

HEADQUARTERS 654TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
Office of the Commanding Officer

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After Action Report

From: 1 September, 1944.
To : 30 September, 1944.

1. The 654th Tank Destroyer Battalion remained attached to the 35th Infantry Division during the period 1 September to 30 September, 1944.
2. 311200 August-011200 September, 1944.
Maps G12, H12 1/100,000., France.
Bn C.P. closed area E of Troyes at 311915 August, 1944 and opened in new area (Coords 588846) at 312215 August, 1944. "C" Co remained in Primary Position and attached to 3rd Bn., 320th Inf Reg't with mission to defend the sector to the S of Troyes on the E side of the Seine River. 2 Rcn. plts were given the mission of outposting roads around the assembly area of the Task Force. "A" & "B" Co's moved with Bn. Rcn Co less 1 plt attached to "C" Co. moved with Bn.

011200-031200 September, 1944.

Maps 12H, 13G, 1/100,000, France.
Bn CP closed area E of Precy St. Martin at 022000 Sept. 44 and opened in new area vic Nomecourt (Coords 037857) at 022200 Sept. 44. "A" Co moved with Bn to new location. "B" Co moved with Bn to new location. "C" Co plus 1 Rcn plt remained in Primary Position and attached to 3rd Bn 320th Inf Reg't—Mission to defend the sector to the S of Troyes on the E side of the Seine River. 2 Rcn Plts given mission of out posting roads around assembly area.

031200-041200 Sept. 44.

No Change.

041200-051200 Sept 44.

Bn less "C" Co remained in position vic. Nomecourt.

051200-061200 Sept. 44.

Bn. less "C" Co and 1 plt Rcn Co remained in position vic. Nomecourt. "C" Co plus one Rcn plt. now attached to 1st Bn 137th Inf Reg't.
No change in mission.

061200-071200 Sept. 44.

Bn. less "C" Co no change, "C" Co plus one Rcn plt remained attached to 1st Bn 137th Inf Reg't in Primary Position. "A" Co attached to "C" Co destroyed 6 German vehicles in the vicinity of Bar-Sur-Seine.

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071200-081200 Sept. 1944.

Two Rcn Plts patrolled rd Donjeux Charmes Le-Grande Morancourt from 071700 Sept 44. 1 M8 plus 1 jeep from "A" Co on orders from TF Hq. performed route rcn. toward Nancy from 072000 Sept. 44 to 080100 Sept 44.

081200-091200 Sept 44.

Maps 14G 1/100,000 France.

Bn CP closed area vic Nomecourt at 090810 Sept 44 and opened in area vic Gye at 091330 Sept. 44. "A" Co moved under Bn control, in direct support of 134th Inf. Regt. "B" Co moved under Bn control in direct support of 137th Inf Regt. "C" Co relieved from attached to 1st Bn 137th Inf Regt, closed in area vic Nomecourt at 090230 Sept 44. Moved under Bn Control to new area in general support of Div., making rcn of routes in rear of both Inf. Regts.

101200-111200 Sept 44.

"A" Co in direct support of 134th Inf. "B" Co in direct support of 137th Inf, "C" Co remains in general support of Div.

111200-121200 Sept 44.

"A" Co in direct support of 134th Inf Regt. "B" Co in direct support of 137th Regt. "B" Co fired 10 rds direct fire at enemy arty positions across Moselle River. "C" Co in direct support of 320th Inf. One Rcn. plt from Rcn. Co attached to "A" "B", "C" Cos.

121200-131200 Sept 44.

C.P. closed vic Gye 121223 Sept 44. opened vic Ceintrey 121430 Sept 44. "A" Co cont'd in direct support of 134th Inf Regt; "B" Co cont'd in direct support of 137th Inf Regt. "C" Co continued in direct support of 320th Inf Regt; 1 Rcn Plt, Rcn Co, attached to each Gun Co. Remainder of Rcn Co moved in vic Ceintrey, under Bn Control.

131200-141200 Sept 44.

Maps 14G, 15G 1/100,000 France.

"A" Co attached to 134th Inf Regt as of 132200 Sept 44, 4 casualties due to enemy arty fire. B Co continued in support of 137th Inf Regt. "C" Co cont'd in direct support of 320th Inf Regt., knocked out 1 MK 4 Tank, 5 AT guns, 3 trailers, captured 2 PW.

141200-151200 Sept 44.

Maps 14G, 15G, 1/100,000 France.

"A" Co less 1 plt went into assembly area E of Toul. 1st Plt attached to 134th CT., 1 plt attached to 319th CT. A Co had the following attached:
12 Quadruple Cal. 50 AA Guns.
4 40 mm AA Guns.

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"B" Co cont'd in direct support of 137th Inf Regt. On 13 Sept. the 3rd Plt attached to 1st Bn 137th Inf killed 25 Germans and took 18 PW also knocked out enemy OP killing and wounding unknown number. 2nd Plt attached to 137th Inf Tank team force killed 15 enemy
"C" Co continued in direct support of 320th Inf Reg't and destroyed 2 MK IV tanks, 2 half tracks, 2 AT guns, 16 MGs, 1 amm truck. 1 Rcn Plt attached to each gun Co. Just before darkness on 13 Sept 1 M-10 of "C" Co was destroyed by a direct hit from enemy arty fire believed to be 150 mm, 1 EM killed and 1 EM wounded.

151200-161200 Sept 44

Maps 14G, 15G 1/100,000 France.

Bn less Gun Cos and 3 Rcn plts from Rcn Co closed CP vic Ceintry at 151140 Sept 44 and opened in new area vic Rosieres Aux Salines at 151153. "A" Co cont'd attached to 134th CT. "B" Co continued in direct support of 137th Inf Regt., destroyed 5 MGs., 3 M-10s not operational due to mech. failure. "C" Co cont'd in direct support of 320th Inf Regt., knocked out 2 half track vehicles, 1 MG, captured 1 full track pers. carrier. 1 M-10 not operational due to mech failure. Rcn Co less the 3 Rcn plt attached to the gun companies moved to new area under Bn control.

161200-171200 Sept 44.

"A" Co continued attached to 134th CT destroyed 3 MG, 1 EM WIA; "B" Co cont'd in direct support of 137th Inf Reg't; destroyed 3 MK 6 Tanks, 3 long barrellled 75MM SP guns, 2 OP's, 2MG; "C" Co cont'd in direct support of 320th Inf Regt; destroyed 8 MG, 1 Mortar; 1 Rcn plt from Rcn Co attached to each gun co, remainder under Bn Control.

171200-181200 Sept 44

Maps 14G, 15G 1/100,000 France.

No change in attachments "A" Co destroyed 1 Tank believed to be Mk VI, 1 house containing unknown number of enemy; "B" Co destroyed 2MK IV tanks, 1 MG, had 2 Off and 1 EM WIA, 1 M-10 out due to mech failure; "C" Co captured 5 PW. Rcn Co had 1 EM wounded.

181200-191200 Sept 44

Maps 14G, 15G IV 1/100,000 France.

Bn CP closed in area vic Rosieres-Aux Salines and opened in vic Remereville (Coord 984104) at 181600 Sept 44. No change in attachments of Gun Cos and Rcn Co. "A" Co destroyed unknown number of MGs and Mortars. "B" Co destroyed 3 MK IV Tanks instead of 2 previously reported, 1 88 MM SP Gun, took 23 PW, 3 M-10s not operational, 2 due to mech failure, one due to motor trouble caused by direct hit from HE shell; C Co no enemy contact; 1 Rcn plt continued attached to each Gun Co.

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191200-201200 Sept 44

A Co cont'd in direct support of 134th CT, destroyed 2 20 MM Guns, 12 MG, captured 1 GP veh, 2 jeeps; 2 M-10s not operational due to enemy action, 1 cal 50 MG knocked off M-10 due to enemy mortar fire, 1 Off and 4 EM WIA; B Co continued support 137th Inf Regt: no enemy contact, captured 29 PW period 18-19 Sept instead of 19 as previously reported. C Co relieved from direct support of 320th Inf at 191520, in direct support of 1117 Eng Gp in readiness vic Haraucourt to meet any enemy counter attack from E along a line Mazerulles, Maixe Seres Moncel; Rcn Co no change. 1 M8 and two $\frac{1}{4}$ tons not operational due to enemy action, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ton being completely destroyed, other $\frac{1}{4}$ ton and M8 repairable, 1 EM WIA.

201200-211200 Sept 44

Maps 14G, 15G, VI 1/100,000 France.

Attachments of Gun Cos and Rcn plts no change. "A" Co destroyed 1 MK VI Tank at Coords 898160, 8 MGs, 2 EM in $\frac{1}{4}$ Ton MIA, failed to get out of Agincourt when town was occupied by Germans 1 EM WIA, 2 plts performing MK, "B" Co had no enemy contact. C Co had no enemy contact, 2 EM WIA as result of bombing at coordinates 982085. 3 planes that did bombing were believed to be P47s.

211200-221200 Sept 44

No change in attachments of Gun Cos. and Rcn plts. No enemy contact during period 19-20 Sept. "A" Co captured 2 40MM Guns, destroyed 30 MG, 2 enemy veh.

221200-231200 Sept 44.

No change in attachments of Gun Cos and Rcn Plats, remainder of Bn no change "A" Co fired on enemy MGs and Inf., extent of damage unknown.

231200-241200 Sept 44.

No change in attachments of Gun Cos and Rcn Plts. A Co destroyed 4 enemy strong points, 1 Amm DP, 3-20 mm Guns, 25 MGs.

241200-251200 Sept 44.

Gun Cos and Rcn Plts no change. "A" Co destroyed 2 MG nests, 1 wooden pillbox, killed 4 Germans; during period 19-20 Sept destroyed 1 75MM SP Assault gun, during period 23-24 Sept Captured 72 PW, killed 15 enemy.

251200-261200 Sept 44.

Maps 15G and V-1 1/100,000 France.

Bn CP closed at 1400 and opened in new area at 1515. Location Donnartin, Coords 910168. A and B Cos had no contact with enemy. C Co while moving into asmy area was held up by small arms fire.

After taking 4 PWs and capturing 1 Mortar the Co proceeded to assy area at 972210.

261200-271200 Sept 44

Maps 14G, 15G VI 1/100,000 France.

Bn Cp closed at 261840 Sept 44 and opened in new area (Coords 944188) at 261925 Sept 44.

Gun Cos continued with no change, 1 Rcn plt attached to each Gun Co "A" Co destroyed 1 enemy TK with possible hit on second Enemy TK vic Manhoue. Rcn Co captured 1 PW. C Co on 15 minute alert.

271200-281200 Sept 44

No change in attachments of Gun Co and Rcn plts. A Co destroyed 1-75MM SP Assault gun, 1 TK; 1 Off MIA, 4 EM KIA, 3 EM WIA, 1-M10 destroyed by enemy tank fire, B Co destroyed 5 enemy tanks, 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ Track pers carrier. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ton vehicle had tire blown off by enemy arty fire. C Co cont'd in Div Res., no enemy contact, alerted for possible movement to "A" Co sector at 280835 Sept 44.

281200-291200 Sept 44

"A" Co continued in direct support of 134th Inf Regt. No enemy contact. "B" Co continued in direct support of 137th Inf Regt, destroyed 1 MK VI tank, 2 tanks (make unknown), 1 AT gun, 2 M-10s hit by enemy tank fire, 1 recovered, one Off WIA. "C" Co moved two plts. in AT positions in direct support of 134th & 320th Inf Regt 1st Plt relieved 3rd Plt, "B" Co at 281630 Sept 44 1 EM WIA.

291200-301200 Sept 44.

Maps Sheets 34/14 34/5 1/50,000 France.

Attachments of Gun Cos and Rcn plts no change. C Co had one EM WIA by enemy arty fire. Rcn Co less 3 Rcn Plts moved to vic Amance (Coords 951184)

PRISONERS OF WAR DURING PERIOD 230

ENEMY MATERIEL DESTROYED DURING PERIOD

Tanks	19
SP Guns	8
AT Guns	23
MG's	130
OP's	1
Mortars	2
Halftrack	1
Arm DP	2
Gen Purpose Veh	12
Bridges	1
Strong Pts	5

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ENEMY MATERIEL CAPTURED

AT Guns	2
MG	1
AA Guns	6
Mortars	1
Halftracks	4
Full tracks	1
Gen Purpose Veh	18

ENEMY KILLED 548