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HEADQUARTERS
899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 230 U.S. ARMY

By authority of

CG *9th AF*

Date: *16 Dec 44*

Initials: *EMC*

319.1/461 (4)

2 December 1944

SUBJECT: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

TO : Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Thru Channels).

1. In compliance, par. 10, AR 345-105, as changed by Changes No. 3; and letter, Headquarters First United States Army, Dated 13 July 1944, same subject, the following Action Against Enemy, Report After/After Action Report for the month of November 1944 is submitted:

- a. Original Unit: 899th T.D. Bn.
- b. Changes in Organization - None.
- c. Strength:

Beginning of period: 34 Officers
1 Warrant Officer
590 Enlisted Men

End of Period: 34 Officers
1 Warrant Officer
590 Enlisted Men

- d. Stations: See Appendix I.
- e. Marches: See Appendix I.
- f. Campaigns: See Appendix I.
- g. Battles: (See narrative Report, Appendix No. I.)
- h. Commanding Officers in important engagements: No Change.
- i. Losses in action: See Appendix II.
- j. Members distinguished in action: See Appendix III.
- k. Photographs: None.
- l. Inclosures (Supporting Documents)
 - (1) Unit Journal - See Appendix IV.
 - (2) Battle Experiences and Lessons Learned: See Appendix V.

For the Battalion Commander:

Daniel M. Carter
DANIEL M. CARTER,
Major, 899th T. D. Bn.,
8-3.

Incl:

- Appendix I - Report of Operations - 5 copies
- Appendix II - Casualty Report - 5 copies
- Appendix III - Members distinguished in action - 5 copies
- Appendix IV - Unit Journal - 1 copy
- Appendix V - Battle Experiences and Lessons Learned - 5 copies

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HEADQUARTERS
899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 230 U.S. ARMY

1 December 1944.

APPENDIX I - Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

Report of Operations - Month of November 1944

Nov. 1 to 3, 1944 - Battalion attached 9th Inf. Div. under 9th Div. Arty. Bn. less Company C in assembly area vicinity Robertville, Belgium continuing maintenance, training and preparation for future operations.

Co. C attached 47th Inf. CT. All platoons in A.T. positions. Mortar and artillery fire with medium and large caliber falling intermittently throughout period in vicinity of platoon positions and Company CP. Small amount of bombing occurred vicinity Co CP apparently not directed at our troops.

No enemy contact, except artillery and small amount of enemy air activity.

M-10's Operational - 31

Nov. 4, 1944 - Company C - No Change.

Co. A. plus 1 Recon. Platoon, Reconnaissance Co. moved from assembly area vicinity Robertville, Belgium to vicinity Rocherath, Belgium and took up reserve anti-tank and indirect fire positions in sector of 39th Inf. CT. Company remained under Battalion control.

Bn. less Co's A and C, remained in vicinity assembly area Robertville, Belgium and continued preparation for future operations.

M-10's Operational - 35

No contact made with enemy.

Nov. 5, 1944 - Bn. CP moved from Robertville, Belgium to Butgenbach, Belgium.

Co. B moved from Robertville, Belgium to anti-tank reserve and indirect fire positions vicinity of Hunningen, Belgium, within area occupied by 60th Inf. CT. 2nd Pltn: in indirect fire positions in direct support of 60th F.A. Bn. Company remained under Battalion control.

Co. A - No change - Except 2nd platoon placed in direct support of 26th F.A. Bn., expended 57 rds. HE, Fuze Quick, and 9 rds. H.E. Fuze Time.

Co. C - No change.

Recon. Co. established CP in Butgenbach, Belgium. Pltns continued active reconnaissance throughout 9th Inf. Div. sector.

Hdqs. Co. - No change.

M-10's Operational - 35

Vehicular Losses - None

Casualties - None

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 57 rds. HE FQ 9 rds. HE FT

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(2) - Report of Operations - Month of November 1944.

Nov. 6, 1944 - Missions and attachments - No Change.
Co. A. fired 131 rds. H.E. Fuze M48A1 harrassing fire
and 1 rd. H.E. Fuze M54 registration.
No enemy contact made except for indirect fire.
M-10's Operational - 35.

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - None.

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry killed
or wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 131 H.E. Fuze M48A1, 1 rd. H.E. Fuze M54.

Nov. 7, 1944 - Missions and attachments - No change.
No contact made with enemy except for indirect fire.
Co. A. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 4 concentrations.
Co. B. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 5 concentrations
on interdiction fire.
M-10's Operational - 35.

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - None.

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry,
killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 200 H.E. M48A1 (indirect)



Nov. 8, 1944 - Missions and attachments - No Change.
No contact made with enemy except for indirect fire.
Co. A. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 4 concentrations
Co. B. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 5 concentrations
on interdiction fire.
M-10's Operational - 34 - 1 returned to Bn. Maintenance.

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - None.

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry,
killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 200 H.E. M48A1 (indirect)

Nov. 9, 1944 - Missions and attachments - No Change.
No contact made with enemy except for indirect fire.
Co. A. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 4 concentrations.
Co. B. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 5 concentrations
on interdiction fire.

M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - None.

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry,
killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 200 H.E. M48A1 (indirect)

Nov. 10, 1944 - Missions and attachments - No change, except Pioneer
Platoon, Recon. Co. attached Co. "C", moved to their location with
primary mission of building log and dirt bunkers to be occupied by M-10's
and crews to support assault of 1st Bn. 47th Inf CT on the town of
Gressenich. Secondary mission to be taken up after attack was well
underway to check on mines and booby-traps in area occupied by destroyers
and not normally cleared by attached engineers. Platoon organized into
3 mine removal sections for attachment 1 per destroyer platoon.

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SECRET**(3) - Report of Operations - Month of November 1944.****Nov. 10, 1944 (Cont'd.)**

No contact made with enemy except for indirect fire.
 Co. A. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 4 concentrations.
 Co. B. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 5 concentrations.

interdiction fire.

M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None

Casualties - One (1) Enlisted Man (NBI)

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry,
killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 200 H.E. M48A1 (indirect).

Nov. 11, 1944 - Missions and attachments - No Change.

No contact with enemy except for indirect fire.

Co. A. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 4 concentrations.

Co. B. expended 100 rds. H.E. M48A1 at 5 concentrations.

interdiction fire.

M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - One (1) Enlisted Man (NBI)

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry,
killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 200 H.E. M48A1 (indirect)

**Nov. 12, 1944 - 2nd Platoon Co. A. fired 140 rds. H.E. interdiction
fire on 4 concentrations.**2nd Platoon Co. B. fired 100 rds. H.E. interdiction
fire on 5 concentrations.Company A relieved by T.D. Company of 801 T.D. Bn.
and moved to assembly area Robertville, Belgium.Reconnaissance Company less one platoon moved to
assembly area vicinity Robertville, Belgium.

M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None

Casualties - One (1) Enlisted Man (NBI)

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry,
killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 240 H.E. (indirect)

**Nov. 13, 1944 - Battalion less Companies B (plus 1 Recon. Platoon)
and C (plus one Recon. Pioneer Platoon) in assembly area vicinity of
Robertville, Belgium.**2nd Platoon Co. B fired 65 rds. H.E. interdiction fire
on 5 concentrations.

M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - Three (3) Enlisted Men (NBI)

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry,
killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 65 H.E. (indirect)

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SECRET**(4) - Report of Operations - Month of November 1944.**

Nov. 14, 1944 - 2nd Platoon Co. B. fired 100 rds. H.E. indirect, interdiction fire on 5 concentrations. Company relieved by Company of 801st T.D. Bn., and moved to Battalion assembly area vicinity Robertville, Belgium.

Company C and Pioneer Platoon remained attached to 47th Inf. OT.

No contact made with the enemy except for indirect fire.
M-10's Operational + 34

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - None.

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry, killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 100 H.E. (indirect)

Nov. 15, 1944 - Battalion missions and attachments - No Change.

No enemy contact reported.

Casualties - Two (2) Enlisted Men (NMI)

M-10's Operational + 34

Nov. 16, 1944 -

Battalion less Company C (plus Recon. Pioneer Platoon) trained in indirect fire methods, perfected technique of radio procedure in preparation for future operations. 1st and 2nd echelon maintenance on all combat vehicles given priority by all companies in assembly area.

3rd Platoon Co. C. destroyed factory vicinity 1/2 mile North of Schevenhutte, Germany. 1st and 2nd Pltn. delivered direct fire on Gressenich, firing at targets of opportunity and shooting at buildings and emplacements until town had fallen in support of attack by 1st Bn. 47th Inf. OT.

3rd Pltn. Co. C. fired 150 rds. H.E.

2nd. Pltn. Co. C. fired 83 rds. H.E., 3 rds. APG

1st. Pltn. Co. C., fired 110 rds. H.E.

M-10's Operational - 33

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - Two (2) Enlisted Men (WIA)

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Undetermined number of enemy infantry killed and wounded.

Ammunition Expended - 298 rds. H.E. 3 rds. APG

Nov. 17, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C. (plus Pioneer Pltn) - No change.

1st. Pltn. Co. C. moved into Gressenich and took up front line anti-tank positions.

2nd. Pltn. Co. C. remained in vicinity of former positions prepared to assist in advance of 2nd. Bn. 47th Inf. OT

3rd Pltn. Co. C. remained in vicinity of Schevenhutte, Germany and occupied front line anti-tank positions.

Pioneer Platoon cleared mines in Gressenich, assisting the occupation of positions by 1st Platoon Co. C.

No ammunition expended, platoons waiting in position for Infantry Regiments.

M-10's Operational - 33.

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SECRET(5) - Report of Operations - Month of November 1944.

Nov. 18, 1944 - Battalion less C Co (plus Pioneer Pltn) - No Change.
2nd Platoon Co. C. in position over-watching infantry
advance fired 119 rds. H.E. and 31 rds. APG, destroying one (1) M4 V
tank and two (2) pill boxes.

M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None

Casualties - Two (2) Enlisted Men (LWA)

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - 1 M4 V Tank 2 Pill Boxes

Ammunition Expended - 119 H.E. 31 APG

Nov. 19, 1944 - Battalion missions and attachments - No Change.
1st Platoon Co. C. moved to front line positions 1/2 mile
Northwest of Hamich, Germany.
2nd Platoon Co. C. moved to anti-tank positions vicinity
of Gressenich, Germany.
3rd Platoon Co. C. remained in vicinity of Schevenhutte,
Germany.

M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None

Casualties - 1 Officer (LWA)

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - None.

Ammunition Expended - None



Nov. 20, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C. (plus Pioneer Pltn.) - No Change.
1st Pltn. moved to positions 1,000 yards South of
Nothberg, Germany. One M-10 received direct hit on right edge of
turret, killed one E.M. and wounded three E.M. M-10 evacuated by
Company Maintenance.

2nd Platoon remained in A.T. positions vicinity Gress-
enich, Germany.

3rd Platoon moved to A.T. positions in vicinity 1/2 mile
West of Hamich, Germany.

M-10's Operational - 33

Vehicular Losses - One M-10, due to enemy action - Recovered

Casualties - One E.M. killed Six E.M. wounded.

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - None.

Ammunition Expended - None.

Nov. 21, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C. (plus Pioneer Platoon) - No Change.
1st Platoon remained in approximately same anti-tank
positions taking available cover in edge of woods and would move
rapidly into the open, fire and return to concealed positions. One (1)
M-10 hit by direct AF fire and knocked out. Entire crew of five (5)
Enlisted Men WIA.

2nd Platoon - No Change.

3rd Platoon advanced to vicinity One (1) mile West of
Heistern, Germany.

M-10's Operational - 32

Vehicular Losses - One (1) M-10, due to enemy action. - Not recovered
due to direct enemy fire.

Casualties - Five (5) Enlisted Men

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Unknown - 57 POW captured.

Ammunition Expended - 60 H.E. 30 APG.

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Sec (6) - Report of Operations - Month of November 1944.

Nov. 22, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C (plus Pioneer Pltn) - No Change.
All platoons Co. C remained in same anti-tank positions.

No contact made with enemy - No ammunition expended.
M-10's Operational - 32

Nov. 23, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C (plus Pioneer Pltn) - No Change.
Platoons remained in same anti-tank positions.
2nd Pltn. Co. C. fired 160 rds. H.E. direct fire at prearranged target areas in support of attack by 1st Infantry Division.
M-10's Operational - 32

Vehicular Losses - None.
Casualties - None.
Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Unknown.
Ammunition Expended - 160 rds. H.E.



Nov. 24, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C. (plus Pioneer Pltn.) - No Change.
Platoons moved with attacking infantry battalions.
1st. Platoon Co. C. moved to and occupied anti-tank positions in Nothberg, Germany.
2nd. Platoon Co. C. moved to and occupied anti-tank positions in Nothberg, Germany.
3rd. Platoon Co. C. occupied anti-tank positions 1 mile South of Nothberg, Germany.

Platoons under heavy artillery and mortar fire. One (1) Officer WIA - One (1) Enlisted Man LWA, not evacuated.
M-10's Operational - 31 - 1 returned to Co. Maint.

Vehicular Losses - None.
Casualties - One (1) Officer SWA and one (1) Enlisted Man LWA.
Enemy Materiel Destroyed - None.
Ammunition Expended - None.

Nov. 25, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C. (plus Pioneer Pltn.) - No Change.
1st Platoon Co. C. remained in anti-tank positions in town of Nothberg, Germany.
2nd Platoon moved to anti-tank positions vicinity of Weisweiler, Germany.

3rd Platoon moved with attacking infantry from Nothberg to vicinity Weisweiler, Germany. While moving with attack fired 36 rds. H.E. direct fire supporting infantry advance. One M-10 hit a mine. Two (2) E.M. wounded.
M-10's Operational - 31

Vehicular Losses - One (1) M-10 - hit a mine - Could not be evacuated due to direct enemy fire.
Casualties - Three (3) Enlisted Men.
Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Unknown.
Ammunition Expended - 36 H.E.

Nov. 26, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C (plus Pioneer Pltn.) - No Change.
Co. C. OP moved to Nothberg, Germany.
1st Platoon remained in anti-tank positions in Nothberg, Germany. 2nd and 3rd platoons in anti-tank positions vicinity Weisweiler, Germany. Platoons under heavy artillery fire
No ammunition expended - No contact.

M-10's Operational - 31

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SECRET(7) - Report of Operations - Month of November 1944.

Nov. 27, 1944 - Battalion less Co.C. (Plus Pioneer Pltn.) - No Change.
 1st Pltn. Co.C. relieved from attached 47th Inf. CT and remained in Nothberg, Germany under Company control.
 2nd Pltn. Co. C. remained in anti-tank positions vicinity Weisweiler, Germany.
 3rd Pltn. Co.C. 1st section relieved from attachment 47th Inf. CT. 2nd section remained in front line anti-tank and direct fire positions vicinity 1/2 mile East of Weisweiler, Germany.
 M-10's Operational - 33
 No ammunition expended. No direct contact made with the enemy.

Nov. 28, 1944 - Battalion less Co.C. (Plus Pioneer Pltn.) - No Change.
 1st Pltn remained in anti-tank positions vicinity Nothberg, Germany.
 2nd pltn. moved to direct fire positions 1/2 mile N.W. of Langerwehe, Germany, and fired 53 rds. APC and 9 rds. H.E., neutralizing German strong point in support of 2nd Bn. 47th Inf. CT.
 3rd Pltn. 1st section at Co. CP in reserve A.T. positions. 2nd Section in front line anti-tank positions fired 13 rds. APC and 1 rd. HVAP at 3 enemy tanks vicinity Luchem, Germany, and 24 rds. H.E. direct fire on town of Luchem, Germany. Results of fire unknown.
 M-10's Operational - 34

Vehicular Losses - None.

Casualties - One: (1) Enlisted Man.

Enemy Materiel Destroyed - Unknown.

Ammunition Expended - 66 rds. APC 33 rds. H.E. 1 rd. HVAP



Nov. 29, 1944 - Battalion less Co.C (plus Pioneer Pltn.) - No Change.
 Pioneer Pltn. relieved from attachment Co. C. and moved from Nothberg, Germany to Battalion assembly area at Robertville, Belgium.

Company C - No change in positions.

No contact made with the enemy.

M-10's Operational - 34

Nov. 30, 1944 - Battalion less Co. C - No Change.
 Company C less 2nd section 3rd Pltn. relieved from attachment to 47th Inf. CT. 2nd section remained in direct fire position 1/2 mile N.W. of Langerwehe, Germany.
 No contact made with the enemy.
 M-10's Operational - 34.

For the Battalion Commander:

Daniel M. Carter

DANIEL M. CARTER,
 Major, 899th T. D. Bn.,
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**HEADQUARTERS
899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 230 U. S. ARMY**

1 December 1944

APPENDIX II - Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

Casualty Report for Month of November 1944

36303293	Harvey, Mike A.	S/Sgt	LWA	3 Nov 44
37170134	Stegeman, Lloyd H.	Sgt	SWA	16 Nov 44
6880261	Kemble, Edward F.	Pvt 1cl	LWA	16 Nov 44
37039902	Spivey, Theodore O.	S/Sgt	LWA	20 Nov 44
12082090	Maise, Harold B.	Sgt	LWA	20 Nov 44
37039047	Funk, Morrell R.	Tec 4	LWA	20 Nov 44
35201954	Daniel, Artie	Cpl	LWA	20 Nov 44
31291153	LaJournesse, Leo L.	Pvt 1cl	LWA	20 Nov 44
35010440	Salavko, Harry	Pvt 1cl	KIA	20 Nov 44
37170225	Van Mondfrans, Peter	Sgt	SWA	21 Nov 44
37039931	Jackson, Andrew A.	Tec 4	SWA	21 Nov 44
31134550	Ecklof, Henry E.	Cpl	SWA	21 Nov 44
16105423	McGaulley, Jr., John E.	Pvt 1cl	SWA	21 Nov 44
37170389	Maldron, George A.	Pvt	SWA	21 Nov 44
0-887315	SCOTT, HOWARD O.	2d LT	SWA	21 Nov 44
36049249	Wren, Elton O.	Sgt	LWA	25 Nov 44
35010575	Peppers, Barton E.	Sgt	LIA	25 Nov 44
34434654	Massey, Barna L.	Cpl	LWA	25 Nov 44
37039880	Briles, Herschal F.	S/Sgt.	LWA	28 Nov. 44



For the Battalion Commander:

Kirk E. Adams
KIRK E. ADAMS,
 Captain, 899th T.D. Bn.,
 Adjutant

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**HEADQUARTERS
899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
AFU 230 U. S. ARMY**

1 December 1944

APPENDIX III - Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

Decorations Awarded during Month of November 1944

				<u>Date Awarded</u>
37039870	Throntveit, Carl P.	S/Sgt	Silver Star	9 November 44
37170134	Stegeman, Lloyd H.	Sgt	Silver Star	9 November 44
39600996	Pail, Roger K.	Tec 4	Silver Star	13 November 44
0-1821871	HUBBARD, JACK G.	1ST LT	Silver Star (Posthumous Award)	19 November 44

For the Battalion Commander:

Kirk E. Adams
 KIRK E. ADAMS,
 Captain, 899th T.D. Bn.,
 Adjutant.



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**HEADQUARTERS
899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 230 U.S. ARMY**

2 December 1944.

APPENDIX V - Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

Battle Experiences and Lessons Learned

FIRE CONTROL OF SEPARATE PLATOON

G.O., Company "A", 899th T. D. Bn.



In taking up indirect fire positions with one platoon, while the remainder of the company is performing a direct fire mission, it was found too difficult to establish an FDC and maintain proper liaison with organizations to which we are attached, due to the shortage of necessary personnel. Very excellent results have been obtained by attaching the platoon in indirect fire position direct to the artillery battalion as an additional battery of artillery, which thereby eliminates the Company FDC.

The TD Platoon is wired in direct to the artillery FDC and another line runs direct to the Company CP. The Company CP is also wired direct to the artillery battalion, thereby providing double communication. Two computers from the T.D. Company are attached to the artillery battalion FDC to fire missions of the T.D. battery. It has been found that computers of the artillery battalion often fire the T.D. battery without any apparent difficulty. This provides better and faster coordination in firing missions of all types and eliminates the usual reports required by separate FDC's.

The Company performs the usual function of supplying the battery in indirect fire position with ammunition, rations, etc.

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**ORGANIZATION OF T.D. DEFENSIVE POSITIONS
INFANTRY DIVISION SECTOR**

S-3 899th T.D. Bn.

Organization for T.D. employment within an infantry division sector was, in one instance, set up in the following manner.

As soon as the regimental sectors were known, map reconnaissance was followed by ground reconnaissance and one company assembly area selected within each regimental sector. Reconnaissance Company employed one Recon. platoon in each regimental sector conducting position and route reconnaissance. Overlays submitted to Recon. Co. Commander by these platoons were consolidated and submitted to gun companies through S-3. Reconnaissance was made by Company Commanders and platoon leaders to verify the suitability of positions in their respective areas.

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(2) - Appendix V - Battle Experiences and Lessons Learned.

Overlays were marked to indicate number of guns to occupy each position and positions numbered serially within an assigned bloc (i.e. 1-100 Co.A. 101-200 Co.B.) additional positions desired by Company Commanders were added to overlays. Consolidation of the above was made by S-3 tying in the flanks and the boundary between companies. Routes (including all roads within the sector) were marked with a legend showing class of road and points to which cleared as determined by physical reconnaissance conducted by reconnaissance platoons. Friendly and enemy mine fields and obstacles were included in the Master Overlay as obtained by the Pioneer Platoon leader from the Division Engineer. Changes were continuously sent to all companies to keep the T.D. Plan up to date and ready to function at any time.

MODIFICATION IN COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR
T.D. BN. (OP) ATTACHED TO INF. DIV.



Communication Officer, 399th T.D.Bn.

At the outset of the campaign it became apparent that the communication setup would have to be reorganized to suit our type of organization. The first thing we found was that the anti-tank warning net seemed impractical, so it was abolished.

Due to the fact that we were putting our OP near the Div. OP, it was found that there was no use for the 506's as had been previously planned. Instead they have been placed in the vehicle of the Co. Cdr. of the three gun companies. The addition of this more powerful radio has increased the range of our Battalion Command net to more than double and has eliminated the use of relay stations. This has been particularly useful in this type of terrain, where the woods and hills cut down the range of the 608 to a minimum. The net operates normally through with the 608 until one or all companies begin to lose contact, then the 506 is brought into operation. This setup has made contact with the companies continuous. In one instance we were able to contact one of our units that was 108 miles away from us.

The use of wire has been found to be the most useful addition to the communication setup. We have organized a very small wire section in the platoon consisting of three men and a jeep with an R31 mounted on it, plus what other equipment that we have been able to acquire, such as climbers, pike poles etc.

The duties of this group are to lay all lines within the Battalion and to maintain the same, also to assist Division in maintaining their line to us. Through this line to Division we are able to keep almost physical contact with the companies through the medium of voice. This is worked with the companies each being furnished with wire, and as soon as a new OP area is reached they tie into the regimental switchboard, thus by going through regiment and division switchboards they are able to contact us. There have been very few instances that we couldn't pick up a phone and contact any one of the gun companies.

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(3) - Appendix V - Battle Experiences and Lessons Learned.

The normal setup of Recon. Company is for their OP to be established near the Battalion OP. The wire section is charged with the responsibility of laying this line to Reconnaissance Company.

Headquarters Company is normally some distance from the Battalion OP thus making it impractical to lay a line to them, however they can generally lay a line to a unit which might be near enough to them. They have to be sure and lay their line into a unit that has a line to a higher headquarters. If however, it is impossible to get this type of connection with Headquarters Company, we fall back on the use of the radio.

In connection with signal maintenance, it has been found that best results are obtained when the signal maintenance of the Battalion works in close contact with the Battalion Motor Maintenance. It has been made SOP that every vehicle coming into maintenance gets a thorough check of all signal equipment and any deficiencies that are noted are at once corrected.

COORDINATION BETWEEN TANKS, INFANTRY & T.D.'S.

C.O., Company "G", 899th T.D. Bn.

Considerable use has been made of the following for the coordination of fire support afforded by the T.D. Company.

In one instance the T.D. platoon was given a general covering role in the support of an Infantry-Tank attack on a limited objective. The positions taken by the T.D.'s were a little too far to the rear to observe small targets, so it was arranged between tanks and tank destroyers that the tanks would mark the specific targets with Cal. 30 tracer and the tank destroyers would complete the destruction from commanding ground with 3 inch H.E. Excellent results were obtained and the attack succeeded.

For the Battalion Commander:

Daniel M. Carter
 DANIEL M. CARTER,
 Major, 899th T. D. Bn.,
 S-3.

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