

HEADQUARTERS
661st Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 230, U. S. Army

3 March 1945
010054

After Action Report

In compliance with the provisions of AR 345-105 and changes thereto, the following is a report of the operations of the S-1 Section of the 661st Tank Destroyer Battalion during the period 1 February 1945, to 28 February 1945:

I - Strength

The authorized strength of this Battalion is as follows:

Officers	35		
Warrant Officers	2		
Enlisted men	<u>607</u>	Total	644

The morning report strength as of the 1st of February 1945 was as follows:

Officers	35		
Warrant Officers	2		
Enlisted Men	<u>596</u>	Total	633

The morning report strength as of the 28th of February 1945 was as follows:

Officers	35		
Warrant Officers	2		
Enlisted Men	<u>592</u>	Total	629

Effective strength as of the 28th of February 1945, was as follows:

Officers	34		
Warrant Officers	2		
Enlisted Men	<u>588</u>	Total	624

II - Casualties

Casualties as reported by this organization for this period are as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
DOI	0	0
KIA	0	0
DOW		
SWA	1	0
SIA	0	0
LWA	0	1

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
LIA	0	0
MIA	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	1	1

Casualties due to Non-battle Causes were as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
Total	1	20

III - Replacements

Replacements requisitioned during this period were as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
Total	4	21

Hospital returnees received during this period were as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
Total	0	6

Replacements received during this period were as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
Total	1	8

IV - Decorations
None

V - Battlefield Promotions
None

VI - Commendations

Commendation received from the CG, 69th Inf Div, commending the Battalion for the support rendered the 69th Div in their initial offensive operation (copy enclosed).

VII - Prisoners of War

Prisoners of war taken for the month were as follows:

Uniformed - 34
Civilian - 0

VIII - Miscellaneous

Pass policy

Pass quotas were not received until nearly the end of the month. It was not possible for any personnel to take

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- advantage of the pass privileges; however, plans were made for the maximum amount of men to go on pass during the following month.

S-1 Reports

S-1 reports were submitted regularly throughout this period. It was necessary to establish a means of liaison with the personnel section at the rear in order to obtain the necessary information. This was accomplished and is functioning well.

Replacements

At the close of this period organization was short 15 EM and 4 officers who are authorized overstrength. Eight replacements were received. As soon as a man was lost either as a battle casualty or a non-battle casualty, a replacement was immediately requisitioned, as the Battalion has at all times been more than 2% understrength. The 4 officers are an authorized overstrength. One replacement officer was received to fill the vacancy of a battle casualty. The G-1 section of division informed this section that as soon as replacements were available we would receive them and that they could be expected in the near future.

Sickness

In general the health and hygiene of the Battalion has been excellent. During the early part of the month and after arrival in the forward area, a number of the men suffered from colds and frostbite. This was due primarily to the fact that overshoes were not issued to the men until after arrival in Bullingen, Belgium, 16 February 1945. After issue of these overshoes there was a noticeable improvement in the command as a whole.

Finance

Troops were paid on the 8th of February 1945, at Goderville, France. Immediately thereafter the Battalion moved to the forward area. Many men found they had too much money and increased their allotments, purchases war bonds and sent money orders home. Troops were not paid for the month of February due to tactical situation.

Red Cross

The organization received one issue of stationery from the Red Cross and 27 woolen sweaters. Other contacts with the Red Cross were made by men of the organization who were able to visit service centers while traveling on temporary duty.

Special Services

Special service activities at Camp Lucky Strike, France, were very limited. A dance orchestra was obtained who played for each company on the 2nd of February 1945. After the move to Goderville, France, movies were shown

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to all companies on the 8th of February 1945. 450 men saw the show at three separate showings. After arrival at Bullingen, Belgium, it was possible to show movies. A rest billet was set up at the Battalion rear echelon to which the line companies were able to send men to bathe, read and write letters and in the evenings see a movie.

Postal Activities

Very little mail was received by this organization until the 16th of February 1945 after the APO of the 69th Infantry Division started servicing us. Prior to that time mail was obtained at two different times by sending personnel to the base post office in Paris when they were there on other official business. Mail was also received twice while at Goderville, France thru APO 279. All mail orderlies are well trained and mail got to the troops as quickly as possible.

Straggler Apprehension

None

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S-1

1 Incl - Commendation