

CLASSIFICATION TO:
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HEADQUARTERS
612th Tank Destroyer
Battalion

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APC 230, U.S. Army
4 January 1945

File # 46 #50
Initials

Subject: Action Against Enemy; Reports After/After Action.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington D.C. (Thru Channels)

1. In compliance with letter Headquarters First United States Army, dated 13 July 1944. Subject, same as above, this organization submits the following report of its activities during the month of December 1944.

2. The 612th Tank Destroyer Bn was in active operation from 1 December to 31 December 1944. During period 1 December to 11 December 1944, Bn was attached to VIII Corps and 7th T.D. Group and further attached to 2D Infantry Division. Bn was relieved from attachment VIII Corps, 7th T.D. Group on 11 December and attached to V Corps, 3rd T.D. Group. Attachment to 2D Infantry Division remained unchanged.

3. During period 1 December to 11 December Bn (less Co "A") was attached to 2D Infantry Division. Co "B" was in direct support of the 23rd Infantry Regt. and furnished anti-mechanized protection from prepared positions in the vicinity of WINTERSPELT, Germany. Co "C" (less 2D Plt.) was in direct support of the 38th Infantry Regt. and furnished anti-mechanized protection from prepared positions in the vicinity of Bleialf, Germany. Co "C" fired 140 rounds HE and 20 rounds APC direct fire at pill boxes and machine-gun positions in the Sigfried line defenses. 2D Plt. Co "C" was in direct support of 9th Infantry Regt. furnished anti-mechanized protection from prepared positions vicinity of Schlossenback, Germany. Co "A" (plus 1st and 2D Ron Plts) were attached to Task Force "X" vicinity of Manderfeld, Belgium were employed as infantry and held defensive position in assigned sector. Co "A" captured one prisoner of war. On 12 December 612th TD Bn was relieved by 820th TD Bn and 612th moved to Scurbrodt, Belgium. Co "A" attached to R.C.T. #9 moved to Hefen, Germany to support the attack of R.C.T. #9 with direct fire on Rehren, Germany. 16 December Co "B" (1st Ron Plt attached) was attached to R.C.T. #23, Co "C" in 2D Infantry Division Reserve. At 0530 hours 16 December enemy attack Hefen and succeeded in penetrating our infantry lines and threatened 3rd Plt. Co "A". Enemy was driven off and lines were restored, eighteen (18) PW's were taken by 3rd Plt Co "A" and three (3) PW's captured by 1st Plt. Co "A". On 17 December Co "B" (plus 1st Ron Plt) were detached from 23rd Infantry Regt and attached to 99th Infantry Division, moving to vicinity of Honsfeld, Belgium taking up position of readiness. An attack from the southeast by enemy tanks and armored infantry resulted in two (2) self propelled anti-tank guns being knocked out by 1st Plt Co "B" and one (1) enemy tank being knocked out by 2D Plt Co "B", before both platoons were overrun by enemy infantry.

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1st Ron Plt. Hq Co knocked out 3 enemy scout cars or half tracks before being surrounded and cut off by enemy. On 17 December 1944 the 2D Ron Plt was attached to Company "C" which in turn was placed in direct support of the 26th Infantry Regt, 1st Infantry Division and furnished anti-mechanized protection in the vicinity of Butgenback, Belgium. On this same date remnants of Co "B" were relieved from attachment to the 99th Infantry Division and placed in direct support of the 23rd Infantry Regt. Co "A" relieved from attachment 9th Infantry Regt. and placed in direct support of 3rd Bn., 395th Infantry, 99th Infantry Division furnished fire support and anti-mechanized protection. Maintenance Plt., and Co Hq's Hq's Co 612th TD Bn were attached to Task Force "Hoke" and maintained defensive positions southeast of Berg, Belgium. 19 December 1944 Co "C" (plus 2D Ron Plt.) was relieved from the 26th Infantry, 1st Division and was placed in direct support of the 38th Infantry Regt., 2D Infantry Division. On this same date Co "A" on Hofen Ridge was again attacked by a strong force but enemy was driven off. 1st Plt Co "A" captured 11 prisoners of war. On 20 December Maintenance Plt and Co Hq's., Headquarters Co were relieved from attachment to "T.F. Hokes". On 21 December Co "A" killed 5 paratroopers and captured one. On 29 December Co's "A" and "B" were relieved by elements of 801st TD Bn and moved to assembly area 2 miles east of Verviers, Belgium to be converted to a self propelled Bn equipped with M18's. Co "C" mission unchanged.

Result of operation:

2 enemy SP antitank guns knocked out
1 enemy tank knocked out
3 enemy personnel carriers knocked out
38 prisoners of war captured

James B. Kemp
JAMES B. KEMP
Major, Infantry
Commanding.

1 Inch - Unit Journal, 612th TD Bn for
month of Dec 44.