

HEADQUARTERS  
802d TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
APO 230, U. S. ARMY

1 March 1945

UNIT JOURNAL FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY

1 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Medernach, Luxembourg.

This Battalion attached to 80th Infantry Division.

Company A, minus 1st Platoon, on primary mission. Company CP located in vicinity of Eppeldorf (P907356). 2nd Platoon located in vicinity of Moestroff (P916422). 3rd Platoon located in vicinity of Reisdorf (P944420). The Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 1st Platoon on secondary mission in support of 512th Field Artillery Battalion. Platoon located in vicinity of Moestroff (P913-412). The Platoon expended 4 rounds 3" HERC on one registration mission.

Company B, minus 2nd Platoon, on primary mission. Company CP located in vicinity of Gilsdorf (P882413). 1st Platoon located in vicinity of Longsdorf (P898449). 3rd Platoon located in vicinity of Gilsdorf (P885413). The Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 2nd Platoon on secondary mission in support of 905th Field Artillery Battalion. Platoon located in vicinity of Bastendorf (P882-438). The Platoon did not fire during the period.

Company C, minus 2nd Platoon, on primary mission. Company CP located in vicinity of Beaufort (P962283). 1st Platoon located in vicinity of Befortehaidi (P950399). 3rd Platoon located in vicinity of Hardthof (P983365). The Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 2nd Platoon on secondary mission in support of the 314th Field Artillery Battalion. The Platoon did not fire during the period. 1st and 2nd Rcn Platoons located in the vicinity of Medernach (P907356). Both Platoons held in reserve for emergency reconnaissance.

The weather was warm and rainy. Ice and snow melted very rapidly. A G.I. Movie sponsored by the 80th Infantry Division Special Service was provided for the troops. The picture shown was "Around the World" starring Kay Kyser. In addition the 80th Infantry Division Special Service provided troops with a large supply of writing paper, envelopes, and ink.

This Battalion reorganized under T/O 18-35 dated 1 September 1944 per instructions contained in Letter, Headquarters Third United States Army, File AG 320.2 TD-GNMEC, subject; "Reorganization of Tank Destroyer Battalions, Towed", dated 25 January 1945.

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2 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Medernach, Luxembourg

This Battalion attached to 80th Infantry Division.

Company A, minus 1st Platoon, continued on primary mission. Company CP and both Platoons remained in same locations. The Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 1st Platoon remained in same location and continued on secondary mission in support of 512th Field Artillery Battalion. The Platoon expended 119 rounds 3" HERC on 5 unobserved harrassing missions on roads and cross roads in vicinity of Biesdorf and Medersgegen, Germany.

Company B, minus 2nd Platoon, continued on primary mission. Company CP and both Platoons remained in same locations. The Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 2nd Platoon remained in same location and continued on secondary mission in support of 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The Platoon expended 97 rounds 3" HERC on 4 unobserved harrasing missions on road junctions in the vicinity of Roth.

Company C, minus 2nd Platoon, continued on primary mission. Company CP and both Platoons remained in same locations. Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 2nd Platoon remained in same location and continued on secondary mission in support of 314th Field Artillery Battalion. The Platoon expended 148 rounds 3" HERC on 5 unobserved harrasing missions on roads and cross roads in vicinity of Wallendorf, Germany. 1st Rcn Platoon remained in same location. Platoon held in reserve for emergency reconnaissance. 2nd Rcn Platoon moved from location in Medernach, Luxembourg (P907356) to Houffalize, Belgium to reconnoiter for Battalion concentration area. This Battalion alerted for movement to concentration area in Houffalize, Belgium, for proposed movement to new sector, and new attachments. The Battalion Commanding Officer, 2nd Rcn Platoon, and a representative of each Gun Company and the Rear Echelon went to new area as advance and quartering parties.

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3 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Medernach, Luxembourg

This Battalion attached to 80th Infantry Division.

Company A, minus 1st Platoon, continued on primary mission. Company CP and both Platoons remained in same locations. Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 1st Platoon remained in same location and continued on secondary mission in support of 512th Field Artillery Battalion. The Platoon expended 60 rounds 3" HERC on 20 unobserved harrasing missions on roads and cross roads in the vicinity of Biesdorf, Germany.

Company B, minus 2nd Platoon, continued on primary mission. Company CP and both Platoons remained in same locations. The Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 2nd Platoon remained in same location and continued in support of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The Platoon expended 136 rounds 3" HERC on 1 registration mission and 5 unobserved harrasing missions on roads and cross roads in vicinity of Koperich, Germany.

Company C, minus 2nd Platoon, continued on primary mission. Company CP and both Platoons remained in same locations. The Platoons did not fire or engage enemy during the period. 2nd Platoon remained in same location and continued on secondary mission in support of 314th Field Artillery Battalion. The Platoon expended 111 rounds 3" HERC on 1 registration mission and 2 unobserved harrasing missions on roads and cross roads in vicinity of Wallendorf, Germany.

Troops preparing for movement to new sector. Battalion Commander and 2nd Rcn Platoon proceeded to Houffalize, Belgium as advance party for movement of this Battalion thereat, in a concentration area. 1 officer and 6 enlisted men departed Battalion to visit Paris on a 72 hour pass. 2 officers and 20 enlisted men departed Battalion to visit Nancy, France, Rest Center on a 72 hour pass. Health and morale of the Command remained at a high standard.

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802d T. D. Bn. Unit Journal for month of February 1945

4 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Wibrin, Belgium

This Battalion relieved of attachment to 80th Infantry Division and attached to 95th Infantry Division per VCG 80th Infantry Division, and VCG VIII Corps, and VCG XII Corps. The relief and new attachment became effective 3 February 1945. Battalion CP moved from area located in Medernach, Luxembourg (Vp 907356) at 0915 to new area located in Wibrin (Vp 555760) Belgium. CP Group arrived in new area at 1345.

Company A moved from area located in Stegen, Luxembourg to new area located in Wibrin (Vp 555760) Belgium.

Company B moved from area located in Gilsdorf, Luxembourg to new area located in Wibrin (Vp 555760) Belgium.

Company C moved from area located in Beaufort, Luxembourg to new area located in Nadrin (Vp 534755) Belgium.

Entire Battalion closed in new areas at 1453 hours. The weather was cold, snowy, and rainy. The ice and snow continued to melt very rapidly causing slush and muddy thoroughfares.

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5 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Wibrin, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division.

The entire Battalion, minus 1 section of the 2nd Recon Platoon, in concentration areas located in Wibrin and Nadrin, Belgium. The Battalion prepared for movement to new sector. White camouflage was removed from all vehicles. Personnel were oriented on the proposed move, and instructed on matters pertaining to security such as destroying all correspondence bearing the unit's designation, fraternization with civilians, and removal of all vehicular markings including aircraft markings.

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6 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division.

The entire Battalion moved from areas located in Wibrin, and Nadrin, Belgium. The head of the column commenced movement at 0130 hours, this date. Battalion CP Group arrived in new area located in Heukelom (Vk 504477) Belgium at 1345 hours. Balance of the units concentrated in the following locations: Headquarters Company (Rear Echelon), Company A, and Medical Detachment Station at Heukelom (Vk 504477), and Company B and Company C at Slines (Vk 474381) Belgium. Troops are executing maintenance of equipment and personal hygiene. Battalion awaiting further orders for movement. The weather was rainy and overcast with limited visibility. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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7 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division.

The entire Battalion remained in same locations and continued with maintenance of equipment and personal hygiene. No change in attachment. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

302d T. D. n. Unit Journal for month of February 1945

Weather continued rainy and overcast with limited visibility.

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8 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The entire Battalion remained in same locations and continued with maintenance of equipment and personal hygiene. The morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. Weather continued rainy and overcast with limited visibility.

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9 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The entire Battalion remained in same locations. Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Message from the Commander in Chief, Twenty-first Army Group was read to all troops in this command between the hours of 1600 and 1800. All copies of the message were immediately destroyed by burning after they had been read, and a report of destruction was submitted to the Commanding General, 95th Infantry Division. The morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. The weather continued rainy and overcast with limited visibility.

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10 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The entire Battalion remained in the same locations. Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. The weather continued cold and partly cloudy.

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11 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The entire Battalion remained in the same locations. The Companies did not engage enemy during the period. Troops continued on an alert status and continued with maintenance of equipment in preparation for movement. Troops were afforded opportunity to attend church services in towns nearest their locations. The weather was cold and rainy.

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12 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration areas, and continued with maintenance of equipment and preparation for movement. Troops did not fire or engage enemy during the period. Troops were afforded opportunity to use hot showers furnished by the 95th Infantry Division. The weather continued rainy with very limited visibility.

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13 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The Companies remained in the same locations in concentration areas. Troops did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Battalion continued with maintenance of equipment and vehicles in preparation for movement. The weather was partly clear with intermittent showers.

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14 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The Companies remained in the same locations in concentration areas. Troops did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Battalion continued with maintenance of equipment and vehicles. Troops were furnished with movies. The title of the picture shown was "To Have and to Hold". The weather was clear and warm. Class "B" rations have been furnished troops with fresh fruit each morning. The morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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15 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to the 95th Infantry Division. The Battalion remained in the same locations in concentration area. Troops did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Battalion has instituted a training program, including foot marches, gun drill. Troops were furnished movies. The title of the picture shown was "Always in Trouble" starring Laurel and Hardy. The Special Service, 95th Infantry Division was responsible for procuring these movies and all PX items for sale. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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16 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The Battalion remained in the same location in concentration area. Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Troops continued with training programs, including gun drill, calisthenics, map reading etc. Movie was furnished troops by the Special Service, 95th Infantry Division. Title of film shown was "Carolina Blues" starring Kay Kyser. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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17 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The Battalion remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Companies continued with training which included calisthenics and foot marches. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. Movie Film entitled "To Have and To Have Not" starring Humphrey Bogart was shown to troops through Special Service of the 95th Infantry Division.

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18 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Troops were given opportunity to attend religious services. This Battalion received a quota of one (1) enlisted man to return to the United States on the rotation plan. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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19 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Troops continued with training schedule which included foot marches, gun drill and calisthenics. The Battalion has one (1) M-36 SP for training in anticipation of this Battalion's being redesignated to self-propelled. The M-36 will be rotated in such a manner as to enable each gun company to have the gun for a period of not less than one week. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. Two (2) enlisted men were awarded the Soldiers' Medal ( Pfc Pete Alires and Pvt Kyle Brooks of Hq Co) and two (2) enlisted men were awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Sgt Bernard McDermott and Pfc William Bowman of Co B). The awards were presented by the Battalion C.C..

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20 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies continued with training program. No firing or enemy engagements during the period. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. Weather during the period was rainy with mild temperature.

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21 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies continued with training programs. No firing or enemy engagements during the period. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. Weather during the period was fair and warm.

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22 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies continued with training programs. No firing or enemy engagements during the period. Weather during the period was warm and fair.

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23 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Battalion continued with training program. Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Passes have been authorized this Battalion for two percent (2%) of the command daily. One (1) enlisted man, Private Gordon Thompson of Company C, was returned to the United States on the rotation plan. A representative spot check of Forms 20, Service Records, and Forms 66-1 was made by an inspection team, consisting of one (1) Captain and one (1) Warrant Officer of the Inspector General Department of the 95th Infantry Division. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. This Battalion was taken off the Secret List. Vehicles are being marked with Army and Unit Designations. Shoulder patches are being worn and CP locations are being marked.

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24 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. The Battalion continued with training program. The Battalion CO held a meeting of all officers. The purpose of the meeting was orientation of the present tactical situation, as well as discussing plans for reorganizing this Battalion to Self-propelled with M-36 Guns. Two percent (2%) of the command were granted passes to Liege. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. The weather was fair and warm. This Battalion received twenty (20) EM reinforcements

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25 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. The Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Troops were afforded opportunity to attend religious services. Weather during the period was partly cloudy and cold. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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26 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Troops continued with training program which included training in employment of the M-36 Self-propelled Gun. The weather was cold and rainy during the period. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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802d T. D. Bn. Unit Journal for month of February 1945

27 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Companies continued on training programs. Lovies were provided troops through the 95th Infantry Division Special Service. The main feature was "Four Jills and a Jeep" starring Betty Grable, Martha Raye, and Carol Landis. The weather was partly cloudy and warm. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard. 2nd Lt Harry O. Mc Knight, O-1825310 and 2nd Lt Arthur J. Myles, O-1825818 reported to this Battalion for duty as reinforcement officers.

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28 February 1945 -- Vicinity of Heukelom, Belgium

This Battalion attached to 95th Infantry Division. All Companies remained in same locations in concentration area. The Companies did not fire or engage the enemy during the period. Companies continued with training programs. The Battalion is alerted for movement. Quarters parties consisting of personnel from 2nd Recon Platoon, Headquarters Co, Co A, Co B, and Co C departed from Bn CP at 1250 hours to report to Headquarters 95th Infantry Division to proceed from there to new location. Morale and health of the command remained at a high standard.

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