

AFTER AFTER BATTLE REPORT
NO: III

FROM: 010001 AUGUST 44
TO : 312400 AUGUST 44

UNIT: 823rd TANK DESTROYER BN.
PLACE: FRANCE, 039836 (NEUILLY EM
THELLS)

TIME: 011200 August 44

MAPS: FRANCE & BELGIUM, 1/50,000.

1 AUGUST 44

After an enemy air attack in the early morning hours causing no casualties or damage the period was relatively quiet until the attacking 117th and 120th Inf. gained such ground as required displacement of positions for their close support 1st platoon "B" Company moved to 486518 at 1205 hours: B-2 to 490509 at 1620; "B" Company CP at 1700 to 48552 and the 1st platoon "B" Company to 494495 at 2200 hours. At 1900 A-3 moved to 506518 while "A" Company CP at 1800 moved to 503548 with one section of B-3 moving to 494501. In addition to these moves four other positions were reconnoitered and prepared. Three casualties were suffered today requiring evacuation including 2nd Lt. LAWLESS who received a broken ear drum as a result of shell concussion. "B" Company did an exceptionally fine job of reconnaissance and leap frog movements of platoons for the close support of the 117th Inf. Regt.

2 AUGUST 44

Although Red-Check Charlie flew from 0030 to 0430 and escorted a few bombers over our areas, a relatively quiet night was spent. B-2 at 1330 moved to its previously reconnoitered and prepared position at 495483 with "B" Company CP moving at 1430 to 493494. One section A-1 at 1400 closed in at 502491 with the other section following at 2100. With the 30th Inf Div and 823rd TD Bn going into XIX Corps reserve upon attainment of Division objectives, the latter part of the afternoon was spent in all types of maintenance. Hq Co had two non-battle casualties.

3 AUGUST 44

All three platoons and "B" Company CP moved to 483529 between 0830 and 0930 and A-1 moved to 505348 at 0900. Balance of the period was spent in maintenance of guns (pulling tubes), equipment, small-arms, personal equipment and person. First Army Camouflage personnel started camouflage painting at 1300 and Corps small-arms, artillery and vehicular repair was started. "C" Company had one non-battle evacuated casualty while 2nd Lt CHASTEN joined the unit being made Ln.O.

4 AUGUST 44

At 0840 the Rear Echelon moved to 467539 and at 1155 the 2nd Recon platoon moved to 488534 which completed all movements for the period. At 1100 hours a talk was given by General HOBBS to this unit. A Red Cross Club-Mobile and Special Service moving picture film were made available during parts of the afternoon and evening. Five replacements were received with "B" Company have one and Headquarters Company having two non-battle casualties evacuated, one being 1st Lt JONES who was severely injured in a motor-cycle accident.

Corps small arms ,artillery and vehicular repair and 1st army camouflage painting of vehicles was continued in addition to all types of maintenance.

5 AUGUST 44

Official notification was received that effective 4 Aug 44 the 823rd TD Bn and the 30th Inf. Div were released from XIX Corps and assigned to the V Corps. Orders to move to an assembly area in the V Corps zone were received and Reconnaissance and Quartering parties sent to new positions when verbal orders were issued cancelling movement. Units remained in place without further moves continuing their small arms, artillery and vehicular inspection and repair and First Army Camouflage painting of vehicles and all types of maintenance. About 2230 information was received that the 823rd TD Bn and 30th Inf. Div were released from the V Corps effective immediately and attached to the VII Corps. "A" Company was directed to establish Liaison with the 120 Inf. Combat team. The 3rd and 2nd Recon platoons support missions of "A" and "B" Companies respectively were continued and platoons notified to move with companies.

6 AUGUST 44

"A" and "B" companies sent quartering parties and at 0115 "A" Company moved to 497142 closing at 0700 while "B" Company moved at 0530 to 558138 closing at 1430. Upon Division orders Bn CP and "C" Company moved at 0855 and 0910 to 474142 and 478141 closing at 1445 and 1500 respectively. At 1300 the 2nd and 3rd platoons "A" Company occupied direct fire positions at 566117 and 586108 while the 1st platoon at 1400 took up positions at 588121. "B" Company CP at 1430 was established at 442143 and B-1 took up direct fire position at 1500 at 553140. "A" Company CP at 1830 moved to 516122 closing at 1900. Upon Division orders "C" Company and 1st Recon platoon were attached to the 119th Inf. Task Force with unit assigning Lt. CHASTEN to "C" Company for liaison with 119th Inf. Regt., while upon further orders A-1 and 3rd Recon were attached to the 3rd Bn 120th Inf on a special Task Force mission. Remainder of unit continued direct support of assigned units. No casualties were received although 1st Lt JONES died with regaining consciousness at a field hospital.

7 AUGUST 44

The plan to sent the 119th Task Force on a special mission was cancelled as was the 1st platoon "A" Company's attachment to 3rd Bn 120th Inf, but "C" Company's attachment remained. During the early morning hours "C" Company Cp moved to 465136 C-1 to direct fire positions near 470140. At 0200 B-3 moved to 577144 (ST BARTHELEMY) while at 0430 one gun 2nd platoon also occupied that location with the other three gun occupying direct fire positions at 563140. Starting about 2400 strong enemy counter attacks, Inf and Armor, started around MARTAIN and at 0545 ST BARTHELEMY received an attack from the North East and South. Although orders were received about 0630 to sent TD to 500060 at once it was impossible to do so as all units under Bn control were committed and it wasn't until 1200 that units from "C" Company were released from the 119th for that purpose. C-1 to meet a group of about 35 vehicles including armor moved to direct fire positions near 478158 at 0700 and at the same time C-3 moved to direct fire positions at 460137 to be followed at 0830 and 1200 with the 1st and 3rd platoon "C" Company taking positions at 478159 and 470158. About 0630 to reinforce the guns at ST BARTHELEMY one gun of B'; under supervision of 1st Lt NEEL was brought to a position on the west side of town, where the crews under extremely heavy small arms, mortar, machine gun and rifle grenade fire killed a tank commander and some grenadiers with small arms fire and knocked out a panther tank with the 3" gun before

the crew was injured and the gun destroyed by an 88. Lt NEEL thereupon brought forward another gun which took up position at 566144 where it destroyed two additional panther tanks before that gun was knocked out by another tank. Radio contact to the 3rd platoon "A" Company situated in MORTAIN was lost upon the start of the attack and only six men succeeded in getting out of the town during this period. B-3 evacuated its 1/4 and ammunition vehicles prior to the actual enemy attack and up to the close of the period 14 EM had reported in. Information received credited B-3 with 5 panther tanks and 2 probables which together with the 3 knocked out by B-1 made a company total of 8 actual and 2 probables. A-2 knocked out 2 MK IV tanks, 2 self-propelled guns and 1 armored car, with 3" fire and a third tank was put out of commission by a bazooka team. Upon release of attachment at 1200 the 2nd platoon "C" Company and the 1st Recon moved to 498065 where they remained in mobile position ready to occupy prepared positions if necessary while the 1st Recon formed a security screen around it as there were no friendly infantry in that neighbourhood. A-2, "A" Company CP and Bn Supply vehicle received several attacks from friendly British planes with one killed and 2 wounded from the bombing and strafing. At 2100 "B" Company CP moved to 544140. During the period A-1 without receiving any casualties destroyed 1 MG nest, 3 tanks, 2 cargo trucks, 3 full-track personnel carriers, 1 half-track personnel carrier, 2 motorcycles, 1 1/4 ton and an estimated 100 to 150 Germans killed with 10 prisoners being taken. For the period the unit suffered 12 WIA, 3 KIA and 101 MIA including 2 Officers, 11 3" guns destroyed or in enemy hands, 11 half-tracks destroyed or in enemy hands and one 1 1/4 ton destroyed. "A" and "B" Companies continued to straddle the JOUVIGNY-ST. BARTHELEMY highway between 568146 and 544141 while "C" Company reconnoitered positions to deepen "B" Company defenses. 17 casualties were evacuated during the period.

8 AUGUST 44

About 0430 an enemy Infantry counter-attack from the NE was launched with its principal force being exerted against the front of A-2. Some personnel from the 120th Inf fell back on the 2nd platoon and with their assistance the platoon personnel succeeded in stopping the counter-attack just as it reached the gun muzzle even though German flame-throwers took part. No damage to guns or vehicles were received although during a part of the attack, because of the use of flame-throwers, it was impossible to man any 3" gun. Casualties were also light with action ceasing about 0530. At 1000 "B" Company CP after receiving considerable artillery fire and losing two one ton ammo trailers moved to 538140. Upon Div order the 3rd platoon "C" Company moved to 520144 and 511142 where they took direct fire position with one section and established bazooka teams to cover sunken roads with the other section. During period two special reconnaissance missions were completed by the 2nd Recon platoon for the Division. A-1 knocked out 2 tanks, 4 half-track personnel carriers and 1 additional vehicle which was either a tank or half-track besides capturing 15 Germans. Casualty report for period; 1 KIA with 2 MIA; no further information on those missing in action on 7 August 44; 1st Lt FRANK joined unit and was appointed Ad.

9 AUGUST 44

At 0430 the enemy pocket North of A-2's position made another morning counter-attack which was again stopped by A-2, 3rd Recon platoon and ends of Infantry support collected in the vicinity of

the guns. At 1045 Bn CP opened at 517117. With the launching of the attack at 1600 all Infantry near A-2 pulled out, so for better defense against the German pocket left behind, the 2nd platoon "A" Company was moved to 564111 and 568109 with the 2nd Recon platoon being moved to furnish protection to the section at 564111 and the 3rd Recon platoon continued to protect the section at 568109. C-1 moved to positions at 534142 closing at 2210. A-1 knocked out 3 German vehicles, type undermined, had the sight and sight mounts of 2 3" guns damaged by artillery fire and A-2 had 1 gun knocked out by artillery fire. "A" Company had three evacuated casualties; 1st Lt CUNNINGHAM, 3rd Recon platoon, about 2200 received injuries from a mortar requiring evacuation; while 2nd Lt RADY joined the unit as a replacement being assigned to "B" Company.

10 AUGUST 44

During the early morning hours the Germans counter-attacked A-2's former positions but to their surprise found no one present. Until a road block established by the Germans in the night was removed, contact with A-1 was lost but during the period that platoon knocked out 2 half-tracks, 1 truck, 5 1/4 tons (including one US jeep driven by Germans), 1 MG nest, 2 armored cars and 1 staff car. "B" Company suffered two casualties during the period. 1 EM were received as replacements and one 3" gun was received by A-2.

11 AUGUST 44

Upon Division order to move one section of A-2 to its old location the order was passed through Infantry channels directing the movement of the entire platoon which together with the 2nd and 3rd Recon platoons moved by infiltration closing in their old positions at 568118 at 1515. "C" Company CO at 1430 moved to 507136 while upon the passing of the threat to the Division's right exposed flank permission was granted to withdraw C-2 whereupon it moved to 526145 and 527147 where it, together with the 1st Recon platoon, closed at 2030. The period was quiet with the exception of continuation of enemy artillery and mortar fire with one 3" gun of A-1's being knocked out by such fire. One new 3" gun and half-track was received by "B" Company and was placed in mobile reserve at "B" Company CP. One German 1/4 ton in good condition was found by "B" Company. Uni suffered five battle and one non-battle casualties.

12 AUGUST 44

Although sleep was disturbed by an air attack and heavy shell fire, no casualties were suffered and an uneventful night passed. The high light of the day was the return of 11 EM from A-8 who for the past five days have been eighter in MORTAIN of fighting with the Infantry W and E of MORTAIN. They however could furnish no information on Lt MULLER and the section he was with during the battle for MORTAIN. To effect therelief of "A" Company their CP at 2145 was moved to 543097. At 2200 C-1 relieved A-2 by exchanging personnel an A-2's gun, the 2nd platoon moving to an assembly position at "A" Company CP at 543097. No casualties were suffered during the period and 18 replacements were received.

13 AUGUST 44

"C" Company relieved the 1st platoon Company moving the 2nd platoon to 574109 closing at 0510 and the 3rd platoon to 569125

closing at 0540. A-1 thereupon moved to an assemble position near "A" Company CP at 543097 closing at 0745. "B" Company after reorganizing the 1st and 2nd platoons moved them to 562151 and 561135 closing at 1350 and 1400 respectively. "C" Company CP at 1540 closed into new area at 532113. A-1 and 2 in order to furnish close support to the 119th Inf moved to 567091 and 576096 closing at 2030 and 1955 respectively. 1st Recon platoon remained with the 1st platoon "C" Company, 2nd Recon platoon moved with the 2nd platoon "B" Company, 3rd Recon platoon moved into position with the 2nd platoon "A" Company.

14 AUGUST 44

PO 24, 30th Inf Div, attached A, B and C Co to the 117th, 119th and 120th Inf respectively and for the purpose of company use this unit furnished each company one Recon platoon, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Recon platoons working with "C", "B" and "A" Companies respectively. In one instance Regiments attached platoons to Infantry Battalions so that in addition to the Battalion Commander losing all control of his troops, one Company Commander likewise lost all control over his platoons. Movements of units are as follows: The 1st Recon platoon preceeding C-1 which moved at 0650 to 742004 closing at 1100 being followed by C-1 which moved at 0650 to 725001 closing at 1200; "B" Company moving with the 117th Inf at 0826 closed into a position of readiness at 706050 at 1045; 3rd platoon "C" Company closed into 725001 at 1300 while "C" Company CP and C-2 entered a position of readiness at 725001 at 1330; at 1250 Bn OP closed at the old area and opened in the vicinity of 664039 at 1350; B-1 closed into 744053 at 1425 followed by B-2 at 1535 into 744052; C-3 displaced at 1530 to a position of readiness near 712999 closing at 1730; Bn CP moved at 1610 to 717032 closing at 1640; "B" Company CP moved to 729039 closing at 1809 while B-1 entered direct fire positions at 760057 at 1945. About 2000 C-1 fired 3rds AP and 13 rds HE at a MK IV tank being given credit for knocking it out by the 120th Inf. At 2100 C-1 moved to 790035 and 800040 while at 2400 C-2 moved to 700045 and 774058. During these moves little or no company or battalion supervision control was exercised over the unit. Major LOHSE on Division order spent the day with the 30th Division CP. "B" Company suffered two casualties, one killed and one wounded, by artillery fire while five replacements were received. At the close of the period companies were still attached to their Regimental Combat Teams.

15 AUGUST 44

At 1110 all "A" Company closed at 762028 and at 1200 all units of this organization reverted back to battalion control. To meet a possible armored attack from the SE, C-1 at 1500 moved to 811083; C-3 at 1600 to 809030; "A" Company at 1615 moved A-1 to 817034, A-2 to 815037 with the two guns of A-3 to 813039. 2nd Recon captured three Germans, C-2 at 1700 moved to 785028 and 788034, B-1 at 1920 closed at 784114, C-1 upon Infantry request moved one gun into friendly front lines and fired a number of rounds at a church steeple at 813093 which was being used as an OP. At 2030 B-2 moved to 768099, "B" Company CP at 2140 opened at 782108, C-2 moved to 806052 at 2100 while C-2 at 2145 established at 808064 and 804063. In all movements today and positions selected the controlling consideration was mine clearance of roads and for that reason it was impossible in many instances to furnish some units with close support where they proceeded cross-country and TD units were restricted to mine covered roads.

16 AUGUST 44

A period that was marked by numerous movements of companies and platoons to direct fire positions in support of Infantry Regiments started with the movement of the Bn CP to 777044 opening at the new location at 1030. At 1310 1st section B-1 moved to 792122 and starting at 1300 and closing at 1500, B-2 established itself at 798116 and 797118. At 1310 "C" Company CP moved to 807065 and 1st section C-1 at 1500 closed at 816087. With the passing of a tank threat about 1200 Division permitted the movement of "A" Company from the positions occupied 15 August 44 to positions in support of the 119th Inf. Immediate reconnaissance was started and at 1600 A-1 and A-2 had moved to 874086, 873079 and 872074 respectively with "A" Company CP at 1630 being established at 844059, A-2 following at 1645 and taking up positions at 853068. C-2 moved to 824097 at 1800, one Section B-1 to 804124 at 1815, C-3 to 840085 at 1900, B-3 to 793123 at 1930 and B-2 to 813120 at 1945. With the exception of the above moves a quiet day was spent with no casualties, no prisoners, no material destroyed and very little enemy fire.

17 AUGUST 44

Reconnaissance outposts were pulled in during the period after contact was made with the British 2nd Army. The day was relatively quiet and two no-Battle casualties were evacuated.

18 AUGUST 44

Battalion received permission to withdraw all units to company assembly positions and at 0735 the Rear Echelon closed into 759020, at 0850 "A" Company to 843059, at 0958 "B" Company to 771066 and at 1025 "C" Company at 807065. The 3 Recon platoons joined the companies then were supporting in their new assembly positions. Balance of the period was spent in all types of maintenance, re-organization and rest. 28 replacements were received during the period, 8 being from TD Replacement Center and the balance being casualties from TD outfits.

19 AUGUST 44

At the start of the period verbal orders were received attaching A, "B" and "C" Companies to the 119th, 117th and 120th Regt Combat Teams. For the assistance of the Company Commanders the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Recon platoons were directed by this headquarters to support "C", "B" and "A" Co's. keeping this headquarters fully advised concerning the enemy situation and at the same time rendering 11 possible assistance to Company C.O.s. After several changes of IP time "A" Company finally left at 0813, "C" Company left at 1402 and "B" Company left at 1450. After their departure no contact was had with companies and their location and situation was unknown Battalion CP and Rear Echelon moved at 2110.

20 AUGUST 44

At the start of the period all three companies, Bn CP and Rear Echelon were making a motor march of 118 miles to a new Division zone of action. Bn CP and Rear Echelon closed at its new location South of BREZOLLE 9095305 at 1145. Upon its arrival it was found that the 2nd Recon platoon had at 191700 Aug entered a position of readiness at 095305; "B" Company had arrived at 0430 at which time it went into a position of readiness at 129290; that "A" Company closed into an

assembly position at 0630 at 111326 with the 1st, 3rd and 2nd platoons moving to direct fire positions at 0930, 0930 and 1000 at 112335 and 116331, 109328 and 104331; and that "C" Company about 0630 moved into a position of readiness near 162362; that the 1st platoon "C" Company moved to 140355 about 1000, and the 3rd platoon "C" Company at 100 moved to 154362. Upon Bn CP closing, companies reverted to its control and Bn immediately started regaining control over companies. This was completed at 1330 and by 1430 B-1 had assumed direct fire position at 085322 thus fulfilling the battalion assigned mission for that attack which started at 0800 which orders this unit received at 1100 hours. At 1600 "B" Company CP moved to 090320, C-1 to 153363, C-2 to 163363 and C-3 to 163379. At 1725 and 1654 B-2 and B-3 entered direct fire positions at 092338 and 096334 while the 2nd Recon platoon took up its position of readiness at 096334 while the 2nd and 3rd Recon platoons at 060339 and 135380. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd platoons "A" Company at 1635, 1730 and 1920 moved to 139383 and 143378, 103351 and 126265. At 1715 to meet a German counter-attack from the NW, upon orders of Div Commander, "C" Company was relieved from direct support of the 120th Inf and directed to take position in the neighbourhood of DROISSY (164443) for the support of the 1st Gn 119th Inf which was reported to have reached objective "A". C-2 closed into direct fire position at 164424 at 2130, C-1 and C-2 at 2230 to 158426 and 171428. One section A-1 moved to 140399 at 2400. "B" Company suffered one no-battle casualty.

21 AUGUST 44

In order to accomplish their mission, Companies made several moves during the period as follows; "C" Company CP at 1210 to 163386; B-1 at 1345 to 215428 B-3 at 1345 to 208416; "C" Company at 1350 to 164409; "B" Company CP and B-2 at 1400 to 208416; and 210413; Bn CP at 1415 to 180381; 1st 2nd and 3rd platoons "B" Co at 1606, 1640 and 1605 to 24576 and 240483, 250505 and 240483 respectively; 1st, 2nd and 3rd platoons "C" Co at 1700 to 166466 178465 and 172467 respectively; "A" Co CP to 139409 at 1709; "B" Co CP at 1845 to 241476 and A-1, 2, 3 at 2030, 1900 and 1900 to 185485, 204481 and 194486 and 199480. "A" Co captured 10 Germans, "B" Co 1 and "C" Co 1. Two women reported by French civilians to be Pro-Nazi were picked up by 3rd Recon and turned over to CIC. "A" Co had one non-battle and "B" Co two battle casualties.

22 August 44

After quiet evening the following moves were made to establish a complete anti-tank screen for the moving 30th Div. B-3 at 0930 to 259561; Bn CP at 1023 to 220541; "C" Co at 1115 to 220514; C-1 at 1115 to 216521; B-3 at 1115 to 272576; C-3 at 1105 to 224532; C-2 at 1125 to 223522; B-2 at 1130 to 272578 B-1 at 1220 to 274584; "B" Co CP at 1230 to 271573; A-1 at 1330 to 208557; B-2 at 1950 to 258585; A-2 at 1400 to 283561; B-1 at 1500 to 276685; A-3 at 1580 to 221548; "A" Co CP at 1630 to 221546; "B" Co CP at 1705 to 1065635; B-2 at 1645 to 262620; B-2 at 1705 to 265635; "C" Co CP at 1745 to 230589; A-1 at 1815 to 259660; B-3 at 1835 to 257657; C-1 at 1800 to 220590; C-2 at 1750 to 235592; C-3 at 1755 to 328605; B-1 at 2000 to 237723 "B" Co CP at 2100 to 250687; A-1 at 2100 to 231568; "A" Co CP at 2110 to 234643; A-2 2130 to 222648; A-3 at 2145 to 230648 All terrain covered during period remained open, was excellent for tank movement and had fine fields of fire. Situation moved so

fast that contact with leading infantry elements was extremely difficult and during later hours action ran off all available maps. Each of the line companies captured one German while "A" and "B" Co each had one battle and "B" Co had one non-battle casualty.

23 AUGUST 44

On the direction FO dated 222300 August 44 "C" Co was attached to the 119th Infantry Regiment which had the mission of taking the high ground northwest of EVREUX with Battalion mission of furnishing Division protection against tanks for the entire Division sector, remaining to be covered by two Companies. During the balance of the period the following unit movements were made: B-3 at 1830 to 260685 with the other section at 0818 to 949713; B-2 at 0830 to 240726; "C" Co complete at 1000 to 233695; A-2 at 1830 to 222651 and 220655; "C" Co complete at 1400 to 177715; A-1 at 1400 to 219671; A-3 at 1415 to 223663; "C" Co CP at 1615 to 177717; C-2 at 1745 to 161695; C-3 at 1745 to 154702; C-1 at 1600 to 159645; "B" Co CP at 1900 to 237734; "A" Co CP at 1900 to 254650 and B-2 at 1920 to 220930. At 1030 Battalion CP left its old location for a new one near MISERY. At 1145 CP group went into an assembly position where it dismounted, established combat squads and proceeded as skirmishers where it joined parts of the CP Group of "B" Co and the 1st Reconnaissance platoon in cleaning all Germans out of the town of MISERY. CP was established in MISERY at 1530 and at 1600 the town was considered clear of Germans after unit received some assistance from General HARRISON and a small group from the 29th Division. Lt. RADEY was the only unit casualty for the day, receiving shoulder-wound.

24 AUGUST 44

With the 30th Division being out off by the 28th Division permission was received for Companies to assemble in Co assembly area and they grouped as follows: "A" Co at 1130 at 2465, "C" Co at 1145 at 155696, "B" Co at 1225 at 237735. Sixteen Germans were taken, 2 previously evacuated casualties were returned to units as replacements, and 1st Lt. WEBB, 2nd Lt. LUFT and 2nd LT DE ROSE joined unit and were assigned to 3rd Recon, 2nd B-2 and B-3 respectively. Period was spent in all types of maintenance.

25 August 44

Under Division FO 29, 24 August 44, "A" "B" and "C" Companies were attached to the 117th, 120th and 119th Regimental Combat Teams with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Recon platoons being given Battalion missions of supporting "C" "B" and "A". Moves were made as follows: "C" Co to a position of readiness at 0725 to 732765; "A" Co to a position of readiness at 1258 to 203886; C-1 at 1690 to 167904; C-2 at 1600 to 167866; C-3 at 1600 to 169890; "C" Co CP at 1600 to 173877; A-1 at 1650 to 224319; A-2 at 1745 to 192782 and A-3 at 1725 to 209779. "B" Co and 2nd Recon made no moves and Bn CP upon Division orders remained in its old location. All RCN platoons were located at Cp Cp's. 42 replacements were received.

26 AUGUST 44

With all Companies attached to Infantry Regts, Bn CP group was inactive. Moves during the period were made as follows: At 0001 "C" Co assembled near 167904; at 1430, after the Battalion and 30th Division had been relieved from the XIX Corps and assigned to the V Corps

as of 1400 and Rear Echelon moved to 521630; "C" Co and 1st Recon at 1530 to 559546 and "A" Co with 3rd Recon at 1530 to 547587, where after having made a motor move of approximately 18 miles, all units took up assembly positions SW of Mantes GASSOURT. "B" Co and 2nd Recon made no move during the period, remaining at 237735. Lt. BRANDON and two replacements were received. Lt. BRANDON was assigned to the duties of Battalion transportation Officer. Under FO 31,282300 Aug. 44, "A" and "C" Companies reverted to Bn control effective at once with "B" Co coming under unit supervision when it closed into Div assembly areas.

27 AUGUST 44

Company support assignments remained with "A" Co covering the 117th Inf and "C" Co the 119th Inf. At 1100 C-1 using pontoon-bridges East of Mant S-GASRICOURT crossed the SEINE taking up positions at 641597 and 632599. "B" Co at 1250 closed into Division Assembly area at 522551, thereupon reverting to Battalion control, while other units crossed the SEINE as follows: C-3 at 1220 to 633669; A-1 at 1310 to 639616; A-2 at 1330 to 633623; "C" Co CP at 1550 to 633601; "A" Co CP at 1525 to 634616; and A-3 at 1600 to 634613. "A" Co took up position on the high ground NE of LE HAYE where their fields of fire from position within friendly lines could cover the Inf attack started at 1600 till it entered the woods on the opposite ridge at the close of the period. "C" Co likewise had long fields of fire and reconnoitered for new positions behind the advancing Inf to be occupied when enemy mortar fire would permit. Although enemy shelling was not heavy during the period and there were no casualties for the period there was considerable worry from mortars.

28 AUGUST 44

Moves for the day were as follows: A-3 at 0800 to 649620; A-2 at 0825 to 650632; A-1 at 0825 to 633629; C-1 at 1300 to 6260802; A-3 at 1305 to 665640; C-3 at 1230 to 669618; and 675618; "B" Co at 1335 to 639600; "C" Co CP at 1305 to 679574; Bn CP at 1420 to 401605; "C" Co CP at 1515 to 679603; A-1 at 1820 to 667639 and 671639; C-2 at 1930 to 697633; C-3 at 1930 to 711628 and 715625; C-1 at 2000 to a position of readiness at 714622 with direct fire positions at 717629; B-1 at 2050 to 725610; A-1 to 660662; A-2 to 683668 and A-3 to 686664, all closing at 2200 hours. At 1600 one section of A-3 fired 14 rds of HE direct fire at a range of 2100 yds and later one gun fired 3 rds of HE at a range of 4500 yds at a retreating Inf, all rds showing extremely satisfactory results. Direct fire from enemy 20mm and 88mm guns upon "A" Co positions cost the following casualties: 3rd Recon platoon one and "A" Co seven with two KIA while for the period "B" Co had one non-battle casualty. All units with the exception of the rear Echelon, had completed the crossing of the SEINE the Bn CP being established in a big chateau at FANECOURT and all combat units in positions North of the SEINE on high terrain features, which give all guns tremendous fields of fire. At the close of the period "A" Co CP was moving to a new location at 675653.

29 AUGUST 44

Moves were made as follows: C-1 at 1130 to 716542; "B" Co CP at 1159 to 724609; C-2 at 1300 to 705676; A-3 at 1500 to 705679; A-3 at 1320 to 633678; B-3 at 1330 to 750632; B-1 at 1410 to 762619; B-2 to an assembly at 1425 to 775626; "C" Co CP at 1420 to 719639; A-2 at 1450 to 653691; "B" Co CP at 1500 to 790629; C-3 at 1650 to 742648; and "B" Co CP at 2130 to 790629. At 1200 unit and 30th Div. were relieved from assignment to V Corps and assigned to XIX Corps.

Hq Co had one non-battle casualty and one replacement was received.

30 AUGUST 44

Moves were made as follows: A-3 at 0120 to 694704; A-1 at 0300 to 693707; C-1 at 0900 to 735576; B-2 at 1030 to 614645; B-1 at 1045 to 613647; A-1 at 1220 to 762717; B-3 at 1225 to 790620; A-2 at 1300 to 745727; Bn CP at 1315 to 813645; "B" Co CP at 1810 to 813642; A-3 at 1315 to 781714; "A" Co CP at 1315 to 756816; C-1 at 1400 to 789684; "B" Co CP at 1500 to 875679; B-2 at 1500 to 875679; C-3 at 1510 to 793660; Bn CP at 1600 to 561643; "A" Co CP at 1610 to 760719; C-2 at 1620 to 762685; "C" Co CP at 1630 to 765678; B-2 at 1700 to 794635; B-1 at 1730 to 634672; B-1 at 1930 to 889709; A-3 at 2030 to 835734; "A" Co CP at 1200 to 619709; A-1 at 2115 to 645738; A-2 at 2130 to 858732; "B" Co CP at 2130 to 858732; "B" Co CP at 2130 to 915709; B-1 at 2210 to 935700 and at the close of the period B-2 moved to 930725. "A" and "B" Companies captured one prisoner each, "C" Co three and Bn CP nine for a total of 14 prisoners. Communications were extremely difficult with complete lack of radio contact with the units being the rule for the greater part of the period.

31 AUGUST 44

The day developed into a race trying to gain contact with the retreating Germans. The following moves being made: C-3 at 0700 to PO 575740; C-1 at 0800 to 887747; C-2 at 0900 to 858727; "C" Co CP at 1000 to 872736; C-2 at 1050 to 907757; "B" Co CP at 1100 to 951739; Bn CP (TEMPORARY) at 1516 to 995808; "A" Co CP at 1630 to 934811; C-1 at 1720 to 946816; "C" Co CP at 1730 to 973807; C-2 at 1800 to 930773; C-3 at 1925 to 918780; B-3 at 1930 to 102855; B-1 and B-2 at 1930 to 070853; Bn CP at 1945 to NEUILLY EN THELLE (039835); "B" Co CP to 093832; A-1 at 2130 to 015885; A-3 at 2320 to 091900; A-2 at 2045 to 093880; B-2 at 2350 to 185898; B-3 at 2400 to a position near 125898 and "A" Co CP at 2400 to 068871, leaving troops of "A" and "B" Companies SS and W of the THEIAIN river with "C" Co further to the rear patrolling and protecting Division's left flank. "A" Co captured two prisoners and suffered no casualties during this period.

DETTMER
Lt. Col.

OFFICIAL:

LOHSE
S-3