

691 Tank Destroyer Battalion

APO 403

RESTRICTED

Subject: Unit Historical Report

To: Commanding General, 65th Infantry Division

(Attn: G-3 Historical Section)

On March 1st 45 the Battalion was in support of the 2nd Cavalry Group with the Companies in direct and indirect fire positions. Direct fire positions were on the existing front lines of the pocket formed by the capture of TRIER. The indirect fire was delivered in support of the 25th Field Artillery Battalion which was attached to the 2nd Cavalry Group.

The Battalion was ordered to a rear area for a rest period on this date per VOGO, 2nd Cavalry Group, and assembled in the vicinity of NIEDERANVEN. The rest period lasted until March 3rd when a message from the C.G. XII Corps released the Battalion from attachment to the 2nd Cavalry Group to the control of XX Corps. The following morning the Battalion left NIEDERANVEN to join the 94th Infantry Division at SAARBOURG, Germany.

On arrival at SAARBOURG at 1030 hrs. March 4th the Battalion was released from the 94th Division and attached to the 65th Infantry Division, then at ENNERY, France. We departed from SAARBOURG and assembled that night in the vicinity of BETTANGE, France. The Battalion had covered 76 miles with two (2) Divisional attachments that day.

On March 5th Company Commanders reconnoitered gun positions in the vicinities; WALDWISSE. SAARLAUTERN. GEZSBERGERHAL and moved their units into direct fire positions.

The Battalion was in support of the Division, furnishing Anti-Tank protection, and reinforcing the fire of Division Artillery. On March 10th the Battalion was attached to the Division Artillery and from then until March 19th only small moves were made for more advantageous gun positions.

When the Division jumped off on their attack, March 20th, which started at SAARLAUTERN, the Battalion worked in close support of the Infantry Regiments, reassembling on March 23rd at NEUNKIRCHEN, Germany. Company "B" had been attached to the 5th Infantry Division on March 22nd and was protecting the Division's bridge site on the West Bank of the Rhine River.

On March 24th the Battalion Activated its Reconnaissance Company.

From March 25th to 29th "B" Company was attached to the 26th Infantry Division, (sub-attached to the 101st Infantry Regiment,) and then to XII Corps until they were released to the Battalion on March 30th.

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On March 27th the Battalion moved with the 65th Infantry Division to TESCHENMOSCHEL, Germany. Company "A" was converted to Self-Propelled with eleven (11) M-36's.

Company "C" with Rcn. Plt. was attached in direct support of the 261st Infantry Regiment and moved to NIEDED-SAULHEIM, Company "A" and 1st Rcn. Plt attached to the 259th Infantry Regiment moved to APPENHEIM on March 29th.

The Battalion Command Post crossed the Rhine River on March 30th, 45 and continued with elements of the Division to ROMROD where it was joined by "B" Company.

During the month of March the Battalion fired 3174 rounds of 3" shell on direct and indirect fire missions, sent one (1) man to the U.S. on a 30 day furlough, and received six (6) awards of Bronz Star Medals for Heroic action for men of the Battalion from XII Corps.

Combat Efficiency: Excellent: Morale: Excellent.

Joseph Long

JOSEPH LONG

Major, Cavalry
Battalion S-3

