- TOTO

M

0

0

H E A D Q U A R T E R S 630TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION(Towed) CAMP RUCKER, ALABAMA

16 February 1944

SUBJECT: History of 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

TO

: The Commanding General, Army War College, Washington, D.C. (Attention: Historical Section).

1. In compliance with Army Regulation 345-105, as amended, this Battalion submits the following data relative to it's history. This report covers the period from date of activation to 31 December 1943.

- a. <u>Original Unit</u>:
 - (1) <u>Designation</u>: 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion.
 - (2) Date of Organization: 15 December 1941.
 - (3) Place of Organization: Fort Jackson, South Carolina.
 - (4) <u>Authority for Organization</u>: Paragraph 2, Special Order Number 282, Headquarters, Thirtieth Infantry Division, dated 12 December 1941.
 - (5) <u>Sources from which personnel was obtained</u>: Officers assigned from units of the Thirtieth Infantry Division which included 55th Field Artillery Brigade Headquarters, 113th Field Artillery Regiment, 115th Field Artillery Regiment, 118th Field Artillery Regiment, 117th Infantry Regiment, 118th Infantry Regiment, 120th Infantry Regiment and 105th Medical Regiment. Enlisted Men transferred from 55th Field Artillery Brigade, Thirtieth Infantry Division, which included the 113th, 115th and 118th Field Artillery Regiments.
- b. <u>Changes in Organization</u>:
 - Headquarters Battery, 118th Field Artillery Regiment, Thirtieth Infantry Division, redesignated as Pioneer Company, 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion per Paragraph 3, General Order No.5, Headquarters, Thirtieth Infantry Division, dated 16 February 1942, effective 16 February 1942.
 - (2) Pioneer Company, 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion redesignated Reconnaissance Company, 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion per General Order No.1, Headquarters, 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion, dated 20 July 1942 and to conform to Tables of Organization 18-28.
 - (3) 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion reorganized to conform to Tables of Organization 18-25 per Paragraph 2, General Order Number 1, Headquarters, 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion dated 20 July 1942 effective 20 July 1942.
 - (4) 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion reorganized to conform to Tables of Organization 18-25 dated 27 January 1943 per Letter, Headquarters, Army Ground Forces, 321/15 (TD Units)(R)GNGCT, Subject: "Reorganization of Tank Destroyer Units in Accordance with New Tables of Organization," dated 13 June 1943, effective 20 June 1943.



Subject: History of 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

Par 1 b. (Cont'd)

- (5) 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion reorganized to conform to Tables of Organization 18-35 dated 7 May 1943 on 15 December 1943 per Letter, Headquarters, Army Ground Forces, Subject: "Inactivation and Reorganization of Tank Destroyer Units," File 321/24 (TD Units) (R)(5 December 43)GNGCT dated 5 December 1943.
- (6) Reconnaissance Company, 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion inactivated in accordance with Tables of Organization 18-35 dated
 7 May 1943 on 15 December 1943. Personnel transferred to companies within this Battalion.
- c. Strength Commissioned and enlisted:

(1) 15	December	1941	25	Officers	405	Enlisted	Men
(2) 15	December	1942	42	Officers	621	Enlisted	Men
(3) 15	December	1943	55	Officers	799	Enlisted	Men

d. Stations of Unit:

- (1) Fort Jackson, South Carolina (Permanent) from 15 December 1941 to September 5, 1942.
- (2) Camp Hood, Texas (Temporary) from 9 September 1942 to 20 November 1942.
- (3) Camp Bowie, Texas (Temporary) from 20 November 1942 to 9 January 1943.
- (4) Camp Blanding, Florida (Permanent) from 12 January 1943 to 12 March 1943.
- (5) Second Army Maneuver Area, Lebanon, Tennessee, (Maneuvers) from 14 March 1943 to 26 June 1943.
- (6) Camp Rucker, Alabama (Permanent) from 27 June 1943 to 31 December 1943.
- e. <u>Marches</u>:
 - (1) Motor March on 20 November 1942 from Camp Hood, Texas to Camp Bowie, Texas.
 - (2) Motor March on 26-27 June 1943 from Gallatin, Tennessee to Camp Rucker, Alabama.
- f. <u>Remarks and other pertinent information</u>:
 - <u>Battalion Commanders:</u> Lt.Col., Samuel T. Wallace, FA. 0331327, (NG), from 15 December 1941 to 15 December 1943. Lt.Col., Clyde A. Burcham, Cav. 015064, (RA), from 15 December 1943 to date.

(2) <u>Battalion Distinctive Insignia</u>: The Battalion Distinctive Insignia, approved by the Adjutant General, for this Battalion on 10 September 1942.

Subject: History of 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

16 Feb 44

Par 1 f. (2) (Cont'd)

Shield: A dinesaur (ceratosaurus nasescornis) statant, or langued and eyed azure.

Motto: Progredior (I Go Forward).

The insignia consists of the shield and motto of the coat of arms of the 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion manufactured in bright metal and enamel in one size.

- (3) <u>Battalion Day</u>: Each 15 December was set aside as Battalion Day.
 (4) <u>Battalion Standard</u>: Battalion Standard presented by Colonel
- (4) <u>Battalion Standard</u>: Battalion Standard presented by Colonel Harry C. Larter, Jr. Commanding Officer, 8th Tank Destroyer Group, on 20 October_1943 to Lt.Col. Samuel T. Wallace, Commanding Officer, 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

I.Col., Cavalry, Commanding.