

M-1 Operation
- Luzon -



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
632d TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 70

FCW/jkn

3 July 1945

Subject: Report after Action, Period 15 December 1944 to 1 July 1945,
M-1 Operation.

To : Commanding Officer, 632d Tank Destroyer Battalion, APO 70

1. In accordance with AR 345-105, 18 November 1929, the inclosed "Report After Action" for the period 15 December 1944 to 1 July 1945, M-1 Operation, is submitted.

Fred C. Welsh
FRED C. WELSH,
Captain, F.A.,
Commanding.



Incl:
Report After Action.

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REPORT AFTER ACTION

For Period 15 December 1944 to 1 July 1945

MAPS: No reference.

1. NAME AND NATURE OF OPERATION:

- a. Name: M-1 Operation.
- b. Code names used:
 - 1. Tiger - 632d TD Bn.
- c. Nature of Operation:
 - 1. Invasion of Luzon, Philippine Islands.

2. MISSIONS:

- a. General:
 - 1. Support of 6th Army Sector.
 - 2. Support of I Corp Sector.
- b. Specific:
 - 1. Tank Destroyer.
 - 2. Supporting Artillery.
 - 3. Supporting Infantry.

3. IDENTITY OF FORCE:

- a. Headquarters Company, 632d Tank Destroyer Battalion.
- b. Company Strength during operations:
 - 1. 7 Officers.
 - 2. 98 Enlisted Men.
- c. Roster of Officers:

Captain	Fred C. Welsh	0413757	1st Lt	Merle D. Niles	01822900
Captain	Jehn M. Thompson	0914067	1st Lt	Jehn J. Hill	01633972
1st Lt	Robert H. Storts	0373018	1st Lt	Phillip M. Cobb	01823566
1st Lt	Kenneth A. Hallead	02034677	2nd Lt	Guy K. Patterson	0547637
1st Lt	Kenneth L. Savaceel	0888309	CWO	Joseph J. Krystewiak	W2107041
1st Lt	William R. Jelly	01824866	WOJG	Robert M. Goldenstedt	W2107089



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4. CHARACTER OF HOSTILE OPPOSITION: Negligible enemy air and ground opposition. Ground opposition consisted mainly of artillery fire during landing.

5. SUMMARY OF LESSONS LEARNED: Negligible in that this organization operated as a Headquarters and Service Company in a normal manner and did not, throughout this period, operate in a tactical manner as forward and rear echelons.

6. SPECIAL DATA OF VALUE: None.

7. CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE OF EVENTS:

- 15 December 1944 - This company was located in a semi-permanent camp
 24 December 1944 - site at Galetan, Leyte Island, in the Philippines. Company strength was 7 Officers and 102 Enlisted Men with four men on TD To the US. Duties at this time were mainly with normal battalion service functions with a fairly intensive training program in progress. All equipment was checked and final preparations accomplished for the M-1 Operation. Disposition of troops consisted of a company area with a strong interior guard.
- 25 December 1944 - Several air alerts occurred throughout this period
 31 December 1944 - although there was no enemy action in or near our area. Tents were struck on the evening of 31 December. Company strength was six Officers and 106 Enlisted Men with eight men on furlough. No change in disposition of troops. Transportation section operated all night and the following day in moving the battalion equipment to the beach area for loading.
- 1 January 1945 - All vehicles were tactically loaded and the first
 10 January 1945 - convey left our area for the beach at 1945I. Final policing was accomplished and the last convey cleared camp site at 020100I. Several air raids occurred while company was loading at the beach. During one, our LST was hit and damaged beyond immediate use. No casualties among our men and ship was quickly unloaded during the night. At 031700I, loading operations on replacement LST #597 began and company finished loading at 2350I. Personnel were moved aboard and ship withdrew from the beach, moving out into the bay. We anchored in Leyte Gulf for the night. At 060830I, our LST joined the M-1 convoy and left Leyte Gulf. Usual shipboard life on this day with men more or less free. On 7 January, a short training program was started and consisted of orientation lectures on Luzon Island and enemy activity in that area. Morale was high and everything ready for our landing.
- 11 January 1945 - Our LST attempted to beach at 1415I but due to a
 13 January 1945 - high surf and other conditions, we could not, withdrawing off the beach and anchoring in Lingayen Gulf



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for the night. Numerous air raids throughout the day and night but no action against our ship occurred. At 2358I, accurate enemy artillery fire forced our ship to change position and we moved about 3 miles out into the gulf. On 121000I, our LST successfully beached and unloading operations began at 1400I. Company moved to assembly area 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Dagupan, Luzon and dug in for the night. A normal tactical perimeter was established. Contrary to expectations, no enemy ground action was observed throughout the night. At 130830I, we moved to a battalion assembly area located 2 miles NE of San Jacinto, Luzon, arriving there at 1615I. Platoon areas were assigned and the company occupied three machine gun emplacements on the battalion perimeter. Kitchen served evening mess at 1715I to 116 men and officers.

- 14 January 1945 - Usual company duties of servicing the battalion continued. Perimeter emplacements were improved and no enemy action observed. Company moved 400 yards to a new area on the 21st of January. Since the company was in the center, an interior guard was employed with two automatic weapon emplacements on the perimeter. No enemy ground activity and few air alerts. Company strength at end of month was 5 Officers and 102 Enlisted Men. Ration strength was 135.
- 31 January 1945 - Usual camp duties throughout this period with no great change in the guard arrangement. On 11 February, we moved to a new area just outside Maneag, Luzon. This was a former Philippine Constabulary camp, situated on high ground - an excellent location. Area was laid out and tents lined up and framed. Three outposts were located and manned on the company's flank, tying in with the battalion perimeter. No enemy action was observed except for frequent air alerts at night with no definite action against our installations. Numerous inspections were held and all equipment repaired or replaced in readiness for tactical operations. Company strength at end of month was 6 Officers and 101 Enlisted Men.
- 1 February 1945 - Usual company functions with preparations in progress for a further move. On 2 March, company moved to San Carlos, Luzon and began setting up camp. We were located in the center of town in the Municipal Market area. A permanent kitchen and other section set ups were made and the company continued its usual duties. All sections were busy due to the long supply lines and the tactical operations of the line companies. The communication section, especially, was noteworthy in that a very elaborate system was operated with few additional men. This consisted of 2, 24 hour CW nets, pigeon service, messenger service, in addition to a 24 panel switchboard. The battalion's mission was guarding I Corps west flank. A system of civilian guards augmented our own interior guard and there was no trouble in this unit throughout the period. Movies were procured
- 28 February 1945 -
- 1 March 1945 -
- 31 March 1945 -



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and everything possible accomplished on special service. Morale was high and everyone kept busy. I & K lectures were given weekly and usual camp duties occupied the greater part of the day and night. Ration strength at end of month was 132 with 7 Officers and 92 EM present for duty.

1 April 1945 -
30 April 1945 -

Company was still in same location and improvements on area continued right along. Buildings were repaired and area graveled. Company completed three years overseas duty on 22 April, and a party was arranged to celebrate the occasion with an excellent dinner followed by a dance. The balance of the month was spent in usual battalient service functions. Tri-weekly inspections were held to maintain equipment in good condition. The month closed with no unusual occurrences and a company strength of 6 Officers and 95 EM present for duty.

1 May 1945 -
31 May 1945 -

Usual camp duties occupied this period with no noteworthy occurrences. Battalient Maintenance section was heavily pressed due to increased mileage on vehicles. Normal company improvements continued daily and all records checked with a few readjustments in personnel. Morale was high and increased considerable after the new point plan for reassignment was announced. Inspections were continued and the necessary corrections made. Fresh foods were issued more often and improved the mess considerably and the morale also. No change in the disposition of troops throughout the month. Discipline and military appearance were continually stressed. The month closed with a company strength of 7 Officers and 98 Enlisted Men present for duty. Ration strength was 154 total.

1 June 1945 -
30 June 1945 -

Usual camp duties were performed. On 6 June, the first EM to be readjusted under the point plan left for the US. This included men in the 102 point bracket. Inspections continued with necessary corrections made. Company operated smoothly and efficiently with few deficiencies. Compulsory film "On to Tokyo" was shown on 22 June. Improvements of area continued and preparations for the battalient assembling started. A new list of calls came out on 29 June with reveille at 0615I in place of 0715I. Preparations were begun for an intensive training program to rehabilitate and reorganize the company for the next operation. Morale was high. Company strength, 7 Officers and 91 EM.

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