire was met and such as there was could not be classified above harrassing, - a few parting shots before taking a run for Germany.

There were fifteen prisoners taken by this unit during the period.

Enemy reconnaissance was almost lacking except at Falaise Gap. Civilian information was decidedly helpful all along the way, but at the same time collaborationists were no doubt the main source of information for the enemy. The word of advancing American troops seemed to proceed our advance by many miles, and gave the enemy time to arrange slip-stod defenses or get out. There were numerous occasions however when he was taken entirely by surprise.

The greater part of the terrain was fairly good back country. South of Sees hilly country was encountered where the enemy might have had the advantage of observation had he been in any position to battle. The closing of the Gap was of course his main concern and made the going easier.

Through the battle of the Falaise Gap this unit was supporting either CCR or C B of the 5th Armd Div, its main mission being support of CCR and reinforcing artillery fires of CCB when necessary.

Its mission was to support the unit to which attached, giving it artillery support when obstacles were encountered and often used to demoralize the enemy completely before moving in. Near Falaise Gap it was used as a holding force to help to discourage any counter-attack.

Communications were usually by radio, the fast moving situation made it difficult to lay wire.

Supported troops at all times gave us as much protection as was possible although encounters such as at the Orne River where enemy infantry made an attack upon our position could not be avoided.

Supply and evacuation did at no time seriously trouble this unit. Ammunition was rapidly removed and supplies brought in. There was some difficulty with prisoners when the only means of evacuation was to send out vehicles for perhaps one prisoner and no elements between our unit and the enemy could accept them.

Narrative, 95th Air Div. 'In August, 1944' continued.

On 15 August 1944 the Battle of the Seine began. The enemy encountered was much stronger than previously encountered for two main reasons. 1. The enemy had more time to make up a defense despite the fact that there was not much left to build up a defense and 2. The environs of Paris included quite a few supply routes and points.

Some 105mm and 88mm used as artillery were encountered and quite a few tanks. Apparently quite a bit of the armor was retreating through Paris and what counterattacks were encountered were again in the way of delaying actions. Morale was generally low and the enemy was easily discouraged. Enemy tanks were reported north of Moulins and a line from there to Paris. Some of this armor and artillery was encountered near Courtonner and Tubeouf. The enemy seemed to be working in terms of ambush rather than direct counterattacks. No demotizations were encountered and no definite defense plan. There was no effective enemy air support. The one considerable counterattack in vicinity of Tubeouf was in the nature of an ambush. The column had turned away for the strength which the enemy had gathered possibly to defend his northern supply routes and a nearby motor park containing numerous vehicles. Upon our failure to use the expected route they waited until the greater part of the column had passed and attacked the rear hoping to inflict as much damage as they could and run.

There were three prisoners taken during the period.

The enemy seemed to be hindered more by civilians than heretofore as obviously they were more outspoken against them. Several collaborationists were again encountered, especially at Tubeouf, some of whom were killed by our artillery in the vicinity of that town. Civilian information was fairly accurate. The terrain was fairly suitable for tanks but many routes were taken especially near Dreux where the enemy might have taken advantage of observation had he been in a position to muster enough of a force.

The unit supported CCR and CDB as the occasion presented itself. Our mission was one of speed in getting to the Seine and cut off the retreating troops with the least delay. However our fires were usually interdictory and harrassing during the night unless our advance was delayed until the enemy had been cleared when observed fires were fired throughout the period of our delay.

The counter battery fire was not nor any special weapons. Communications were mainly by radio although the more moderate advance caused a greater use of wire. Supply and evacuation were well handled. Supported units gave ample protection when available. Protection is difficult when in column however, and that problem was the one involved in the skirmish at Tubeouf. While splitting up of the Battalion is a solution, allowing Tank Destroyers and Tanks to be spaced between, at the same time it ruins the effectiveness in firing the Battalion. The Battle of the Seine was closed when the unit arrived at St Germain 20 August 1944.

On 20 August 1944 this unit marched through Paris and began the Battle for the Aisne. The enemy was still stiffening and although no sizeable battle was anticipated, stiff competition might be expected at any moment. In the rain that competition consisted of the usual anti-tank guns, some tanks, and artillery. It was during the battle that the unit received its first counter-battery fire. One note is it is believed that it was intended for more than harrassing fires as it consisted of fires of one gun. Comeligne Forest was full of enemy who had withdrawn from combat and waiting transportation, safety from planes, or an act of God to get back to Germany. Air support was negligible for the enemy. Information to the enemy consisted mainly of informers who were either collaborationists or enemy civilians who had been officials during their occupation.

Three prisoners were taken during the battle.

The terrain was good for country except along the Aisne River and the nearby Comeligne Forest. It was there that enemy ambushes caused quite a few casualties. Pushing the enemy had become progressively more difficult until the south of their strength was reached in the Forest where the enemy had been pushed as rats in a trap.

That did not however hinder our bridgehead across the Duse and completing our mission. It was at the Duse where the enemy had attempted a serious defense by use of demolitions such as the destroyed bridges and artillery. The bridgehead having been secured, our mission was complete at the end of the month.

Operations for the month were confined to Armor Tactics throughout. The enemy was avoided where ever possible and where he could not be, he was destroyed. The one important problem which arose was the protection of the Field Artillery against ambush and counterattack while in column. The Field Artillery functions best as a Battalion, and loses its effectiveness considerably when broken up. At the same time a column five miles long leaves a large gap unprotected against a Tank attack or ambush because it has no fast maneuvering large caliber weapons to defend itself. Once direct fire can be placed upon tanks with a mixture of WP and AP attacking tanks can be hurled back. No definite plan seems to have been evolved of staving off such an attack. On the one occasion of a large scale counterattack there were no provisions made for any help. Battle would probably have been avoided by the enemy had not such a prize target offered itself. The fact that it was not a success for them was due to 1) the fighting tenacity of the organizational personnel involved and its leaders and 2) the bad marksmanship or inferior soldierliness of the enemy. The enemy basic maneuver was well thought out.

It was noted that on several occasions, fire had been brought upon us while coming into position at night from all indications from long distances and heard by the noise of the tanks. The noise of the tanks is such that any element of surprise by an early morning attack from an advanced position is defeated before it can start.

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATT. N
APO. #255, U. S. Army

28 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Citation.

TO : The Commanding General, 5th Armored Division,
APO. #255, U. S. Army.

1. a. It is recommended that Battery "C", 95th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, be cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy near ~~Leboef~~, France on 16 August 1944.

b. Battery "C" was traveling in column through a heavily wooded area about 300 yards behind another Battery, when the enemy, consisting of approximately 12 German tanks, and 200 German Infantrymen armed with machine guns and mortars, came out of the woods and attacked at point blank range. German tanks immediately opened fire, knocking out one of our M-7's. All members of the Battery immediately took their positions and laid direct fire on the enemy despite the disadvantage of being in column, and regardless of danger. The Battery continued to fire until 8 enemy tanks were destroyed. During this operation more than 400 rounds of ammunition were expended. When the attack was beaten off and the enemy retreated into the woods, the men from Battery "C" immediately followed on foot to successfully effect a complete defeat upon the enemy.

c. This very successful operation was made possible only through the courageous performance of all members of the Battery. Not once during the entire time did any man make an effort to retire to comparative safety, but stood their ground and fought fiercely, although it was their first combat experience as a unit.

d. Battery "C", 95th Armd. F.A. Bn., was commanded by 1st Lt. James G. Rush, O-448310.

2. The recommending Officer has personal knowledge of the action for which the citation is recommended.

3. The following citation is suggested: "Battery "C", 95th Armd. F.A. Bn., is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy, on 16 August 1944 near Leboef, France. The Battery was traveling in column along a road through a heavily wooded area when they were attacked by 12 German tanks and approximately 200 German Infantrymen armed with mortars and machine guns. In spite of the disadvantage of being in column and being attacked at point-blank range, the battery immediately went into direct fire and drove the enemy back into the woods, at which time they followed on foot to effect a complete defeat upon the enemy. This victorious encounter was made possible only through the outstanding courage and devotion to duty of all members of the Battery. This courage and devotion shown by members of Battery "C", 95th Armd. F.A. Bn., are worthy of emulation and reflect the highest traditions of the Army of the United States."

The above action was witnessed by the undersigned.

James W. McNeer
JAMES W. MCNEER,
LT. COL., FA.
Commanding.

200.6

8th Ind.

J.M/mc

(28 Aug 44)

Hq, 95th Armd FA Bn, APO 255, U. S. Army, 4 Nov 44.

TO: Commanding Officer, Div Arty, 5th Armd Div, APO 255, U. S. Army.

a. 4th Ind. complied with.

b. Battery C was travelling in its position in column 300 yards behind the Bn Hq. As it approached the turn in the road SE of Tuboeuf (see sketch) the battery was attacked by an enemy force which had remained concealed and undiscovered in the woods and town to the north. The enemy opened with small arms from concealed nests along the route of Battery C's column and followed with direct fire from the tanks that moved out of the woods. The lightly armored half tracks of the battery detail that were leading the column were immediately disabled, but the personnel dismounted and took up defensive positions along the road bank and returned the enemy fire with fire from their personal weapons. These positions were occupied without command since the attack was begun without warning and before any planned deployment could be made. The howitzer crews upon seeing the fire at the head of the column and hearing the warning of their Battery Commander, immediately moved forward under their respective chiefs of section and engaged the enemy tanks with direct fire. During their phase of the action, each chief of section caused his gun to be moved frequently to a new position in order to avoid enemy fire and to confuse the enemy as to the size of the force they were attacking. Through their tactic of fire and movement, Battery C destroyed 8 enemy tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, and a large number of infantrymen, while losing one M-7 of their own with its complete crew. During the entire action the area occupied by the personnel and vehicles of the battery was under intense small arms and mortar fire. The dismounted troops of the battery moved through the fire with ^{utter} disregard of their own safety and cleared out the enemy close in position to free the gun crews from harassment and then formed a defensive ring about the guns to prevent bazooka attack.

Under cover of the dismounted outposts, the remaining howitzers of Btry C successfully disengaged from their direct attack and moved to a defiladed position behind the woods where the gun crews were reorganized and then moved to an indirect position and took the enemy under fire under direction of their forward observer.

The fortitude and intelligence demonstrated by the entire complement of Battery C was of the highest order. Throughout the entire engagement each man functioned without regard to his own safety and to the interests of the battery as a whole. It is difficult to describe individual heroism, the group as a whole performed heroically and efficiently even though the engagement was their first.

James F. McNER
JAMES F. McNER,
LT COL, FA,
Commanding.

3 Incls. added - Maps

200.6 - Btry C, 95th Armd FA Bn 11th Ind.
(28 Aug 44)
HQ., V CORPS, APO 305, 23 November 1944

TO: Commanding General, First US Army, APO 230

Approved.

RECEIVED
25 NOV 1944
U.S. Army
AGC

L. T. Gerow
L. T. GEROW,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

3 Incls: n/c

200.6 (A) 12th Ind.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY, APO 230,

10 DEC 1944

TO: Commanding General, 5th Armored Division.

THRU: Commanding General, VII Corps.

1. Not favorably considered.

2. It is the finding of the Awards and Decorations Board which convened at APO 230 in accordance with letter Hq. European Theater of Operations U. S. Army, file AG 200.6 MPGA, subject: "Decorations Boards", 22 March 1944, to consider the recommendation for citation of Battery "C", 95th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, that the acts described in basic communication, while meritorious, are insufficiently so to justify unit citation.

By command of Lieutenant General HODGES:

3 Incls: n/c

RECEIVED
10 DEC 1944


Joseph E. Morrissey
JOSEPH E. MORRISSEY.
Major, A.G.D.,
Asst. Adjutant General MISC

200.6
(28 Aug 44)
HQ., V CORPS, APO 305, 30 September 1944.

3rd Ind

TO: Commanding General, First US Army, APO 230.

Approved.


EDWARD H. BROOKS,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

200.6 (A)

4th Ind.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY, APO 230, 7 OCT 1944


TO: Commanding General, 5th Armored Division.

A THRU: Commanding General, V Corps

1. In considering this recommendation for unit citation, it is desired that further data be furnished concerning the acts described.

2. Specific information is desired concerning locations and disposition of friendly and enemy forces. If possible, this information will be supported by maps, sketches or overlays.

By command of Lieutenant General HODGES:


S. A. MacKENZIE,
Captain A.C.D.
Asst. Adjutant General.

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION ARTILLERY, 5th Armd Div, APO 255, U.S. Army, 31 August 1944.

TO: The Commanding General, 5th Armored Division.

I have gone into this matter thoroughly and it is my belief that Btry "C", 95th Armd F.A. Bn., is highly deserving of the above recommended citation.

Douglas J. Page
DOUGLAS J. PAGE,
Colonel, F.A.,
Commanding.

200.6 GNNJA

2nd Ind.

(28 Aug 44)

HEADQUARTERS 5TH ARMORED DIVISION, APO 255, U. S. Army, 13 September 1944.

TO: Commanding General, V Corps, APO No 305, U. S. Army.

1. Approved.

2. It is believed that the gallantry, tenacity and high esprit displayed by Battery "C" in the face of an unusually hazardous and difficult situation were such as to well merit citation.

Lunsford E. Oliver
RECEIVED
LUNSFORD E. OLIVER, 18 SEP 1944
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding. THE U.S. Army
A G O

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NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

REPORT OF ACTION, AFTER BATTLE

September 1944.

Organized: 1 January 1942.

At : Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Strength 1 Sept 1944: 31 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 493 Enlisted Men.

Increase during period: 3 Officers; 5 Enlisted Men.

Decrease during period: 5 Officers; 33 Enlisted Men.

Strength as of 30 September 1944: 29 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers;
465 Enlisted Men.

CP was located during period as follows

1 Sept 44: 0001-1345 2 mi SE Verberie at S 562906.
2 Sept 44: 0145-0815 1/4 mi NE Lagnoy at N 529246.
3 Sept 44: 0815 to 1330 4 Sept 44, 1/4 mi NW Boussecours, Belgium at J 065188
4 Sept 44: 2015 to 1440 5 Sept 44, 3 mi NE Chamourt at O 519233.
5 Sept 44: 1900 to 0900 6 Sept 44, 1/2 mi E la Franchville at D 519238.
6 Sept 44: 1800 to 1505 8 Sept 44, 1/3 mi SE ILly, at P 005297.
8 Sept 44: 1900 to 0840 9 Sept 44, 5 mi W Jamoique, at P 519239.
9 Sept 44: 0920-1930 1 mi S Holey la Neure at P 004252. (210 519239)
9 Sept 44: 2230 to 0920 10 Sept 44, at 1 mi SE Daelmang, Luxembourg, P 726303.
10 Sept 44: 1530 to 1615 11 Sept 44, 1/2 mi E Crutchen at P 851347.
11 Sept 44: 1700 to 1415 13 Sept 44, 1 mi NE Stegan at P 869379.
13 Sept 44: 1600 to 1815 15 Sept 44, 1 mi SE Gilsdorf at P 904418.
15 Sept 44: 2145 to 1045 16 Sept 44, 2 mi S Wallendorf, Germany P 974485.
16 Sept 44: 1240-1515 1/2 mi E Kowing, at P 930476.
16 Sept 44: 1550 to 0930 19 Sept 44, 1/2 mi W Remendingen, at P 980462.
19 Sept 44: 1040-1800, 1/3 mi SW Crutchen, Germany.
19 Sept 44: 1950 to 1530 22 Sept 44, 1 mi SE Gilsdorf, Luxembourg, P 904418.
22 Sept 44: 1545 to 1400 29 Sept 44, 1 mi NW Stegan at P 869399.
29 Sept 44: 1545 through period at Crutchen, P 844344.

~~SECRET~~

- 1 -

**DOWNGRADED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED**

BY AUTHORITY OF TAG HS

7 Jan 46

Date

HSO

Initials

SECRET

NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

MARCHES

September 1944.

PURPOSE: Combat Mission.

FROM : 2 Miles SW Verberie to Belgium Frontier.

1 Sept 44: 2 mi SW Verberie to 1/4 mi N E Lagnoy. Marched thru Ruis, Pontois, Marbois, Chavignies, Fossepiere, La Cholla, Brasines, Villers sur Coudia, Chevignacourt, Elincourt, Navell, Lassigny, Plessis. Miles travelled: 43. Weather: Fair to Excellent.

2 Sept 44: 1/4 mi NE Lagnoy to 1 mi N Raperie. Marched thru Lagnoy, Honbleaux, Libermont, Esmeroy Hallon, Epeville, Louchy, Poovilly, Bornes, Heuvilly, Villers Outreux, Malincourt, Walencourt, Esnes, Beauvois, Pieux, Ham. Miles travelled: 76. Weather: Good.

3 Sept 44: 1 mi N Raperie to 1/4 mi NW Bonsecours, Belgium. Marched thru Raperies, Villers en Canchies, Avennes le Sec, Haspres, Valenciennes, Conde sur Escaul. Miles travelled: 36. Weather: Excellent.

PURPOSE: Assembly Area.

FROM : 1/4 Mile NW Bonsecours, Belgium, to 3 miles NE Chamont, France.

4 Sept 44: 1/4 mi NW Bonsecours, Belgium, to 3 mi NE Chamont, France. Marched thru Conde, Valenciennes, Vandegies, Solesmes, Neuville, Le Cateau, Wassingay, Hamappes, Gures Wieg-Raty, La Valle aux Bleds, Vervins, Geingt, Viers, Mont St Jean, L'Escaut, Chamont. Miles travelled: 92. Weather: Excellent.

PURPOSE: Combat Mission.

FROM : 3 Miles NE Chamont, France to 1/2 Mile NE Stegan.

5 Sept 44: 3 mi NE Chamont to 1/2 mi E la Franchville. Marched thru Draize, Lalobbe, Signy L'Escaut, Domery, Thin le Montie, Sarronne, Lomny, Tournes, Waing, Meziere, Charlesville. Miles travelled: 40. Weather: Excellent.

6 Sept 44: 1/2 mi E la Franchville to 1/8 mi SE Illy. Marched thru Meziere, Romery, Ville sur Lumes, Vifier au Court, Vriigne Aux Bois, St Menges, Fleingoux, Illy. Miles travelled: 33. Weather: Rain.

8 Sept 44: 1/8 mi SE Illy to 3 mi W Jamoique. Marched through Givonne, Poura Aux Bois, Messingcourt, Florenville. Miles travelled: 22.6. Weather: Cloudy and Cold.

9 Sept 44: 3 mi W Jamoique to 1 mi SE Useldange, Luxembourg. Marched through Jamoique, Franci, Thuringy, Landin, Etalle, Habay la Neuve, Lattert, Tattert, Idschert, Metzser, Oberpallen, Beckerich, Moerdange, Rippweiler. Miles travelled: 38. Weather: Cloudy with Showers.

10 Sept 44: 1 mi SE Useldange, to 1/2 mi NW Stegan. Marched through Useldange, Geimer, Grevonknapp, Moesdorf, Essingen, Schroun-waeter, Stegan. Miles travelled: 21. Weather: Excellent.

11 Sept 44: 1/2 mi NW Stegan to 1/2 mi NE Stegan. Miles travelled: 2. Weather: Excellent.

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NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

M A R C H E S

Sept 44 (Cont'd)

- 13 Sept 44: 1/2 mi NE Stegan to 1 mi SE Gilsdorf. Marched through Diekirch, Gilsdorf. Miles travelled: 5. Weather: Fair.
- 15 Sept 44: 1 mi SE Gilsdorf to 2 mi E Wallendorf, Germany. Marched through Mostroff, Reisdorf, Wallendorf. Miles travelled: 8. Weather: Cloudy with Showers.
- 16 Sept 44: 2 mi E Wallendorf to 1/2 mi E Kewing. Marched through Biesdorf, Cruchten, Hammerdingen. Miles travelled: 8. Weather: Rain.
- 16 Sept 44: 1/2 mi E Kewing to 1/2 mi W Hammerdingen. Distance travelled: 1 mile.
- 19 Sept 44: 1/2 mi W Hammerdingen to 1/8 mi SW Cruchten. Miles travelled: 3.
- 19 Sept 44: 1/8 mi SW Cruchten, Germany to 1 mi SE Gilsdorf, Luxembourg. Marched through Wallendorf, Reisdorf, Gilsdorf. Miles travelled: 7. Weather: Fair.
- 22 Sept 44: 1 mi SE Gilsdorf to 1 mi NE Stegan. Marched through Diekirch. Miles travelled: 6; Weather: Fair.
- 29 Sept 44: 1 mi NE Stegan to Cruchten, where Bn remained through period. Miles travelled: 5.

C A M P A I G N S

September 1944.

Campaigns: Western Europe.
Duration: 1 September 1944 thru period.
Battles: See narrative attached.
Commanding Officers in Importation Paragraphs:

1ST COL JAMES J MCNEIL 032305 FA	Bn Comdr;
1ST LT FRANCIS H MELLEN 01167556 FA	3d Sq Btry;
CAPT ANDREW R JOHNSON 0422523 FA	B Co Btry A;
CAPT CHESTER E SCHELLING 0408648 FA	M Co Btry B;
1ST LT JAMES G BRYN 0442810 FA	3d Btry C;
CAPT SAMUEL B LINTNER 0416103 FA	3d Serv Btry.

- CAPT CHESTER E SCHELLING 0408648 FA reld comd Btry B at 1930 19 Sept 44, due to shrapnel wounds.
- 1ST LT HOWARD K KOTTEMEYER 01167495 FA assumes comd Btry B, at 1100 19 Sept 44.
- 1ST LT HOWARD K KOTTEMEYER 01167495 FA reld comd Btry B, at 1500 23 Sept 44.
- CAPT JOHN H RYDALL 0328723 FA reld principal duty as Ln O, and assumes Comd Btry B, 1500 23 Sept 44.
- CAPT ANDREW R JOHNSON 0422523 FA reld Comd Btry A, at 1500 23 Sept 44, and assumes principal duty as Ln O.
- 1ST LT JOHN O SHINN 01169292 FA assumes Comd Btry A, at 1500 23 Sept 44.

SECRET

NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

C A M P A I G N S

September 1944 (Cont'd)

Engagements: Battle at Homdingen, Germany.

Losses in Action - Officers and Men:

Killed in Action:

Pvt Andrew N Davidson 15114322 Btry C, 17 Sept 44. Killed by rifle bullet from enemy held pill-box adjacent to our area.

Wounded in Action:

1st Lt Gordon P Davis 01167380 Hq Btry LWA 17 Sept 44 (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt William Hurst 6667398 Btry A LWA 17 Sept 44 (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Cpl Chester R Ralstin 35153121 Hq Btry 19 Sept 44 (Evacuated-Shrapnel) LWA
Pvt Francis W Mofugh 35612844 Hq Btry 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Charles J Osiecki 31567708 Btry A 19 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Capt Ernest W Schilling 0405342 Btry B, 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
1st Lt Robert L Fisher 01167419 Btry C, 19 Sept 44 SVA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Cpl Frank R Illiff 37112225 Btry B 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Tsc 4 Robert H Burke 0658247 Btry B 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Roy E Lucas 15091041 Btry B 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
1st Sgt Cecil A McCall 34112723 Btry B 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Tsc 5 William E Norman 55123321 Btry C 19 Sept 44 SVA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Tsc 5 Winston E Wells 32132273 Btry C 19 Sept 44 SVA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Arnold E Brown 37112512 Btry C, 19 Sept 44 SVA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Jessie E Johnson 35623395 Btry C 19 Sept 44 SVA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
T/5 Emmett E Gardner 35049950 Sv Btry 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Charles J Lancaster 35133603 Sv Btry 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
T/5 Clarence E Biskirk 35200796 Sv Btry 19 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Edward A Bielski 33041813 Hq Btry 19 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)

OTHER CASUALTY C:

Killed in Action:

Pvt Constantino Barrera 32159053, Btry C, 21 Sept 44 (Sniper's Bullet)

Wounded in Action:

Pfc Bernard C Lucas 15091338 Btry A 1 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Junior D Hurstman 47267253 Btry A 1 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Loyd E Hayes 37 30435 Btry C, 4 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Accidental)
T/4 Cassius Andrew 36393334 Btry B, 6 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Bernard C Lucas 15091338 Btry A 7 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Victor J Corso 32130335 Btry B 13 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Accident at G n)
Pvt Harrison J Hall 35153140 Sv Btry 16 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Felipe Anodace 55070220 Btry A 20 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Julius C Tilley 14000792 Btry A 20 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pfc Carl V Sater 35042140 Btry B, 20 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Dorsin W Powell 19005221 Btry B 20 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
1st Lt Robert E Micaud 01162505 Btry A 22 Sept 44 SVA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Crusoe Mottley 15091434 Btry A, 23 Sept 44 LWA (Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Edward Nancy 0912530 Btry C 23 Sept 44 LWA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)

~~SECRET~~

NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

C A M P A I G N S

September 1944 (Cont'd).

OTHER CASUALTIES (Cont'd)

Pvt Marion C Kirkland 34053926 Btry C 23 Sept 44 LIA (Not Evacuated-Shrapnel)
Pvt Spencer E Adams Jr 6941993 Btry C 23 Sept 44 LIA (Not Evacuated-Accident)
S/Sgt Emory J Molnar Jr 35041803 Sv Btry 29 Sept 44 LIA (Evacuated-Strafed
by friendly Aircraft).

~~NON-REPORTED CASUALTIES~~

Pfc Elmo Richardson 38063560 Btry B 13 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
Tco 5 Moraine W Stickle 39383356 Hq Btry 15 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
2nd Lt Willard P Zimmerman 0516687 Btry C 18 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
Pfc Earl L Searls 37095178 Btry C 17 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
Pvt William Hurst 6667396 Btry A 21 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
Tco 5 Boston R Petagna 39543526 Btry C 21 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
Pfc Paul M Herman 37118607 Btry B, 21 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
S/Sgt George T Kutcher 6663524 Sv Btry 27 Sept 44 (Evacuated)
Cpl Albert A Cohen 32140328 Sv Btry 27 Sept 44 (Evacuated).

MISSING: Pvt Rapey missing in August returned to duty 8 September 1944.

Taken Prisoners: None.

HEROES WHO DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION

MAJ BRUCE W KELLY 0855087 FA-Silver Star. For meritorious achievement on 19 Sept 44, by directing fire while under enemy fire.
CAPT SAMUEL W HALL 0344197 FA-Silver Star. For meritorious achievement on 19 Sept 44, by directing the rescue of vehicles and supplies while under enemy Arty fire.
CAPT JOHN S BENDSALL Jr 0328793 FA-Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement as En Ln C. Air
1ST LT WILLIAM M PATRICK 011822219 FA-Golden Medal. For meritorious achievement as Liaison Pilot. (55 missions)
1ST LT JOHN J QUINN 01139292 FA-Silver Star. For meritorious achievement in directing fire in the face of attacking tanks 19 Sept 44.
2ND LT ROBERT B SAMPLE 01180707 FA-Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement for action beyond the call of duty on 19 Sept 44 in Forward Observation as Ron Officer.
S/Sgt Dan C Swik 36036144 Btry A, Btry Ron Sgt-Bronze Star;
S/Sgt Bert A Krausig 35126293 Btry C, Btry Ron Sgt-Bronze Star;
Pfc Sandy Fish 18064409 Btry A, Driver-Bronze Star;
The above EM were cited for meritorious achievement as Ron party, beyond the call of duty in the role of Forward Observation, 19 Sept 44.

4 Incls:

Incl-1 Unit Journal;
Incl-2 S - 2 Journal;
Incl-3 S - 3 Journal;
Incl-4 Narrative.

JAMES W. McNEER,
LT COL, FA,
Commanding.

NARRATIVE

September 1944.

On 1 September 1944 this unit was ordered across the Oise and to the Belgium frontier on what was to be the Battle for Belgium. The enemy was not very strong through the Sector but was anticipated to be strong through Belgium where the retreating forces were passing. Inasmuch as the British Army had pushed through Belgium with unexpected speed and lack of opposition, our mission to reach the frontier was easy and the unit was without any direct contact in that sector. What opposition there was, was by-passed to a great degree and only one costly contact was made except for isolated personnel and a few rounds of 105 artillery that had no effect. The contact was near Lagry when a road block stopped the forward elements with deadly effect and brought a temporary halt to our extended night march.

Two prisoners were taken during this period. These prisoners were taken at the time of the above mentioned contact when several of the enemy in an American jeep towing an enemy jeep tried to by-pass our column.

Civilians were cooperative throughout and in many cases were already armed and had removed the enemy from their villages. Several appeals were made to take prisoners who were fearful of their capture by the Free French and Free Belgians. The column could not be halted of course for their benefit.

For the most part the entire route was excellent tank country. Lack of opposition may have been due to the enemy's willingness to cede tank terrain to us without a fight.

The unit was taken out of the Battle for Belgium the day after arrival, 3 September 1944 and returned to an assembly area near Chaumont to begin our part in the Battle of Luxembourg. The Unit arrived 4 September 1944 and moved out 5 September 1944.

For this battle some opposition was anticipated especially since it could not be ascertained how many of the people of Luxembourg would be helpful. The enemy had no special defenses but the use of unprotected road blocks and demolitions was far beyond anything formerly encountered. The road blocks consisted of felled trees, blown bridges, and blown roads where by-passing was difficult. In many instances the speed of the advance made completion of the job impossible for the enemy and the unexploded TNT still lay in small holes drilled in the roads or in the trees. Although by-passes were quickly made with the aid of the local populace the damage to the roads made by-passing the column difficult when the unit was called upon for special missions. Several anti-aircraft pieces were encountered which were used as artillery against our advance. There were several assembly areas for enemy troops and vehicles where he had gathered supplies and where opposition was stiff. Civilians were found to be quite helpful in many instances although their reliability compared to the French was lessened.

No enemy air support was visible. Terrain was not especially suitable to armor.

The unit was supporting CCR or CCB as the situation directed. The Combat Command to which it was attached whenever any opposition was encountered, was given our support and at times was reinforced by the fires of the artillery of CCB, 71st (A) FA Bn. One battery followed the leading elements to give it plenty of support as quickly as possible. Leapfrogging was employed either by individual battery or by battery and the rest of the Battalion. Fire was therefore always available. Since one battery was usually on the road, radio was the main communication but wire was laid when possible.

Supply and evacuation worked smoothly.

After a short rest period near Cruchten, Luxembourg, the unit was alerted for its next mission, the battle of Germany. For the first time the enemy showed not only strength in personnel but in artillery especially. In addition to the weapons and personnel it was conceded that the enemy had all the advantage in terrain and defended positions which the pillboxes afforded them. The enemy strength however was not too high to overcome with the personnel and weapons available to us. Entry into Germany was made with out too much trouble--some were rather difficult to get out of their positions and there were snipers. The whole enemy situation was never the less made up the same as along other sections of the line--a trap in which to allow troops to pass without too much opposition and allowing them to enter a section where they might be cut off. The white flags from the houses were a danger signal. Bad weather hindered our operations, set down mobility of our armor and completely cut our air support for several days. These days were sufficient to bring in mobile reserves. Much of the reserve power consisted of artillery - some mediums but in the main 105's and 88's.

Enemy OP's were everywhere, and our area was limited in which to manouver our artillery or properly defilade it. Many of the OP's were such a nature that although they might be fired upon and for the time destroyed, the enemy through underground passages, use of undestroyed pillboxes and underground wire, could easily reoccupy the positions.

This unit was in direct support of CCR and was reinforced by the 400th Armd FA Bn and 306th FA (SS) howitzers. Our mission was to support our forces to gain a hill East of Homendingen and to help them to hold it. Wire was laid to all the Batterys and to our supported and reinforcing elements.

Protection was given us, and several times they were called upon to clear the enemy out of woods directly to our North where in addition to having guns there was probably an OP. The woods never was completely cleared.

The battle was very quiet as far as this units contact was concerned from the day we entered, 15 September 1944 until 18 September 1944. During that time however, the objective hill was retaken by the enemy and on the dawn of the 19th September the enemy was within one mile of our perimeter. There had been several counter-battery fires during this time and on the 19th mortars and artillery consistently fell into our area and causing a withdrawal. Or prepared withdrawal to the vicinity of Biesdorf was unsuccessful when artillery fire fell on the road and protected an enemy road block between that town and Cruchten, Germany. Hurried positions taken near that village were under fire the entire day not only fire of artillery and mortars, but from MG's and rifles as well. OP's were observed and some destroyed as well as AT gun itself not more than 500 yards from our perimeter. The night of 19 September saw us withdraw into Luxembourg where we continued our fires in support of our forward elements. Every available Officer was given a Forward Observer mission to bring the brunt of our artillery upon the enemy.

Smoke was invaluable in our withdrawal across the high ridge at Wallendorf, Germany. Enemy artillery pounded the hill every time a vehicle appeared, but the smoke pots and grenades allowed our withdrawal without loss of a vehicle or a man.

Upon return to Luxembourg the unit continued its support of CCR as a holding force until entering a rest period at the end of the month.

Action throughout the period was successful. The battle of Germany emphasized the advantage of concealment through camouflage. Although the terrain was unsuited for armor, the mission might have been more successful in holding had it not been for lack of observation upon enemy guns--the bad weather which cancelled out our air observation and air power when the guns might have been spotted. On the fight

On the 19th September, enemy guns were that well concealed that not even flash was visible and they ceased fire in the presence of our observation plane. From the ground the flash of the gun or the gun itself was invisible.

Although this Unit was defiladed as well as possible considering the limited area, it could have been observed from any of the surrounding hills; good defilade was just not present. Civilians were probably observing from their homes as they appeared antagonistic even as they appeared over anxious to surrender upon entrance by our forward elements. Soldiers must have been hid in civilian homes as they seemed to appear from all over. The enemy also observed from pillboxes and various vantage points near underground passages. The fact that some pillboxes were never destroyed nor much of the woodland investigated in which it is known the enemy lurked from time to time if he did not definitely continue to hide out during our entire tenure of our position, indicates that their guns were given plenty of targets. An undetermined number of the enemy were killed and several mortars and one 75mm 2 75mm pieces were destroyed without having penetrated much of the woods north of our position and that pillboxes remained undestroyed in these same woods gives an indication that the advantages were entirely one-sided. The completion of our mission, rendering our normal support while under direct fire of artillery, mortars, MG's, rifles, and indirect artillery fire, is an indication that only the fighting spirit of our men coupled with our superior weapons were the only two factors which recorded the success of our initial mission in the battle of Germany.

dup
NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

REPORT AGAINST ENEMY AFTER ACTION

October 1944.

DOWNGRADED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVE
BY AUTHORITY OF TAG *AS*

Organized: 1 January 1942.

At : Fort Knox, Kentucky.

7 Jan 46 *HSD*
Date Initials

Strength 1 October 1944: 29 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 465 Enlisted Men.

Increase During Periods: 5 Officers; 26 Enlisted Men.

Decrease During Period : 3 Enlisted Men.

Strength as of 31 October 1944: 34 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 491 EN.

CP was located during period as follows:

1 Oct 44:

1600 1 Oct to 0600 3 Oct 44, 1 mi NW Stegan at P 980440.

3 Oct 44: 1400 to 1550 11 Oct 44, 1 mi S Schoppen, Belgium, at S - 1 895984.

11 Oct 44: 1845 to 1400 22 Oct 44, 2 mi E Eisenborn at S 1925089.

22 Oct 44: 1800 through period, Kuchelsheid, Belgium, at P 912145.

M A R C H E S

PURPOSE: Combat Holding Mission.

FROM : Cruchten, to 1 Mile NW Stegan. Distance 5 Miles.

1 Oct 44: Cruchten, to 1 mi NW Stegan. Marched thru Cruchten. Distance travelled: 5 miles. Weather: Rain.

*3 Oct 44: 1 mi NW Stegan, Luxembourg, to 1 mi S Schoppen, Belgium. Marched through Ettelbruck, Nosingen, Heinersheid, Malscheid, Visselm, Recht, Liqueville. Miles travelled: 85. Weather: Showers. (Combat Assembly Area)

PURPOSE: Combat Holding Mission.

FROM : 1 mi S Schoppen, to 2 mi E Eisenborn.

11 Oct 44: 1 mi S Schoppen, to 2 mi E Eisenborn. Marched through Modersheid, Butgenbach, Eisenborn. Distance travelled: 11. Weather: Cloudy and Rain.

22 Oct 44: 2 mi E Eisenborn, to Kuchelsheid. Marched thru Kalterherberg, Kuchelsheid. Distance travelled: 5 miles. Weather: Overcast. Bn remains in this position thru period.

C A M P A I G N S

October 1944.

Campaigns: Western Europe.

Duration: 1 October 1944 through period.

Battles: See narrative attached.

Commanding Officers In Important Engagements:

LT COL JAMES W McNER 0227303 FA

LST LT FRANCIS B MULLEN 01167556 FA

Bn Comdr:
SC HQ Btry

Oct
44

NINETY-FIFTH ARMED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

C A M P A I G N S

October 1944 (Cont'd)

1ST LT JOHN Q QUINN 01169292 FA
CAPT JOHN H WINDSALL JR 0328723 FA
CAPT JAMES G RUSH 0448310 FA
CAPT SAMUEL D. LAMBERT 0416166 FA

EC Btry A;
EC Btry B;
EC Btry C;
EC Serv Btry.

1ST LT FRANCIS E MULLER 01167556 FA reld comd Hq Btry at 1300
28 Oct 44, and assumes principal duty as Bn Com O.

CAPT WALTER W SCHILLING 0405648 FA assumes comd Hq Btry at
1300 28 Oct 44.

Engagements: 1-2 Oct 44, continuation of holding engagement.
3-21 Oct 44, no contact.
22 Oct 44 through period: Holding Engagement.

Losses In Action - Officers & Men: None.

Killed In Action: None.

Wounded In Action: None.

Other Casualties: None.

Non-Battle Casualties:

S/Agt William R Boston 15100137, Btry B 9 Oct 44 (Evacuated);
Pvt Steve Yohman 35026259 Btry B, 9 Oct 44 (Evacuated);
Cpl Ollis F Wapling 35209720 Serv Btry, 11 Oct 44 (Evacuated);
Tec 5 James V Heaberlin 35133241 Serv Btry 15 Oct 44 (Evacuated);
Pfc Fred L Pace 35495854 Btry A, 17 Oct 44 (Evacuated);
Tec 5 Wayne G Buffinger, 36433630 Hq Btry 25 Oct 44 (Evacuated).

Members wh Distinguished themselves In Actions: None.

James W. Mosher
JAMES W. MOSHER,
LT COL, FA,
Commanding.

4 Incls:
Incl-1 Unit Journal;
Incl-2 S - 2 Journal;
Incl-3 S - 3 Journal;
Incl-4 Narrative.

NINETY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

NARRATIVE

October, 1944

On 1 October 1944 this unit was located near Stegan, Belgium, in direct support of CCR on a holding mission, a continuation of the initial mission into Germany. On 2 October 1944, orders were received ordering the Battalion to a new area where it would support CCR in another holding mission. The move was due to a regrouping of the Armies and reallocation of our assigned Corps to a new area.

The enemy's Siegfried Line was gaining in defensive strength. More pill-boxes were being occupied and more artillery moved along the entire front. Although there was not great strength along the line, some areas showed enough strength for a small scale counterattack. As the line became more stable, there was increasing patrol and artillery activity. There was also considerable reserves made up for the most part of half depleted units of raw infantry and mobile field artillery. The enemy, besides building up a reserve, began to dig in around towns and cities, setting mines and booby-traps. Bridges not already demolished were charged preparatory to blowing upon any pretext of an allied advance. Civilians were especially to be watched as they were for the most part loyal to the Nazi cause. Although the morale of the soldiers was generally low, that of the civilians was not. The enemy was therefore capable of small damaging counterattacks and harrassing artillery fire. Defensively he was strong but far from impregnable. His troops were still spread pretty thin.

The enemy in our sector had several battalions of light and medium artillery. There was also reported a 280mm railroad gun within shelling distance of our position. Air was not active although several low flying planes were over our area evidently on reconnaissance. The danger of their dropping an observer was always present. Enemy artillery did no damage to this Unit. No enemy materiel was captured during the period.

No prisoners were taken during the period.

The enemy continued to make use of civilians and patrols as his main source of information.

From 3 October 1944 to 10 October inclusive, the unit was located in the vicinity of Schoppen, Belgium, - did not fire, and was not molested in any way by the enemy. The terrain was hilly, not well adapted to armor. Enemy patrols did not attempt to penetrate our camouflaged position. The unit was attached to CCR.

From 11 October to 21 October inclusive, the Battalion was located near Eisenborn, Belgium, - did not fire and kept concealed from the enemy. The terrain was more suited to armor although there were several heavily wooded sections. On 22 October to the end of the period, the unit was in position in the vicinity of Kuchelsheid, Belgium. The harrassing, interdictory, and observed targets fired in support of CCR were reinforced by the 400th Arm'd FA Bn, 628th Tank Destroyer's Company "A", and the 105mm How. platoon of the 10th Tank B n. The terrain was unfavourable for armor and the weather made a quagmire of the roads and fields. The static condition made maneuver unnecessary however, All available observers were manning O. P's in the area of the infantry.

Narrative, 95th Armd FA Bn, Oct 44, (Continued)

The unit supported CCR during the entire period.

The plan of action remained the same throughout the period. The mission of CCR was one of holding and this unit was attached to CCR prepared to fire only in case of attack from the beginning of the period until 22 October 1944. After that time until the end of the period the unit was in direct support of CCR firing missions to hold the enemy, harass their supply, and demoralize their men. During this last phase the Battalion was reinforced by the fires of the 400th Armd FA Bn, Company "A", 628th Tank Destroyers and the Howitzer Platoon of the 10th Tank Bn. Supply and evacuation worked smoothly.

1/10/44
1/10/44
Initials:
1/10/44

SEVENTH ARMY

SEVENTH ARMY

November, 1944

Subject: Report against enemy after action.

To : The Commanding General, 5th Airborne Division, 10000, G. S. Army.

1. Organized: 1 January 1942.
at : Ft. Knox, Ky.

2. Strength 1 November 1944: 34 Officers; 2 warrant officers, 492 enlisted men.
Increase During November, 1944: 2 Officers; 7 enlisted men.
Decrease During November, 1944: 1 Officer; 6 enlisted men.

Strength 30 November 1944: 35 Officers; 2 warrant officers; 492 enlisted men.

3. The Ctr was located during the period as follows:

- 1 Nov 44 to 10 Nov 44: F 912145 Ruchelsheid, Belgium.
- 11 Nov 44 to 12 Nov 44: S-1 793322 1/2 mile west of Walthorn.
- 12 Nov 44 to 17 Nov 44: S-1 803322 at Walthorn, Belgium.
- 20 Nov 44 to 30 Nov 44, inc: S-1 994323 2 miles south of Weibel, Germany.

4. Exercises:

Purpose: Assembly area. 12 Nov 44.
From: Ruchelsheid, Belgium through Walthorn, Germany, Walthorn, Germany, thru Sauerbrodt, Walthorn, Walthorn to 1/2 mile west of Walthorn. Miles: 20.
Weather: Snow. Roads: soft and muddy. Morale: excellent.

Purpose: Combat Mission: 20 Nov 44

From : 1/2 mile west of Walthorn, Belgium through Walthorn, Belgium, through Weibels, Weibels, Kott, Walthorn, to 2 miles south of Weibel, Germany. Miles: 20. Weather: Rain. Roads: Soft. Morale: Excellent.

5. Campaigns: Eastern Europe.

Duration: From 1 November 1944 throughout period.

Battles: See Narrative attached.

Commanding Officers during engagements:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| LT COL JAMES W. McBRIDE | En Comdr; |
| CAPT ROBERT W. SCHMIDT | BC, Hq Btry; |
| LT COL JOHN J. COLE | BC, Btry A; |
| CAPT JOHN R. BRADSHAW | BC, Btry B; |
| CAPT JAMES C. ROSS | BC, Btry C; |
| CAPT WILLIAM D. WILSON | BC, Serv Btry; |
| CAPT WILLIAM J. KARNATH | Med Officer. |

DOWNGRADED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED
BY AUTHORITY OF TAC HS

7 Jan 46
Date
Initials

Nov 44

Report against enemy after action (cont'd), November, 1944.

Holding Mission, 1 November 1944 to 12 November 1944.

12 November 1944 to 19 November 1944: Assembly Area.

20 November 1944 to 30 November 1944, inclusive: Attack on Hurtgen and Belmehau.

4. Losses:

1 Officer, 6 enlisted men.

Killed: 1st Lt John H Schanille, O-44307. Killed by mortar shell while observing.

Wounded: Pvt Russell J Blanton, 698433, wounded by mortar blast accompanying observer.

Pvt Eugene F Plumer, 3138779, wounded by sniper.

Other Casualties: None.

Non-Battle Casualties

Tech 4 Eugene E Larkin, 13047050, disease;

Cpl John S Leavell, 35042110, injured in 1/4 ton accident;

Pvt John D Briggs, 35772928, injured in 1/4 ton accident;

Pvt Jessie W Woodruff, 33628395, shell shocked.

5. Members who distinguished themselves:

Silver Star awards for action thus far:

1st Lt William H Frazier O-1167419, posthumously, for gallantry in action in Germany 19 Sept 44 directing fire in face of heavy enemy fire.

1st Lt Robert A Schanille O-1167303, posthumously, for gallantry in action as a forward observer directing fire within 50 yards of his own position.

1st Lt Robert A Schanille O-1167307, for directing fire against the enemy under enemy direct observation and in face of exploding shells.

1st Lt Robert A Schanille, O-1167540, for gallantry in action remaining in forward position against enemy attacks for observation.

Cgt John J Bremer, 6894134, for firing his M-7 direct against enemy anti-tank guns with disregard for personal safety.

Tec 5 Otto E Shields, ³⁴¹⁵³⁷⁸⁷ for rescuing wounded soldier from burning gasoline truck.

Tec 5 Grant A Thompson, 33071779, for rescuing wounded soldier from burning gasoline truck.

Tec 5 William W Knight, 34084013, for driving an ammunition truck from an artillery barrage.

Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal:

1st Lt William H Frazier O-1182219, for completing 70 combat missions.

Brook S. Shields.

1st Lt William H Frazier O-1189106 for meritorious action conducting operations on 19 Sept 44 in Germany.

1st Lt Robert A Schanille O-1167495, for meritorious achievement as a forward observer.

C. Sgt George F Looney, 35042001, for meritorious achievement.

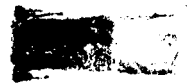
Cgt John Stangry Jr, 35073235, for meritorious achievement.

Cpl Albert W Cohen, 32140328, for meritorious achievement.

Report Against Enemy After Action November, 1944 (cont'd)

Cpl Cecil J. Moreno, 37337981, for meritorious achievement.
Cpl Kenneth W. Scott, 35041595, for meritorious achievement.
Cpl George D. Allen, 3730097, for meritorious achievement.
Cpl Charles W. Lee, 35040879, for meritorious achievement.
Cpl Bernard V. Lucas, Jr, 15091336, for meritorious achievement.

Note: Narrative to be photostated
and sent to the United States.



7 Jan 46 HS
Date Initials

November, 1944

On 1 November 1944, the 99th Mixed Field Artillery Battalion was reorganized and reinforced by the 71st and 72nd F. B. G., the 400th and 401st F. B. G., 22nd Tank Destroyers, and the howitzer platoon of the 81st Tank Battalion. This unit was located in the vicinity of Mouscron, Belgium, across from the (former) border town of Halternberg. The mission of the Combat Command was one of holding. No changes in the front lines were made and this unit made things difficult for the enemy by preventing improvement of his position and halting his movements.

The enemy was not especially strong in our sector but reserves of armor were stationed nearby. The enemy kept trying to send patrols across our lines evidently to get information, but nothing in the way of a counterattack was discernible. Rocket bombs were in evidence and one landed about 1 mile south of our position. Shelling occurred occasionally and several shells, - probably 155mm, - fell in our area. The enemy was not capable of any large scale attack.

No prisoners were taken during the period.

On 11 November 1944, this unit moved north to an assembly area in the woods attached to CC. Arriving near Walthorn, the unit bivouacked in the woods and was hit by continuous rain and snow. Due to the condition of the roads, the 71st and 72nd F. B. G. at Walthorn and the remainder of the unit went into bivouac in the woods, where it could take advantage of the buildings. The entire Combat Command of the 99th was assembled in the vicinity of Walthorn awaiting orders.

On 20 November 1944, the battalion was alerted to its new mission. Movement was made to 2 miles south of Walthorn, Germany. In this vicinity the 99th was attached to the 1st Infantry Division and was to be one of the attacking forces. This battalion moved into position to reinforce the fires of the 1st Infantry Division, such time as the 1st would have its attack. The attack was made on 21 November 1944. The 99th being attached to the 1st Infantry Division unit returned to the 99th.

The sector in which the unit fought was quite active. There were several divisions of enemy infantry, and a large amount of armor in reserve. The enemy was our position was good but enemy was the main force of the 1st Infantry Division to be made a mistake. The enemy was strong and fought on 21 November 1944. The 99th was not strong enough to hold on 21 November 1944. The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods. The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods. The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods. The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods.

The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods. The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods. The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods. The 99th was hit by several shells, 155mm, in the woods.



... explosion of ... set on fire ... caused some damage ... but caused no casualties. The explosion was ...

The entire mission was a limited objective of ... forest. The forest itself was especially difficult for ... conditions of the terrain.

... service ... its essential ... effectively.

RESTRICTED

DOWNGRADED TO:
RESTRICTED

AUTHORITY OF TAG 1-17-74

SECRET
Auth: Ltr 5th and Div 19 Oct 44
Initials:
Date: 3 January 1945.

13 Aug 45
Date

HSD
Initials

IDENTITY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
AFG 255
U.S. Army

December

3 January 1945.

Subject: Report against Enemy after action.

To : Commanding General, 5th Armored Division, AFG 255, U. S. Army.

1. Occurred: 1 January 1945.
Location: Fort Knox, Kentucky.

2. Strength 1 December 1944: 35 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers, 492 enlisted

Men.
Increase during December 1944: 1 Officer and 17 EN;

Decrease during December 1944: 1 Officer and 17 EN;

Strength 31 December 1944: 35 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers, 488 enlisted

Men.

3. The Bn was located during the period as follows:

1 Dec 44 to 15 Dec 44: S-1 994303, 2 miles S of Zeilaf, Germany.

15 Dec 44 to 21 Dec 44: S-1 922224, Netzen, Germany.

22 Dec 44 to 31 Dec 44 incl: S-1 ~~8226~~, Netzen, Belgium.
802286

4. Marches:

Purpose: Combat Mission.

From 2 mi S of Zeilaf, Germany to Netzen, Germany. Unit marches through Zeilaf. Distance travelled: 9, Morale: Excellent; Weather: Fair and Cold.

Purpose: Defensive Mission.

From Netzen, Germany, to Netzen, Belgium. Miles travelled: 2, Weather Cloudy and cold; Morale: Excellent.

5. Campaigns: Germany.

Duration: From 1 December 1944 throughout period.

Details: See Narrative attached:

Commanding Officers during engagements:

1ST COL JAMES W. HANSEN

1ST LT JAMES W. SCHILLING

1ST LT JOHN J. UIRN

1ST LT JOHN R. BARNHILL

1ST LT JAMES G. HANSH

1ST LT JAMES B. HANSH

1ST LT JAMES J. HANSH

6. Engagements:

Fr 1-15 Dec 44 incl.

Battle for the Hurtgen Forest; ~~Brandenburg~~ Brandenburg and Bergstein.

Bn Comdr:
S-1, Hq & Hq Btry;
S-1, A Btry;
S-1, B Btry;
S-1, C Btry;
S-1, Serv Btry;
Ltd Officer.

Dec 44

RESTRICTED

Report against enemy after action (cont'd) December 1944.

16 Dec 44 to 31 Dec 44, Defensive Mission, Aachen, Germany.
From 22 Dec 44 to 31 Dec 44, Inco-Defensive Mission, Stouen, Belgium.

7. Losses:
1 Officer, 17 enlisted Men.

Wounded:

Wounded: Sgt A Delbert v Smith 15100377 HQ Army L.A. - Wounds from burning tank
Cpl Jack L. Bennett, 1408379, HQ Army L.A. - Wounds and shrapnel wounds
Cpl Benjamin Frasse, 35021507, HQ Army L.A. - Wounded.

Wounded by German:

Cpl James D. Dempsey 39331772 - Disease
Sgt Franklin S. Church 39041503 - Disease
Tec 5 Dean C. Miller 35133127 - Disease
Tec 5 Fred Gary 35209775 - Disease
Tec 5 Burton A. Able 34103525 - Broken finger
Sgt Lawrence Smith 6653542 - Disease
Pvt Joseph A. Barry, 31385744 - Wound wrist
Pvt Fredrick L. Schaefer 12211857 - Disease
Pvt Solvin K. Obermiller 15140322 - Disease.
Pvt William J. Roberts 31308457 - Wounds from falling water.

Missing in Action:

2nd Lt. Ross S. Stone 01177714 HQ (while Forward Observing)
Pfc Joseph F. Nelson 3542375 HQ (while Forward Observing)

Members who Distinguished Themselves in Action: None. No awards were distributed during this period.

Absent without Official Leave:

Pvt Herman Schmidt 0274266, HQ Army.

Transfers:

Sgt John P. Morris, 6009638, HQ Army, transferred to Joint Discipline, Training Center, per GC 27, HQ 5th Army Div, 29 Dec 44.

Incls;
Unit Journal
3-2 Journal
3-3 Journal
Narrative.
Situation and Location

J. Edgar Hoover
M COL, PA,
Commanding

RESTRICTED

Official Use Only
40765, U. S. G. 215

3 January 1944.

December, 1944.

The first of December, 1944, was one of steady and hard fighting that centered in the forest. In the role of supporting attacking forces, it could be well recognized that this was indeed a bloody battle. Such was well indicated in the amount of ammunition expended; - an amount double the amount expended by this unit previous to this engagement.

During the first days of the month, this Battalion, attached to 5th, was reinforcing the fires of the 5th Pz of the 4th Inf Div when 60th was not committed, and was reinforced by the 30th Pz, 20th Pz, and 70th Pz when 60th was committed. 60th's mission was to take the towns of Almskau, Brandenburg, and Dorystein, - all of which was accomplished. This unit also was in direct support of the 2nd Tank Battalion in the taking of the high ground surrounding Dorystein, - a mission also successfully accomplished. On 7 December 1944, 60th's objectives having been taken, this Battalion was placed in general support reinforcing the fires of the 5th Pz.

The enemy was especially strong in the sector. His dug-in guns, infantry, and the thousands of all types of mines proved very difficult. In reserve were an unnumbered group of Panzer Troops. His artillery was heavy but due to good camouflage and concealment, only a few rounds fell in the Battalion area. Artillery was disastrous to observers and caused the death of a reconnaissance officer. Two of our Forward Observer Teams were disabled, - one destroyed, - due to anti-tank and artillery fire.

No prisoners were taken during the period.

On 15 December 1944, this unit was alerted for immediate movement to Netzen, Germany, on a holding mission. In the role of Corps Reserve, the Battalion went into defensive positions and reinforced the fires of the 73rd Inf Div arty. The start of the enemy offensive on 17 December 1944 and counter-attacks in our immediate area made the position very active. The landing of paratroopers added to the seriousness of the situation and a continuous alert was maintained. The enemy showed considerable offensive power and adequate reserves. Continuous counter-attacks against our sector necessitated our support. The line held throughout and previously determined alternate positions were not required. The positions were changed ~~continuously~~ ^{as necessary} to prepare a defense of Netzen.

Two prisoners (paratroopers) were taken during this period.

A sudden alert preceded movement of this Battalion on 21 December 1944. 60th, to which this unit was attached, was relieved of Corps Reserve and, rejoining the Division, went into area reserve. Conditions were taken so that there might be adequate defense of Netzen. This unit's mission was to be prepared to fire on moments notice and road blocks visited by the enemy. For this reason the Battalion

RESERVE

Narrative: [Illegible text]

was [illegible] by [illegible]. The enemy [illegible] several [illegible] to [illegible] throughout the area with little effectiveness. [illegible] of the enemy [illegible] were shot down. [illegible] for [illegible] activity [illegible] was [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] under [illegible] alert to [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible].

No [illegible] were [illegible] during this period.

Said [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] smoothly and were not affected by enemy activity.

DOWNGRADED TO:
RESTRICTED
BY AUTHORITY OF TAG

~~RESTRICTED~~

sup

.....
: Subject
: Auth: 1st Arm Div 1st Act 44
: Initials:
: Date: 2 February 1945.
:

13 Aug 45
Date

HSD
Initials

Commanding General
10 7255
U. S. Army

JG/AC

Jan 45

5
2 February 1945.

Subject: Report against enemy after action.

To : Commanding General, 5th Armored Division, 10 7255, U. S. Army.

1. Organized: 1 January 1945.
Location: Fort Knox, Kentucky.

2. Strength 1 January 1945: 35 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 492 Enlisted men.
Increase during January 1945: 7 Enlisted men.
Decrease during January 1945: 5 Enlisted men.
Strength 31 January 1945 : 35 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 492 Enlisted men.

3. The CG was located during the period as follows:

1 Jan 45 to 28 Jan 45: Kottenis, Belgium, at G-1 2022.
29 Jan 45 to 31 Jan 45 incl: Hauset, Belgium, at G-1 2037.

4. Reasons:

Reasons: To move into newly assigned area.
From Kottenis, Belgium, to Hauset, Belgium. Unit marches through Malmedy, Smetshen, and Hauset. Miles travelled: 7; weather: Snow flurries and cold; Morale: Excellent.

5. Campaigns: Germany.

Duration: From 1 January 1945 throughout period.

Battles: See Narrative attached.

Commanding Officers during engagements:

- LT COL James A. ...
- 1ST LT JOHN W. QUINN
- CAPT James H. ...
- CAPT James D. ...
- CAPT James J. ...

- Bn Commander;
- BC, Hq & Hq Btry;
- IC, A Btry;
- IC, B Btry;
- IC, C Btry;
- IC, Serv Btry;
- Med Officer.

6. Assignments:

From 1-28 Jan 45 incl: Defense of Supten, Belgium.
29-31 Jan 45 incl: Division reserve. (Not in contact).

605-612

~~RESTRICTED~~

RESTRICTED

Report (cont'd) after let on (cont'd) January 1945.

7. Losses:

5 killed in action.

Wounded: None.

Missing: None.

Non-Fatal Casualties:

- 1/1st Sgt Guy W. Hensley, 2044704, Serv Btry - Disease
- 1/1st Sgt Anthony B. Romano, 5209306, Bq - Disease
- 1/1st Sgt Howard A. Stein, 3716445, Serv Btry - Disease
- 1/1st Sgt Robert H. Frank, 663427, Btry B - Disease
- 1/1st Sgt John E. Ivanich 1510042, Bq Btry - Disease.

Missing in action: None.

Members Who Distinguished Themselves in Action:

1st Lt James W. McMor 0223703 FA - Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany from 19 November 1944 to 7 December 1944.

1st Lt Samuel S. Hale 326650 FA - Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany from 1 August 1944 to 20 November 1944.

1st Lt Paul J. Ford 041354 FA - Bronze Star. For heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany from 1 August 1944 to 20 November 1944.

1st Lt Daniel D. Lambert 041118 FA - Bronze Star. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany from 1 August 1944 to 20 November 1944.

1st Lt Andrew J. Johnson 423223 FA - Bronze Star. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany from 1 August 1944 to 20 November 1944.

1st Sgt Henry J. Molnar Jr 3544303, Serv Btry, - Bronze Star. For heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany on 19 September 1944.

2nd Lt Robert A. Wall 01183442, FA - Air Medal. For meritorious service while participating in aerial flight against an enemy of the United States from 29 September 1944 to 12 December 1944.

1st Lt William M. Patrick 01182219 FA - Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medal. For meritorious service while participating in aerial flight against an enemy of the United States from 27 October 1944 to 12 December 1944.

1st Lt James W. McMor 0223703 FA - Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, Belgium, and Luxembourg from 2 August 1944 to 14 September 1944.

Capt Ernst J. Schilling 040648 FA - Silver Star. For Gallantry in action in Germany on 19 September 1944. During an enemy counter attack against his battery's position, when the enemy main track vehicles infiltrated, Capt Schilling, with complete disregard for his own safety, took control of a self-propelled howitzer and proceeded across open terrain in spite of enemy artillery fire and destroyed the two half-track vehicles.

1st Sgt Henry F. Bredherst, 3234505, Bq Btry - Silver Star. For gallantry in action in France on 9 August 1944. While pursuing two enemy soldiers, 1st Sgt Bredherst came across a group of seventeen enemy soldiers. With great presence of mind to save to them in their last moments and that they believe he was accompanied by

RESTRICTED

SECRET

report against Army for action (cont'd), January 1945.

enters who distinguished themselves in action (cont'd).

a company of Infantry when in reality he was alone, and took them all prisoner.

T/5 Win S Dombach 3542343, 1st Stry, - Silver Star. For gallantry in action in Germany on 5 December 1944. T/5 Dombach was serving as driver of a forward observation tank when it was hit and immobilized by artillery fire. The crew was advised to remain in the tank because of artillery and mortar fire that was falling in the area. After dark, T/5 Dombach and two other members of the crew, with complete disregard for their own safety, dismounted and proceeded to repair the tank. Artillery and mortar fire was still falling and several times they had to seek shelter, but succeeded in repairing the tank so it could move to the rear, where it was fully repaired that night, and the crew returned next day to continue their mission.

1st Lt Martin V Gonzales 3439221, 1st Stry - Silver Star. For gallantry in action in Germany on 5 December 1944. 1st Lt Gonzales was serving as crew member of a forward observation tank when it was hit and immobilized by artillery fire. The crew was advised to remain in the tank because of artillery and mortar fire that was falling in the area. After dark, 1st Lt Gonzales and two other members of the crew, with complete disregard for their own safety, dismounted and proceeded to repair the tank. Artillery and mortar fire was still falling and several times they had to seek shelter in a pill box and under the tank but they continued to work until the tank was able to move to the rear, where it was fully repaired that night, and the crew returned the next day to continue the mission.

Charles H. [unclear]
[unclear], [unclear],
Commanding.

- 5 incls:
- Incl 1- Unit Journal
- Incl 2- 3-2 Journal
- Incl 3- 3-6 Journal
- Incl 4- Narrative
- Incl 5- Situation and overlays.

SECRET

RESTRICTED

1st Cavalry Division
Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division
APO, SF
970 000

120

January, 1945

2 January 1945

The position was during the period of the enemy counter-offensive. The main drive was in the direction of a diversionary nature could be expected at any time. The unit's position was one which was directly concerned with such attacks in the suburbs of the vicinity of Saigon, Vietnam. There was never any doubt but that the city of Saigon was a prime enemy objective with observing the results started by him in the area near the lines south-west of the city. The position taken by the battalion was therefore organized to be in a salvaged line position in such a manner as to provide artillery support for all the road blocks held by elements of CGA. The nature of the enemy attack and his show of strength along the entire line necessitated a continuous state of alert while in this position.

The enemy's use of tanks and armor reserves was striking in its strength. There was no possibility that by his securing an overwhelming force in any sector he could force a breakthrough. The main effort had been directed toward the likelihood of a breakthrough that the enemy could master. However, by the arrival, the forces withdrew and held in another part of the line. This further facilitated our air force to make a withdrawal owing to the enemy, and to force our advances difficult and prevent serious attacking lines to him. During the early part of the period enemy attacks were severe and such numerous strafing and bombing attacks as the main effort. Several planes were destroyed by our attached anti-aircraft battery.

From the beginning of the period until the end of the month, the battalion was engaged in a continuous state of alert, combat. The situation was such that any position along the line was held in readiness in case of an attack by the enemy, or counter-attacks against such positions in that sector.

No other breakthrough occurred however, and the only action was by elements of CGA who caught several enemy paratroopers and by the anti-aircraft battery who shot down several enemy planes. Training exercises were put into effect and time was devoted to repairing vehicles and preparing for future operations.

Casualties were taken during the period.

The terrain was good tank country but the road network was such as to hinder mobility in so far as armored vehicles were concerned.

Weather was generally wet and muddy.

On 20 January 1945, this division was assigned to the 1st United States Army and was relieved of its mission - the defense of Saigon. On 23 January 1945 the unit marched into the rear area and was placed in divisional reserve. The battalion was not in contact with the enemy and the remainder of the period was devoted to maintenance and issue of food and into training.

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**DOWNGRADED TO:
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BY AUTHORITY OF TAG F.D.C. SECURITY - WITH APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

.....
: 30
: Unit (tr. with 1st Div 19 Oct 44)
: Initials
: Date: 1 March 1945
:

U. S. Army
Fort Knox, Kentucky

Just

J. J. [unclear]

13 Aug 45 HSD
Date Initials

8 March 1945.

Subject: Report against [unclear] for action.

To: Commanding General, 4th Armored Division, APO 225, U. S. Army.

1. Organized: 1 January 1945;
at Fort Knox, Kentucky.
2. Strength 1 February 1945: 35 Officers; 2 warrant officers; 24 enlisted men.
Increase during February 1945: 1 Officer; 6 enlisted men.
Decrease during February 1945: 1 Officer; 4 enlisted men.
Strength 20 February 1945: 35 Officers; 2 warrant officers; 46 enlisted men.

3. The German nest was located during the period as follows:
1 Feb 45 to 6 Feb 45: Hauset, Belgium, at R-1 23357.
6 Feb 45 to 8 Feb 45: Heensbroek, Holland, at R-1 7195 78.
8 Feb 45 to 26 Feb 45: 1/2 mile E Schoren, Germany, at R-1 95916238.
26 Feb 45: Schoren, Germany, at R-1, 95517.
26 Feb 45 27 Feb 45: 200 yds west of Neffern, Germany, at R-1 992642.
27 Feb 45 throughout period: Katzen, Germany, at R-1 627718.

4. Marches:
From Hauset, Belgium, to Heensbroek, Holland. Unit marched through, Hauset, Belgium, Aachen, Germany, Heerden, Holland, and Heensbroek.
From Heensbroek, Holland, to 1/2 East of Schoren, Germany. Unit marched through, Heensbroek, Heerden, Holland, Korkrade, Germany, Alsdorf, Carroustiller, and Schoren, Germany.
From Schoren, Germany, to Kefferen, Germany. Unit marched through, Schoren, Aachen, Luxembourg, Linnich, Cevanich and Kefferen.
From Kefferen, Germany, to Katzen, Germany. Unit marched through, Neffern, Levenich, and Katzen.

5. Campaigns: Germany.
Duration: 1 February 1945 throughout period.
Battles: See Narrative attached.
Commanding Officers During engagements:
Lt Col James H. Heiber
Capt Ernest J. Schilling
1st Lt John G. Quinn
Capt John H. Birdsell, Jr
Capt James G. Gosh
Capt Samuel D. Lambert
Capt Albert J. [unclear]

- Bn Comdr;
- BC, Hq & Hq Btry;
- BC, A Btry;
- BC, B Btry;
- BC, Co Btry;
- BC, Serv Btry;
- med Officer.

3/45



6. ~~Deployment~~:

1-6 Feb 45. Remained in Div reserve, in Ninth Army, preparing for future operations.

6-8 Feb 45. Assembly area, Heensbroek, Holland.

8-23 Feb 45: Occupation of positions in preparation for general support on "D" Day.

23 -28 Feb 45: Movement into assembly areas awaiting orders.

7. Losses: 1 Officer - 6 Enlisted Men.

Killed: 1st Lt William S Patrick, 01192219, PA.

Wounded: None.

Non-battle Casualties:

Cpl Clair Peterson, Hq Btry - Disease

Spc 5 Willie C Snow 3309043, Hq Btry - Disease

Sgt Elliott Martin 6065004, Hq Btry - Disease

Transferred: 1st James E Owen, Mox 6665004, Btry C, to 47th Land-PA Bn.

Missing: None.

Members who Distinguished Themselves in Action:

Sgt Brownson's Terr 3541736, Hq Btry - ~~Silver~~ Star. For gallantry in action on 5 December 1944, near Rempten, Germany. ~~1st Sgt. was advancing into the town of Rempten, Germany, towards~~ in the face of intense enemy fire, the forward observation tank in which Sgt Brownson was riding was hit and disabled by enemy shells that damaged one track and punctured the fuel tank. Because of the intensity of enemy fire the commander ordered the crew to remain inside of the tank. Sgt Brownson at great personal risk voluntarily exposed himself in full view of the enemy to survey the damage, and then, despite enemy fire and an extra hazard of possible ignition of gasoline which saturated the ground surrounding the tank, with the help of two crew members he made repairs which enabled the tank to move to the rear where it was fully repaired and returned to action.

Sgt Adelbert V Smith 15100377, Hq Btry - Silver Star. For gallantry in action in Germany on 5 December 1944. When his tank was hit by enemy shell fire which killed one of the crew members and set the tank afire, Sgt Smith taking a fire extinguisher abandoned the tank along with the other crew members only to be brought under small arms fire from enemy troops entrenched within fifty yards of the tank. While the others sought cover in shell holes, Sgt Smith voluntarily exposed himself to enemy fire in an effort to extinguish the fire. After emptying two fire extinguishers into the flames without success, Sgt Smith again entered the burning tank and secured enough small arms for himself and the other crew members. With these small arms the party killed four of the enemy troops in fighting their way back to friendly lines.

Sgt Raymond M Wilson, 34084019 (Then Cpl) Hq Btry - Bronze Star. For heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany from 26 November 1944 to 15 December 1944.

Spc 5 James J. Webb 18071277, Hq Btry - ~~Bronze~~ Star. For heroic action in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany, on 6 December 1944.

JAMES W. McHALL,
LT COL, PA,
Commanding.

5 Incls:

Incl 1-Unit J. Rpt.

Incl 2-3-2 Journal;

Incl 3-3- Journal;

Incl 4-Narrative; - To be placed in file & sent to Armd School.

Incl 5-Situation & Overlays.

RESTRICTED
HEADQUARTERS
NINETY-FIFTH AIRBORNE DIVISION
APO # 255
U. S. Army

12 February - 1 March 1945

3 March 1945.

The month of February began relatively quiet under auspicious weather. The battalion was located in Nassot, Belgium, preparing for secret operations. The thaw in the weather necessitated the taking off of the white paint and orders were received early in the month to have all vehicles ready for operations and to remove all markings and personal insignia. Departure from this area was to indicate the beginning of active operations with All Corps of the 9th U. S. Army.

The mission of this battalion was to give general support under division artillery control to the planned offensive in the Linch area and proceed to an assembly area with CGA to give them direct support in the event of their commitment. Putting this plan into effect the battalion moved to Mersinbeck, Holland on 6 February 1945 and, leaving the administrative vehicles and personnel at that point, continued to Aachen, Germany, where a forward position was occupied to give general support. This passive mission became active upon the outbreak of the offensive on 13 February 1945, and continued until the 26 February 1945 when the unit assembled with CGA near Eifelberg prepared to support that command in exploitation of previous successes.

The enemy was well prepared for any type of offensive. Mines, barbed wire, and tank traps were dug across the entire stretch of ground from the river to the ridge. Extensive minefields were set up and enemy air was active in harassing and attacking. The terrain for the operation was excellent for tanks, remaining and falling in place for small stretches of muddy ground.

no prisoners were taken throughout the period.

The month's operations consisted mainly of preliminary movements and occupation of position. The hour flood caused by the release of dams delayed operations so that a large portion of the time was spent in position waiting for the time to go into action. In the last few days of the period the battalion advanced to a jumping off place but no contact was made with the enemy although several air to missile were fired. The entire period was one of expectancy waiting to be back into active attack against the enemy.

**DOWNGRADED TO:
RESTRICTED**
BY AUTHORITY OF TAG ADC

12 Feb 45 Red

Date Initials

RESTRICTED

MAIL MATTERS
SEVENTY-FIFTH ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO #235
U. S. Army

:SECRET
:Auth: Ltr 5th Arm d Div 13 Oct
:Incls: 44
:Date: 19 April 1945
:.....
J.W./lc

Mar *Clup*
19 April 1945.

Subject: Report After Action Against the Enemy.

To : Commanding General, 5th Armored Division, APO #235, U S Army.

1. Organized: 1 January 1945.
At : Fort Lind, Kentucky.

2. Strength 1 March 1945: 35 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers;
493 Unlisted Men.
Increase during March 1945: 1 Officer; 1 Unlisted Men.
Decrease during March 1945: 1 Officer; 22 Unlisted Men.
Strength 31 March 1945: 35 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers;
488 Unlisted Men.

3. Losses In Action:

a. Personnel: Killed: P/4 Clarence Griffis 34034080
Btry B. at *Lank-Latum - shell burst 15 Mar 45*
wounded in action: P/Sgt Donald K Peterson, 39500081, Hq
Btry - S.W.A, 4 Mar 45, near Mick, Germany, Evacuated, Shrapnel.
Sgt Hilbert Martin, 453954, Hq Btry, S.W.A, 4 Mar 45, near
Mick, Germany, Evacuated, Shrapnel.
P/Sgt Fred Clary, 35209975, Serv Btry, 5 Mar 45, Newkirkerfeld,
Germany, Shrapnel - Evacuated, S.W.A.
Pfc Wilbur H Reed 37516140, Serv Btry, 5 Mar 45, Newkirkerfeld,
Germany, Shrapnel - Evacuated, S.W.A.
PFC Paul P Snyder 42028471 Btry C, S.W.A, 13 Mar 45, Lank-Latum,
Germany, Shrapnel, - Evacuated.
Pfc Billy H Beard 34821152, Btry C, L.W.A, 13 Mar 45, Lank-
Latum, Germany, Shrapnel, Evacuated.
Pfc Kenneth F Delperdang 37440543, Hq Btry, L.W.A 26 Mar 45
Lank-Latum, Germany, Shrapnel, Evacuated. (RID 29 Mar 45).
Injured in action: 2nd Lt Ralph K Mc Collum 2118311 FA
Evacuated.

Discharged: S/Sgt Kurt Ehrig, 35126203, Btry C. Dis-
charged for convenience of the Government - To accept commission in
the Army of the United States. *10 ton truck (wrecker) at Newkirkerfeld*

b. Vehicles: one (1) ~~1/2 ton truck at Ingenholzhansen~~, by
artillery fire. 1-4 Tank at Lank, Germany, through direct fire. one (1)
1/4-ton 4x4 truck by accidental collision in the dark. one (1) 1/4-ton
4x4 truck wrecked when stolen by soldier of another organization.

3. Commanders:

Lt Col James J McKeer
Sgt Samuel S Little
Col James J McKeer

Lt Col from 1-13 Mar 45
Lt Col from 17-29 Mar 45
Lt Col from 30 Mar 45 thru
period.

**DOWNGRADED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED**

BY AUTHORITY OF TAG LLC

30 Jan 46 HSD
Date Initials

mle

605-612

Ltr, Rpt After Action Against Enemy, Mar 45, (Cont'd)

Commanders (Cont'd)

Capt Ernest W Schilling	BC-1st & 2nd Strys;
1st Lt John J. Ginn	BC-3rd Str; A;
Capt John L. Birdsall Jr	BC-3rd Str; B;
Capt James G. Bush	BC-3rd Str; C;
Capt Samuel D. Lambert	BC-3rd Str; D;
Capt Albert J. Repeler	Med Officer.

4. Attachments and Assignments: 95th Armd PA Bn, was attached to and in direct support of 30th Armd Div, 5th Armored Division, from 1900 7 March 1945. Attached to Division Artillery, 5th Armored Division, from 1900 7 March 1945 to 2100 30 March 1945. Attached to and in direct support of 30th Armd Div, 5th Armored Division, from 2100 30 March 1945 to the end of period.

5. Marches:

Katzam, Germany, to 1/2 mi S of Koch, Germany. Bn marches thru Rath, Rheindahlen.

1/2 mi S of Koch, Germany, to Neukircherfeld, Germany. Bn marches thru Koch, Bulken, Buchtein, Odt Kempen, Huls, Tonisberg, Uluynheide and Neukircherfeld.

From Neukircherfeld, Germany to 1 mi NE of Herk, Germany. Bn marches thru Herk.

From 1 mi NE of Herk, Germany to Lick, Germany. Bn marches through Repeler.

From Lick, Germany, to Lank-Latum, Germany. Bn marches through Lick, Uffort, Mors, Neukircherfeld, Uluynheide, Tonisberg, Huls, Krefeld, Gr undend, Ossum-Bosinghoven and Lank-Latum.

From Lank-Latum, Germany to 2 mi S of St Tonis, Germany. Bn marches through Lank-Latum, Osterath, Willich.

From 2 mi S of St Tonis, Germany, to 1 mi NE Senden, Germany. Bn marches through Kempen, Aldeherk, Nieukerk, Sevelen, Issum, wessel, Brunen, Raesfeld, Erle, Rhade, Lembeck, Wessendorf, Klerkan, Aekan, Lette, Dulma and Buldern.

6. Boundaries: See attached overlays.

7. Command Post Locations: 1 Mar 45 at R-1 027713, Katzam, Germany and 1/2 mi S of Koch, at R-1 028861, Germany.

3 Mar 45; 1 mi E of Kempen, Germany at Q-1 109078, and Neukircherfeld, at Q-1 190171.

4 Mar 45, 1 mi NE of Herk, Germany at Q-1 201187.

5 Mar 45, Lick, Germany, at Q-1 227213.

12 Mar 45; Lank-Latum, Germany, at Q-1 265014.

30 Mar 45, 2 mi S of St Tonis, Germany at Q-1 137031

31 Mar 45 and throughout period, 1 mi W of Senden, Germany, at P-2 315619.

8. Ammunition Expenditures and Losses: 6,286 rounds expended; losses: None.

Narrative - March 45.

Operations for the month of March 1945, consisted of assembling at the point of departure, the support of the attack to the Rhine, the defense of the Rhine against counter attacks, and preparation for future operations. Objectives of the unit were the support of CC "R" of the 5th Armored Division, in its attack from 1 March 1945 to 7 March 1945; support of the 36th Cavalry in holding position along the Rhine River until 30 March 1945, under the control of Division Artillery, of the 5th Armored Division, and movement to new positions ~~along the~~ in preparation of future operations with CC "R". The main goal was to render as close support as possible in the shortest time. Orders were issued by the Commanding Officer for one Battery of his selection to remain with the forward elements of the Combat Command as an assault battery. Past operations had proved that the time element was of immense importance for the basis of breaking of enemy morale by quickly delivered fires which fell on the enemy like a sudden squall or were delivered on short notice that forward elements could proceed without delay. The assault battery was notified the day before to be prepared to move well in advance of the actual attack. Enemy defenses appeared to be well planned, but poorly executed. In the main they consisted of AT ditches, fire trenches, AT positions, AT mines, some wire, dug in 88's, both anti-tank and anti-aircraft used as anti-tank, and some mortar were encountered. At first these positions and guns were well manned, but as the attack developed into a pursuit or withdrawing units, defenses were mainly in small groups in which most of the ditches were unmanned, and gun emplacements evacuated. Artillery fire was sporadic and in the nature of a few parting shots before the withdrawal. Generally fair weather aided operations during the period. Several showers falling during the advance had a nuisance value rather than an effective impediment and during the static period operations could continue unimpeded by the weather. The soil was fairly solid and there were no cases of miring down so that positions areas could be selected on the basis of practicability rather than availability. The enemy did not make full use of Panzerfausts and bazookas. Much damage could have been inflicted upon our forces or at least made nuisance value, taking advantage of a fuller use of these weapons. The rapid advance made greater use of their artillery and SP guns all but impossible except as a slowing process considering the probability of capture by their too slow retreat. The men of the unit were in fine physical condition. The breaking in the weather permitted free circulation without danger of the cold and at the same time did not cause any excessive number of cases. Under any type of fire encountered, all the men were on their toes ready for any eventuality. Artillery fire received during the last two weeks of the period served very well as a harassing and nuisance value, but the men held up very well despite the casualties inflicted. It was apparent that we were in enemy territory and that anyone could be an informer. Artillery seemed to be well directed many times when difilade made positions unobservable. Whether the enemy had definite locations or not can never be truly discovered, but it appeared that ~~service trucks~~ service trucks were more the object of enemy fires than the more observable and locatable firing batteries. No definite counter-battery fires were received, though artillery directed seemed to be interdictory. There was no question but that the terrain was well suited for armor. There was good observation and might have made the advance considerably more costly. The general North-Eastern direction of the advance made maximum use of rolling terrain and by-passing towns.

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The success of the mission was due in the main to tactics, fire power and speed. The enemy seemed unable to accurately determine from where an attack might be launched and thereby defenses were not well organized. The advance worked to cut supply and withdrawal routes catching quite a few rear echelon troops who could not fight their way out of the encircling pincers. The speed of the attack was bewildering to the enemy and gave him little time to reorganize his defenses or regroup sufficient to accord an organized withdrawal. The fire power given by this unit and reinforcing unit in addition to that brought to bear upon the enemy by the contacting troops was such as to sufficiently demoralize him from the outset of the attack, to take action when the direction and extent of the attack itself had materialized.

SECTION I. Personnel Matters.

Morale and discipline were excellent throughout the period. No reinforcements were received. The following officers and men distinguished themselves and were suitably awarded decorations:

Cpl Harle Turbeville, 34893747, Hq Btry - Silver Star. For gallantry in action in Germany from 5 December to 8 December 1944. Cpl Turbeville was the gunner in a forward observation tank which was advancing toward the enemy, when the tank was hit by a high explosive shell which broke the right track. With complete disregard for his own safety Cpl Turbeville and another crewman repaired the track in the midst of heavy enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire enabling the tank to move slowly under its own power and subsequently enabled the observer to use it for effective observation during a counter attack. When the observer left the tank and set up an observation post Cpl Turbeville and the other crewman laid wire from the forward observation point to the tank radio under intense enemy small arms, artillery and mortar fire. Later, when their artillery was supporting a unit in defense of a town Cpl Turbeville and the other crewman voluntarily went back and forth several times on foot under heavy fire from the CP of the friendly force to the tank relaying fire missions to the artillery radio.

Pvt Ruby R Benge, 3312 173, Hq Btry - Silver Star. For gallantry in action in Germany from 5 December to 8 December 1944. Pvt Benge was bow gunner in a forward observation tank which was advancing toward the enemy, when the tank was hit by a high explosive shell which broke the right track. With complete disregard for his own safety Pvt Benge and another crewman repaired the track in the midst of heavy enemy artillery mortar and small arms fire enabling the tank to move slowly under its own power and subsequently enabled the observer to use it for effective observation during a counter attack. When the observer left the tank and set up an observation post Pvt Benge and the other crewman laid wire from the forward observation point to the tank radio under intense enemy small arms, artillery and mortar fire. Later, when their artillery was supporting a unit in defense of a town, Pvt Benge and the other crewman voluntarily went back and forth several times on foot under heavy fire from the CP of the friendly force to the tank relaying fire missions to the artillery radio.

The Bronze Star Medal was posthumously awarded to 1st Lt John J. Scarnale, 044107, A1, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany on 25 November 1944. The Bronze Star Medal was awarded to 2nd Lt Moses E. Stone 01179744, A1, Missing in Action, for heroic action in connection with military

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operations an enemy of the United States in Germany, on 5 December 1944. Bronze Star Medals were awarded to the following named officers and Enlisted Men for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, Luxembourg, Belgium, and Germany:

Capt RICHARD K. ADAM 0452151, EA, ICo
1st Lt FRANCIS J. FULLER 0117466 EA, ICo
S/Sgt Thomas B. Lamb, 36175619, ICo
Sgt Leo J. Smith 32092486, ICo
Cpl Jack L. Colman 18084870, ICo
Cpl Joseph B. Sosnowski, 32074616, ICo

Other Awards - French Decorations:

The Croix De Guerre was awarded to the following officer and Enlisted Man:

1st Cpl James W. McFar, 0 20795, EA (1st)
1st Sgt Charles J. Claxon, 3240408, ICo (1st)

SECTION II - Intelligence Matters.

The enemy gave his first definite evidence as far as this unit is concerned relative to his plans for sabotage. On 20 March 1945, three prisoners were apprehended near the battalion position who were hiding out in a dug-out. These men were stragglers but seemed to be stragglers with a purpose of later coming to life and actively engage rear troops in whatever manner showed itself. The men were evidently not indefinitely self-sufficient as after occupying the position for approximately a week, it was only three days after occupation by our troops of the buildings in the area that they were apprehended. Evidently civilians had been feeding them, and their hunger after the three days forced them to take chances and the one was subsequently apprehended which led to the imprisonment of the other two still in the dug-out. The enemy lost 40 men in prisoners, undetermined number of killed, and two 80's destroyed in addition to two captured and an undetermined number destroyed.

SECTION III - Operations.

This unit in the main worked in the capacity of a normal field artillery battalion. Nothing new was developed. During the period of attack the unit continued moving one battery forward as assault battery and the remainder of the battalion of the battalion following in close support. During the static position of the battalion, several captured enemy guns were set up as a battery under the direction of the battalion S-2. Several thousand rounds of observed fire were fired across the Rhine destroying numerous 80's and suspected locations of troops and guns. The fire was very effective and the damage to the enemy in material and morale were great when consideration is given to the fact that many of the fires would not have been delivered by expenditure of our ammunition.

SECTION IV - Supply and Maintenance Matters.

There was nothing new developed in the matter of supply. Supply lines were not extended through the period and supply and evacuation worked smoothly. Maintenance was the key-note of our static position and all vehicles were put into good condition insfar as possible.

SECTION V - Civilians.

Civilians for the most part seemed to have the state of mind of acceptance of the one of two evils i.e. occupation by allies rather than war. There was no interference by them. They seemed to dislike cooperation but realized that in cooperation was their safety from a number of things one of which was acts of violence against them by American troops

Inclosures:

Unit Journal

S-2 Journal

S-3 Journal

Situation & Overlays.

JAMES W. McNEER,
LT COL, FA,
Commanding.

MONTH: Apr, 1948
INITIALS: *Jerry*
DATE: 6 May 1948

NO 488, U. S. Army

app
Lamp
May 1948

Section: Report after action of the Army.

1. Command: 1st Airborne Division,
NO 488, U. S. Army.

1. Organized: 1 January 1948.
At: Fort Knox, Kentucky.

2. Strength 1 April 1948: 35 Officers; 2 warrant officers;
488 Enlisted men.

Increase during April 1948: 1 Officers; 0 Warrant Officers;
9 Enlisted men.

Decrease during April 1948: 2 Officers; 1 Warrant Officers;
13 Enlisted men.

Strength 30 April 1948: 34 Officers; 1 Warrant Officer;
477 Enlisted men.

3. Losses in Action - Personnel.

a. Killed: None.

Wounded in Action:

Rec 4 Matthew Connolly, 3220074, 1st Bn, 5th Grads, 9 Apr 48, Ithaca, Germany - Not evacuated.

Rec 5 Jason Connolly, 351 3374, Serv Btry, 3rd, 1st Grads, 9 Apr 48, Ithaca, Germany - Evacuated.

Rec 8 Orville L. Levenson, 37110344, 1st Btry, 1st, 1st Grads, 9 Apr 48, Ithaca, Germany - Not evacuated.

Rec 9 Agivater, 35164921, Btry 3, 1st, 1st Grads, 10 Apr 48, Ithaca, Germany - Not evacuated.

Non-Battle Casualties:

Rec 4 Henri Wesley, 3413147, 1st Btry - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 10 Wayne Harris, 39742042, Btry 1 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 11 Eugene Sobczak, 3208333, Btry 1 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 12 William J. Schertle, 3133147, Btry 1 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 13 George E. Erickson, 30022730, Btry 1 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 14 William C. Stone, 3241340, Btry 1 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 15 Arthur J. Lanzari, 39814340, Btry 1 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 16 Martin Brunze, 3304137, Btry 1 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 17 Robert H. Hoon, 3111135, Btry 3 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 18 Edward J. Sincovski, 3144131, Btry 3 - Disease, Evacuated.

Rec 19 Percy L. Faulkenberry, 3002230, Serv Btry, Disease, Evac.

605
6/1/48

**POW GRADUATED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED**

BY AUTHORITY OF TAG, L.L.C.

30 Jan 46
Date
HSD
Initials

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AUG 9 1945 4552

7/1/48

Rpt After Action, 95th Armd FA Bn April 1945 (cont'd)

Transferred: (to 15th Armd Inf Bn, 5th Armd Div)
1st Lt Arthur G Harris, 6663719, Btry B.

b. Vehicles:

One (1) 2 1/2 ton truck, destroyed by artillery fire at Langenholzhausen, Germany, 6 April 1945.
One (1) 2 1/2 ton truck, destroyed by fire due to enemy plane strafing at Brusedau, Germany, 15 April 1945 (Truck of atchd 337th AA Bn).

c. Commanders.

1st Lt Col James W. McKeer	Bn Comdr;
Capt Ernest W. Schilling	BC - 1st Btry;
1st Lt John J. Quinn	BC - Btry A;
Capt John H. Birdsall, Jr	BC - Btry B;
Capt James G. Kush,	BC - Btry C;
Capt Samuel B. Lambert,	BC - Serv Btry;
Capt Albert S. Ritzel,	Medical Officer.

d. Attachments:

In direct support of 300th from 0001 1 Apr 45 to 0100 28 Apr 45. Under Div ARTG control from 0100 28 Apr 45 to end of period. 698th Armd FA Bn reinforces our fires from 1600 4 Apr 45 to 1730 5 Apr 45; 1800 8 Apr 45 to 1700 19 Apr 45; from 1800 19 Apr 45 to 0030 21 Apr 45; 0930 21 Apr 45 to 0100 25 Apr 45. 1 platoon Co C 628th FA Bn atchd from 0600 1 Apr 45 to 0600 3 Apr 45. 1 platoon Co A 628th FA Bn atchd from 0600 5 Apr 45 to 1430 5 Apr 45. Btry C, 337th AA Bn atchd throughout the period.

e. Marches:

1 mi N. Sendon to 2 mi N. of Seelen, Germany. Unit marches thru Venne, Linksade, Albersloh, Sendorhorst, Querswinkle, Breckenhorst, Wertkirchen, Seelen.

2 mi N. of Seelen to Lickum, Germany. Unit marches thru Greffen, Harshwinkle, Kollbeck, Heile, Werther, Schruttinglarch, Soltenbeck to Lickum.

Lickum, to 1 1/2 mi S. of Steinegge. Unit marches thru Diebrack, Herford, Jattel, Steinegge.

Steinegge to Langenholzhausen, Germany. Unit marches thru Exter, Wehrendorf, Wimmerbock, Wohlenhausen, Langenholzhausen.

Langenholzhausen, Germany to Friedrichswald. Unit marches thru Langenholzhausen, Widelbeck, Isendorf, Isserbruch, Lirans, Meier, Goldbeck, Friedrichswald.

Friedrichswald to 3/4 mi S. of Altenhausen. Unit marches thru Friedrichswald, Goldbeck, Fosingfeld, Grunephausen, Fr Berkel, El Berkel, Haveln, Rohsen, Willingfeld, Wehrhohlen, Neustadt, to Altenhausen.

3/4 mi S. of Altenhausen to 2 mi N. of Gesterf. Unit marches thru Altenhausen, Dohle, Springe, Volksen, Gesterf to Eriesterweier.

2 mi N. of Gesterf, to Rethen, Germany. Unit marches thru Rattensen, Weisingen, Rethen.

Rethen to Casselse. Unit marches thru Rethen, Gleidingen, Casselse.

Rpt After Action, 85th and 1st Div April 1945 (Cont'd)

Osselse to 1/2 mi S of Stedun. Unit marches thru Inala, Potteln, Ill Alverissen, Al Alverissen, Gr Hobke, Alauen, Alaluden aln, Bokur, Stedun.

1/2 mi S of Stedun to 1/4 mi S of Inala. Unit marches thru Inala, Schwichfeld, Merkul.

1/4 mi S of Inala to Stederdorf. Unit marches thru Inala, Stederdorf.

Stederdorf to Wehnzen. Unit marches thru Stederdorf, Alverissen, Wehnzen.

Wehnzen to 1 mi E of Lendese. Unit marches thru Litzke, Lendese, Lendese.

1 mi E of Lendese to 4 mi W of Wifhorn. Unit marches thru Lendese, Wifhorn, Lendese.

4 mi W of Wifhorn, to Wifhorn.

Wifhorn to 1 mi S of Lession. Unit marches thru Wifhorn, Wosterbeck, Lession.

Lession to Wosterbeck. Unit marches thru Lession, Leno, Wostzenhagen, Wosterbeck.

Wosterbeck to Stockheim. Unit marches thru Wosterbeck, Leno, Jubar, Ludclsen, Stockheim.

Stockheim to 1/4 mi S of Bruseda. Unit marches thru Stockheim, Mohrberg, Baetzendorf, Bieden rieben, Fohentrot, Gr Spenburg, Winterfeld, Hasenthin, Bierau, Luddekath, Kallekue, Kohnen, Kellue, Kocke, Kasebau, Luckstedt, Dohitz, Krostsch.

1/4 mi S of Bruseda to Bruseda.

Bruseda to 1 mi E of Lerge. Unit marches thru Bruseda, Osterburg, L. Kersberg, L. Kerslunge, Lach, Busch, Siegenlage, Lerge.

1 mi E of Lerge, to Siepe. Unit marches thru Lerge, Siegenlage, Busch, Ldon, L. Kerslunge, Kersberg, Osterburg, Bruseda, Krostsch, Dohitz, Luckstedt, Kosselbau, Kreck, Kackenbusch, Krenna, Jostze, Siepe.

Siepe to 1/2 mi E of Lichtau. Unit marches thru Siepe, Vietzen, Vahrholz, Calbe, Gr Lingen, Lichtau.

1/2 mi E of Lichtau to Windmuhlenberg. Unit marches thru Lichtau, Wakerbeck, Uehnitz, Winterfeld, Waderorf, L. Lilsdorf, Salzwedel, Windmuhlenberg.

Windmuhlenberg to Lubbow. Unit marches thru Windmuhlenberg, Salzwedel, Lubbow.

Lubbow to Luchow. Unit marches thru Lubbo, Lusse, Luchow.

Luchow to Seehau. Unit marches thru Luchow, Seehau.

Seehau to Zadrau. Unit marches thru Zadrau, Zadrau.

Zadrau to 1/2 mi S of Nebenstedt. Unit marches thru Zadrau, Gr Heide, Ill Feile, Trebstorf, Nebenstedt.

1/2 mi S of Nebenstedt to Dannenberg. Unit marches thru Nebenstedt, Dannenberg.

Dannenberg to Gr Wanzer. Unit marches thru Dannenburg, Nebenstedt, Gr Heide, Zadrau, Seehau, Luchow, Wadenstedorf, Dangsendorf, Witzoetze, Dackleben, Schmarls u, Schramme, Arendsee, Liewendorf, Gellensdorf, D. Busede, Bonenzien, Aulben, Gr Wanzer.

f. Boundaries: See attached overlays.

g. Command Post Locations:

- 1 Apr 45 - 1-2 (Lissen) 343631, 1/2 mi S. Benden & R-2 270728 W Beelen.
- 2 Apr 45 - 1-3 (Reckholt) 337905 Lichum.
- 3 Apr 45 - 1-3 731961 Steinegge.
- 4 Apr 45 - 1-3 331960 Langenholzhausen.
- 5-8 Apr 45 - 1-3 370935 Friedrichswald.
- 8 Apr 45 - 1-4 (Hildeheim) 209933 Altenhagen & R-4 375040 Gesterf.
- 9 Apr 45 - R-4 (Hannover) 427122 Rathen, R-4 470114 Osselse, R-4 621100 Stedum.
- 10 Apr 45 - R-4 692165 Berkmun, R-4 711223, Steedendorf, R-4 721220 Wehnzen, R-4 732345 Hardeese.
- 11 Apr 45 - R-5 (Braunschweig) 336349 4 mi N. Gifhorn, R-5 393329 Gifhorn, R-5 335452 Lessien, R-5 18 345 Rodenbeck, R-5 396620 Stockheim.
- 12-13 Apr 45 - R-6 (Wittenberge) 330800 1/4 mi N. Brusedau, R-6 670308 Brusedau.
- 14-15 Apr 45 - R-6 369765 Lerge.
- 16 Apr 45 - R-6 (Stendel) 480623 Sieppe.
- 17 Apr 45 - R-5 (Salzvedel) 422512 Liechtau.
- 18-20 Apr 45 - R-5 Windrublensberg 320769.
- 21 Apr 45 - R-5 321346 Lubbow.
- 22 Apr 45 - R-5 303910 Luchow, R-5 316942 Seehau, R-5 308928 Zedrau, R-5 273043 1/2 mi N. Nebenstedt.
- 23-26 Apr 45 - R-5 253053 Dornenberg.
- 27 to end of period, R-6 603931 Gr. Wanzler.

h. Ammunition expended: 3,111.
 Ammunition losses: None.

5. NARRATIVE - April, 1945.

Objectives were the direct support of 50A of the 5th Armored Div. The plan of attack was the same as heretofore used - an advance guard battery marching with forward elements, the remainder of the battalion marching closely behind. When a reinforcing unit was attached, the same plan was developed with the additional advantage of leap-frogging the battalion so that there was always at least two batteries which could fire at all times and the advance guard battery was able to give close support. The enemy's defenses were defended road blocks and defended towns. For the most part the road blocks were not completed nor were they strongly defended. There were few towns so strongly defended that a few artillery shells did not hasten a decision to surrender. In several instances where the enemy had a large enough force, and had weapons to support him, he fought well. Dual purpose anti-aircraft guns were used to his advantage although there seemed to be a shortage of ammunition. Many of the untrained enemy did not use their guns and lost to the advantage it might have been used, but the young fanatic soldiers encountered caused damage and many casualties with this type of anti-aircraft guns. The latter stayed in their fox-holes and had to be brought out of their holes by force.

The men were in fine condition for the operations. Weather made no interference. The underground seemed to be non-existent; many of the civilians seemed willing to give correct information whereby so doing they were able to save their property and perhaps their lives. The terrain was fairly good for armor except for the numerous woods. Since the enemy did not take as good advantage as he might have of these woods, armor was not made any less effective. The men did well under fire, they breathed victory as they advanced, and by their speed and daring, convinced many of the enemy to surrender. Surprise firepower and individual initiative were instrumental in the decisive defeat of the enemy.

SECTION I - Personnel Matters.

Morale and discipline were excellent - the non-fraternization ruling was scarcely needed, as the quick moving situation and lack of sympathy for the civilians provided little opportunity for fraternization.

No replacements were received during the period.

No decorations were awarded during the period.

SECTION II - Intelligence Matters.

The enemy consisted of various hastily organized KG made up of remnants of destroyed divisions, convalescents, and boys and old men. The only organized body of troops was Division Clausewitz, which attempted to pass through our rear. Most of the resistance was at road blocks of the large type. More and more of them were incomplete and many were undefended. In a few cases they were defended by AA or AT guns but usually with small arms and panzerfausts only.

With the exception of the indirect fire from the AA guns of Hannover, artillery fire was very scarce. Only a few rounds of interdiction and harrassing fire was received during the month. Some nebelwerfers were used, but in small numbers and with limited ammunition.

Several 88mm guns were destroyed on the road by artillery fire. The enemy used a few tanks and SP guns, but except for attacks on our supply lines once or twice, they were not used effectively.

More soldiers with new discharges were picked up in civilian clothes.

During the period 335 enemy soldiers and 2 civilians were turned in to prisoner of War cage. Equipment known to have been destroyed by our artillery fire were:

- 2 Prime Movers;
- 15 Vehicles;
- 9 88mm Guns;
- 10 Nebelwerfers;
- 2 Mortars.

SECTION III - Operations.

During the period of April 1-30, the battalion operated under the control of the Division Artillery. The Division spearheaded the drive of the VIII Corps from the Rhine River to the Elbe River. Throughout the entire period, the battalion was in direct support of CC"R", and during most of the period the battalion was reinforced by the 395th Armd FABn.

The practicability of having two light armored field artillery battalions in support of an armored combat command was definitely proved. When operating in one column, leap-frogging of the artillery by battalion insured the availability of artillery fire in support of leading elements at all times. Where it became necessary to operate in two columns, each column had a battalion of artillery in direct support. And by leap-frogging the batteries, continuous support of the leading elements of the column was maintained.

For a great part of the drive, the combat command operated far ahead of the Division, and was out of range for general support by medium and heavy artillery, but when they were within range, the use of medium and heavy battalions brought excellent results in destructive and counter battery missions. The use of TOT missions by as many light, medium, and heavy artillery battalions as were available in levelling towns where heavy resistance was encountered, usually resulted in the neutralization of such resistance, and cleared the way for the column to continue.

The use of the direct support light battalion with its massed fires proved successful in neutralizing enemy strong points. These strong points consisted usually of several well placed AT and flak guns in or near a town, supported by personnel of company strength armed with machine guns and panzer fausts, and sometimes aided by supporting nebelwerfer fire. Either through observation by the air liaison plane or the forward observer at the head of the column, the battalion performed the mission of so neutralizing these strong points as to allow the tanks and infantry to close in and mop up. If observation was impossible, searching fires by the massed battalion over the probable points of resistance usually accomplished the same results. An instance of this occurred near Zadrau and Gr. Heide, Germany. The column was halted by heavy nebelwerfer and high velocity fire. Observation by the forward observer was impossible, and weather prevented the plane from being in the air. Six probable areas of this resistance were designated to the artillery by the tank commander, four of which included small towns on or near the route of advance. All points were shelled heavily with 20% white phosphorus used on the towns. Soon after the column continued, with many dazed personnel captured and some seven (?) 88mm guns, nine (9) nebelwerfers, and numerous trucks found destroyed from the artillery fire.

Such coordination of the tank and infantry arms with the artillery was demonstrated in another way on another occasion. This time near Wittle, Germany, the column ran into intense high velocity fire from flak guns. The forward observer spotted them, and brought fire which neutralized them. The tank commander then decided to attack and destroy the guns to protect the remainder of the column. Under a co-ordinated plan the artillery continued to fire tire fire over the positions of the flak guns as the tanks advanced, and maintained such fire until

Rpt After Action, 9th Armd FA Bn - April 1945 (cont'd)

the tank commander requested its lifting through the forward observer, all of the guns were captured or destroyed, and 80 prisoners taken as well as many killed.

Outstanding throughout the drive was the work of the liaison planes. After flying from the Division Artillery field in the rear, which resulted in the lack of air observation at necessary times on several occasions, the battalion's planes alternated where by one always remained with the battalion. The need of the air observation in reconnoitering the roads ahead of the column and protecting from ~~surprise attacks on the flanks was always appreciated by all.~~ In addition most registrations were fired through the air O's, as well as many counter-battery missions. Coordination of observation with the forward observers was always necessary and effective.

On the whole, the tactics employed by the battalion and the use of the artillery with the combat command showed outstanding improvement from the drive across France. The results in the accomplishment of all our missions with the destruction of equipment and personnel were evident.

SECTION IV - Supply and Maintenance Matters.

Supply and maintenance worked smoothly. There were no innovations.

SECTION V - Civilians.

The civilians gave no interference and often times were helpful in pointing out or bringing in the enemy. It was apparent however, that they could not be trusted and that they expected treatment as allies, rather than a defeated enemy.

James H. W. Yew
LTCOL, FA,
Commanding.

- 4 Incls:
- Unit Journal.
- C-1 Journal: *not rec'd - jpk*
- C-2 Journal
- with ~~other~~ cover-~~ings~~s.

REPORT
MONEY-TOWN AT 255
APO #255, U. S. Army

6 June 1945.

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against The Enemy.

TO : Commanding General, 5th Armored Division,
APO #255, U. S. Army.

- 1. Organized: 1 January 1942.
At : Port Knox, Kentucky.
- 2. Strength 1 May 1945: 34 Officers; 1 warrant Officer; 470 Enlisted Men.
Increase during May 1945: ⁴ Officers; 0 Warrant Officers; ⁵⁷ Enlisted Men. *gum*
- Decrease during May 1945: ⁵ Officers; 0 Warrant Officers; ⁴² Enlisted Men. *gum*
- Strength 31 May 1945: 30 Officers; 1 warrant Officer; 421 Enlisted Men.

3. LOSSES IN ACTION - Personnel:

a. Killed: None.

Wounded in Action: None.

Non-Battle Casualties:

- S/Sgt Joseph R. Fellos, 33076810, Btry C - Disease, evacuated
- S/Sgt Kenneth Witham, 15100361, Btry C - Disease, evacuated
- Pfc Michael Keyock, 33623702, Btry B - Disease, evacuated
- Pvt Sherman W. Brown, 34116631, Btry B - Disease, evacuated.

b. Vehicles: None.

4. c. Commanders:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Lt Col James F. McLeer | On leave; |
| Capt Ernest G. Schilling | Adjutant General; |
| Capt John E. Quinn | Adjutant General; |
| Capt John H. Hirsall Jr | U. S. Army, 1 May 45 to 15 May 45 |
| 1st Lt Herbert M. Schulz | U. S. Army, 15 May 45 to 31 May 45 |
| Capt James C. Rush | U. S. Army; |
| Capt Samuel E. Lambert | U. S. Army; |
| Capt Albert J. Vanhael | Medical Officer. |

d. Attachments:

In general support of the 5th Armored Division from 1300 2 May 45. Under Div Arty control from 1300 4 May 45 to 2100 7 May 45. Under Div Arty from 2100 7 May 45 to end of war. From 0001 1 May 45 to 1300 11 May 45.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
 DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE
 CANCELLED

~~SECRET~~

c. Marches:

From Weizel to Weizendorf, Germany. Unit marches thru Sulzen, Wosch-
zien, Brosede, Söllensdorf, Weizendorf, Arndsee, Binde, Ritzbein, Pretzier, S-by-
passing Salzweidel thru Kricheldorf, Sienu, Zietznitz, Wersdorf, Allstave,
Lietzt, Langenepel, Hiersdorf, Dahre, Diesdorf, Raddekathe, Mittensen, Hutzen,
Kreischack, Vorhop, Schenkwarda, Wahrenholz, Wosterholz to Weizendorf.

Weizendorf to Uder, Germany. Unit marches thru Wastorf, Gausen,
Bifflun, to Weizskattel, Leiferde, S thru Willerse, S to Wolfshüttel, S to
Willems, N to 2nd rd of Biddarke, S to Autobahn at 1/2 rd SW of El Scheulper. Unit
continues on Autobahn to 1/2 rd S of Sedon, S thru Ruim, Braunschweig, S thru Thiede,
Kornels, Leinde, Harau, Lohmackerssen, Blarh, Stockheim, Salzmitter, Nohenrode,
Jutler, Neun, Soosen, Jidehausen, Richte, Northein, Norten, Bowerden, Göttingen,
Schwar, Kirch, Arnschen to Uder.

f. Boundaries: See at ached overlays.

g. Forward Post Locations:

- 1 May 45 to 3 May 45 at N-6 (Stendal) 603951, Gr Weizel
- 3 May 45 to 9 May 45 at N-3 (Braunschweig) 897478, Weizendorf
- 10 May 45 to end of period, at Q-4 (Gassel) 621108, Uder.

h. Ammunition expended: None.
Losses of Ammunition: None.

6. SUMMARY - May 1945.

During the opening of the month of May, 1945, the sector of operations
in which this unit was involved was relatively quiet. Although no link-up had
been made, it was known that a link-up was actually not too far away. That fact
was further brought out by the "no-fire" line along the Elbe. There was no ad-
vance during this period and the mission was along the Elbe was one of defense
in support of divisions holding the front. Morale was high with the end of the
war in sight and the men continued to be alert for places and enemy behind the
lines.

with the Russians

At the end of the period the Battalion's mission was one of
maintain security troops. Except for a few days prior to 1 May when the unit
was alerted for action with the British, the Battalion maintained check points
and various road blocks with the objective of securing our troops and prohibit
the circulation of un-uniformed enemy soldier's who had not been screened but who
had been given a discharge ~~from~~ ^{by} the German Army.

1. Personnel Matters.

morale and discipline were maintained by good discipline. The
military and non-military duties during periods of such needed recreation and everyone was
kept in the line of things for which there had been no time previously.

There were twenty point awards received during the latter part of
the month, all of which were from Infantry divisions and were received under
the regular program.

No desertions were reported during the period.

2. Intelligence Matters.

There were no reports of enemy submarines. All of our transport
and personnel were picked up and had not been checked by the enemy army,
and no reports of any of the operations and were possibly any of the enemy.

Intelligence Targets were investigated as assigned without any startling results. Some enemy small arms equipment was taken from homes and from underground caches which the civilian population had failed to turn into military authorities or their burgomasters.

SECTION III - Operations.

This unit operated under Division Artillery control of the 9th Armored Division, operating as security troops. As such the Battalion was spread out over a large area, each Battery having its immediately surrounding territory and towns as their area of responsibility. Each Battery set up check points at which all civilians or enemy soldiers could be checked for proper passes or credentials, or turned into the military government if they failed to produce authorized passes. A Displaced Persons Camp was operated by the Battalion and a guard posted on an Oil Dump installation. As security troops they quelled disorders and generally kept law and order.

SECTION IV - Supply and Maintenance Matters.

No supply changes or problems.

SECTION V - Civilians.

The civilians caused no interference to operations, being generally helpful in the search for military materiel. They often requested protection mainly against displaced persons whom they charged with crimes from robbery to murder. As a whole the civilians were obedient and industrious in fulfillment of orders given to them by the military.

James H. Moore
JAMES H. MOORE,
1E COL., 9A,
Commanding.

- 4 Incls:
- Unit Journal
- S-2 Journal
- S-3 Journal
- Situation & Overlays.