

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
814th Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 230



4 March 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report, Month of February 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D.C. (Through Channels).

1. On 1 February 1945 the battalion was in billets in the following locations: Bn Hq, Hq Co and Rcn Co in Dolhain (Limbourg) Belgium, Co A in La Bruyere, Belgium, Co B in Membach, Belgium and Co C in Heggen, Belgium. While in billets, all units performed training, maintenance of vehicles and rehabilitation of personnel. The battalion remained attached to the 7th Armored Division with the companies further attached as follows: Co A to CCA, Co B to CCR and Co C to CCB.

2. At 1630 hours 7 February 1945, Companies A and C were relieved of attachment and reverted to battalion control and at 1000 hours 8 February 1945 the Bn (- Co B) was detached from the 7th Armd Div and attached to the 99th Inf Div. The Bn CP moved from Dolhain, Belgium to Bullingen, Belgium, closing into new position at 1445 hours. The Battalion completed the relief of the 644th TD Bn at 1900 hours. Bn rear CP, Hq Co and Rcn Company rear CP remained in Dolhain, Belgium.

3. The 99th Inf Div was relieved by the 69th Inf Div at 1000 hours 13 Feb 1945 at which time the 814th TD Bn (-Co B) became attached to the 69th Inf Div in place. The Bn was relieved by the 661st TD Bn at 1330 hours 16 February 1945 and the battalion simultaneously became reattached to the 7th Armd Div and Bn (-Co B) assembled in Bullingen, Belgium to await orders to move to 7th Armd Div area.

4. At 1400 hours 22 Feb 1945 the Bn CP rejoined Bn rear CP in Dolhain, Belgium.

5. Beginning on the 22nd of Feb 1945 the Bn furnished 285 EM and the necessary officers to work under the supervision of the 164th and 207th Engr Battalions on road maintenance in First Army Zone. 130 of these EM were released on 27 Feb and the remained on 28 Feb 1945.
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6. Bn CP, Hq Co and Rcn Co rear moved from Dolhain, Belgium to Baelen, Belgium on 25 Feb at 0930 hours where they remained as the month ended.

7. The battalion furnished instruction on the M-36 Destroyer under the supervision of Lt Rose for 1 officer and 37 EM from the 825th TD Bn from 21 Feb to 27 Feb, including firing 60 rounds HE for familiarization.

8. As the month ended the companies were re-assembling in their areas in preparation for future operations.

RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

1. From 1 Feb through 7 Feb, Company remained in billets in Dolhain, Belgium performing training and maintenance of vehicles.

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(After Action Report, 814th TD Bn, Month of Feb45, cont'd)

2. When the Bn CP moved to Bullingen, Belgium on 8 Feb, Rcn Co CP was established with the Bn CP, arriving in Bullingen at 1130. Second section of 3rd Plat was used for security of Bn CP. First Plat was attached to Co A and second Plat was attached to Co C for operation, performing general reconnaissance missions. Rcn Co rear detachment remained in Dolhain, Belgium. Platoons returned to company control at 1730 on 22 Feb 1945.

3. On 22 Feb Rcn Co CP moved to vicinity Kalterherberg, Germany. A detail of 75 EM from Co B were attached for road maintenance work. Rcn furnished 60 EM for this road maintenance work and the company worked under the supervision of 164th Engr Bn. This work continued until 28 Feb at which time the work detail was released but remained in place temporarily.

COMPANY A

1. At the beginning of the month the company was in billets in La Bruyere, Belgium performing training and maintenance of vehicles, being still attached to CCA, 7th Armd Div. On 7 Feb at 1630 the company reverted to Bn control for coming operation.

2. Company left La Bruyere, Belgium, 1115 hours 8 Feb and arrived vicinity Losheimergraben, Germany at 1445; relieved Co A, 644th TD Bn at 1730 in direct support of 394 IR, 99th Inf Div, 1st Plat attached for operation. On 9 Feb at 0600 hours Co A (less 3rd Plat) further attached to 424 RCT, 106th Inf Div, for operations. 3rd Plat operated with 393 IR, 99th Inf Div. On 12 Feb, 3rd Plat received intermittent artillery fire in Lldenbreth, Germany, but had no damage or casualties.

3. On 13 Feb the 69th Inf Div relieved the 99th Inf Div, but 1st and 2nd Plats continued to support 424 IR, 106th Inf Div, however, 3rd Plat (along with 2nd Plat Co C) now supported 273 IR, 69th Inf Div. 3rd Plat again received mortar fire and small arms fire in Udenbreth, having one M-20 damaged but no casualties.

4. Company remained in positions prepared to support units to which attached until relieved on 16 Feb by A and B Companies, 661st TD Bn. The company then closed in an assembly area vicinity Bullingen, Belgium at 1400 to await orders for movement back to area of 7th Armd Div.

5. At 1730 on 22 Feb, Co A (less destroyers) arrived in area vicinity Kalterberg, Germany to work under supervision of 207th Engr Bn on road maintenance in First Army Zone. The company furnished 75 EM for this work and had 75 EM attached from Co C. Company rear detachment remained with destroyers in Bullingen with Co C. This road maintenance work continued until 1730 on 27 Feb when Co A was released and with Co C work detail, returned to Bullingen, Belgium on 28 Feb at 1200 hours.

COMPANY B

1. As the month began, Co B was in billets in Memback performing maintenance of vehicles and training, but remained attached to CCR, 7th Armd Div. At 0925 on 3 Feb company was placed on a four hour alert for action with CCR which was attached to 78th Inf Div at 1600.

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(After Action Report, 814th TD Bn, Month of Feb 45, cont'd)

2. On 4 Feb company moved from Memback, Belgium to an assembly area vicinity Simmerath, Germany, During the night preparing to support attack of CCR on Strauch and Steckenborn, Germany. 1st Plat operated with Task Force McDaniels and 3rd Plat with TF Lutz. Next morning, with 1st and 2nd Plats attached to TF McDaniels and 3rd Plat with TF Lutz the attacks on Strauch and Steckenborn were successfully made. From positions in vicinity Steckenborn, 3rd platoon knocked out 8 pillboxes, 1 towed 88mm AT gun and captured one 75mm AT gun NE and NW of town; 28 prisoners surrendered as result of this firing. 1st and 2nd Plats remained in position in vicinity of Strauch, Germany. Company CP established in Simmerath, Germany.

3. On 6 Feb the 3rd Plat, operating with 311 IR, supported attack on Hechelscheid, Germany, knocking out 6 pillboxes and causing 47 prisoners to surrender as result of firing on pillboxes.

4. By 8 Feb the Company CP had moved up to Steckenborn and 1st and 2nd Plats maintained defensive positions vicinity of the town and 3rd Plat maintained positions vicinity Hechelscheid. There was no further action but company received intermittent light artillery and mortar fire. CP guard captured 4 prisoners on the 9th. For the remainder of the month the company remained in these positions attached to CCR which reverted to 7th Armd Div at 1400 on 10 Feb.

5. Company furnished 75 EM and the necessary officers to Rcn Co for road maintenance work under supervision 164th Engr Bn from 22 through 28 Feb.

6. Lt Rose supervised instruction on M-36 Destroyer for 1 officer and 37 EM from 825th TD Bn 21 Feb through 27 Feb 1945.

COMPANY C

1. On 1 Feb 1945 company was in Heggen, Belgium performing maintenance of vehicles and training; remained attached to CCB which was placed on six hour alert at 1140 on 4 Feb. This alert status was ended at 1430 on 6 Feb. At 1630 on the 7th of Feb, company reverted to Bn control for the coming operation. Company training continued with the firing of 190 rounds HE at stationary targets on Leopold Dam range.

2. Company left Heggen, Belgium on 8 Feb and arrived vicinity Krinkelt, Belgium at 1700; relieved Company B, 644th TD Bn at 1900 hours in direct support 393 Inf Regt. 2nd Plat Rcn Co attached for operation and performed route and position reconnaissance. When 271st Inf Regt relieved 395th IR on 11 Feb, 1st and 3rd Plats became attached to 271 IR. 1st Plat received intermittent fire in Hollerath, Germany on 12 Feb, but suffered no damage. On the 13th of Feb, relief of 99th Inf Div by 69th Inf Div was completed and 2nd Plat Co C (along with 3rd Plat Co A) became attached to 273 IR, 69th Inf Div. A ain on the 14th, 1st Plat received mortar fire in Hollerath, Germany, but had no damage or casualties.

3. On 13 Feb 69th Inf Div relieved 99th Inf Div and 2nd Plat then attached to 273 IR, 1st and 3rd Plats remaining with 271 IR. Company maintained positions prepared to support units as necessary until relieved by Company C, 661st TD Bn on 16 Feb. The company then closed in an assembly area vicinity Bullingen, Belgium at 1400 to await orders for movement back to area of 7th Armored Division.

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(After Action Report, 814th TD Bn, month of Feb 45, cont'd)

4. Company furnished 75 EM and the necessary officers to Company A for road maintenance work under supervision of 207th Engr Bn from 22 Feb through 27 Feb 1945.

5. The company remained in an assembly position in Bullingen, Belgium, during the remainder of the month.

For the Commanding Officer:

WALTER W. LAND
Captain FA
Adjutant

1 Incl:
Unit Journal, month of February 1945.

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