

AFTER ACTION REPORT NOTES - 705TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

Believed to have been written by Capt. Wayne Tennant

- 15 Nov 1944 0800 Hq. Co, Rcn Co & Fwd CP move out of Angevillers to vicinity of FAXEM.
1400 Fwd CP & Rcn Co move across Moselle on Cattenom bridge and advance to town of RETTEL.
- 16 Nov 1944 (?) Rcn Co., B Co., atchd to 3rd Cav. Squad - C Co attached to 43rd Cav Squad - C Co in barracks N. of Cattenom. Hq trains & CP in barracks in RODEMACK.
- 17 Nov 1944 (?) Co C 705 TD Bn departs area Cattenom, coord U908923, Co A 135 Eng., atchd 705 TD Bn. closed area Rettel 170950A. Bn. CP & trains depart Basse-Rentgen for movement to new area vicinity Cattenom, Closin new position coord. U908923 approx 171415A. 1st plat. Co B advances to Mercshweille, closing positions at 172000A. No enemy contact thus far.
- 18 Nov 1944 (?) Period beginning, 705 TD Bn rear CP located Cattenom coord 908923. Adv. CP, Rcn Co., Co A and Co A 135 Eng (attached 705 TD Bn. located Rettel, coord 982947. C Co position coord 902045, Eveddorff. B Co CP and 3rd plat located Sierck, coord 004945; 2nd plat located Evendorff; & 1st plat Merschweiller, coord 046968. Beginning 180830A, Bn CP & trains departed Cattenom in groups for movement across Moselle River, closing new area Sierck. At 181130A Co C displaces from Evendorff advancing to Ritzing, coord 076936, with 1st and 3rd plat. pushing forward to Manderen, coord 058954, closing at 182050A. At approx. 181600A, Rcn Co displaces from Rettel, mission to clear woods north of Kitzing or enemy troops. Message rec'd signed 181721A, declaring mission completed. Rcn Co occupying position Kitzing, coord 040943. Co B, 1st plat occupying high ground positions north of Merschweiller fires on enemy motorized column retreating EFT coord 983065. One command car knocked out & one truck damaged. Enemy troops also fired upon, results unknown. At end of period, Co B 2nd plat. advancing toward Besch, coord 023014 & 3rd plat Co B moving to Merschweiller. No casualties.
- 19 Nov 1944 1215 At 191215A, advances were made as follows; Co A to Merschweill, Co B CP to Obererl coord 028980; 2nd plat Co B to Besch, coord 012013; 1st plat Co B to Wochern, coord 061007; and Co C CP to Scheurwald, coord 099952. No enemy contact this point. At 191850A, Co B CP located at Perl, coord 023980, together with advance CP. During afternoon 19 Nnov., Co B plat fire upon two enemy pillboxes, neutralizing same. No casualties this period.
- 20 Nov 1944 1225 No changes in positions up to 201225A. At approximately 101500A, unknown number of enemy tanks reported position vicinity coord. 163923, moving from northeast. Co A, B and Rcn Co alerted for movement, with Co C displacing from Scheurwald northward to meet reported attack. At 201630A, Co C CP located Buschdorf, coord 088978, 2nd plat. Scheurwald, 3rd plat., Obertunadorf, coord 110983, and Rcn Co enroute to Perl. At 201655A, 1st platoon Co C at Wehingen, coord 110965. Enemy tank threat not materializing, positions held as above. During day of 20 Nov., Co B platoons holding positions previously taken, fired on enemy personnel, results unknown. No casualties this period.

21 Nov 1944 1500 No enemy contact, no change in position through 211500A. At 211550A, 1st plat Co B joins remainder of Co B located Perl, coord 023979. No fires, no casualties this period.

22 Nov 1944 1000 At 221000A, Co A assembled position Sehnforff, coord 025989. No other changes. Intermittent negative reports received throughout period. No fires, no casualties.

23 Nov 1944 No fires, no changes in position, no casualties this period. 2 prisoners captured by Co B vicinity Perl, coord 023980. Negative reports received intermittently.

24 Nov 1944 24 hour period. No fires, no change in positions.

25 Nov 1944 1130 (VU 004945 - Sierck). At 251130A Forward CP 705 TD Bn returns to area Bn CP, located Sierck, coord 004945. Co C moves from Buschdorf to Perl coord 023979 closing new area at 251414A. No other change, no fires, no casualties this period.

26 Nov 1944 (VU 004945 - Sierck) Partly cloudy to fair; visibility fair.

27 Nov 1944 (VU004945 - Sierck) No change in position during this period. On morning of 27 Nov., mortar plat. Rcn Co. displaces to forward position coord 013019, firing on 3 enemy pill boxes located coord 028033, definite results unknown. Orders received (Oper. Instructions No 6 Hq 3rd Cav. Gp. 271900A0 at 271000A of continued support 3rd Cav Gp, with A Co atchd Cav Rcn Sq. with 705 TD Bn (-). Group reserve, general mission our units to relieve elements CCA-CCB 10 Armd Div by 282000A

28 Nov 1944 0945 (VU004945 - Sierck) At 280945A, Co C atchd 43rd Cav Rcn Sq. displaces from Perl, with CP and 3d plat moving to Buschdorf, coord 088978; 1st plat moving to Mittel, coord 105986; and 2nd plat moving to Hellendorf coord 075990. At 281505A, forward CP closes new area Perl coord 023980. At 281530A, Co A atchd 3d Cav Rcn Sq., displaces platoons from Sehndorf, with 1st plat moving to Borg, coord 060005; 2nd plat moving to Wochern, with 1st section coord 044015 and 2d section coord 049020; 3rd plat moving to Besch, with 1st sect. coord 016020 and 2d section coord. 015015; and CP Co A remaining Sehndorf. At end of periods, positions as above, no fires, no casualties.

29 Nov 1944 (VU004945 - Sierck) No change in positions, no fires, no casualties this period.

30 Nov 1944 (VU 004945 - Sierck) Period beginning, no change in position. During morning 30 Nov., Co COs of A, B, C & Rcnorient commanders of respective units scheduled to affect relief of units 705 TD Bn. At 301300A, Co A 614 TD Bn(T) affected relief of Co A, 705 TD Bn, Co A closing assembly area Sehndorff at 301330A; 2 plat Co C. 614 TD Bn effected relief 2d & 3d plat Co C, 705 TD Bn at 301400A, with one platoon Co C, 614 TD Bn effected relief plat Co C 705 TD Bn at 301700A. Co C (?) assembly position Perl at 301745A; with Co B & Rcn remaining position Perl. Fwd CP returns to Bn. area location Sierch at 301530A. At end of period, Bn prepared for movement north as per instructions rec'd 27 Nov.

01 Dec 1944 On 27 Nov. orders rec's atchmt 705 TD Bn to 9th US Army. At 120800A, Bn departs area Sierck, auth secret orders rec'd Hq 3rd US Army 28 Nov for movement to 9th US Army sector north Aachen, Germany. March continues until 011630, Bn closing bivouac vicinity Werbomont, Beaufays, Belguim at 011700A.

02 Dec 1944 (VK 8550 - Kohlschied) At 020826A, Bn breaks bivouac, continuing march northward, closing designated area vicinity Kohlschied, Germany, coord VK 8550 at 021400A. 705 TD Bn atchd 2nd TD Gp., XIX Corps Troops, 9th US Army. 1/4 ton peed (?) destroyed by mine.

03 Dec 1944 (VK 08550 - Kohlschied) Reconnaissance made for possible gun positions during morning. 1430 1st plat. Co A displaced forward to IF positions coord VK 992533.

04 Dec 1944 (VK 8550 - Kohlschied) No change in positions. Co A 1st plat fired 500 rounds indirect fire, rec'd some area fire during night of 4-5 Dec.

05 Dec 1944 (VK 8550 - Kohlschied) No change in position. Co A 1st plat fired 500 rounds indirect fire, rec'd some area fire (60 rds 150mm) during night.

4-5 Dec (Entries cease at this point - jss) Wayne Tennent was wounded just after this date.