

Persecution Operations  
Aitape, New Guinea



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY  
632nd TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
A.P.O. 705

FCW/clb

3 October 1944

Subject: Historical Report, (Persecution) Aitape Operation

To : Commanding Officer 632nd Tank Destroyer Battalion

1. In compliance with V.O.C.O. herewith inclosed is chronological historical report of this organization for period 1 May 1944 to 31 August 1944.

Incl:  
Historical Report

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



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY  
632nd TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
A.P.O. 705

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Report after Action: 1 May 1944 to 31 August 1944

1. Nature of Operation: (Persecution) Aitape Operation.
2. Nature of Operation: Reinforcement of Persecution Force.
3. Mission:
  1. Perimeter Defense
  2. Defense of Tadji Drome
  3. Shore Party
4. Composition: Headquarters Company 632nd Tank Destroyer Battalion:
  - 7 - Officers
  - 140 - Enlisted Men

Roster of Officers

Captain	FRED C. WELSH	0413757
1st Lt.	JOHN M. THOMPSON	0914067
1st Lt.	ROBERT H. STORTS	0373018
1st Lt.	DONALD J. STICKLER	0359582
1st Lt.	OLIVER M. TUCKER	0359458
WOJG	ROBERT M. GOLDENSTEDT	W2107089
WOJG	JOSEPH J. KRYSZOWIAK	W2107041



5. Character of Hostile Operation: This organization did not engage the enemy on the ground or in the air.

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

Historical Report (Persecution) Aitape Operation.



- 1 May 44 - 7 May 44 First week in May ended with no unusual occurrences. Company strength was 144 present for duty and 8 Officers. And average of 152 rations were served at each meal.
- 8 May 44 - 9 May 44 Usual camp duties.
- 10 May 44 Company went under new T/O and E/E dated March 15, 1944 which superceeded T/O and T/E dated January 27, 1943.
- 11 May 44 - 16 May 44 Usual camp duties.
- 17 May 44 First Rotation Group left for the United States.
- 18 May 44 - 31 May 44 Usual camp duties. An average of 144 rations were served each meal and our strength was 135 present for duty.
- 1 June 44 - 7 June 44 No unusual occurrences, usual camp duties.
- 8 June 44 Company fired combat course.
- 9 June 44 - 22 June 44 Usual camp duties.
- 23 June 44 Company prepared for permanent change of station.
- 24 June 44 Company left camp site at Yami, New Guinea at 1600K in route by truck to new camp site at Saidor, New Guinea. Arrived at Saidor, New Guinea at 1740K.
- 25 June 44 Company loaded equipment on Liberty Ship S.S. WARDWELL, company also used for dock detail.
- 26 June 44 Company left camp site of New Guinea at 1130K embarked on S.S. WARDWELL at 1215K and left port at 1817K.
- 27 June 44 Company at sea very good weather no unusual occurrences.
- 28 June 44 Ship dropped anchor in Bay of Aitape, New Guinea at 1945K all company personnel remained aboard ship for the night.
- 29 June 44 Disembarked from S.S. WARDWELL at 0915K and moved to beach in L.C.T. From beach to new company area by truck traveling at a distance of 8 miles. Company arrived at new camp site and spent balance of day preparing new camp.
- 30 June 44 Rehabilitation at new camp site our company strength was 127 EM 5 Officers an average of 150 rations were served each meal.
- 1 July 44 - 7 July 44 Usual camp duties.
- 8 July 44 Company received instructions to establish machine gun implacements that form part of a perimeter for the defense of the Battalion.
- 9 July 44 - 11 July 44 Usual camp duties and improving on gun emplacements.
- 12 July 44 Headquarters Company commander, commander of rear echelon had a practice ground alert in defense of area using the Black Plan.
- 13 July 44 Usual camp duties.
- 14 July 44 2 Officers and 16 EM were assigned to Company A for rations only, and moved forward to establish C.P. for Battalion that this time was converted to action balance of company continued usual camp duties.
- 15 July 44 - 31 July 44 Usual camp duties of 104 EM and 5 Officers were present for duty in rear echelon. Our kitchen was feeding an average of 172 rations for each meal 63 EM which consists of remainder of Battalion rear echelon, attached to Headquarters Company for rations.
- 1 August 44 - 15 August 44 Usual camp duties.
- 16 August 44 1 Officer and 19 EM returned to company from duty at Battalion forward C.P.
- 17 August 44 - 19 August 44 Usual camp duties.

Historical Report, (Persecution) Aitape Operation.

- 20 August 44           The entire company attended the Memorial Services held for those killed in action in our Battalion during Aitape campaign.
- 21 August 44           The company started 6 week training period.
- 22 August 44 - 31 August 44 Usual camp duties. No unusual occurrences an average of 152 rations were served each meal and our strength was 125 present for duty on 31 August 1944.



HISTORICAL REPORT

1 September 44 - 13 September 44 Usual camp duties.  
14 September 44 Company fired rocket launchers, rifle and carbine grenades and also threw hand grenades, personnel did very well.  
15 September 44 - 19 September 44 Usual camp duties.  
20 September 44 - 21 September 44 Company fired small arms also fired 30 and 50 cal. machine guns. 30 cal. machine guns were fired from the hips.  
22 September 44 - 28 September 44 Usual camp duties.  
29 September 44 Preliminary breaking of camp in preparation for permanent change of stations.  
30 September 44 3 Officers and 102 EM present for duty, average number of rations 122.

