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AIR MAILAIR MAILWAR DEPARTMENT  
The Adjutant General's Office  
WashingtonAG 320.2 (11-17-41)  
MR-M-C

December 3, 1941.

SUBJECT: Organization of Tank Destroyer Battalions.

TO: Commanding Generals,  
All Armies and Corps Areas.  
Chief of Armored Force.

1. Reference is made to letter, this office, AG 320.2 (11-5-41) MR-M-C, November 27, 1941, subject, "Organization of Tank Destroyer Tactical and Firing Center."

2. The instructions contained herein will govern the organization of tank destroyer battalions. These battalions are GHQ units of three types, namely, (1) light battalions with towed weapons designed for attachment to foot Infantry divisions, (2) light battalions with self-propelled weapons designed for attachment to Cavalry and motorized divisions, and (3) heavy battalions with self-propelled weapons for attachment to Armored divisions, Army Corps and Armies.

3. Effective December 15, 1941:

a. The following antitank units, unless specifically excepted in later paragraphs, will be inactivated:

- (1) Antitank troops, 1st and 2d Cavalry Divisions.
- (2) All antiaircraft, antitank platoons in Field Artillery battalions and regiments in the continental United States.
- (3) All Field Artillery 75-mm antitank batteries included in 155-mm howitzer battalions or regiments in the continental United States.

b. The tank destroyer battalions listed in inclosure 1 are constituted and allotted to the GHQ Reserve and will be activated. Each battalion will be attached to the Army to which its major source unit is now attached or assigned.

c. The Army commanders concerned and the Chief of the Armored Force will activate and organize the new tank destroyer battalions and attach them to Army Corps and divisions at their discretion.



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4. In the reorganization the following will govern:

- a. The status of antitank companies in Infantry regiments will not be changed.
  - b. All "Antitank" battalions will be designated as "Tank Destroyer" battalions.
  - c. Present Infantry antitank battalions will be reorganized and redesignated as indicated in paragraph 12 a.
  - d. The extent to which each tank destroyer unit will be activated initially will be controlled by existing housing and available personnel.
5. No additional construction is authorized incident to these instructions.
6. Officers will be furnished by Army commanders and by the Chief of the Armored Force within current allotments.
7. Unless otherwise specified equipment assigned the antitank elements of Field Artillery and the divisional antitank units of Cavalry will be transferred to the new tank destroyer units formed from these elements.
8. Where movement of personnel or equipment is necessary, Corps Area commanders will, upon request of Army commanders and Chief of the Armored Force, issue the necessary orders, obligating the procurement authorities cited below to the extent necessary:

Travel of the Army

FD 1437 P 1 06, 2-06, 3-06, 15-06, 16-06, 17-06 A 0410-2

(For travel of officers, warrant officers, and enlisted men; and for travel of dependents of officers, warrant officers, and enlisted men of the first three grades.)

Army Transportation--Motor

QM 1620 P 32-02, 35-12 A0525-2 "C"

(For gasoline and oil, and repairs to motor vehicles en route.)

Army Transportation--Commercial

QM 1620 P 54-01, 54-02, 54-13, 54-07 A 0525-2 "D"

(For packing, crating, and shipping equipment, impedimenta, and authorized household goods allowances of officers, warrant officers and enlisted men of the first four grades; and for tolls and ferriages en route.)

Barracks and Quarters

QM 1620 P 102-02, 6-10, 9-10, 11-11 A 0535-2

(For fuel, light and water service, and rental of camp sites en route when impracticable to camp overnight at regular Army reservations.)

9. a. Instructions concerning the organization of the majority of the new units are contained in attached inclosures. Instructions for the organization of units not included in inclosure 1 are contained in succeeding paragraphs.

b. Personnel transferred in compliance with this letter will be transferred in their present grades and ratings and source units reduced accordingly. In order to obtain proper technicians (cooks, mechanics, etc.) for the new units, enlisted men may be transferred from any elements of source units, and enlisted men of inactivated antitank elements may be transferred to new tank destroyer units or to elements of source units.

10. Allotments of grades and ratings to tank destroyer units and revised allotments of grades and ratings to source units will be published in a separate communication.

11. Tables of Organization and Tables of Basic Allowances for tank destroyer units will be distributed at an early date. Pending their receipt, tank destroyer units will be organized in accordance with inclosures 2, 3 and 4 and with present available equipment.

12. The following instructions concern units not listed in inclosure 1:

Effective December 15, 1941:-

a. The Infantry antitank battalions listed below are redesignated as indicated and will be organized as heavy tank destroyer battalions in accordance with Table of Organization 18-25. The reconnaissance companies of the Tank Destroyer Battalions, except the 893d, will be inactive. All elements of the 893d Tank Destroyer Battalion will be active. These battalions will be assigned to the Infantry arm.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Redesignated</u>	<u>Station</u>
93d Inf AT Bn	893d TD Bn	Ft. Geo. G. Meade, Md.
94th Inf AT Bn	894th TD Bn	Ft. Benning, Ga.
99th Inf AT Bn	899th TD Bn	Ft. Lewis, Washington.
101st Inf AT Bn	801st TD Bn	Ft. Benning, Ga.
102d Inf AT Bn	802d TD Bn	Camp Shelby, Miss.
103d Inf AT Bn	803d TD Bn	Ft. Lewis, Wash.
104th Inf AT Bn	804th TD Bn	Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.
105th Inf AT Bn	805th TD Bn	Ft. Geo. G. Meade, Md.



b. The antitank elements of the 112th, 128th and 178th Field Artillery Regiments will be inactivated and their equipment transferred to units as follows. The personnel of these antitank elements will be absorbed in their present regiments:

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Station</u>
112th FA	813th TD Bn	Ft. Bragg, N.C.
128th FA	630th TD Bn	FT. Jackson, S.C.
178th FA	609th TD Bn	Ft. Bragg, N.C.

c. The 780th and 781st Tank Destroyer Companies are constituted and will be activated at Fort Sill, Oklahoma by the Commanding General, Third Army, from personnel now assigned to the 142d Field Artillery. These companies will be organized as separate heavy tank destroyer companies (Table of Organization 18-27) with an initial strength of 5 officers and 133 enlisted men for each company. These companies will be allotted to the Field Artillery arm. The antitank equipment now issued to the antitank elements of the 142d Field Artillery will be transferred to these companies.

13. Direct correspondence between those concerned is authorized on matters pertaining to this reorganization.

By order of the Secretary of War:

/S/ E. S. ADAMS  
Major General,  
The Adjutant General.

4 Incls.

Copies furnished:

Commanding Generals,  
All Armies, Army Corps, Corps Areas,  
Divisions and Departments.  
Chief of Staff, GHQ.  
Commanding Officers of Exempted Stations concerned.  
Chiefs of Arms and Services, and the  
Divisions of the War Department  
General Staff.  
Fiscal Section, Misc. Div., A.G.O.



HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY  
Casidio of San Francisco, California

December 10, 1941

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 42 )

1. a. Pursuant to authority contained in War Department letter, AG 320.2 (11-17-41) MR-M-C, dated December 3, 1941, the Infantry Anti-tank Battalions listed below are redesignated Tank Destroyer Battalions, effective December 15, 1941, with station and attachment as indicated:

OLD DESIGNATION	NEW DESIGNATION	STATION	ATTACHMENT
99th Inf AT Bn	899th TD Bn	Ft. Lewis, Wash	IX A.C.
103d Inf AT Bn	803rd TD Bn	Ft. Lewis, Wash	IX A.C.

b. Instructions for the reorganization of these units are covered by separate correspondence.

2. a. Pursuant to authority contained in War Department letter, AG 320.2 (11-17-41) MR-M-C, dated December 3, 1941, the following Tank Destroyer Battalions are activated effective December 15, 1941, with station and attachment as indicated:

UNIT	PERMANENT STATION	ATTACHMENT
603rd TD Bn	Ft. Lewis, Wash.	3rd Div
607th TD Bn	Ft. Ord, Calif.	7th Div
640th TD Bn	Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif.	40th Div
641st TD Bn	Ft. Lewis, Wash.	41st Div
776th TD Bn	Ft. Lewis, Wash.	IX A.C.
826th TD Bn	Camp Roberts, Calif.	III A.C.

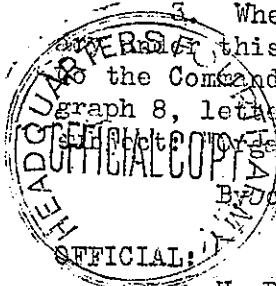
b. Instructions for the organization of these units are covered by separate correspondence.

3. Where movement of personnel or equipment is necessary under this order, request for travel orders will be made to the Commanding General, Ninth Corps Area pursuant to paragraph 8, letter AG 320.2 (11-17-41) MR-M-C, December 3, 1941, subject "Organization of Tank Destroyer Battalions".

By Command of Lieutenant General DeWITT:

H. B. LEWIS  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General

J. L. BRADLEY  
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff



(5)

HEADQUARTERS IX ARMY CORPS  
Office of the Antitank Officer  
Fort Lewis, Washington

December 13, 1941

Subject: Tank Destroyer Battalions.

To : Assistant Chief of Staff G-3, IX Army Corps.

1. Following summary is my interpretation of information received from Antitank Officer, Fourth Army, (GO 42, Hq., Fourth Army, c.s., and letter AG 320.2 (11-17-41) MR-M-C, Dec. 3/41) regarding Tank Destroyer Battalions to be activated or redesignated effective December 15, 1941.

Present Unit	Designated	Attach- ment	T/O	Initial Off	Str Men	24-75mm AT SP	12-37mm AT SP	36-37mm AT Towed	18-Cal 50 AA Dual Mt
						18-37mm AA SP			
3d Inf Div	603d	3d Div	18-15	16	276				Yes
41st Inf Div	641st	41st Div	18-15	24	238				Yes
76th FA Brig	776th	IX AC	18-25	28	567	Yes			
99th Inf AT Bn	899th	IX AC	18-25			Yes			
103d Inf AT Bn	803d	IX AC	18-25			Yes			

SP - Self propelled mount

2. These units are all GHQ units.

The reconnaissance companies of the 899th and 803d Tank Destroyer Battalions will remain inactive.

The pioneer company and one destroyer company of the 603d and 641st Tank Destroyer Battalions and one destroyer company of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion will remain inactive.

George S. Cook,  
Major, 205th CA(AA),  
Actg Antitank Officer.



(8)

C O P Y

Basic communication: Letter The Adjutant General, AG 320.2 (11-17-41)MR-M-C, dated December 3, 1941, Subject: "Organization of Tank Destroyer Battalions."

320.2/357 (AT)

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY, Presidio of San Francisco, Calif., December 10, 1941.  
To: Commanding General, IX Army Corps, Fort Lewis, Washington.

1. Forwarded for your information and compliance with the instructions contained in the basic letter relative to the reorganization of the 99th Infantry Antitank Battalion and the 103d Infantry Antitank Battalion as the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion and 803d Tank Destroyer Battalion, respectively, and to the activation of the 603d, 641st and 776th Tank Destroyer Battalions.

2. Attention is invited to General Orders No. 42, this headquarters, December 10, 1941.

By command of Lieutenant General DeWITT:

/s/ J. J. LAPPAGE,  
Major, A.G.D.,  
Ass't Adjutant General.

5 Incls., G.O. #42, added.

320.2/357

2nd Ind.


AG-M

HEADQUARTERS IX ARMY CORPS, FORT LEWIS, WASHINGTON, December 15, 1941.  
TO: Commanding Officer, 899th Tank Destroyer Bn, Fort Lewis, Washington.

For your information and necessary action.

By command of Major General JOYCE:

5 Incls. n/c

  
S. F. MILLER,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.



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C. D.  
5-3  
5-4  
File  
5-1

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Headquarters Western Defense Command and Fourth Army  
Presidio of San Francisco, Calif.

Office of the Commanding General

320.2/357 (AT)

January 14, 1942.

SUBJECT: Transfer of Equipment.

TO: 1 Commanding General, Northwestern Sector,  
Fort Lewis, Washington.

1. The following War Department radiogram dated January 13, 1942, is quoted for your information and guidance:

"RM PAR SEVEN LETTER THIS OFFICE DECEMBER THIRD  
SUBJECT ORGANIZATION OF TANK DESTROYER BATTALIONS  
FILE AG THREE TWENTY POINT TWO PAREN ELEVEN DASH  
SEVENTEEN DASH FORTY ONE PAREN MR DASH M DASH G  
INSIRE ONE RADIO SET SCR TWO FORTY FIVE BE TRANS-  
FERRED AS UNIT EQUIPMENT ON AA DASH AT---PLATOON  
STOP OTHER SET INCLUDED ON TABLE OF BASIC ALLOW-  
ANCES FOR BATTALION HEADQUARTERS BATTERY MAY BE  
RETAINED IN HEADQUARTERS BATTERY"

2. The Commanding Officers of 603d, 641st, 776th, 803d, and  
899th Tank Destroyer Battalions to be notified.

By command of Lieutenant General DeWitt:

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN SECTOR & IX ARMY CORPS, Fort Lewis, Washington,  
17 January 1942.

TO: CG's 3rd & 41st Inf Division.  
Co's 603rd & 641st TD Bn's through CG's 3rd & 41st Inf Divisions.  
Co's 776th, 803rd & 899th TD Bn's.

Attention invited to basic communication.

By Command of Major General JOYCE:

B. E. CRAIG  
Capt., A. G. D.  
Asst. Adjutant General



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Q Q E X



C. O. ☒  
 ADJ. ☐  
 SGT. MAJ. ☐  
 DISTR. ☐  
 FILE ☒ *then file*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
 The Adjutant General's Office  
 Washington

89944 TD B7

January 30, 1942.

AG 320.2 (1-24-42)  
 MR-M-C

314.7

SUBJECT: Organization of Tank Destroyer Battalions.

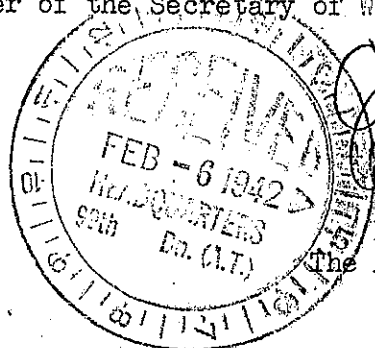
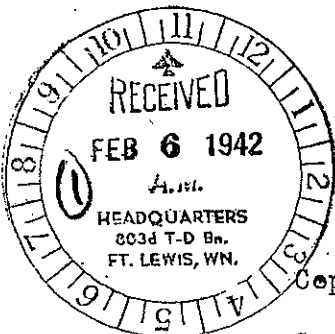


TO: Commanding Generals,  
 All Armies and Corps Areas.  
 Chief of Armored Force.

The Tank Destroyer Battalions and Companies listed in paragraphs 12 a and 12 c of letter, this office, AG 320.2 (11-17-41) MR-M-C, December 3, 1941, subject as above, are assigned or attached as indicated:

- 893d Tank Destroyer Battalion assigned to the Tank Destroyer Tactical and Firing Center as School Troops.
- 894th Tank Destroyer Battalion attached to Third Army
- 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion attached to Fourth Army
- 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion attached to Third Army
- 802d Tank Destroyer Battalion attached to Third Army
- 803d Tank Destroyer Battalion attached to Fourth Army
- 804th Tank Destroyer Battalion attached to Third Army
- 805th Tank Destroyer Battalion attached to First Army
- 780th Tank Destroyer Company attached to Third Army
- 781st Tank Destroyer Company attached to Third Army

By order of the Secretary of War:



*[Signature]*  
 Major General,  
 The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished:

Commanding Generals,  
 Field Forces, All Army Corps,  
 Divisions and Departments.

Commanding Officers of Exempted Stations concerned.

Chiefs of Arms and Services and the Divisions of the War Department General Staff

Fiscal Section, Misc. Div., A. G. O.

13

*Lil Sage*  
/fw.

HEADQUARTERS  
899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
Fort Lewis, Washington

February 3, 1942.

TRAINING NOTES )  
:  
NUMBER 1 )

1. Pending publication of Training Directives and Manuals by Headquarters, Tank Destroyer Tactical and Firing Center, the instructions contained herein, extracted from like instructions published by Headquarters, Armored Force, will be used as a guide in training the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

2. Contents:

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SECTION I

GENERAL

(4)

1. PURPOSE AND CHARACTERISTICS. a. Tank destroyer battalions provide the units to which they are attached with additional offensive and defensive power, particularly against the enemy's armored forces.

b. Heavy tank destroyer battalions are equipped for antiaircraft and antitank operations. They have high mobility, relatively great fire power, and comparatively light armor. For protection in combat they must rely upon cover, concealment, skillful use of terrain and rapid movements rather than upon armor. In general, they execute their combat missions by rapid movement into successive positions from which they bring destructive fire to bear upon the enemy. Direct fire at ranges of 1,000 yards or less is normal. Their successful combat employment requires: (1) simple plans, (2) flexible dispositions, (3) quick decisions, and (4) rapid execution of orders.

2. ORGANIZATION. a. Heavy tank destroyer battalions have sufficient staff and operating personnel to function separately as administrative and tactical units; but their organic supply and maintenance facilities are incapable of sustaining extended operations. For continuity of extended operations, ordnance and quartermaster service elements must be attached.

b. Each heavy battalion is composed of battalion headquarters and headquarters company, one reconnaissance company, three tank destroyer companies, and attached medical personnel. Each destroyer company has sixteen armored cars, four SP 37 mm AT guns, six SP 37 mm AA guns, and eight 3 inch AT guns. For details of organization and equipment, refer to T/O 18-25, 18-26, 18-27, and 18-28.

c. The battalion staff consists of the Executive Officer (Second in command and Operations Officer), Adjutant (S-1), Intelligence Officer (S-2), Assistant Operations Officer (S-3), and Supply Officer (S-4). Officers assigned to Headquarters Company, particularly those charged with responsibility for communications, personnel matters, motor maintenance, and transportation, have both command and battalion staff duties. SO FM 101-5 outlines the duties of the battalion staff officers.

3. ALLOTMENT OF TANK DESTROYER BATTALIONS. a. The heavy tank destroyer battalion with the armored division may be used under the command of the division commander or allotted to combat group or regimental commanders for special operations. The battalion is normally employed as a unit in order to avoid dissipation on unimportant missions.

b. Tank destroyer battalions are allotted in such manner as to afford the maximum support to the division. Whenever their employment can be foreseen, they are given specific combat missions. When not given a specific combat mission they are held in mobile reserve in such position that they may be readily available for employment anywhere within or near the supported unit's zone of action.

4. FACTORS INFLUENCING TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS. a. Terrain: Terrain is a major factor in the employment of tank destroyer units. In general, tanks are more restricted by terrain and natural obstacles than are tank destroyer vehicles. Study of terrain suitable for employment of the enemy's tanks is the best approach to estimating terrain from the viewpoint of tank destroyer units.

b. Routes: Routes are selected with a view to maximum flexibility of tactical dispositions and displacements. Freedom of action outweighs distance. Routes that are unsuitable for heavily armored vehicles will often be utilized by tank destroyer units.

c. Objectives and zones of action: Tank destroyer battalions are assigned specific missions which contribute most fully to the security and freedom of maneuver of the supported troops. Their primary purpose is to destroy, block, or divert armored elements of the enemy. Zones of action for tank destroyer battalions should be of such width and depth as will enable them to operate effectively against the head, flanks, and rear of hostile armored formations. The operations of the supported unit will govern the selection of zones of action for tank destroyer battalions. Coordination of effort is essential and so long as coordination is assured, tank destroyer battalions may properly operate in zones at considerable distances from the supported unit.

d. Surprise: Initial surprise action, followed up with a series of local surprise actions, is always sought in tank destroyer operations. To this end, the skillful use of terrain for cover and concealment is imperative. Frequent and rapid displacement, from one firing position to another, by covered routes whenever practicable, serve to keep the enemy in doubt as to the strength and dispositions of tank destroyer elements, and thus facilitate local surprises. The effect of initial surprise is greatest when it is possible to strike from an unexpected direction and in an unexpected place. Tank destroyer units exploit their superior mobility to the maximum to attain surprise.

e. Selection and Use of Firing Positions: (1) Avoid firing positions that are within 200 yards of road junctions, bridge abutments, or other conspicuous features on which hostile artillery can easily register. Select positions affording cover from air observation, hull defilade for SP mounts, and good fields of fire. The area selected for a platoon or company should be large enough to permit

dispersion of guns in mutually supporting positions. At night, guns should be closer together than in daylight. Dispersion provides protection from enemy fire, and reduces the risk of having all guns blinded at once by a smoke screen but makes it more difficult. So long as reasonable control can be maintained, dispersion in width and depth is desirable.

(2) Consider small natural obstacles, such as gullies, swampy glades, and fallen trees, which will force enemy tanks to shift into lower gear, in selecting platoon and company firing positions. Any natural obstacle, or a mine field, that restricts or delays the enemy's advance is of importance to tank destroyer gunners. They must fire quickly and accurately using direct fire at ranges that will seldom exceed 1,000 yards. The presence of obstacles or mine fields that will canalize or slow down enemy tanks within effective range of tank destroyer guns, is an important factor in the selection of firing positions. When firing positions are skillfully selected, gun crews can remain concealed until the enemy's tanks are fully exposed to destructive fire.

(3) Training should be continuous in the selection and occupation of firing positions, going into action and out of action, and rapid displacements. The posting of air sentries, disposition of machine guns and other small arms for local security, reconnaissance for alternate positions; in fact, every detail that promotes efficient action should be practiced until every man knows exactly what to do and when to do it.

f. Combat Formations: Tank destroyer combat formations vary with the nature of the terrain and the dispositions of the enemy. To avoid destruction, weapons that have revealed their positions by firing should displace promptly to previously reconnoitered alternate positions. As an action progresses, some guns will be moving while others are firing. Depth of initial dispositions facilitates control and provides maximum tactical flexibility. Whenever surprise is attainable, the development of maximum fire power in the shortest possible time is more important than any other consideration. When it is possible to prepare an ambush, all guns should be disposed initially to fire simultaneously. Initial dispositions will necessarily be changed as the action develops; formations must be simple and flexible enough to permit rapid changes.

g. Combat Orders: (1) Orders by higher commanders to tank destroyer battalion should be in sufficient detail to insure coordination and cooperation, and at the same time allow as much latitude as practicable to the tank destroyer commander in the execution of his assigned missions.

(2) Combat orders within tank destroyer units are usually oral and fragmentary, with maximum use made of maps, overlays and sketches. When time permits, written orders may be issued. The plan of operations of the supported unit is an essential part of the initial tank destroyer order. For form, sequence and technique of combat orders, refer to AFM 101-5.

## SECTION II

### COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

5. GENERAL. Although operations of tank destroyer battalions will often be conducted at considerable distance from the supported unit, it is essential that there be the closest possible coordination and cooperation between all participating arms, and particularly between those operating in the same zone of action. Thorough preliminary planning, especially as to routes and supplies, and specific instructions on such matters, are necessary.

6. TANK UNITS. Tank destroyer battalions assist tank units by:

- a. Destroying, blocking or diverting hostile armored formations.
- b. Acting as a pivot to support the tank attack.
- c. Securing and holding defiles to prevent their use by the enemy or to insure passage for friendly tank units.
- d. Providing outposts in bivouac, and creating forces for tank assembly areas and rallying positions.
- e. Providing antiaircraft protection for tank units on the march, during halts, and in action.
- f. Providing a mobile reserve to counterattack hostile armored units.

7. ARTILLERY: Artillery fires of the supported unit should be available to tank destroyer units on call. Artillery liaison officers and forward observers from the supported unit should accompany each tank destroyer battalion, with full information as to planned artillery fires, areas to be avoided, possible use of smoke or chemical shell, and similar matters. The air observers for artillery should keep artillery of the supported unit informed as to the location and movements of tank destroyer units. It is normal for tank destroyer units to call for supporting fires whenever they can bring the fire of friendly guns to bear on a profitable target.

8. AVIATION: a. It is highly desirable that tank destroyer units have the assistance of observation aviation for reconnaissance and liaison, and combat aviation for direct close support.

b. Observation aviation is of great value in maintaining liaison between tank destroyer and supported units.

c. Bombardment aviation support will often be necessary for the accomplishment of missions assigned to tank destroyer battalions. Each tank destroyer battalion should have a bomber demand unit to insure closest possible liaison and tactical cooperation with aviation.

9. INFANTRY: The tank destroyer battalion will frequently be attached to infantry, especially during a river crossing or when the infantry attacks to secure terrain from which a tank attack may be launched.

10. ENGINEERS: When tank destroyer battalions are sent on separate missions away from the division, engineer elements should be attached. When operating with other troops the engineers attached to those troops also assist the tank destroyer battalion.

### SECTION III

#### CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS AND LIAISON

11. CONTROL: Because frequent and rapid changes in dispositions of tank destroyer units in action will be the rule, their control will be difficult. The difficulties can and must be overcome by the following means:

- a. Thorough training of each individual in his particular duties.
- b. Development of team play in each crew.
- c. Constant use of squads, sections, platoons, companies, and battalions, rather than improvised detachments or details, for the accomplishment of all assigned tasks.
- d. Invariable reliance upon the chain of command, rather than direct action by higher commanders, to get results.
- e. Habitual alertness to gather and evaluate information of the enemy and our own troops, with particular reference to the effect of such information on our own activities.
- f. Expert knowledge and use of all communication facilities available, coupled with rigid radio discipline.
- g. Maximum use of timely warning orders, especially when it is necessary to change plans or orders that have been issued.
- h. Simplicity in all plans and orders for movement and combat.
- i. Aggressive action by subordinate commanders on their own initiative in accordance with the plan of operations.

12. COMMUNICATIONS: a. Efficient communications are vital. Voice radio is the principal means by which a tank destroyer battalion commander directs and controls his battalion action. Disrupted communications mean rapid loss of combat power.

b. The battalion communications officer is responsible to the battalion commander for the training of communication personnel, the condition of communication equipment, and the efficient operation of all communication agencies within the battalion. He is particularly charged with responsibility for maintaining efficient communication with attached and supporting units.

c. Radio is the principal means of communication in tank destroyer battalions. The assignment of frequencies is a matter that must be arranged well in advance by the communications officer of the supported unit. Runners and mounted messengers must be used when radio silence is effective, and for transmission of routine reports.

d. All available means of communication must be fully exploited, in training and in active operations. Two or more means should be employed simultaneously for the transmission of vitally important messages and orders. The communications officer's plan of signal communications must take these matters into consideration, and must be adequate in all respects for the operation in hand.

13. LIAISON: The liaison officer of a tank destroyer battalion, with radio equipped vehicles and at least two mounted messengers, reports to the headquarters of the supported unit as soon as practicable. He normally remains there except when it is necessary for him personally to transmit information or orders to his battalion commander. It is his business to acquaint himself with the personnel from whom he can derive useful information at the headquarters to which he is attached, to keep that headquarters informed as to the status of his own battalion, and to transmit to his battalion commander information about the enemy, our own troops, the tactical situation, logistical data, and any other items that may prove helpful. He is usually charged with responsibility for delivery to his battalion commander of any orders that involve changes in previously assigned tasks of the battalion.

b. The commanding officer of an artillery unit supporting a tank destroyer battalion sends an artillery liaison officer, with radio equipped vehicle and mounted messengers, to the headquarters of the battalion. In addition, forward observers from the supporting artillery will normally accompany the leading elements of the tank destroyer battalion. Their communication facilities provide a valuable means of maintaining liaison between tank destroyer elements and the troops with which they are operating.

c. The battalion communications officer is responsible for maintaining liaison with supporting aviation. The officer in charge of the bomber demand unit will normally provide the means of communication and act as liaison officer.

d. Units attached to or supporting tank destroyer units will provide suitably mounted liaison officers for duty with tank destroyer headquarters.

#### SECTION IV

#### RECONNAISSANCE

14. GENERAL: Tank destroyer operations should be preceded by thorough reconnaissance. Whenever possible, the tank destroyer battalion commander and battalion staff officers accompany reconnaissance units to secure early first-hand information about terrain and routes in the area of prospective operations. Reconnaissance elements should start at least two hours and preferably six or eight hours before the main body is scheduled to move.

15. PRELIMINARY MEASURES: A tank destroyer battalion commander should get as much information as possible from the reconnaissance agencies of the unit to which he is attached. It is the duty of his liaison officer at the higher headquarters to collect and transmit this information, including reports from air and ground agencies, and from such warning services as are in operation. Liaison officers from attached and supporting units should assist in collecting information that will be useful in tank destroyer operations. Preliminary reconnaissance by tank destroyer agencies is to secure detailed information about routes, bridges, obstacles, dispositions and movements of friendly and hostile troops, and terrain. Terrain must be evaluated from the enemy's viewpoint, with particular reference to its suitability for the operations of hostile armored units. The tentative selection of firing positions for tank destroyer units, and covered routes thereto, is an important part of terrain reconnaissance. Tank destroyer reconnaissance is continuous and aggressive.

16. BATTLE RECONNAISSANCE: In battle, personal reconnaissance by tank destroyer battalion commanders and all subordinate commanders is habitual. As soon as



a tank destroyer unit occupies a firing position, its commander immediately initiates reconnaissance for at least one alternate firing position and covered routes thereto. Special attention is paid to reconnaissance of routes by which hostile armored vehicles can reach the flanks or rear of a firing position. These routes must be covered by security or reconnaissance detachments. Contact and liaison with nearby troops in action is essential; their movements are likely to affect the dispositions and displacements of tank destroyer units. While some tank destroyer reconnaissance agencies are necessarily assigned security duties in combat, others must devote their undivided attention to reporting information pertaining to the strength and movements of the enemy.

17. AIR RECONNAISSANCE: Air reconnaissance is particularly valuable to tank destroyer units in planning and in conducting their operations, and in maintaining liaison with supported units. The best results can be accomplished only by means of the closest cooperation between tank destroyer and air corps personnel and frequent opportunities for combined training. Air observers should spend part of their training time with tank destroyer units, and some tank destroyer officers should be trained as air observers.

b. Requests for aviation support for tank destroyer operations should be made by the tank destroyer commander to the commander of the supported unit. Detailed plans and arrangements for the execution of approved missions will be effected by conferences between the tank destroyer commander and the air corps personnel actually designated to accomplish those missions. Specific provision must be made, and announced to all concerned, for air-ground communications.

c. Air observation keeps in close touch with the command post of the tank destroyer battalion. It keeps the command post of the supported unit constantly informed as to the dispositions, movements and condition of tank destroyer units. It should be on the alert for and report promptly the movements of hostile armored vehicles, particularly when such movements threaten the flanks or rear of tank destroyer units in firing positions. During that critical period of reorganization following the capture of an objective or a repulse, air observation cooperating with tank destroyer units must keep them informed of hostile tanks or other highly mobile units that are likely to launch counterattacks.

## SECTION V:

### SECURITY

18. SECURITY WHEN ACTING ALONE: Tank destroyer battalions will operate in close cooperation with other troops, though not necessarily in close physical contact with them. When operating at considerable distances from friendly troops, tank destroyer units employ the usual security detachments on the march and in bivouacs. Timely warning from their organic reconnaissance agencies of the enemy's strength and movements affords the best basis for adequate security measures.

b. For security against ground troops, all around defense must be provided. Advance, flank and rear guards are detailed as needed on the march, and these detachments constitute march outposts for short halts en route and initially upon arrival in bivouac. For halts of three hours or more, the security provided by march outposts should be coordinated by an outpost commander detailed for that specific duty. Elements of the main body should be disposed under cover, prepared to go into action to meet a threat from any direction. Security from artillery fire is obtained by concealment and camouflage, dispersion and the use of defiladed positions. Full use should be made of natural obstacles, road blocks and temporary mine fields for security against mechanized attacks. Assembly areas occupied in daylight should be vacated just after dark, and the unit should be moved without lights to a more suitable previously reconnoitered area. If threatened with attack by enemy infantry at night, the new bivouac area should be far enough removed to avoid the immediate threat.

c. For security against air observation and attack, tank destroyer units employ both active and passive measures. Active measures include the use of air sentries with all security detachments, and in each platoon the fire of all small arms that can be brought to bear on the attacking planes and the maximum use of anti-aircraft 37-mm guns. Passive measures include the use of cover, concealment and camouflage; night and cross-country marches; dispersion of vehicles off the roads at all halts and in bivouacs; increased distances while marching on roads.



19. SECURITY FOR SUPPORTED UNITS. Providing security for supported units, on the march, in bivouac, and in action, is a continuing mission for all tank destroyer units. Their special task is to block the approach of hostile mechanized or motorized forces. To accomplish this task may require offensive action, defensive action, delaying action or combinations of these methods. Tank destroyer units will always be used, when available, to cover assembly positions prior to an attack and rallying positions after an attack; to cover withdrawals; to protect the flanks and rear of a retreating force. In accomplishing these missions, tank destroyer units must work in the closest possible cooperation with the air and ground elements of the supported troops, and at the same time be largely self-reliant for their own security.

## SECTION VI

### COMBAT

20. GENERAL: Tank destroyer units operate in such manner as will most fully contribute to the success of the troops to which they are attached. The primary mission of the tank destroyer battalion with the armored division is to assist, either by offensive or defensive action, in the protection of the division against hostile mechanized attack. Tank destroyer personnel must become familiar with the organization and tactics of the armored division and perfect their own tactics to conform thereto.

21. OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS. The tank destroyer battalion participates with the armored division in all offensive operations. In such actions it is normally employed as a unit. However, when companies may be so widely separate that control by the battalion commander is impracticable they may be attached to combat groups or regiments.

a. The advance. In the advance tank destroyer units may be used in advance, flank, and rear guards. The bulk of the battalion should be placed well forward in column where it may move readily into position to repel a hostile attack or to protect the development of the division.

b. Meeting engagement. In a meeting engagement with armored units; the tank destroyer attacks and protects the development of the division. In a meeting engagement with unarmored units the tank destroyer battalion is held in mobile reserve located where it may readily move to repel hostile mechanized attack.

c. Envelopment. In the envelopment tank destroyer battalions may be used initially, either alone or in conjunction with infantry, to seize and hold assembly areas for the enveloping force. It then follows the enveloping force and is prepared to repel counterattacks. When there is danger of a hostile mechanized attack on the secondary attack force, the tank destroyer battalion should be held in reserve near this force ready to repel such attack.

d. Penetration. In a penetration the tank destroyer battalion follows one of the waves of the attack, usually the second battalion in column. It is prepared to repel a hostile counterattack from either flank. As the attack progresses the rear wave may pass through the battalion. The tank destroyer battalion follows the attacking units to their rallying points and protects the reorganization. Such protection may be afforded by covering hostile avenues of approach. Some guns may be placed in position but the majority are held in mobile reserve. The anti-aircraft guns are emplaced to repel hostile air attack.

e. Exploitation. In exploitation tank destroyer battalions are used to protect the flanks and rear of the division, combat command, or regiment.

f. Pursuit. Because of their mobility, tank destroyer units are particularly suited to accompany the encircling force. Infantry and light tanks with tank destroyer units attached usually form the encircling force. Infantry and tank destroyer elements are usually the leading elements of such a force.

g. River crossings. In river crossings tank destroyer elements are ferried across immediately after the leading wave of infantry and are held ready to repel hostile mechanized attack.



22. DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS. a. Defensive operations in which tank destroyer units will be employed include defense of a position, withdrawal, and delaying action. Tank destroyer battalions attached to an armored division will be used in conjunction with armored infantry and engineers to organize and occupy such positions as the division may, on occasion, be required to hold. Tank destroyer units in such circumstances would dispose their antiaircraft guns to help defend the position against air attack, would hold their antitank weapons in central reserve, and would conduct intensive reconnaissance of routes and firing positions to meet an attack from any direction. Each firing position should, if practicable, without revealing dispositions to the enemy, be occupied temporarily to familiarize personnel with routes, terrain, landmarks, and fields of fire.

b. In covering the withdrawal of armored units from action, tank destroyer battalions interpose their fire power between the friendly troops and any elements of the enemy that seeks to attack them. Firing positions selected for this purpose may be near the route of withdrawal or the flanks; it will probably be necessary in the course of the action to displace some units to other positions from which they can fire more effectively. Armored units withdraw rapidly if their progress is not hindered by an enemy tank attack; but they require time to reorganize after withdrawal. It is the mission of tank destroyer units to block off the enemy until the friendly armored units are again ready for action.

c. In delaying action the tank destroyer battalion will usually be attached to the delaying force. The purpose of delaying action is to gain time for friendly troops by hindering and slowing down the enemy's movements. Tank destroyer units on flank guard duty and those with the rear guard in a retrograde movement will often use delaying action to accomplish their mission with minimum losses. Mines and demolitions are extensively used to canalize and delay the enemy's progress. If it is necessary to hold a particular area, part of it may be organized and occupied as a defensive position. Ordinarily, delay in successive oppositions will serve the purpose. In delaying actions, tank destroyer units may reinforce or be reinforced by armored infantry and engineers, and should have the support of a combat aviation. Successful delaying action is based on reliable information of the enemy's strength and movements; reconnaissance to get this information and keep it up-to-date should be continuous. There must be close cooperation with the division reconnaissance battalion.

By order of Lt. Colonel McCRYSTAL:

*Maxwell A. Tincher*  
MAXWELL A. TINCHER,

Captain, 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion,  
Adjutant.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- 1 - Each Officer.
- 3 - Each Organization.
- 11 - Extra - S-3 File.
- 1 - Battalion File.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN SECTOR & IX ARMY CORPS  
Office of the Antitank Officer  
Fort Lewis, Washington

February 6, 1942

CHANGES TO ORGANIZATION CHART, HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS  
COMPANY, TANK DESTROYER BATTALION (HEAVY)

1. Reference Information Bulletin No. 6, Headquarters Tank Destroyer Tactical and Firing Center, January 21, 1942.

2. The Antitank Officer, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, has indicated the following corrections to be made on the attached sheet for Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

Company Headquarters:

Headquarters Section:

First vehicle on left, gunner should be machine gunner.

Communications Platoon:

First vehicle on the left, gunner should be machine gunner.

Motor Maintenance Platoon:

Inspection Section:

Add one Staff Sergeant.

Transportation Platoon:

Transportation Section:

Combat:

Fifth, sixth and seventh vehicles from the left, add one armorer to each vehicle.

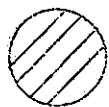
Kitchen:

Five Sergeants, Mess, should be five Staff Sergeants, Mess.



*George S. Cook*  
GEORGE S. COOK,  
Major, 205th C.A. (AA),  
Actg Antitank Officer.

15



Lieutenant Colonel

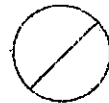
KEY



Major



Captain



Lieutenant



Master Sergeant



Technical Sergeant



First Sergeant



Staff Sergeant



Sergeant



Corporal



Two-way Radio



Radio Receiver



Motorcycle, solo

A	Armorer	RAD	Radio operator
AG	Assistant gunner	RCN	Reconnaissance
AGT	Agent	SC	Scout
AMM	Ammunition	SUP	Supply
B	Basic	SGT M	Sergeant Major
BU	Bugler		
CH	Chauffeur		
CK	Cook		
CL	Clerk		
COMM	Communication		
D	Demolition		
DR	Driver		
E	Electrician, storage battery		
G	Gunner		
INS	Inspector, motor		
KP	Cook's helper		
M	Mechanic		
MG	Machine gunner		
MGL	Mechanic, general		
MS	Messenger		
MSG	Message center chief		
MTR	Motor Sergeant		
O	Orderly		
OA	Operator air compressor		
PERS	Personnel		
PLAT	Platoon		
R	Rifleman		



HEADQUARTERS SECTION



**ADMINISTRATION SECTION**

Box 1: CH, SH, (radio tower icon), CL, CL. Label: 1/2 - TON CMD

Box 2: CH, PERS, (radio tower icon), CL, CL. Label: 1/2 - TON CMD

Box 3: CH, CL, B, B. Label: 1/2 - TON CMD

**INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS SECTIONS**

Box 4: DR, (radio tower icon), CL, CL, RAD, RAD. Label: CAR ARMO CMD

Box 5: DR, (radio tower icon), CL, CL, RAD, RAD. Label: CAR ARMO CMD

Box 6: DR, (radio tower icon), CL, CL, RAD, RAD. Label: CAR ARMO CMD

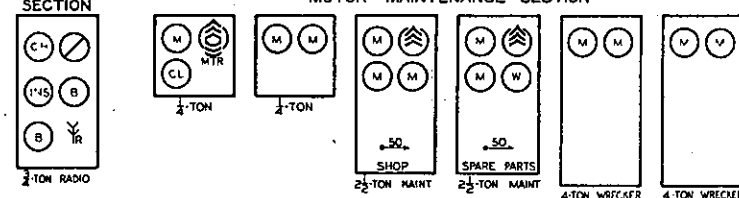
Box 7: DR, (radio tower icon), INT, CL, RAD. Label: CAR ARMO CMD

**SUPPLY SECTION**

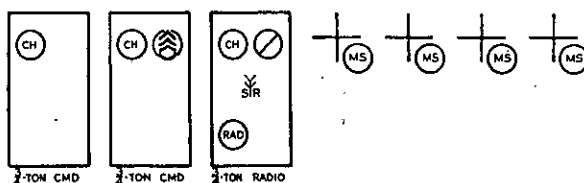
Box 8: DR, (radio tower icon), SUP, (radio tower icon), RAD, CL. Label: CAR ARMO CMD

Box 9: CH, SUP, (radio tower icon), (radio tower icon), B. Label: 1/2 - TON WC

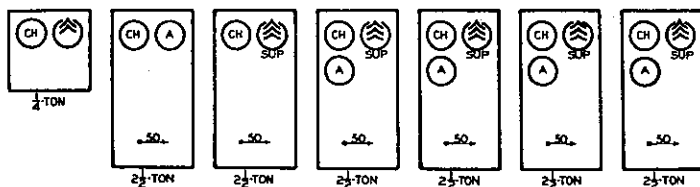
Box 10: CH, (radio tower icon), (radio tower icon), SUP, (radio tower icon). Label: 1/2 - TON WC

INSPECTION  
SECTION

PLATOON HEADQUARTERS



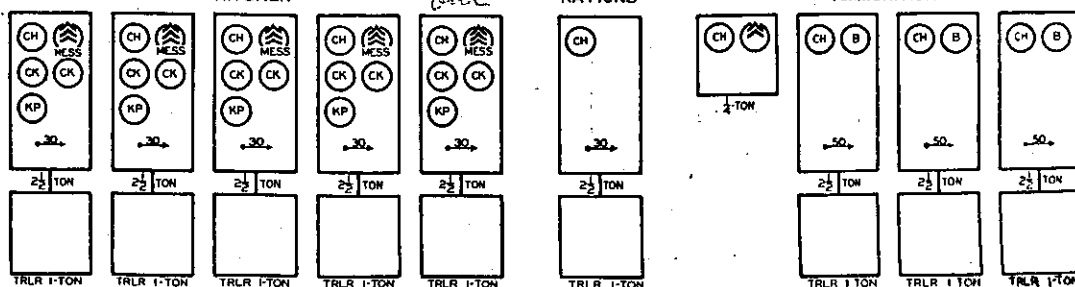
## TRANSPORTATION SECTION



The diagram illustrates the principle of mechanical advantage using a crane. It shows three stages of lifting a 1-ton weight:

- Stage 1:** A single rope is attached to a 1-ton weight. The weight is labeled "1 TON".
- Stage 2:** The weight is suspended by two ropes, each labeled  $\frac{1}{2}$  TON. The total weight is still 1 TON.
- Stage 3:** The weight is suspended by three ropes, each labeled  $\frac{1}{3}$  TON. The total weight is still 1 TON.

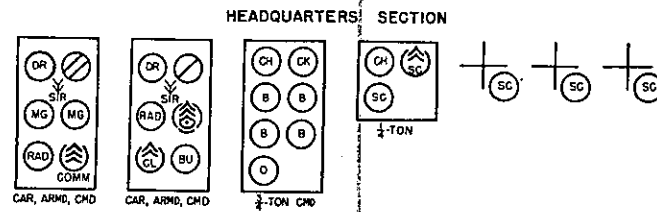
## AMMUNITION



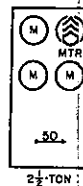


# RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

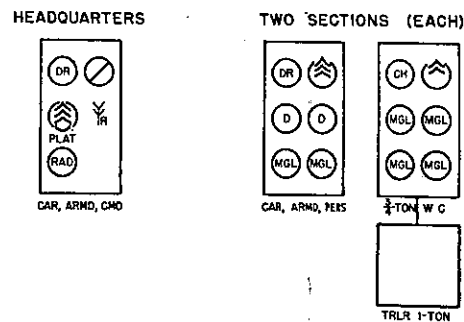
## COMPANY HEADQUARTERS



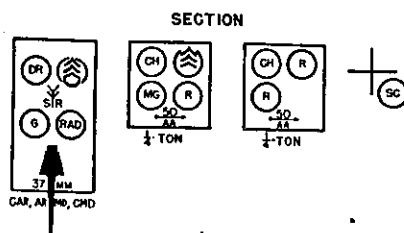
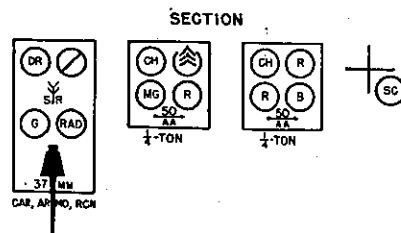
## MOTOR MAINTENANCE SECTION



## PIONEER PLATOON



## THREE RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS (EACH)



RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY GROUND FORCES  
Army War College  
Washington, D.C.

320.2/20 (R)-GNOPN  
(4-28-42)

SUBJECT: Assignment of Ground Force Units.

TO: Commanding Generals,  
Second and Third Armies,  
VII and IX Army Corps,  
Chief of the Armored Force.

Effective midnight April 30 - May 1, units as listed in the attached inclosure are relieved from assignment or attachment to Western Defense Command and Fourth Army and assigned or attached as shown. Second and Third Army units included in this list which have been temporarily under the control of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army are relieved from their assignment or attachment to the Second and Third Armies and assigned or attached as shown. Units assigned or attached Armored Force are relieved from all previous assignments or attachments.

By command of LT. GEN. McNAIR:

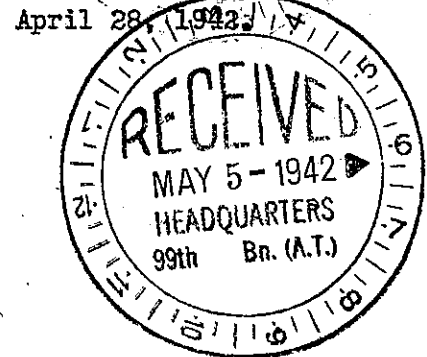
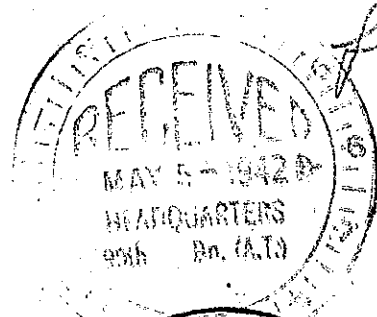
Sgd/ Clyde L. Hyssong,  
Typed/ CLYDE L. HYSSONG,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

Inclosure A

DISTRIBUTION:  
"A" and "H"

Reproduced Hq IX Army Corps 5/4/42.

RESTRICTED



R E S T R I C T E D  
E X T R A C T

- 4 -

INCLOSURE A

IX Army Corps

Assigned

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Temporary Station</u>	<u>Proposed Permanent Station</u>
Hq & Hq Co		Ft Lewis, Wash.
40th Div		Ft Lewis, Wash.
115th Cav		Ft Lewis, Wash.
*133d Engr Regt (C)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
69th Engr Co (Top)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
76th FA Brig:		
Hq & Hq Btry		Ft Lewis, Wash.
144th FA (155mm Gun, Mtz)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
183d FA (155mm How, TD)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
188th FA (155mm How, TD)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
56th Med Bn (Corps)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
209th MP Co (Corps)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
9th Ord Bn (Maint):		
Hq & Hq Det		Ft Lewis, Wash.
*3d Ord Co (MM)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
48th Ord Co (MM)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
*116th Ord Co (MM)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
*Co E, 26th QM Regt (Trk)	Cp Haan, Calif.	Ft Lewis, Wash.
*140th QM Co (Trk)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
*Co D, 69th QM Bn (LM)	Cp Haan, Calif.	Ft Lewis, Wash.
*Co B, 204th QM Bn (Gas Sup)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
*Co A, 243d QM Bn (Serv)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
60th Sig Bn		Ft Lewis, Wash.

- \* Army Units to be assigned to IX Corps.  
a Negro enlisted personnel.  
b Assignment to be determined.

R E S T R I C T E D



R E S T R I C T E D

- 5 -

INCLOSURE AUNITS TO BE ATTACHED TO IX ARMY CORPS

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Temporary Station</u>	<u>Proposed Permanent Station</u>
29th Engr Bn (Top) (Army) (less Cos A & D)		Portland, Ore.
90th Engr Bn (Hv Pon)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
198th Eng Co (Dp Trk)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
204th FA (155mm How)	Ft Lewis, Wash.	Cp Forrest, Tenn. (To be assigned III Army Corps)
98th FA Bn (75mm How, Pk)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
1st Bn, 87th Inf (Mt)		Ft Lewis, Wash. (To be expanded to regt & strength increased to 2,500.)
a 720th San Co		Ft Lewis, Wash.
68th Evac Hosp		Ft Lewis, Wash.
203d Gen Hosp		Ft Lewis, Wash.
36th MP Co		Ft Lewis, Wash.
Hq & Hq Det, 61st Ord Bn (Am)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
Hq & Hq Det, 2d Bn & Cos E & F, 55th QM Regt, (Hv Maint)	Ft Lewis, Wash.	Ft Sill, Okla. b
Co D, 57th QM Regt (Hv Maint)	Ft Lewis, Wash.	Cp Forrest, Tenn.
Co F, 57th QM Regt (Hv Maint)	Ft Lewis, Wash.	Cp Livingston, La. b
1st Bn (Less Co C), 58th QM Regt (Hv Maint)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
a Co A, 62d QM Bn (Ldry)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
Co A, 98th QM Bn (Bkry)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
a 243d QM Bn (Serv) (Less Cos A, C, & D)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
a 244th QM Bn (Serv) (Less Cos A, C, & D)	Pasco, Wash.	Ft Lewis, Wash.
2d Plat, 21st QM Co (Car)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
87th QM Co (Rhd)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
186th QM Co (Dep Sup)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
218th QM Co (Mob Shoe & Tex Rep)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
640th TD Bn (L)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
644th TD Bn (L)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
776th TD Bn (Hv)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
803d TD Bn (Hv)		Ft Lewis, Wash.
899th TD Bn (Hv)		Ft Lewis, Wash.

a Negro onlisted personnel.

b Assignment to be determined.

R E S T R I C T E D

copy/dd

HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY GROUND FORCES  
Army War College  
Washington, D.C.

370.5/30 (TD) (R)-GNGCT  
(7-17-42)

July 17, 1942

Subject: Transfer of Tank Destroyer Battalions to Camp Hood, Texas, for Training.

To : Commanding Generals,  
Second Army,  
IX Army Corps.

1. It is desired that you issue the necessary instructions to transfer the following tank destroyer battalions from the stations shown (or from present temporary stations) to Camp Hood, Texas. Units will move so as to arrive at Camp Hood, Texas, not earlier than August 1, 1942, and not later than August 2, 1942.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Ordered by</u>
605th TD Bn	Fort Custer, Michigan	CG, Second Army
633rd TD Bn	Camp Forrest, Tennessee	CG, Second Army
776th TD Bn	Fort Lewis, Washington	CG, IX Army Corps
803rd TD Bn	Fort Lewis, Washington	CG, IX Army Corps
*828th TDBn	Fort Knox, Kentucky	CG, Second Army
899th TD Bn	Fort Lewis, Washington	CG, IX Army Corps



\* Unit with Negro enlisted personnel.

2. These are TEMPORARY changes of station.

3. Movement will be made by rail, and will be via Gatesville, Texas, unless otherwise requested by the Commanding General, Tank Destroyer Command. Coordinate rail movements with the Chief of the Transportation Division, Services of Supply, through the Post Quartermaster at the point or points of origin. Personnel not required to accompany troops may be authorized to proceed by privately owned conveyance under the provisions of paragraph 1 i, AR 35-4820, August 4, 1937.

4. Advise the Commanding General, Tank Destroyer Command, Camp Hood, Texas, of the strength, dates of departure, mode of travel, and expected hour and date of arrival of all elements. Direct communication, consistent with the RESTRICTED classification of this order, is authorized between interested commanders. Commanders concerned will report departures and arrivals to this headquarters by telegraph or telephone.

RESTRICTED

5. Elements moving by rail will be under the control of the Commanding General, Services of Supply, for the rail movement, to include entrainment and detrainment.

6. Procurement authority: Obligate ED 34 P 434-99 A 0425-23, inserting appropriate purpose numbers as prescribed in Circular No. 206, WD, June 26, 1942.

7. Attention is invited to Section II, Circular No. 220, WD, 1941, which directs that extract copies of RESTRICTED orders without RESTRICTED markings will be furnished to the unit personnel section or other reporting source in order to permit the preparation of reports of change (WD AGO Form 303) for units or individuals covered by such RESTRICTED orders.

8. The machine records units servicing the present stations and the machine records units servicing the stations of destination will be notified.

9. The provisions of Section IV, Circular No. 122, WD, April 25, 1942, will be complied with where applicable.

10. Attention is invited to paragraph 8, AR 30-930 and paragraph 4, AR 30-945.

By command of LT. GEN. McNAIR:

/s/ L. Duenweg  
L. DUENWEG  
Captain, A. G. D.,  
Ass't Ground Adj. Gen.



DISTRIBUTION  
"A" & "H"

Copied, S-3 Office, Hq TDC, 22 July 42, CSM/ab  
Copied, Hq. AFPC, 12-21-42, dd.

R E S T R I C T E D

Verbal Orders of the Commanding General  
 - Travel directed is necessary in the military service  
 WP - Will proceed  
 TD - Temporary duty or Tank Destroyer  
 TPA - Travel by privately-owned conveyance is authorized.

HEADQUARTERS IX ARMY CORPS  
 Fort Lewis, Wash  
 17 July 1942

SPECIAL ORDERS )

: - E X T R A C T -  
 NO..... 181 )

X : X X X

All. Pursuant to authority contained in Ltr, Hq Army Ground Forces, file 320.2/39 (TD Units)-GNOPN (5-5-42), dated May 5, 1942, Subj: "Organization of Tank Destroyer Battalions in August, 1942," and 1st Ind, Hq Third Army, file AG 320.2-TD (5-5-42) GNMCA-4, dated June 10, 1942, the following-named off and EM fr 899th TD Bn, this sta, having been selected as a cadre for the 824th TD Bn (Hv Self-Prop); WP fr this sta on or about 7 Aug 1942 to Camp Gruber, Okla, reporting upon arrival thereat not later than 10 Aug 1942, to the CO, 824th TD Bn (Hv Self-Prop) for duty:

COMBAT : X  
 (Mr Sgt Fred Leitz, 6515902,  
 Mr Sgt Cecil Gohard, 6857691  
 1st Sgt Robert T. Ambler, 6792572  
 1st Sgt Julious E. Brown, 6264682  
 1st Sgt Bear Gilbert, 6357765  
 1st Sgt Andrew P. Gregg, 6731412  
 1st Sgt George L. Barquist, 37039986  
 Tech Sgt Mitchell L. Silah, 16005134  
 Tech Sgt Oscar E. Nelson, 16020183  
 Tech Sgt Clyde A. Lovett, 6766594  
 St Sgt Carl M. Kuhl, 35010597  
 St Sgt James D. Kinnaird, 37039846  
 St Sgt Howard D. Kibler, 6918865  
 St Sgt Earl E. King, 39076758  
 St Sgt William J. Norton, 35010758  
 St Sgt Roy M. Denman, 16010106  
 St Sgt Robert E. Schusler, 16000011  
 St Sgt Gerald M. Pepin, 16000215  
 St Sgt Patsy J. Narcini, 6813348  
 St Sgt Woodrow Chapman, 6374443,  
 St Sgt Irvin C. Bolstad, 36204383  
 St Sgt Carl O. Destocki, 35118765  
 St Sgt Steve Dzurinda, 35010436  
 St Sgt Robert B. Fullerton, 6566843  
 St Sgt George A. Culver, 16020021  
 St Sgt Glenn E. Thompson, 37081302  
 St Sgt Terry E. O'Donell, 6930819  
 Sgt William J. Moser, 36112466  
 Sgt Joseph W. Hopkins, 37078042

X : X  
 Sgt John P. Reese, 35010629  
 Sgt Robert E. Marshall, 36035607  
 Sgt Louis DeMichele, 35010913,  
 Sgt Lyle W. McArthur, 6232002  
 Sgt John A. Taft, 6901760  
 Sgt Clyde W. Crawford, 6576541  
 Sgt Cameron C. Kohlagen, 16010205  
 Sgt Oliver J. Rochford, 35161934  
 Sgt Ferdinand Biot, 39080332,  
 Sgt Elwin L. Jenson, 6825296  
 Sgt Joseph P. Kasper, 35010607  
 Sgt Carlton W. Perrigo, 36200961  
 Sgt Paul G. Rowan, 35161732  
 Sgt Robert J. Marr, 37078107,  
 Sgt Frank J. Kaczmarek, 16015062  
 Sgt Howard A. Conner, 37078085  
 Sgt Edward Rykowski, 36000709  
 Sgt Robert W. Hallberg, 6949320  
 Sgt Edmund Sherzan, 16000056  
 Sgt Howard E. Ratzman, 16005177  
 Sgt Lowell C. Hetland, 6930874  
 Sgt Vernon L. Briscoe, 6918323  
 Cpl Frederick R. Mather, 36030850  
 Cpl Edward Loychik, 35010654  
 Cpl James D. Byrnes, 37170326  
 Cpl Arthur J. Fischesser, 35118570  
 Techn Gr IV Daniel D. Kasuboske, 36121204  
 Techn Gr IV Albert G. Richards, 35161997  
 Techn Gr IV Ben Long, 37019253



(OVER)

R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

Par 11, SO 181, 17 July 42, cont'd.

Techn Gr IV Leo F Finzel, 37039864  
Techn Gr IV Carter W Tucker, 36075386  
Techn Gr IV Domenic J Ferrari, 39079095  
Techn Gr IV Norton K Brown, 37039856  
Techn Gr IV Morris L Hutchings, 36046587  
Techn Gr IV Harold M Myles, 6948076  
Techn Gr IV J K Forbes, 35153645  
Techn Gr IV George F Handy, 35011140

Techn Gr V Harold E Flaugh, 37039924  
Techn Gr V Whittie R Hawkins, 35101209  
Techn Gr V George H Rundquist, 39301971  
Techn Gr V Howard F Rasset, 37170536  
Techn Gr V Marvin G Bryan, 37066485  
Techn Gr V Harry F Sletner, 37019091  
Techn Gr V John Green, 35201806  
Pvt Marvin E Miller, 37018960

Pvt Frison E Murphy, 37065169

Pvt Oscar H Foote, 16000206

Pvt Eldon Beucler, 35037929.

The QMC will furnish the necessary rail transp.

TPA is authorized the following named EM:

1st Sgt Julious E. Brown, 6264682

St Sgt Howard D Kibler, 6918865

St Sgt William J. Norton, 35010758

St Sgt George A Culber, 16020021

Sgt Clyde W. Crawford, 6576541

Techn Gr IV Daniel D Kasuboske, 36121204

It being impracticable for the Govt to furnish rations in kind, meals for seventy-one (71) men will be furnished under the provisions of AR 30-2215 for such meals as the length of the journey may require at a rate not to exceed \$0.75 per meal or not to exceed \$1.00 per meal per man when meals are taken in the dining car.

It being impracticable for the Govt to furnish cooking facilities for rations, the FD will pay in advance the monetary alws in lieu thereof as prescribed in Par 2 a, Table II, AR 55-4520 at the rate of \$2.25 per day for six (6) men for two and two-thirds (2 2/3) days, the time involved for the rail travel of the above-named EM who are authorized to travel by privately-owned conveyance fr Ft Lewis, Wash to Camp Gruber, Okla.

TDN. FD 33 P 433-01, 02, 03, 07, 08 A 0425-23

X

By command of Major General WHITE:

X

X

D.O. ELLIOTT,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

S. F. MILLER,  
Lieut. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

( A TRUE COPY )

MARTIN B. RIND  
1st Lieut., 899th Tank Destroyer Bn.,  
Assistant Adjutant.

R E S T R I C T E D

VOCG - Verbal orders of the Commanding General  
 TDM - Travel directed is necessary in the military service  
 WP - Will proceed  
 TD - Temporary duty or Tank Destroyer.

HEADQUARTERS IX ARMY CORPS  
 Fort Lewis, Wash  
 22 July 1942

SPECIAL ORDERS )

- E X T R A C T -

NO. ....185 )

1. Pursuant to authority contained in Ltr, AGF, July 17, 1942, file 370.5/30 (TD)-(R)-ENGCT-(7-17-42), Subj: "Movement of Tank Destroyer Battalions to Camp Hood, Texas," the following orgns WP on or about 23 July 1942 on TD at indicated strength by rail fr Ft Lewis, Wash to Camp Hood, Tex:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>FM</u>
776th Tank Destroyer Bn	25	663
803rd Tank Destroyer Bn	17	666
899th Tank Destroyer Bn	24	700

Upon completion of this TD the above-named units will return to their proper sta.

This is a TEMPORARY change of Sta.

Original equip now in possession of unit and indiv equip per TBA No 21 will be taken.

The provisions of Sec IV, Cir No 122, WD, 1942, where applicable, will be complied with.

TDN. FD 34 P 434-01, 02, 03, 04, 07, 08 A 0425-23.

X

X

X

X

X

By command of Major General WHITE:

OFFICIAL:

*[Signature]*

S. F. MILLER,  
 Lieut. Col., A.G.D.,  
 Adjutant General.

D. O. ELLIOTT,  
 Colonel, G.S.C.,  
 Chief of Staff.



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 CG, HNGA, Ft Douglas, Utah - 3  
 CG, 3rd Army, Smith-Young Tower,  
 San Antonio, Tex - 5  
 CO, 776th TD Bn - 100  
 CO, 803rd TD Bn - 100  
 CO, 899th TD Bn - 100

Post QM (RTO) - 50  
 IX QM - 1  
 IX Fiscal Off - 1  
 G-4 - 2  
 CO, Camp Hood, Tex - 5  
 MRU, Ft Lewis - 1  
 CO, Ft Lewis - 5  
 G-1 - 2  
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R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY GROUND FORCES  
Army War College  
Washington, D.C.

320.2/20 (TD) (R)-GNGCT  
(12-8-42)

December 8, 1942.

SUBJECT: Assignment of Units to Tank Destroyer Center.

TO : Commanding Generals,  
Third Army,  
IX Corps.  
Tank Destroyer Center.

Effective immediately, the following units with present temporary station at Camp Hood, Texas, are relieved from previous attachments as shown below, and are assigned to the Tank Destroyer Center.

Units

Hq & Hq Co, 2d TD Gp  
776th TD Bn  
803d TD Bn  
899th TD Bn

Former Attachment

Third Army  
IX Corps  
IX Corps  
IX Corps

By command of LT. Gen. McNAIR:



/s/ J. R. DRYDEN  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Ass't Ground Adjutant General

( A TRUE COPY )

*Martin B. Rind*  
MARTIN B. RIND  
1st Lt., 899th TD Bn.,  
Ass't. Adj

HEADQUARTERS  
TANK DESTROYER CENTER  
CAMP HOOD, TEXAS

320.2 (GNTDO)  
(12-10-42)

December 10, 1942

Subject: Assignment of Tank Destroyer Units.

To : Commanding General, A. U. T. C.  
Commanding Officers of all organizations concerned

The following Tank Destroyer Units, having been assigned to the Tank Destroyer Center, letter, Army Ground Forces, 320.2/20 (TD)(R)-GNGCT (12-8-42), Subject: "Assignment of Units to Tank Destroyer Center," dated December 8, 1942, are attached to the Advanced Unit Training Center, Tank Destroyer Center:

Hq & Hq Co, 2d TD Gp  
776th TD Bn  
803d TD Bn  
899th TD Bn

By command of Major General BRUCE:



/s/ JAMES C. DAMRON  
Major, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

( A TRUE COPY )

*Martin B. Rind*

MARTIN B. RIND  
1st Lt., 899th TD Bn.,  
Ass't. Adjutant.



RESTRICTED

TDN - Travel directed necessary in the Military Service

HEADQUARTERS 899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
Camp Hood, Texas

December 23, 1942

SPECIAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 118 )

1. Pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 16, Special Orders No. 276, Headquarters Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Texas, dated 22 December 1942, the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion composed of two sections, Lieutenant Colonel MAXWELL A. TINCHER, 020798, twenty-one (21) officers and four hundred eighty three (483) enlisted men comprising section one (1) and Major HOYT K. LORANCE, 0304114, eleven (11) officers and three hundred seventy seven (377) enlisted men comprising section two (2), will proceed from Camp Hood, Texas, to Fort Dix, New Jersey, reporting upon arrival thereat to the Commanding Officer, Fort Dix, New Jersey. TDN 33 P 433-01,-02,-03,-04,-05,-07,-08 A 0425-23

By order of Lt. Colonel TINCHER:

CHARLES A. PAGE  
Capt., 899th TD Bn.,  
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

*Charles A. Page*  
CHARLES A. PAGE  
Capt., 899th TD Bn.,  
Adjutant.



R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS  
 APO 302 U.S. ARMY

In the field  
 10 May 1943

AG 330.13 (AG)

Subject: Message from Army Group Commander.

To : Division and Separate Unit Commanders.

The following message has been received from the Army Group Commander:

"ALL 18TH ARMY GROUP ARE DELIGHTED AT YOUR WONDERFUL SUCCESS IN THE NORTH CULMINATING IN THE CAPTURE OF BIZERTA. YOUR CORPS HAS PLAYED A MAJOR PART IN THIS GREAT VICTORY. AND I WISH TO EXPRESS TO EVERY SINGLE OFFICER AND MAN IN YOUR COMMAND MY GRATITUDE AND THANKS."

By command of Major General BRADLEY:

*L. C. Boineau*  
 L. C. BOINEAU,  
 Colonel, A.G.D.,  
 Adjutant General.

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R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS  
APO 302 U.S. ARMY

*Historical file*

In the Field  
10 May 1943

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 35 )

MESSAGE FROM COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

The following message from the Commander-in-Chief, Allied Force, to the Commander, 18th Army Group, is published for the information of the entire command and will be read to all troops in formation at the earliest possible opportunity after receipt.

"No words of mine could possibly express the depth of my appreciation and gratitude to you and all ranks of the 18th Army Group and to Allied Air and Naval Forces in this theater for your recent brilliant successes. Every citizen of each of the United Nations would like to send you similar messages. I know that these victories are merely spurring you on to utilize every last atom of your strength to destroy the enemy speedily and completely. Best wishes and good luck to you and every man in your magnificent command."

By command of Major General BRADLEY:

W. B. KEAN,  
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.



OFFICIAL:

*L. C. Boineau*

L. C. BOINEAU,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS  
APO 302 U.S. ARMY

*Ex O*

AG 330.13

In the Field  
11 May 1943

Subject: Message from the Army Commander.

To : Division and Separate Unit Commanders.

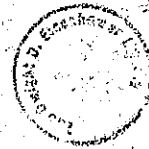
The following message received from the Army Commander will be read to all troops in formation at the earliest practicable date.

TO GENERAL BRADLEY FROM GENERAL ANDERSON.  
"WELL DONE. PLEASE GIVE MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS TO DIVISIONAL COMMANDERS AND ALL RANKS ON THE SPLENDID FINISH TO THREE WEEKS OF HARD UNCEASING FIGHTING DURING WHICH 2 CORPS HAVE GROWN TO FULL STATURE AS A MAGNIFICENT FIGHTING MACHINE. I AM INDEED PROUD TO HAVE HAD YOUR CORPS COOPERATE SO INTIMATELY WITH 1 ARMY. YOU HAVE FOUGHT WITH US SO CLOSELY AND SO OFTEN BOTH ON A LARGE AND SMALL SCALE SINCE WE LANDED IN AFRICA SIX MONTHS AGO THAT WE ALL REGARD YOU AS BEYOND AN INTEGRAL PART OF 1 ARMY OR CERTAINLY AT LEAST AS BLOOD BROTHERS. I ONLY HOPE YOU RECIPROCATE OUR FEELINGS AND THAT THE TIES BETWEEN US WILL EVER GROW STRONGER."

By command of Major General BRADLEY:

*L. C. Boineau*  
L. C. BOINEAU,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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"B-1"



R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS  
APO 302 U.S. ARMY

*Hester, File*

*Pers. 1 copy ea*

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 36)

In the Field  
12 May 1943 *Det.*

TO THE TROOPS, II CORPS

The II Corps' part in the campaign of Northern Tunisia ended on May 9th, with the surrender of all the German troops which had retreated to the peninsula east of Bizerte. This operation, which began on April 23rd, was brought to a rapid and successful conclusion by the fine fighting qualities of all the troops comprising this Corps. Because of your untiring efforts, your almost superhuman physical feats, and your fighting spirit the enemy was allowed no rest, and his early, complete defeat was assured.

I wish to thank every member of the Corps, those in fighting units and in service units, for the part they played, and to congratulate them on their fighting ability and their technical and physical skill, all of which was necessary for the success of our American arms. I am sure that all of your friends back home, and in fact all of the American people, are proud of you.

At the same time, let us bow our heads and all pay tribute to those who gave their lives to this, and to the final victory. They must not have died in vain.

*O. N. Bradley*  
O. N. BRADLEY,  
Major General, U. S. A.,  
Commanding.

DISTRIBUTION  
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R E S T R I C T E D

*Historical file*

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
APO 512

30 May 1943

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 36 )



1. Following is the text of a motion passed by both Houses of Parliament on 18 May 1943:

"This House, at the triumphant conclusion of the operations by land, sea and air which have secured the unconditional surrender of all the enemy remaining in the Continent of AFRICA, hereby places on record with pride and thankfulness its high appreciation of the services of all ranks of His Majesty's Forces and the Forces of the Allies operating in that Theater of War, by whose sacrifice, persistence and devotion to duty, sustained by the labours of those at home, this brilliant victory has been achieved.

"It is requested that the thanks of Parliament may be conveyed to all ranks of the Forces of all Nations under your Command."

2. It is desired that the above be brought to the attention of all personnel of this Command.

By command of General EISENHOWER:

W. B. SMITH,  
Major General, GSC, Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*[Signature]*  
T. J. DAVIS,  
Brigadier General, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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899th TD Bn

**SECRET**

S E C R E T

.....  
: S E C R E T :  
: By Authority of :  
: CG, Fifth Army :  
: Initials: *JRC* :  
: Date: 10 Aug 43 :  
: .....

74

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

AG 322.1-Y

SUBJECT: Troop Assignments and Attachments.

10 August 1943

TO : See Distribution.

1. a. Pursuant to radio #8504, AFHQ, time date 062116B August 1943, the following units are relieved from assignment to Seventh Army and are assigned Fifth Army, effective 070001B August 1943.

1st TD Group.

Hq & Hq Co, 1st TD Group.  
776th TD Bn.  
894th TD Bn.  
899th TD Bn.

b. Present attachment to Fifth Army Tank Destroyer Training Center remains in effect.

2. Confirming radio #4430, Headquarters Fifth Army, time date 071104B August 1943, 344th Engr Regt (GS) (-Co B), with Co B, 337th Engr Regt (GS) attached, is detached FAITC and attached VI Corps, effective 7 August 1943.

3. a. Pursuant to letter, Headquarters NATOUSA, 5 August 1943, AG 370.5/011 C-0, subject "Assignment of Army Postal Units" the following units are relieved from present assignment and are assigned Fifth Army, effective 5 August 1943:

541st APU  
542d APU  
543rd APU



b. Present attachment of 541st APU to FAA/BTC remains in effect.

c. 543rd APU is hereby attached ABS.

4. The following units are relieved from present attachment and attached to VI Corps, without change in location, effective 8 August 1943.

UNIT	PRESENT ATTACHMENT
24th Cml Co (Decon)	- - - -
25th Cml Co (Decon)	- - - -
6th Cml Co (Depot) with Det, 11th Cml Co (Maint) attached	- - - -
Co F, 337th Engr Regt (GS)	Sp Trs, Fifth Army
Co A, 405th Engr Wat Sup Bn	Sp Trs, Fifth Army

5-10-85

S E C R E T

- 1 -

**SECRET**

Replaces British MOST SECRET

**SECRET****SECRET**

5. The following units are relieved from present attachment and revert to control of their parent units, without change in location, effective 8 August 1943.

UNIT  
3d Bn, 142d Inf Regt  
Co A, 16th Armd Engr Bn

PRESENT ATTACHMENT  
FAITC  
FAETC

6. The following units, assigned Fifth Army, are detached 45th AAA Brig and are further assigned VI Corps, effective 8 August 1943:

Hq & Hq Btry, 35th AAA Brig.  
1st & 2d Bns, 505th CA Regt (AA)  
409th AAA Gun Bn (SM)  
534th AAA AW Bn.  
630th AAA AW Bn.

7. Having been assigned Fifth Army by radio #7652, AFHQ, time date 041502B August 1943, the following unit is attached Special Troops, Fifth Army, effective upon its arrival in MOSTAGANEM.

182d WAC Headquarters Plat.

8. Pursuant to radio #8980, AFHQ, time date 081425B August 1943, Co B, 84th Engr Cam Bn is detached EBS and attached MBS, effective upon its arrival in the ARZEW area.

9. Pursuant to radio #8974, AFHQ, time date 081324B August 1943, Co D, 84th Engr Cam Bn is relieved from present attachment and attached MBS, effective upon its arrival in the ARZEW area.

By command of Lieutenant General CLARK:

*John R. Cicero*  
JOHN R. CICERO,  
Captain, A.G.D.,  
Asst. Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"	
3 - C-in-C, AFHQ	2 - CO, FAA/BTC
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3 - CG, Seventh Army	2 - CO, ABS
3 - CG, VI Corps	2 - CG, MBS
3 - CG, 1st Armd Div	2 - CG, EBS
3 - CG, 36th Inf Div	1 - CO, 337th Engr Regt (GS)
2 - CG, 45th AAA Brig	1 - CO, 11th Cml Co (Maint)
2 - CG, FAITC	1 - CO, 405th Engr Wat Sup Bn
2 - CO, FAITDTC	1 - CO, 84th Engr Cam Bn
2 - CO, FAETC	1 - Each Unit concerned

**SECRET****SECRET****SECRET**



**WITHDRAWAL SHEET**

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**The following material was withdrawn from this segment of the collection  
and transferred to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Audiovisual Collection:**

17 photographs:

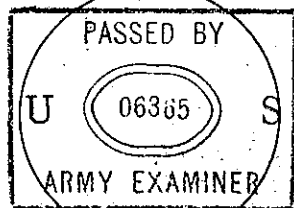
1. Composite aerial photo of desert area
- 2-5. Jo Carroll Dennison (Miss America, 1942) visiting  
the 899 TD Bn
- 6-7. 1st Platoon, Company C, display for news reel photographer,  
April 27, 1941
8. Hq Company, 99 Inf. AT Bn, Dec. 3, 1940, Ft. Lewis, Wash.
9. Co. A, 99 Inf. AT Bn, Dec. 9, 1940, Ft. Lewis, Wash.
10. Co. B, 99 Inf. AT Bn, Dec. 3, 1940, Ft. Lewis, Wash.
- 11-12. Co. C, 99 Inf. AT Bn.
- 13-16. Replacement Training Group, 99 AT Bn, Feb. 22, 1941,  
Fort Lewis, Wash. (4 copies)
17. 99 AT Bn. Baseball Team, 1941

**Army Unit:** 899 Tank Destroyer Battalion,

**Box Number:** 1567

**File Folder Title:** 899 TD Bn, Photographs

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

CO  
899 TDBNO  
APO 302

BARNEY P. RUFFATTI  
(Sender's name)

8TH EVAC  
(Sender's address)

APO 668

(Date)

DEAR SIR,

I KNOW THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF YOUR  
SUPERIOR UNIT, IS BEING FELT BY THE ENEMY.  
AND THATS ITS ACHIEVEMENTS WILL BE THOSE  
WORTHY OF THE HIGHEST PRAISE.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE 899TH  
MY ONLY THOUGHT AND WISH GOOD LUCK

RESPECTFULLY  
Barney P. Ruffatti



V...-MAIL