

COMPANY "C"
632d TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 705

14 September 1944

Subject: Report on Dexterity Operation

To : Commanding Officer, 632nd Tank Destroyer Battalion

1. Major Wang, the Shore Party Commander, and staff consisting of one (1) officer and eight (8) enlisted men arrived on the beach at 0741L. A temporary C.P. location was chosen and radio communication with the Infantry C.O. was established. Three enlisted men were posted as checkers for the unloading of the equipment.

2. The fourth wave beached at 0747L and was completely unloaded at 0800L. Three (3) officers and ninety (90) enlisted men from "C" CO 632d T. D. Bn. and one (1) officer and forty (40) enlisted men from A.T. Co 126th Inf. arrived for use as cargodiers. Temporary dumps were formed just over the crown of the beach.

3. The C.O. 2nd Bn 126th Inf and staff arrived on beach at 0757L.

4. The fifth wave beached at 0800L and was completely unloaded at 0815L.

5. It was decided to beach the remaining four waves approximately 200 yds. east of the initial beach. The C.P. was moved to this new location at 0806L.

6. The sixth wave beached at 0808L and was completely unloaded at 0820L.

7. The seventh wave beached at 0825L and was completely unloaded at 0838L.

8. The eight wave beached at 0840L and was completely unloaded at 0854L.

9. The ninth wave beached at 0853L and was completely unloaded at 0915 L.

10. The Commanding General and Assistant Commanding General arrived on beach at 0905L.

11. Shore Party Group were relieved of duties to establish bivouac area and to prepare dinner.



12. The Commanding General and Assistant Commanding General returned to base at 1000L.
13. Reconnaissance was made for new dump areas at 1030L. New Location for dump was picked at 1105L.
14. Shore Party Group started moving supplies to dumps at 1300L.
15. All supplies except twenty-five (25) gas drums were moved to the dumps at 1730L.

s/s HERBERT J ZERNECKE
Captain F.A.,
Commanding

JAMES G SAWYER
1st Lt F.A.,
Commanding



S E C R E T

COMPANY "C"
632nd TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
A.P.C. 32

SUBJECT: Report on Dexterity Operation

TO : Commanding Officer, 632nd Tank Destroyer Battalion

31 DECEMBER 1943 - GOODENOUGH ISLAND:

At about 0500L, 3 officers and 90 enlisted men of the company embarked aboard LST 456. The balance of the company, 4 officers and 81 enlisted men boarded LCI 342 and sailed at 1130L.

1 JANUARY 1944 - ABOARD LCI 342:

The morning was spent cleaning small arms and machine guns. The destination, Saidor, New Guinea, was announced at 1400L. A red alert, which lasted about one half hour sounded at 1830L. No planes were sighted.

2 JANUARY 1944 - SAIDOR, NEW GUINEA:

LCI 342 beached uneventfully at 0755L. LST 456 beached in slot #1, Red Beach at 0830L. Company "C" unloaded the LST in two hours and fifteen minutes and then assisted on the boat in slot #2. In the afternoon, at 1645L, nine enemy bombers strafed and bombed the beaches. The company suffered one man killed and two wounded by shrapnel. Losses also included one $\frac{1}{2}$ ton C/R and its SCR-610 radio destroyed by fire and one 37mm gun badly damaged by bomb fragments. This crew had been developing their beach defense positions on Amber Beach.

3 JANUARY 1944:

Enemy planes were over at 0600L causing no damage or casualties. During the day the company unloaded two LST's of the second echelon.

4 JANUARY 1944:

The second platoon moved by motor to the support of the second battalion of infantry. At 2045L there was another raid, no bombs being dropped in the area.

5 JANUARY 1944:

The company C.P. was consolidated about 150 yards from Red Beach. The first and fourth platoons located along the shore West from the beach, the third platoon moving to the East of slot #1.

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6 JANUARY 1944:

Company "C" unloaded two LST's at Red Beach. There were air raids at 2030L and 2330L. No bombs landed in our area. One man of the second platoon was wounded during the night.

7 JANUARY 1944:

Brush was cleaned from the platoon areas. Maintenance was done on vehicles and on ordnance equipment. There were enemy raids at 0630L, 2155L, and 2330L. Results; no casualties, no damage.

8 JANUARY 1944:

Two LST's were unloaded by the company in #1 and #2 slots at Red Beach.

9 JANUARY 1944:

The company unloaded LST 474 at Red Beach, Slot #1.

10 JANUARY 1944:

The company C.P. was moved 100 yards West to make way for a road. The third platoon was detached to the second battalion for beach defence on the East flank.

11 JANUARY 1944:

The day was spent improving the bivouac area.

12 JANUARY 1944:

The remainder of the company was assigned as a mobile reserve to task force, being prepared to move at either flank if necessary.

13 JANUARY 1944:

Enemy planes were over at 0130L and 0345L. No damage was done in the area. More cleaning and improving of the area was done that day.

14 AND 15 JANUARY 1944:

These days were occupied by improvements about the camp site.

16 JANUARY 1944:

Two LST's at Blue Beach, slot #1 and slot #2 were unloaded by the company.

17 JANUARY 1944:

In preparation for moving, small arms and crew served pieces were inspected for servicability.

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18 JANUARY 1944:

The company worked in the ammunition dump and broke camp to move. Most of the vehicles left by LCM for the new position.

19 JANUARY 1944:

The company moved to its new position West of Derwun. LST 68 was unloaded at Man Plantation by the company.

20 JANUARY 1944:

The second platoon was relieved by the first from its beach defense assignment with the second battalion. The remainder of the company was in reserve with the first battalion. The company C.P. was established one mile East of the Biding River.

21 JANUARY 1944 TO 23 JANUARY 1944:

The company was still in reserve, spent time improving area burning out underbrush.

24 JANUARY 1944:

Work was continued on cleaning brush. There was an arms inspection.

25 JANUARY 1944:

Daily motor stables on vehicles was revived this day.

26 JANUARY 1944:

This day was in the same way as the one before.

27 JANUARY 1944 :

The men were paid for the month of December at 1100L.

28 JANUARY 1944: TO 1 FEBRUARY 1944:

The company was still on its assignment to the first battalion.

2 FEBRUARY 1944:

Work was begun on frames for tents.

3 FEBRUARY 1944:

15 men and 1 officer worked on the first Liberty ship to dock at Saidor. Otherwise the day was the same as previous day.

4 TO 6 FEBRUARY 1944:

General work was done around the tent areas.

S E C R E T



HERBERT J. ZERNECKE,
Captain, F.A.,
Commanding.



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