

HEADQUARTERS
773rd Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 403, U. S. ARMY

10 October 1944

SUBJECT: Report After Operations Against the Enemy.

TO: The Adjutant General, Army War College, War Department,
Washington 25, D.C.

THRU: Commanding General, Seventh United States Army, APO 758,
U.S. Army.

Commanding General, XV Corps, APO 436, U.S. Army.

Commanding General, 79th Infantry Division, APO 79,
U. S. Army.

1. In compliance with Par 10. AR 345-105, as amended by Change 3 dated 9 March 1943, the following report is submitted:

2. The information contained herein has been extracted from the Unit Journal of the 773rd Tank Destroyer Battalion.

3. Report after Operations Against The Enemy - Period 010001B September 1944 - 302359 September 1944. All time listed to and including 170300B is considered B time; all time from 170300B to and including 302359 is considered A time.

From 1 September 1944 to 7 September 1944, inclusive, rest period for Battalion; bivouaced vicinity of BERNAY-EN-BRIE (S475203). During rest period, motor maintenance, small arms maintenance and personnel maintenance was held.

On 8 September 1944, Battalion departed BERNAY-EN-BRIE (S475203) at 0700. Closed in new area two and one-half miles NE of VENDEUVRE (6169) at 1540. Total distance travelled 102 miles. 34 serviceable M10's. Weather unsettled.

On 9 September, Battalion in bivouac vicinity of VENDEUVRE (6169). At formal retreat, Colonel JACOBY, CO, 5th TD Group, presented twelve members of this battalion with Purple Hearts. Three Officers and nine enlisted men received these presentations. Weather, clear.

On 10 September, Battalion attached to 79th Infantry Division as of 1727 hours. Battalion departed area two and one-half miles NE of VENDEUVRE (6169) at 1230 hours and closed in area THONNANCE-LES-JOINVILLE (121862). Travelled 45 miles. Weather, clear.

On 11 September, Battalion (less Co. A and B) attached to CT5. Co. A attached to CT3. Co. B attached to CT4. Battalion less companies A, B, and C, moved from THONNANCE-LES-JOINVILLE (121862) at 1513 hours to assembly position at BRECHAINVILLE (350754), closing at 1710. Company A left THONNANCE-LES-JOINVILLE (121862) at 0700 to join CT3 (313th Inf Regt) on march. At 1200 hours, loaded infantry aboard TD's and moved to head of column. Took up firing positions E of JELLEVILLE at approximately 1900 hours. Company B started day in support of 314th Inf Regt (CT4). Objective CHARMES. Company moved from bivouac three miles E of JOINVILLE at 0740, and joined CT4 column at MACONVILLE at 0900. 2nd and 3rd plats marched behind 1st Inf Bn (Motorized), 1st plat behind 2nd Bn Inf. Company Headquarters with AT Company. 3rd plat had one section in firing position at COUSSEY (484802) and one section at SOULOSSE (514797). The plat was protecting the South flank of the column. It was in position from 1200 to 1530 hours. No action other than light artillery at COUSSEY. Company closed one mile W of SOCOURT (885783) at 2100. 2nd Plat in position at S of SOCOURT (903783). First section of 1st Plat in position at 882780. No action.

Co. C left bivouac THONNANCE-LES-JOINVILLE at 0808 and proceeded to assembly position near POISSONS (Z132841) arriving at 0845. Company established at position Z4275. 1st plat in position at Z4475 at 2030.

On 12 September, 60 Germans reported in town of LIFFOL-LE-GRAND by Lt. Colonel MOREN. Captain EMHARDT, CO Reconnaissance Co., given mission to go into town and take German prisoners. Captain EMHARDT, elements of Headquarters plat and entire 2nd Rcn plat departed 1200 hours for the town, but were unable to enter town because the bridge was blown up and a road block. Enemy sighted setting up FA piece. Plats withdrew from town after one M8 had fired .50 cal. MG on enemy. Returned to CP at 1430 hours. The 1st plat, Rcn Co., received mission to escort delivery of fuel and food supplies to A and B companies. Left bivouac area S of GRAND at 1105. Located Company A 1530 hours at position NE of DOUSSAY (790730). Left this position at 1730 after refueling Company A and went to Company B. Located Company B at 1900 hours at 875780 E of SOCOURT on the MOSELLE RIVER. Remained there overnight. Company A operating with CT3 moved forward with infantry but were stopped by artillery, mortar and small arms fire on high ground at crossroad NE of DOUSSAY at 1200. T/5 Brignac, motorcyclist, KIA by enemy artillery fire, at 1330. Company B - all positions remained the same during the night. 3rd plat covered 3rd Inf Bn as they took the high ground overlooking CHARMES (923745), the attack starting at 0930. 10 rounds of HE were fired into CHARMES in support of 1st Bn. At 1600, 3rd plat took positions at 910750, direction of fire West and South. No action. 1st plat at 1700 took positions at 923745 overlooking the entire valley to the East. Fired 14 rounds of HE at extreme range. Results unobserved. At 1000 the 2nd plat moved South from SOCOURT into CHARMES. At 2000, CHARMES was taken. Although no enemy armour appeared, this plat met heavy resistance from MG nests, mines and road blocks. Three of five tanks supporting this attack were disabled so the brunt of attack fell on the TD's. The bridge at East end of town was blown up by enemy when the first section of TD's was only one-half block away, showering them with debris. At 2100, 2nd plat withdrew from town and took up semi-firing positions at 893780. This plat under Lt. SUTTER was complimented very highly by both Lt. Colonel TEAGUE, 1st Bn CO, and by Colonel ROBINSON, Regt'1 CO, for their accurate firing and eagerness for combat. No casualties. Company C - Company moved to vicinity of NEUFCHATEAU. Company being committed in attack against CT5 objective. About 0900 the 1st plat in support of Co. A, 1st Bn, 3rd plat in support of Co. C, 1st Bn, were to attack the town from the West and South. 2nd plat held at 455755. At 0715, the 3rd Rcn Plat (atchd) sent two dismounted patrols East along railroad bed for possible TD routes. No routes found. At 1000 hours the 1st and 3rd plats jumped off in support of their respective infantry units, 1st plat moving around South end of town; 3rd plat moving around North end of town, and 2nd plat moved to West end of town. While advancing across open country in support of its infantry, 1st plat was fired on by a well concealed AT gun resulting in one M10 being disabled with no casualties. The 3rd plat fired into suspected MG and infantry positions in buildings and behind walls with undetermined results. The 2nd plat meanwhile fired at 2500-3000 yards at suspected enemy movement with unknown results. Anti-tank and MG firing was heard in town; Captain KELLY, CO Co. C, and Lt. VON BEHREN, 2nd Plat leader Co. C, went forward to investigate and found the bridge blown up leading into town. The 2nd plat went into position on the edge of NEUFCHATEAU after having fired from positions 3000 yards from the town. While moving into this position they fired on the town along with the 3rd plat setting buildings on fire. Lt. VON BEHREN and T/4 McGregor who had gone forward to the bridge, crossed under enemy MG and mortar fire, captured 10 prisoners and two MG nests. T/4 McGregor knowing German weapons turned the captured MG on a second MG nest and shot it up. Eight enemy were killed by this action. During this engagement, the TD's were firing on targets of opportunity. At 1700, the 3rd Rcn plat reconnoitered to the North for a possible route for 3rd TD plat to follow in crossing river next morning. Route found. All units billeted in position for the night.

CONFIDENTIAL

Bn Hq, Hq. Co., and Ren Co. (less 1st Plat) departed BRECHAIN-VILLE (350754) at 1905 hours. Closed in and bivouaced at DOMMARTIN-SUR-VRAINE (643724) at 2115 hours. Travelled 27-miles. Weather, clear.

On 13 September, 1st plat Ren Co. left Company B (875780) at 0830 to find Battalion a bivouac area. Located area at 790775 and met Battalion enroute to ORLIVILLE and led them to bivouac at 1200. 2nd Ren plat ahead and reported to Company B in afternoon. Company A - Plats remained in position. Plans were made to fire on POUSSAY in support of infantry. At approximately 1530 hours, 3rd plat fired 13 rounds of HE on suspected OP at PUZIEUX. One Frenchman came from the town with field glasses and some German field equipment; he was turned over to Regt'l PW team. He reported that 15 German infantrymen had been in town but left when direct artillery fire laid by TD's on town (PUZIEUX). At approximately 1715 hours, TD's opened up (3 plats abreast) on POUSSAY and dug-in AA positions and the POUSSAY railroad station which was believed to be an enemy CP. Two 20mm AA guns employed as AT guns KO'd by HE fire by 2nd plat. At 1830 hours 1st plat returned to reserve position after receiving enemy artillery fire. All plats maintained their positions during the night. One German FW taken and turned over to Regt'l PW team at 2000 hours. Company B - No action during night or early morning. 1st and 3rd plats remained in the same position entire day. No action. 2nd plat forded the MOSELLE RIVER at CHARMES and took up positions East of the town 935765, to help hold the bridgehead. The 2nd plat made this move at 1000 and remained in position during the day. No action. At 1030, company CP was moved to CHARMES (925756). 1st plat KO'd one enemy GP vehicle at 1800. No casualties. Company C - At 1200 hours resistance was encountered at ROURVE-LA-CHETIVE and Company L, 3rd Bn, 315th Inf committed to meet it. Positions for TD's were reconnoitered in woods NE of town Z548697. Sgt Crosbie was SWA at 1530 hours while returning from 3rd Bn CP Z539701 to lead TD's in position. At 1545 hours while in position of readiness, Z544702, the M10 commanded by Sgt Rayburn, 2nd plat, was attacked by five enemy infantrymen. After a brief firefight the enemy surrendered. At 1400 hours, the 2nd plat was committed due South on both sides of stream and advanced South behind the front of infantry into the town of ROURVE-LA-CHETIVE, killing approximately 50 enemy infantry and KOing one AT gun and causing a second to be abandoned. Two MG nests were also knocked out. The Regt'l CO made the comment that "the TD's made the difference in the success or failure of the attack". Lt. VON BEHREN, 2nd plat, verbally commended by Brigadier General GREER, Asst. Division Commander, for the manner in which he executed his duties. Co. CP established in town of ROURVE-LA-CHETIVE at 2000 hours. 3rd plat reported two casualties, victims of artillery tree bursts. Perimeter defense bounded on South by Z548695 established by 3rd Bn, 315th Inf. 1st and 2nd plats in support. Bn. Hq, Hq. Co., and Ren Co. (less 1st pltn) departed area DOMMARTIN-SUR-VRAINE (643724) at 1040; closed in at 1140 vicinity of BOUZANVILLE (790775). Distance travelled 15-miles. Weather, clear.

On 14 September, Ren Co. - 1st plat left bivouac area at 1205; contacted company A at 1300 in POUSSAY (807707). Received mission to reconnoiter road to PUZIEUX (786720). Then to the South to woods to check report of 100 German infantrymen; then to reconnoiter road to RAMECOURT; then east on road to MIRECOURT. They found mines and roadblocks on all roads leading to PUZIEUX. Second section of pioneer plat removed mines and roadblocks on road to South. Plat then moved to RAMECOURT found that friendly infantry had just moved in so they returned to bivouac area at 1930 hours. Company A - Plats supported attack by infantry on POUSSAY. 2nd plat moved to position 815618. 3rd plat moved to position 798707 at 1200 hours. 1st plat moved to position 792792 to support attack on RAMECOURT at 1745 hours. The plats remained in position during the night. From their positions the 2nd and 3rd plats were able to fire on MIRECOURT but no targets presented themselves. RAMECOURT was taken at 1745 hours.

Company B - Company continued to hold bridgehead across the MOZELLE RIVER at CHARMES and the high ground overlooking CHARMES from the SE. Company C - At 0700, remainder of town (ROURVE-LA-CHETIVE) cleaned up with little resistance. Company reformed at 0800 and proceeded East with CHATENOIS as the objective (less 3rd plat). At 1015 enemy infantry encountered. 3rd Bn, 315th Inf, deployed on Hill 400 to meet threat. Lt. THOMPSON, 3rd Rcn Plat, (atchd) was given mission to advance toward CHATENOIS to look for gun positions. They moved forward with two MB's. As they reached the outskirts of town they were fired upon by enemy MG and small arms fire. Fire was returned by two .50 cal. MG's and one 37mm shell, which killed six Germans and took care of situation. During the firefight an enemy mortar shell burst alongside Lt. THOMPSON'S MB wounding him and S/Sgt Gill. In this action one MG nest was also knocked out. At 1200 hours 1st plat in position at Z586685 with 2nd plat held in reserve at Co. CP Z584682. From 1200 to 1700 hours 1st plat (plus 1 gun from 2nd plat) shelled suspected enemy strong-points in REMOIS (Z600670) and North to Z598682 resulting in one vehicle (type unknown) destroyed and an undetermined number of enemy infantry casualties. During this time the plats and CP were subjected to some artillery and mortar fire. One casualty. At 1700 hours 1st Bn advanced into town and was stopped by emplaced MG nests; reconnaissance disclosed presence of no heavy weapons, so one M10 commanded by Sgt Schimpf, 2nd plat, advanced to head of infantry and under its cover of 3" and .50 cal. fire the town was cleaned up by 1745 hours, except for light resistance in outskirts. As this M10 passed through town, enemy infantry (approximately 150) rushed out of buildings along main street to surrender. Shortly after, approximately 150 more prisoners were taken in outskirts. At 1830, the 2nd plat in support of 1st Bn at Z606687, 3rd plat in support of 2nd Bn at Z602683, and 1st plat in support of 3rd Bn at Z604672. Bn Hq, Hq. Co., and Rcn Co. (less 1st and 3rd plats) departed vicinity of BOUZANVILLE (790775) at 1420 hours and closed in area vicinity of GRIPPOT (889797). Distance travelled 9 miles; weather, cloudy.

On 15 September, Rcn Co. - At 0830, 1st plat secured mission to find firing positions North of DAMVILLIER for Company A. Located rally positions at 1200 hours. Returned to Co. CP at GRIPPOT at 1730. Company A - 2nd plat remained in position overlooking MIRECOURT while 1st and 3rd plats moved. The 3rd plat moved to position in woods North of DAMVILLIER (776695) in support of CP3. Platoon fired on woods 755685 and 773673 while 1st plat occupied position at 777677. At 1130 hours, on Battalion order the Company assembled at 726718 and moved about 12-miles to an assembly position at 890780 SW of SOCCOURT closing in the area at 1345 hours. At 1800 hours the plats occupied positions of readiness just to the rear of firing positions. At dusk, the 1st and 3rd plats moved into their firing positions. Company B - At 1800 hours, the 3rd plat moved across the MOSELL RIVER and took up positions covering the northern half of the bridgehead. At the same time, the 2nd plat moved its guns around to cover the southern half. The 1st plat remained in position. No action. Rear Co. CP moved to the edge of CHARMES at 2000 hours. Company C - At 0800, the 2nd plat in support of the 1st En moved East and when no opposition was met company reformed and mounted a company of infantry on vehicles, and moved 25-miles East arriving at assembly position vicinity of RUGNEY (898738) at 1615.

On 16 September, Company A - All plats remained in the same positions all day. No action. Company B - At 1300, the 1st plat moved from the high hill they occupied to the one to the SE. From this position they could cover the river West and SW and across the valley to the East. The 2nd Rcn plat (atchd) continued to maintain listening posts on the road network coming into the bridgehead. Lt. SCHEWE, 2nd Rcn plat, tied his communications in with the 106th Cavalry which was doing the same work. No action, no casualties. Company C - Plats remained in position at RUGNEY. No action. Captain KELLY, CO, and platoon leaders reconnoitered positions. Weather, rainy and cool.

CONFIDENTIAL

On 17 September, the official time as of 0300B reverted to A time. Clocks turned back one hour. Reconnaissance Company - 2nd plat attached to B Company. 1st plat on Battalion mission left company bivouac at 1830 to establish outposts in town of VINCY (955716); were driven away by friendly artillery fire at 2145, withdrew 500 yards and maintained position until daybreak. No enemy action. Company A - The 1st and 3rd plats remained in positions 893793 and 894794 all day. The 2nd plat moved at 1415 hours to firing positions South of CHARMES (935745) and (937748) after eight enemy tanks were reported moving toward CHARMES from LANGLEY. Company B - At 1500 hours, five MkIV tanks approached CHARMES from PORTIEUX on reconnaissance. One of them came over the hill into the edge of CHARMES and was knocked out by the fourth gun, 2nd plat, (Sgt Karas, Car Commander, Cpl Russel, Gunner). The other four tanks retreated hurriedly without coming into view. The gun crew held their fire until the tanks were 75-yards away so they could try to knock out more than one of them. Two PW's were taken from the tank and considerable information was gained from one PW. No casualties, no losses. Company C - The company left RUGNEY (Z898738) at 0930, and closed in with the Battalion in the vicinity of GRIPPOT (889797) at 1320. At 1530, the 3rd plat was alerted for possible aid to Company B.

On 18 September, the S-3 from the 813th ID Bn visited the Bn CP at 0915 to coordinate reconnaissance with the 813th ID Bn on the other side of the MOSELLE RIVER. At 1630, Bn Hq, Hq. Co. at 889797 were alerted by order from 79th Inf Div for movement to the NE. Reconnaissance Company - The 1st plat was withdrawn from VINCY outpost to return to the Co. CP at CHARMES. The Company (less 1st and 2nd plats) moved at 1120 to 935764, vicinity of RR station NE of CHARMES. One section each of the Pioneer Plat was atchd to the 1st and 2nd Rcn Plats. The 1st and 2nd plats on reconnaissance to the South ran into two roadblocks defended by MG and mortar fire North and East of CHATEL-SUR-MOSELLE. One MG was KO'd and another probable. Plats withdrew and returned to bivouac. Three casualties. At 1700 hours, the 1st and 3rd plats were atchd and reported to A and C Companies respectively. 2nd plat atchd to Company B. At 1930, the Hq plat moved from position at 935764 to new position SE of SOCCURT (903782). Company A - Co. moved out at 2000 hours with CT3 (313th Inf) and moved to vicinity of LANDECOURT (020905) arriving at 190100. (1st Rcn plat atchd). Company B - At 1730, the Co. moved with the 314th Inf Regt to the NE. The objective was to cut the road running NW from HOUDANVILLE (087397). The cavalry screen met resistance and the CT stopped about one mile East of CLAYEURES. The second section of the 1st plat supported the 2nd Rcn plat (atchd) in its mission to protect the CT's right flank. Lt. SCHEWE in command was to travel on the road parallel to the main road, ST REMY, ST BOINGET, VENNEZELY, REMENOVILLE and HOUDANVILLE. By nightfall, they reached the outskirts of ST REMY, and found the road this side of town had been blown up. They were unable to bypass it because of a creek on one side and a high bank on the other. Lt. SCHEWE called Captain PATERSON, CO, Co. B, on radio telling him the situation and the plat bivouaced there for the night. Company C - Co. in bivouac at GRIPPOT (Z889798). (3rd Rcn plat atchd) Co. alerted to move NE at 1830. Weather, cloudy.

On 19 September, Bn Hq, Hq Co. departed GRIPPOT (889797) at 0800 and moved to new area vicinity of EINVAUX (018903) closing in at 1130 hours. Reconnaissance Company (Hq. Plat) departed area at SOCCURT at 0920 and fell in on end of Bn train. Bivouaced in area North of EINVAUX (018905). Company A - At 0800, the 3rd plat moved to firing positions at LAMATH and were under constant artillery and mortar fire until 1100. At 1200, Sgt Werner's TD was knocked out by enemy fire. The 3rd plat opened fire with HE on enemy positions in support of CT 3 at approximately 1600 to 1800 hours. KO'd three MkIV tanks and possibly a fourth, two GP vehicles, two other vehicles and two field guns (towed 88's employed as AT guns). One man killed and three wounded. At 0900, the 2nd plat moved into position.

LAMATH in support of CT3 (3rd Bn) and fired on some small vehicles knocking out four GP vehicles (passenger cars). The 1st plat moved into reserve North of LANDECOURT and remained in position during the night. Company B - Lt. SCHEWE with 2nd Ren Plat and section of Pioneer plat with second section, 1st plat, Company B (bivouaced on outskirts of ST REMY), repaired road and moved into ST REMY in early morning. Contacted the 108th Cavalry and received information about the enemy which he radioed to the CO of Company B. The plat took up positions in ST PAINOT until 1030 then moved to new positions one mile North of VERNEZEY. At 1445, French columns passed this position which Lt. SCHEWE reported to CO, Company B. At 1505, he was told to report to the Co. CP near HOUDANVILLE; upon arrival there, he reported all information to General GREER, 79th Div, and Colonel ROBINSON, 314th Inf, as to the location, size, disposition, etc. of the French columns. Later he led Colonels ALLEN and MENOHER to the CO of the 2nd French Armored Division. He returned to his plat which he moved back to the Co. CP. While enroute he noticed the battle formation of the French around REMENOVILLE which he plotted on his map and again gave this information to General GREER. The Co. moved with the regiment to establish a bridgehead across the river below HOUDANVILLE. The banks of the river were gained without any firing. One M10 bogged down trying to cross river, another broke a track trying to pull the first one out. Bn maintenance pulled the M10 out of mud while under fire. One MkV tank KO'd by 3rd plat (3 guns) about 1500 hours, when an enemy tank was firing at a U.S. bulldozer working on crossing site. The 3rd plat then crossed the river at 2130. Company C - The 3rd Ren plat (atchd) at 1130 Hours reconnoitered roads as far East as the MORTAGNE RIVER and selected a ford for crossing at 065917. At 0135 the Co. with men from Co. L, 315th Inf., riding on all vehicles left GRIPPOT (Z889798) and moved to vicinity of LANDECOURT (027397) arriving at 0625. Weather, clear.

On 20 September, Company A - 1st plat and the 1st Ren plat moved out at 0930 to positions North of LAMATH. At 1040, the 2nd plat moved to positions West of LAMATH. The 3rd plat moved to firing positions South of REHAINVILLE. The 1st and 2nd plats plus 1st Ren plat moved North on LUNEVILLE. 2nd plat was under artillery fire and had one casualty. 1st plat had one casualty, accidentally shot in the knee. Company B - Co. moved with CT4 to take GERBERVILLER (095895) and FRAMBOIS (117928). No action. 2nd Ren plat covered left flank. No action. After taking FRAMBOIS the 1st plat moved to top of Hill (126392) and shot at targets of opportunity along the MEURTHE RIVER. The 1st plat covered the advance of a platoon of tanks and two companies of infantry as they tried to take the bridge. The attempt failed. Company C - No change in positions. Gun positions were selected by CO for an all-around defense of GERBERVILLER.

On 21 September, Company A - There was heavy enemy artillery fire on plats all day. 1st plat one casualty. The 1st plat fired 17 rounds HE on an enemy OP. 2nd plat fired 10 rounds of HE at enemy OP. The 3rd plat moved from CHAUFONTAINE to firing position at MONCEL at 2000 hours. 1st Ren plat reconnoitered town of MONEEL for firing positions under heavy enemy artillery fire then moved to 3rd plats position. Company B - The 2nd Ren plat reconnoitered to the left flank of CT4 as far as HERIMENEL (0997) and along the right flank with no enemy contact. Firing plats did not change positions. 2nd and 3rd plats saw no action. The 1st plat fired at targets of opportunity from 1130 to 1830. These included tanks, halftracks and GP vehicles; however, these were taken under fire at extreme range, 4000-5000 yards and none were destroyed for certain. This fire did keep the enemy tanks from attacking the infantry's bridgehead over the MEURTHE RIVER. Company C - At 1100 hours, the Co. moved to GERBERVILLER and occupied the firing positions previously selected. The Co. mission was changed; at 1530, Co. moved to vicinity of HERIMENEL (V079999) arriving at 1525 hours. The CO and plat leaders reconnoitered defensive firing positions in LUNEVILLE. At 1830 the 1st plat went into position (V095999) along road running East out of

LUNEVILLE. The 3rd Rcn plat with the 1st plat saw no action. The 2nd and 3rd plats held in reserve at the Co. CP. Extreme activity of enemy artillery and mortar fire all night. Weather, clear.

On 22 September, Bn. Hq. Hq. Co. and Rcn(Hq. plat) departed area vicinity of EINVAUX (018906) at 1130 closing in new area vicinity of FRAIMBOIS (102945) at 1230. Distance travelled 15-miles. Company A - At 1000 hours the 3rd plat KO'd one MkIV tank at MONCEL, while under artillery fire and isolated by German infantry. The 1st plat was under artillery fire all day; expended 20 rounds HE at an enemy CP and infantry CP (075924). Company B - Co. supported the 314th Inf (CT4) in attack to enlarge bridgehead over the MEURTHE RIVER (132945). 1st section of 1st plat moved under cover of artillery fire at 0545 to position at 126948 on West side of River. At 1900, they moved again and covered the ford. No action. The 1st section remained on the high hill 125934 overlooking the entire bridgehead area. This plat (section) did excellent shooting against enemy tanks at ranges up to 5000 yards and against enemy emplacements. The 2nd plat remained in readiness all day. At 2000 hours, the 2nd section of this plat moved to cover construction of the bridge. The 3rd plat moved at 1450 to cover friendly tanks as they tried to ford the river. The attack on the right flank had been stalemated up until this time. This plat did heroic work covering the tanks, destroying MG nests and fording the river. At 2100 they moved into position covering the road and RR to the NW. Company C - 2nd plat was committed at 0715 on East edge of LUNEVILLE. The CP and 3rd plat moved at 1155 to CHAUFONTAINE (V074976). 3rd plat alerted to move. At approximately 1530 hours two casualties inflicted by shrapnel, Tec 4 McGregor and Cpl Fiorenza. They were wounded while endeavoring to flush enemy snipers just North of 1st plat position. Sgt Dillon and crew (1st platoon) had been trying to KO snipers with small arms carbine fire - withholding 3" fire for security of M10 positions. Enemy continues to shell LUNEVILLE. Weather, clear.

On 23 September, Company A - At 0800, the 2nd plat moved from LUNEVILLE to MONCEL in support of the 3rd plat. At 1230 hours, Lt. JOHN SNIDER, (2nd plat) was seriously wounded and Lt. DELBERT G. RECK assumed command of the plat. At 1800, the 3rd plat moved East to 122969 with the 1st Rcn plat. The 1st plat remained in position. All plats were under heavy artillery fire all day. Company B - As bridgehead over the MEURTHE RIVER Northeast of FRAIMBOIS was secured and passed, it was found that the 1st plat in the two previous days had KO'd one bicycle and rider, two MG nests and one American M8 (cavalry) assault gun that was being used by the enemy. At 1300, the 1st plat fired .50 cal. MG's into the woods at 144947 and the infantry was able to retake this woods after having been driven out by the enemy. The 1st plat also fired into three buildings at ST CLEMENT, directed at an enemy tank and adjusted by FA plane. The plat succeeded in getting one hit and causing tank to leave. At 1700, positions were taken up to protect the bridgehead. No further action. Company C - No activity except enemy artillery and mortar fire which came spasmodically into LUNEVILLE. Weather, rainy.

On 24 September, Company A - Everything very quiet. No artillery fire. 3rd plat closed in with the 2nd plat at MONCEL at 1400 hours. No further changes. Company B - At 0930, the Co. and 2nd Rcn plat moved to an assembly area at 143948. At 1100, 2nd plat moved to MARRAINVILLER in support of 1st Bn as they cleaned out FORET de MONDON. No action. One casualty (Combat fatigue). Company C - No activity; no change. Weather, cloudy and rainy.

On 25 September, Bn Hq. Hq. Co. and Rcn (Hq. plat) moved from vicinity of FRAIMBOIS (102945) at 0830 and closed in at 1030 in LUNEVILLE (095994). Distance travelled 5-miles. Company A - Co. CP was moved to LUNEVILLE (096993) at 0900. 1st section, 2nd plat, 3rd plat and 1st Rcn plat moved from MONCEL to

to LUNEVILLE at 1200. Entire company now at LUNEVILLE (096993). Company B - No activity, no change. Company C - At approximately 1400 hours, 3rd platoon took up positions at CHANTEHEUX to protect the engineers building bridge across the VEZOUSE RIVER. At 1500 hours Co. CP moved to LUNEVILLE (7088999). Weather, cloudy and rain.

On 26 September, Company A plus 1st Recon platoon performed motor maintenance all day. Remained in LUNEVILLE. Company B - The 2nd platoon remained in position at MARAINVILLER (130990). The 1st platoon moved into LUNEVILLE and performed motor maintenance. No other changes. Company C - The 3rd platoon in covering mission at CHANTEHEUX (112003) received some enemy artillery fire. No casualties. 2nd platoon performed motor maintenance. Weather, cloudy and rain.

On 27 September, Company A - At 1030 the 1st Recon platoon moved to position of readiness at CHANTEHEUX followed by the 3rd platoon at 1100. Balance of company remained in LUNEVILLE performing motor maintenance. Company B - The 314th Infantry remained in reserve. 1st platoon took up defensive position 140003 at 1530; 3rd platoon into position 142943 at 1800. No action. Company C - At 0730, the 2nd platoon relieved the 3rd platoon at CHANTEHEUX. At 0900, the 2nd platoon returned to LUNEVILLE and company (less 1st platoon) received new mission of establishing roadblocks. At 1900, 3rd Recon platoon sent to 2nd platoon position as outpost and added security. No contact with enemy. 1st platoon remained in LUNEVILLE for motor maintenance. Weather, cloudy.

On 28 September, Company A - At 1330, the 1st and 2nd platoons moved from LUNEVILLE to positions NE of CHANTEHEUX; at 1700 the Co. CP moved to CHANTEHEUX. 3rd platoon remained in position. Company B - The 1st platoon remained in position at CROISMARE. At 0900 the 3rd platoon relieved the 2nd platoon in MARAINVILLER and the 2nd platoon went to LUNEVILLE for motor maintenance. There was no action other than very close sporadic artillery fire at both platoon positions. Company C - At 1030 all platoons joined the CP at DEUXVILLE immediately before air-bombing of FORET-de-PARROY. At 1505, 1st and 2nd platoon and 3rd Recon platoon moved to vicinity of CRION. 3rd platoon moved to vicinity of SIONVILLER, and CP to BIENVILLE. Enemy MG and riflemen held up the 315th Infantry advance at Q125047 until Company C, 749th Tank Bn, 1st platoon, Co. C. (7799) and Co. I, 315th Infantry, effectively, KO'd resistance. Infantry advanced, tanks and TD's withdrew to positions. Our artillery and enemy artillery very active from 2000 to 2400 hours. No casualties. Weather, unsettled - rainy and clear.

On 29 September, The XV Corps (79th Infantry Division and attached troops) passed to command of the Seventh U.S. Army at 290001. Company A - 1st Recon platoon reconnoitered roads and firing positions for the 3rd platoon while under enemy small arms fire. At 1600 the 3rd platoon moved to the firing position selected and joined the 1st Recon platoon. Company B - The 2nd platoon relieved the 3rd platoon at MARAINVILLER at 1900. The 3rd platoon moved to LUNEVILLE for track changing. The 1st platoon in CROISMARE and 3rd platoon in MARAINVILLER received very heavy artillery fire during day and night. Three casualties inflicted by shrapnel but all returned to duty. No other action. Company C - The 2nd platoon moved to Q118062 with Co. C, 749th Tank Bn., and received artillery fire from heavy caliber guns. The tanks withdrew while the 2nd platoon continued and occupied positions as planned. The 3rd platoon in CRION ready to support 2nd platoon on order. P4's bombed enemy positions drawing enemy AA fire (light and heavy) indicating heavy concentration in FORET-de-PARROY. Weather, clear.

On 30 September, Company A - between 0800 and 1000 the 3rd platoon received some enemy artillery and small arms fire. At 1200 hours, all platoons went into firing positions for indirect fire at 121021. The Co. opened fire at 1400 and concentrations were fired every twenty minutes. No counter-battery was received.

CONFIDENTIAL

Company B - 1st and 2nd platoons remained in position at CROISMARE and MARAINVILLER respectively. No action. Company C - All platoons still in approximately the same position. No contact with enemy but heavy enemy artillery continued. 3rd Recon platoon established listening posts on road in advance of 2nd platoon position. Weather, clear. This concludes operations for the period.



FRANK G. SPIESS
Lt. Colonel, FA,
Commanding.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - Adj Gen. War Dept. USA
- 1 - CG, Seventh US Army
- 1 - CG, XV Corps
- 1 - CG, 79th Inf. Div.

CONFIDENTIAL