
“A” and was employed as security for the second platoon; the other section established an observation point 400 yards north of Noveant to observe enemy action and to prevent a surprise attack on the first platoon of Company “C”. Battalion CP was located at Arnaville.

The second platoon of Company “C”, during hours of darkness, moved into an indirect firing position north of Arry, relieving the first platoon of Company “A”, and during the night fired 600 rounds of HE harassing fire in the vicinity of Gorze.

2—4 OCTOBER 1944

There was no change in the employment of the battalion. The second platoon of Company “C” occupied positions after darkness and delivered 660 more rounds of HE harassing fire on the same targets and returned to primary positions prior to daylight. The night patrol of the first “Recon”, to Ancy-sur-Moselle, was completed and they reported to the commanding officer of the 2nd Bn, 11th Infantry Regt, that mine fields near Ancy-sur-Moselle had been disturbed, and were no longer protected.

The next day the first platoon of Company “C”, in direct support of the 2nd Bn in the attack of Fort Driant, moved to their assembly area. One



section of the second platoon of Company "C" took over the positions vacated by the first platoon at Noveant. The night patrol to Ancy-sur-Moselle reported no enemy activity. During the night Company "A" fired 600 rounds indirect, harassing fire, and the next night 541 rounds. "Recon" again reported no enemy activity.



5—7 OCTOBER 1944

The battalion remained disposed as they were. Company "A" fired 1229 rounds for the two nights of indirect fire and the "Recon" patrol reported no enemy activity. On the seventh, Company "C" was attached to "Task Force Warnock" and was assigned the mission of furnishing anti-mechanized protection to the northwest flank of the troops attacking Ft. Driant. Company "A" fired 599 rounds of harassing fire on their targets.

8—10 OCTOBER 1944

Throughout the three days Company "A" fired 1788 rounds of indirect harassing fire. Two prisoners were captured by "C" Company. Col. Browning, commanding officer of the 4th TD Group, awarded the Bronze Star to Sgt. James R. Durbin for outstanding action against the enemy.



11—13 OCTOBER 1944

As a result of enemy mortar fire in the area occupied by the third platoon of Company "A", three casualties were suffered. Enemy artillery caused seven casualties in the first platoon area of Company "C" which was supporting the Fort Driant operation.

The following day second "Recon" suffered four casualties. A shell report of enemy artillery was submitted by the platoon of Company "C" and as a result of this report, three enemy gun positions were destroyed. The section of "Recon" attached to Company "A" was relieved of assignment and assembled in the vicinity of our CP. The first platoon of Company "C", in support of the Fort Driant operation, withdrew to an assembly area prior to the withdrawal of the infantry. As a result of enemy mortar fire in the first platoon's area, south of Corny, Company "A" suffered five casualties. During these three days Company "A" fired 1800 rounds of ammunition and the "Recon" reported no enemy action.

14—16 OCTOBER 1944

The battalion, with the exception of Company "A" which was attached to the 818th TD Bn., was relieved of attachment to the 5th Infantry Division and attached to the 4th TD Group. Company "B" returned to our control, and two of its platoons were placed in position to perform

a secondary mission in support of the 344th FA Bn. Company "A" fired 600 rounds of harassing fire on their targets.

One prisoner was taken by Company "C" in the vicinity of Noveant. 394 rounds were expended by Company "A", and the second platoon of Company "B", in support of the 344th FA Bn., fired 24 rounds of HE, one round of smoke, and then observed fire.

The following day, the third platoon of Company "C" was placed in position in support of the 344th FA Bn. The first platoon of Company "C" returned to positions at Noveant and a section of the second platoon returned to Gorze. Company "A" fired 496 rounds indirect, harassing fire. During these three days "Recon" again reported no enemy action.



17—19 OCTOBER 1944

The platoons attached to the 344th FA Bn. expended 209 rounds indirect fire. The first platoon of Company "A" was relieved of their primary mission and placed in position to perform a secondary mission and 158 rounds HE were expended. "Recon" patrol again reported no enemy activity.

The first platoon of Company "A" fired 104 rounds indirect, observed fire and as a result two enemy horse-drawn carts together with their personnel were destroyed.

That night a "Recon" patrol captured a German Officer in Ancy-sur-Moselle. This officer was later killed attempting to escape near Dornot.



Our CP moved to Puxieux and the rear echelon to Sponville. Movements were completed by 1130. The platoons attached to the 344th FA Bn., fired 436 rounds for the two days.

20—22 OCTOBER 1944

The third platoon of "C" Company and the second platoon of "B" Company fired, for the next three days, 1551 rounds of indirect, observed fire. On the second day an enemy patrol attempt to slip through our lines in the vicinity of Noveant and were engaged by the first "Recon". One of the enemy was killed and the remainder driven to the north. No other enemy action was reported.

23—25 OCTOBER 1944

The first "Recon" was relieved of its mission of night patrols and was



replaced by a reinforced infantry squad of the 90th Division. Company "A" was relieved of attachment to the 5th Infantry Division and placed in battalion reserve in the vicinity of Yonville. The commanding officer of the 4th TD Group notified us that firing would be limited to 10 rounds per gun, per day, in the interest of conserving ammunition and material. Platoons of "B" and "C" Companies were employed on secondary missions and reported no expenditures of ammunition. At 1715, Company "A" closed into its assigned assembly area.

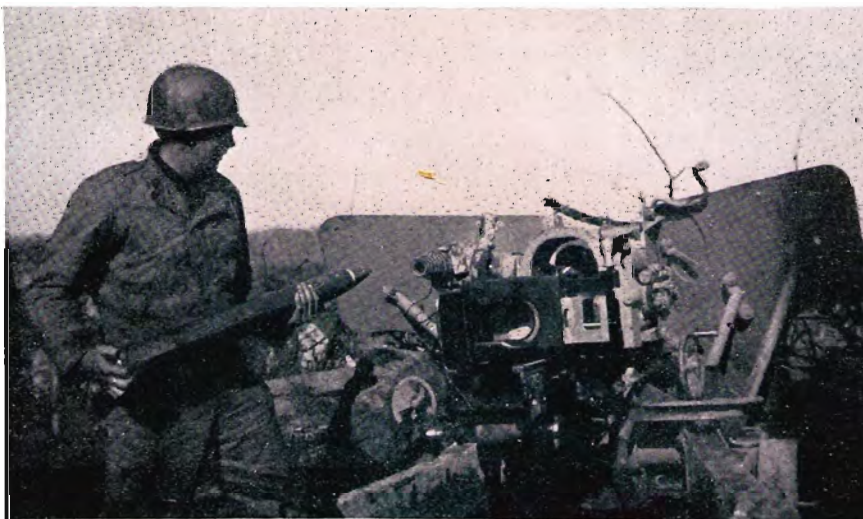
26—28 OCTOBER 1944

There was no change in our disposition. We were notified that Company "A" would relieve Company "A" of the 609 TD Bn. We were also ordered to move our CP and rear echelon to a new location because the area in which we were located had been allotted to the 10th Armored Division, just in from the States. We closed into our new area at Tronville at 0930 and rear echelon at Dampvitoux at 1630. Company "A" completed relief of the 609 TD Bn. and closed into their positions by 1600.

The mission of Company "A" was the general support of the XXth Corps and supporting the fire of Company "C", 607 TD Bn. The platoons attached to the 344th FA Bn. fired 267 rounds during the three days.

29—31 OCTOBER 1944

The first and third platoons of Company "B" exchanged positions to equalize the training of the personnel and the number of rounds fired per gun. The first and third platoons of Company "C" did likewise. The platoons attached to 344th FA Bn. fired 148 rounds.



1—2 NOVEMBER 1944

We remained employed in positions as we were. Company "A" was at Batilly and was still attached to the 807th TD Bn. and in support of Company "C" of that battalion. The first platoon was in a primary mission and the second and third platoons in secondary positions. Company "B" was north of Mars la Tour, the second platoon of which was still supporting the 344th FA Bn. Company "C" was at Gorze. The first "Recon" furnished additional support for the third platoon of Company "C" and manned an observation post north of Noveant. The second "Recon" manned observation points in Company "C's" area. Battalion CP and Aid Station were at Tronville and rear echelon at Sponville.

Spasmodic enemy artillery fire was reported in all company sectors during the day but there were no casualties or material damage. On 2 November, Company "B" fired six missions expending 82 rounds of HE in harassing and interdiction missions. Company "C" fired three observed missions on Fort Driant and expended 65 rounds of HE. Two flying bombs were reported passing over our positions moving in a southerly direction.

3—4 NOVEMBER 1944

Company "B" fired seven harassing missions expending 78 rounds HE and Company "C" fired six missions expending 62 rounds HE. No other activity was reported for the day.

Company "C" fired one observed mission counter-battery expending 122 rounds. The observer reported that three enemy field pieces were silenced. Company "B" fired five observed missions expending 44 rounds on forts in the Jeanne D'Arc and Driant group. Fire from these forts was neutralized during these concentrations. The first "Recon" captured a German prisoner at Noveant and the third platoon of "C" Company apprehended another.





5 NOVEMBER 1944

During the night, Company "C" fired eight harassing missions. Orders were received from XXth Corps Artillery, through the Commanding Officer of the 4th TD Group, attaching us to 95th Infantry Division. Our Battalion Commander reported to the Division for instructions, and was ordered to place one platoon in position in the vicinity of Uckange, positions to be occupied before dawn, 6 November.

At 1400 we received verbal orders from the Commanding Officer of the 4th TD Group relieving us from attachment to the 95th Division (and attaching us to the 5th Infantry Division. All companies assembled in the vicinity of their respective CP's and prepared to move to positions in the Division's sector, on Divisional orders. At 1600, Company "A" was ordered to place two platoons in position east of the Moselle River. These were the second and third, and were placed in primary positions closing into their assigned areas by 1800 hours. "C" Company fired six interdiction missions.

6—7 NOVEMBER 1944

The remainder of the battalion moved into the 5th Division's sector,

and upon arrival there was placed in support of the 11th Regiment and assigned the mission of furnishing anti-mechanized protection to the north flank of the 5th Division's bridgehead, east of the Moselle, south of Metz. Company "B" and two platoons of Company "A" were placed in positions protecting the approaches in the assigned sector and Company "C", with one platoon of Company "A", was placed in indirect firing positions in support of the 19th Field Artillery Battalion.

During the hours of darkness Company "C" fired ten harassing missions. Targets consisted mainly of enemy held villages, north and east of the bridgehead. The first platoon, "A" Company, was removed from secondary and placed in primary positions south of the third platoon, thereby adding depth to the anti-mechanized defence along the most probable armor approaches.



8—9 NOVEMBER 1944

During the night Company "C" again fired ten harassing missions on the enemy held villages with 144 rounds expended. Upon verbal orders of the Commanding General of the 5th Division Artillery, the third platoon of "C" Company, was relieved of its secondary mission and placed in position near Arnaville to cover the north approach to the 5th Division bridgehead west of the Moselle.

Company "C" fired eight observed missions on targets of opportunity including, tanks, pillboxes and infantry, with favorable results.

10 NOVEMBER 1944

The companies were placed in close support of the 11th Regiment as follows: Company "A" supported the 3rd Battalion; Company "B", with the first "Recon", supported the 2nd Battalion; Company "C" with the second "Recon" supported the 1st Battalion. The companies were ordered to maintain close liaison with their respective battalions, and to displace platoons forward, by bounds, as the infantry advanced to the north toward Metz.

11—22 NOVEMBER 1944

We furnished close support to the 11th Combat Team in its successful attack on the Fortress City of Metz and at the close of the operation elements of our battalion were in positions at the outskirts of the city itself. "C" Company, at a range of 400 yards, fired A.P.C., and had succeeded in effecting a penetration into Fort St. Privat.

A total of 32 prisoners were taken during the operation, together with German equipment in the amount of four 37 mm. anti-tank guns, one 60 mm. mortar, and four light machine guns.

On the 22 of November, we were relieved of attachment to the 5th Division and were attached to the 4th TD. Group. Companies assembled and prepared movement to any sector. Three prisoners were captured by the third platoon of "C" Company near Arnaville.





23—24 NOVEMBER 1944

We remained in assembly positions. The entire day was spent in maintenance of material and caring for personal equipment. The third platoon of Company "C" captured two prisoners.

Upon verbal orders of the Commanding Officer of the 4th TD Group, we were placed in general support of the 378th Infantry Combat Team, 95th Division, operating on the right flank of XXth Corps. We were assigned the additional mission of anti-mechanized protection on the right flank of XXth Corps.

25—26 NOVEMBER 1944

We moved from assembly area to positions on the right flank of the 378th Combat Team, our CP closing into Frecourt at 1630. The "Recon" platoons were assigned the mission of reconnoitering, in advance, for gun positions.

As the 378th CT advanced, Company "B" leapfrogged into position at Zendrange. The other companies were as follows: "A" Company occupied positions at Guerting and closed in at 1200. The first "Recon" reconnoitered positions at Zimming and captured one prisoner dressed as a civilian southeast of Oberweise, receiving small arms fire from rifles and machine guns. Fire was returned and resulted in two enemy killed. At 1600 our CP closed into Marlange.

27—28 NOVEMBER 1944

“C” Company, plus the second “Recon” were attached to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Division, and moved into position at Longville.

The second “Recon” was given the mission to maintain contact with the 378 CT, on the left flank of the 3rd Battalion. Company “B” moved into position near Nieberwiesse at 1540 and captured one prisoner. Our CP moved to Coume.

The first “Recon” was given the mission to maintain contact with enemy infantry 1/4 mile south of Ham, and in the ensuing action captured one prisoner and killed twenty of the enemy. “Recon” suffered no casualties. “B” Company moved into positions near Hargarten.



29—30 NOVEMBER 1944

Company “B” expended eighty rounds, direct fire into enemy held positions in the town of Falk, in support of friendly infantry attacking the village.

1—2 DECEMBER 1944

At the beginning of today we, less “C” Company and the second “Recon” (who were attached to Task Force Bell), continued on our mission in support of the 378th CT with the added mission of protecting the right flank of the XXth Corps against mechanized attack. Shortly

after noon, Task Force Bell was dissolved and Company "C" and the second "Recon" were ordered to assemble in the vicinity of our CP, then at Coume. "B" Company apprehended two prisoners at the close of the day at Hargarten.

Continuing in support of the 378th, Company "A", leapfrogging Companies "B" and "C", moved into position near Merten, where they captured two prisoners. Our CP moved near Remering. Returning from an inspection of the newly occupied positions of Company "A", our Executive Officer, Major Bellamy, and our S-3, Major Cullens, captured three prisoners on the road to Falk.

3 DECEMBER 1944

Company "B" was placed in close support of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, the 378th CT, and was ordered to make daylight reconnaissance for gun positions on the west bank of the Saar River, south of Lisdorf. From these positions they would be able to bring direct fire neutralizing and/or destroying enemy held pillboxes on the east side of the Saar. Company "C" was placed in support of the 3rd Battalion, and moved into



position in Lisdorf where they had the same mission as "B" Company. Company "A" was put into position protecting the southern flank of the 378th. The platoons were placed at Bisten, Berus, and the road junction south of Alt Forweiler. The first "Recon" was employed as security covering the south flank of "B" Company and the second "Recon" was used as security of gun positions for "C" Company. Our CP moved to Berus. During the hours of darkness, companies occupied and organized their positions and prepared to support the river crossing at daybreak the following morning.



4 DECEMBER 1944

"B" Company, supporting the 1st and 2nd Battalions, fired on pillboxes and strong points as requested by the battalions, and also on targets of opportunity. During the day, Company "B" expended 363 rounds of HE and 645 rounds of APC ammunition. Known damage included: one enemy machine gun, one artillery piece, one enemy observation post, one pillbox destroyed and six others neutralized, to permit the advance of

the infantry. Throughout the day the company's positions were subjected to continuous heavy enemy artillery fire and losses incurred included one man killed and four wounded. Material damage was one M-20, one 610 radio, one 1½ ton truck, and two peeps. Company "C" fired at targets requested by the 3rd Battalion, expending 447 rounds of APC and 87 rounds of HE ammunition. The effect of their fire was one enemy pillbox destroyed and several others neutralized.



The battle of the Ardennes

5—17 DECEMBER 1944

During this period, we remained in close support of the 378th CT and continued firing, as requested, on enemy held pillboxes and strong points on the eastern bank of the Saar River near Ensdorf. By close coordination between our companies and the infantry battalions, we were able to furnish immediate and extremely accurate fire on points of resistance delaying the troops advance. Many of the gun positions were, out of necessity, in full view of the enemy and were constantly subjected to heavy artillery and mortar fire. Notwithstanding the precariousness of their positions, the crews stuck by their guns and delivered deadly accurate fire when and where requested. Because of their ability to neu-

tralize or destroy enemy fortifications impeding our infantry's advance, we were of great assistance in the establishment and maintaining of the 378th CT's bridgehead across the Saar.

18—19 DECEMBER 1944

We were relieved of attachment to the 378th CT and were assembled near Merten and prepared to move on short notice to the Third Corps. We were attached to the 4th TD Group and placed in support of Task Force Polk, located at Mandern. We departed from our assembly area and assembled at Sierck in the zone of the 3rd Cavalry Group. Reconnaissance was ordered immediately for gun positions, with one platoon at each, as follows: at Besch, near Huckeldorf, Buseldorf, Ober Tunsdorf and one company on a secondary mission near Merschweiler. Immediately upon completion of reconnaissance, we were ordered to occupy the positions.

20 DECEMBER 1944

At 1145 we received verbal orders from Col. Browning, the Commanding Officer of the 4th TD Group, to assemble our battalion in the vicinity of our CP and move without delay to join Third Corps, located at Arlon, Belgium. Our Commanding Officer was to precede us for instructions. By 1330 we were assembled and started at 1415, without mishap, to Bergem, Luxembourg, where we found the roads in use by the 26th Infantry Division. Because of the congested road conditions, we bivouacked in nearby villages, prepared to again proceed upon instructions of our Battalion Commander.

21—22 DECEMBER 1944

Our Battalion Commander returned to our CP at Bergem, Luxemburg at 1300, with instructions that we were attached to the 90th Infantry Division, then holding the northern portion of the XXth Corps front along the Saar, and further attached to the 3rd Cavalry Group (Task Force Polk). We were ordered to return immediately to our assembly area in the vicinity of Sierck. We arrived here at 1615 and remained for the night.

Orders were received, the next day, employing us as follows: the first platoon of Company "A" at Borg, the second at Hellendorf and the third at Wechern. The third platoon of Company "B" was on high ground to

the south of Eft, the first was in positions at Buschdorf and Tunsdorf, and the second near Wechingen. The first "Recon" and first platoon of Company "C" were at Besch, the second at Eft and the third at Apach. The second "Recon" was in reserve in the vicinity of our CP.

23—31 DECEMBER 1944

We continued on our mission of providing anti-mechanized protection to the north flank of the XXth Corps with the guns disposed in depth. During this period we captured nine prisoners.

1—6 JANUARY 1945

We remained employed in our positions as we were. Except for occasional enemy artillery and mortar fire and small enemy foot patrols, the entire area remained very quiet.

7—9 JANUARY 1945

The 94th Infantry Division relieved the 90th Division and at that time we were relieved from our previous attachment and attached to the 94th Division. The mission assigned us by the 94th Division was to continue to furnish anti-mechanized protection from our present positions.

10—20 JANUARY 1945

The third platoon of Company "A" was relieved by an anti-tank platoon of the 376th Regiment, and placed in position in the vicinity of Perl, thereby adding depth to the anti-tank defenses of the Division's sector.

21—22 JANUARY 1945

The third platoon of "C" Company, under the cover of darkness, relieved a platoon of the 607th Tank Destroyer Battalion at Nenning. At 2000, Nenning was counter-attacked by German tanks and infantry. The tanks were estimated at about one company and the infantry at about one battalion. This attack came as a surprise, and since friendly infantry were forced to withdraw, it was necessary for this platoon to defend its positions by small arms fire. After a short and bitter contact, two gun sections were forced to evacuate their positions on foot and retire in the face of the approaching enemy. It is felt that the presence of this platoon in Nenning aided materially in repulsing the counter-attack and holding the village.



ROUTE OF MARCH