

HEADQUARTERS
628th Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 640

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G-3 Periodic Report

S-3 Report

From: 0001, February 1944
To: 2400, 29 February 1944
628th Tank Destroyer Battalion
Camp No. 5, Packington Park,
England, 1600, 29 February 1944

NO. 1

Maps: None

1. Does not apply.
2. Does not apply.
3. Does not apply.
4. Does not apply.

5. OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD:(a)

(1) Debarked from troop transport on the 6th February 1944. Period from 1st February 1944 to time of debarkation was spent in detailed duties aboard transport. Arrived at present station on the 7th February 1944.

(2) Time from the 7th February 1944 was spent in setting up the camp and housekeeping; including the drawing of available equipment & indoctrination.

(3) From 14th February 1944 to 19 February 1944, training schedule included basic subjects as prescribed in TM 35, 1st T.D. Brigade dated 13th February 1944.

(4) The week from 21 February 1944 to 26 February 1944, was spent in basic and primary subjects, stress being put on a class in mines and booby traps working with actual enemy mines. Receipt of our T/E vehicles enabled us to a certain extent to review most of the primary subjects. Time was also spent during this week in preparing for the following week's schedule of our secondary mission as reinforcing artillery with indirect firing.

(5) The 28th and 29th of February 1944 were spent beginning the Field Artillery training as laid down by TM #6, 1st T.D. Brigade. Time not spent on the actual F.A. training was spent on Motor Maintenance and physical conditioning.

6. COMBAT EFFICIENCY:

(1) Factors beyond control: (a) To date the only factors beyond our control have been the issuance of equipment, and the necessity of providing an extremely large command detail. These two factors have effected our training materially, but are now being remedied to a certain extent. Although we have all of our M-10's, M-8's, and most of our other vehicles, we are greatly hampered in our present Field Artillery Training by the lack of Panoramic sights, mounts, and brackets; aiming circles and the necessary equipment for the fire direction teams. Also, we do not have our recovery vehicles, which impedes our training to a certain extent. At the present time, we have enough sights and accessories on hand to equip one platoon per each firing company, and only one aiming circle per company. We have also experienced a great deal of difficulty in obtaining the necessary equipment for preparing instructional charts.

(b) There has been ^{no} assault training given this unit.

(c) The date this unit will be ready for operations will be 1 April 1944, pending the receipt of equipment which we are now short.



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Report continued)

(2) Combat Efficiency:


a. The battalion as a whole is satisfactory for performing their primary mission, pending receipt of initial shortages and shortages not received as a part of the initial issue of major units.

b. Companies A, B & C (Firing companies) are at the present time unsatisfactory for performing their secondary mission as reinforcing artillery. However, the present training schedule covering indirect firing will be concluded 31 March 1944 or thereabouts. Providing the necessary facilities are at our disposal for this training, battalion will have a rating of satisfactory for their secondary mission.

(3) Status of Combat Ammunition: None on hand at present. Basic load requisitioned; now pending approval VIII Corps.

7 Does not apply.

For the Commanding Officer:


James H. Lloyd
JAMES H. LLOYD
Capt., FA,
S-3

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HEADQUARTERS
628th Tank Destroyer Battalion
AFPO 640

G-3 REPORT

From: 0001, 1 March 1944
 To: 2400, 31 March 1944
 628th Tank Destroyer Battalion
 Brecon Beacon Range Area,
 S. Wales, England.
 1600, 31 March 1944.

No. 2
 Maps - None.

1. Non-applicable.
2. Non-applicable.
3. Non-applicable.
4. Non-applicable.

5. Our Operations for the Period: (a) From the first to the seventeenth of the month, we were at our base camp in Packington Park. Per TM #10, 1st TD Brigade, we started an intensive training schedule in our secondary mission, as laid down by WDC #125, 1943. For this seventeen day period, half of our training time was allotted to Field Artillery, one-quarter of the time to physical conditioning, and the other one-quarter to care and cleaning of our equipment (including motor maintenance.)

(b) On the seventeenth of the month, we made a motor movement to the Brecon Beacon Range Area in South Wales. After two days spent establishing camp, service practice firing was started on the 20th. Since we had but 12 of our 36 destroyers equipped with the proper sights, the Company platoons rotated daily on the guns. The first week, 20th to the 27th we fired axial precision, bracket, and FO methods, Observed Fire. Firing positions were changed and we had a night preparation of position. The platoons not occupied with the Field Artillery firing, were occupied on problems in our primary mission and dismounted work. Platoons were rotated daily. Reconnaissance Company was engaged in mounted work, bridge estimation, map reading, compass work, and road conditioning. From the 27th to the 31st, one firing company at a time was given the entire twelve guns and had exercises in prearranged unobserved fire. Registration by either FO or axial methods (observed), firing to check points, and firing unobserved concentrations. (Actually observed to determine accuracy). During this period, we were given a test by 6th Tank Destroyer Group to determine our efficiency in our secondary mission. Reconnaissance Company also fired their M-8s, direct fire, and the co-axially mounted .30 Caliber Machine Guns. Units not engaged in firing were occupied with problems in our primary mission plus dismounted work. During the entire period at the Brecon Beacons range the following amount of ammunition was expended: 1944 round (HE) 3"; 300 rounds 37mm (HE) and 6000 rounds of .30 caliber ball.

6. Combat Efficiency: (a) The status of training of this unit has been greatly enhanced by this last period of training and we feel, that the combat efficiency has been definitely increased.

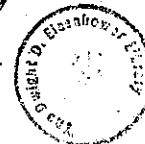
(b) The only factor beyond our control has been the lack of our TE equipment. However, we have gotten quite a bit of equipment over what we had last month. Around the middle of our indirect firing program, we were given the Azimuth Indicators, to take the place of the panoramic sights; this did not seem, however, to decrease the efficiency of our firing.

(c) Due to the fact that we only have about 60% of our equipment at the present time, we are not ready for combat. With our TE equipment we would be ready for combat.

7. We have had no operations during this period.

For the Commanding Officer:

James H. Lloyd
JAMES H. LLOYD,
 Capt., FA,



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HEADQUARTER
628th Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 403, U.S. Army

G-3 Periodic Report

S-3 Report

From: 0001, 1 April 1944
To: 2400, 30 April 1944.
628th Tank Destroyer Bn.
Dorchester, England.

No. 3

Maps: None

1. Non-Applicable
2. Non-Applicable
3. Non-Applicable
4. Non-Applicable
5. OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD: (a)

(1) On the 2nd of the month, we returned from Firing Field Artillery Indirect Problems in South Wales, by motor convoy.

(2) The 3rd of April was spent on Care & Cleaning of equipment. The following three days was spent in training with small arms, preliminary marksmanship, Company Field Artillery problems, and radio procedure. The 7th and 8th, we had showdown inspections, by Company, to determine shortages and condition of equipment. On the afternoon of the 8th, we were informed by the 6th Tank Destroyer Group Commander that we had been selected to maintain Marshalling Camps in the South of England. On this date, our training as a tactical Battalion ceased.

(3) The Battalion moved out of base Camp, Camp #5, Packington Park, by a combined rail and motor movement on the 10th and 11th of April 1944. Destination was Dorchester.

(4) Upon arrival of destination, the Battalion was split up into three groups, each group to maintain one marshalling camp. Battalion Headquarters was designated as Sub-Area "X", in Area "D".

(5) Since the 8th of the month, there has been no formal training.

6. COMBAT EFFICIENCY:

- (1) Factors Beyond Our Control: (a) Present assignment of the Battalion.
(b) There has been no assault training given

to this unit.

(c) The date this unit will be ready for operations will be approximately one month from the termination of present assignment, providing we are able to spend that one month in a rigorous training program.

(2) Combat Efficiency: If allowed a refresher training course in both our primary and secondary missions, the combat efficiency of the Battalion will be the same or better than before undertaking present assignment.

(3) Status of Combat Ammunition: None on hand at present.

7. Non-Applicable.

For the Commanding Officer:

James H. Lloyd
JAMES H. LLOYD,
Captain, F.A.,
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HEADQUARTERS
628th Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 403, U.S. Army

G-3 Periodic Report

From: 0001 May 1, 1944
To: 2400, 31 May 1944.
628th Tank Destroyer Bn.
Dorchester, England.

No. 4
Maps: None

1. Does not apply.
2. Does not apply.
3. Does not apply.
4. Does not apply.

5. OUR OPERATION FOR THE PERIOD: (a)

(1) This entire period has been spent on maintaining and running Marshalling Camps in the Southern Section of England.

(2) The Battalion has been made responsible for Sub-Area "X", in Marshalling Area "D". There are three camps in Sub-Area "X". Companies H₁ & "E" are running Camp D-7M. Company "A" is running D-7P; Reconnaissance and Company "C" are running Camp D-4. All units have a number of attached troops to aid in the running of these Camps.

(3) There has been no formal training given to this Battalion during the period covered. Our work has been strictly that of housekeeping.

6. COMBAT EFFICIENCY:

- (1) Factors Beyond Our Control: (a) Present assignment of the Battalion.
(b) There has been no assault training given this Battalion.
(c) The date this unit will be ready for

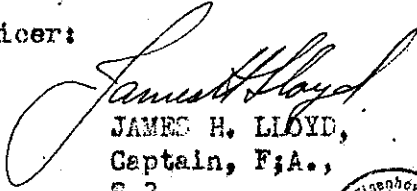
operations will be approximately one month from the termination of this present assignment, providing we are able to spend that one month on a rigorous training program, and provided that we are given full T/E equipment.

(2) Combat Efficiency: If allowed a refresher course in our primary and especially our secondary missions, the combat efficiency will be the same if not better than when we first undertook our present assignment.

(3) Status of Combat Ammunition: One half combat load for small arms only now on hand within the Companies. Reconnaissance Company has been authorized and now has on requisition their full combat load. This has been authorized on the basis of a defense plan against enemy paratroops. About one tenth of this combat load has been received.

7. Does not apply.

For the Commanding Officer:


JAMES H. LLOYD,
Captain, F;A.,
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HEADQUARTERS
628th Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 403, U.S. Army

G-3 Periodic Report
S-3 Report

From: OOOI, 1 June 1944
To: 2400, 30 June 1944
628th Tank Destroyer Bn.
Dorchester, England
0900, 2 July 1944

No. 5
Maps: None

- 1. Does not apply.
- 2. Does not apply.
- 3. Does not apply.
- 4. Does not apply.

5. OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD: (a)

- (1) This entire period has been spent on maintaining and running Marshalling Camps in the Southern Section of England.
- (2) The Battalion has been made responsible for Sub-Area "X" in Marshalling Area "D". There are three camps in Sub-Area "X". Companies Hq. & "B" are running Camp D-7B. Company "A" is running D-7P; Reconnaissance and Company "C" are running Camp D-4. All units have a number of attached troops to aid in the running of these Camps.
- (3) There has been no formal training given this unit, but we have managed to work in about two hours of 3" firing, small arms and 37 mm firing against moving targets. Officer's schools have been held, from four to five hours each week; schools covered indirect firing, Foreign Map reading, and 81mm Mortar.
- (4) The Battalion Rear Echelon consisting of 36 M-10s, 3 T-2s Recovery, were moved from Packington Park to Lytchett Minister to facilitate our future training period.

6. COMBAT EFFICIENCY:

- (1) Factors beyond our control: (a) Present assignment of the Battalion, (b) There has been no assault training given this unit. (c) The date this unit will be ready for operations will be 6 August 1944. This date is based on the current training program laid down by 6th Tank Destroyer Group.
- (2) At the termination of the Present Training Program, the combat efficiency of this unit will be satisfactory for both primary and secondary missions.
- (3) Status of Combat Ammunition: Small arms and 37mm ammunition for Reconnaissance Company now on hand. Remainder of Combat Load, as per letter Third Army, dated 4 May 1944, for the entire Battalion is now on requisition.

7. Does not apply.

For the Commanding Officer:

Joseph A. Patalive
JOSEPH A. PATALIVE,
Captain, F.A.,
S-3.

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