

HEADQUARTERS 64th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 230 U S Army
26 January 1945

SUBJECT: Battalion History for the Period 1 September 1944 to 30 September 1944.

TO : The Adjutant General
Washington 25, D. C. (Thru Channels)
(ATTENTION: Historical Section)

The following history of this organization for the month of September 1944 is hereby submitted, as per instructions contained in AR 345-105, par 10 (c)

- a. Unit - No change.
- b. Changes in Organization - No change.
- c. Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted:

(1) At beginning of period 1 September 1944:

Officers	34
Warrant Officer	1
Enlisted Men	601

(2) Net Increase for Month:

Officers	0
Warrant Officer	0
Enlisted Men	2

(3) Net Decreases for Month:

Officers	0
Warrant Officer	0
Enlisted Men	0

(4) At end of Period:

Officers	34
Warrant Officer	1
Enlisted Men	603

d. Stations of Unit or Parts Thereof:

Station: BOURG BLANC, FRANCE

At beginning of period.
Date of departure: 12 September 1944.

CHATEAULIN (Assembly area south of) FRANCE

Date of arrival: 12 September 1944
Date of departure: 14 September 1944

HINEAULT, FRANCE

Date of arrival: 14 September 1944
Date of departure: 18 September 1944

ARCOLE, FRANCE

Date of arrival: 18 September 1944
Date of departure: 22 September 1944

TRÉFLEVENEZ, FRANCE

Date of arrival: 22 September 1944
 Date of departure: 27 September 1944

RENNES, (northwest of town), FRANCE

Date of arrival: 27 September 1944
 Date of departure: 28 September 1944

CHARENTRES, FRANCE

Date of arrival: 28 September 1944
 Date of departure: 29 September 1944

SUIPPES, FRANCE

Date of arrival: 29 September 1944
 Date of departure: 30 September 1944

ESCHDOHF, LUXEMBOURG

Date of arrival: 30 September 1944
 Date of departure: To end of period

e. Marches

- (1) Purpose: On 12 September, to move the Battalion to CROZON PENINSULA under attachment to 8TH INFANTRY DIVISION. On 22 September, to move Battalion to assembly area after fall of CROZON. On 27 September, to move Battalion to ESCHDOHF, LUXEMBOURG, for defense of Siegfried Line.

- (2) Length of daily march: Approximately 130 miles per day.

- (3) Points between which march, with date:

The Battalion remained at BOULI BLANC, France, until the 12 September 1944, when it moved via GOURINOU, GUILPavas, LANDEVENAU, DAULAS, HOPITAL CAMFROUT, LE FAOU to its destination at CHATEAULIN, a distance of 39 miles. On 14 September the Battalion moved from CHATEAULIN via AERROT, TY VOUGH to DINEAULT, a distance of six (6) miles. On 18 September Battalion left assembly area at DINEAULT and travelled to AHOEL a distance of eight (8) miles.

On 22 September 1944, Battalion moved from AHOEL by motor convey via DINEAULT, TY VOUGHNET, AERROT, CHATEAULIN, PORT LAUREN, LE FAOU, L' HOSPITAL FROUT DAULAS, to destination at TRÉFLEVENEZ, a distance of fifty-three (53) miles.

On 27 September 1944, the Battalion left assembly area via TRÉFLEVENEZ and proceeded via SIZUN, LA FEUILLE HUELGOAT, FOULLAUVEN, CARMAIL, ROSTAENE, COURSC, MUR de BRÉBAGNE, ST GARADEC, LOUEAC, MERDRIGNAC, ST MEEN, LE GRAND, BOISGOUVILLY, MONTFORT SUR MEU to a position outside of RENNES a total distance of approximately one hundred and thirty (130) miles.

On 28 September 1944, the Battalion again resumed march and continued to the east leaving RENNES and traveling via CHATEAU BOURG, VITRE, La GRAVELLE, LAVAL, SOULGE le BRUANT, VAIGES, ST DE'IS de ORQUES, COULANS, LEMANS, BOUTOIRS, ST CALAIS, ERBENAY, FONDAINE, CLOYES, CHATEAUPAIN, BONNEVAL, to overnight bivouac at CHARENTRES. Length of march approximately one hundred and six-eight (168) miles.

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On 29 September 1944, the Battalion again resumed march and proceeded via ABLIS, STAMPEL, ETRICHY, ABEAUX, CHOISEY, PARIS, MEAUX, LA FERTESONS, JOUASSON, MONTMIRAIL, CHAMPAGNE, BEGONNE, CHALONS, ST ETIENNE, ST REMY, SUR BOSSY to another bivouac area at SUIPPES. Total distance of trip one hundred and seventy-eight (178) miles.

On 30 September 1944, Battalion again moved, this time via SUIPPES, WOUZIEUX, RETHEL, NOVI, POIX, CHARLEVILLE, FLIZE, SEDAN, LA CHAPELLE, BOUILLON (Belgium) MUNU CHENET, BECOGNE, MEUFCHATEAU, BASTOGNE, TRENTHEL HOF (Luxembourg), BUNDERSCHRID TO ESCHDORF and remained to end of period. Distance traveled one hundred and thirty-four (134) miles.

- (4) Truck vehicles of the Battalion left bivouac area on 26 September and loaded aboard flat cars at the LANDEGNEAU station.

Proceeded in two trains via ST BRINUC, RENNES, LEMANS, CHARTRES, DRUNK, VERSAILLES, PARIS, SEZANNE, SOMMESOUS, VERDUN, LOGIVY, LIBRAMONT (Belgium) and arrived at its destination at BASTOGNE where it was unloaded on 4 August 1944 and proceeded by road march to assembly area at WILTZ (Luxembourg) hence to Battalion area closing at 041730 October 1944.

Train #2 left LANDEGNEAU Station on 29 September and proceeded by same route to LONGVON, proceeded by motor march to WILTZ and closed in Battalion area 021500 October 1944 (See Incl 3)

f. Campaigns

NORTHERN FRANCE

g. Battles

BREIT offensive (cont'd 1 Sept to 14 Sept 44)

(a) The enemy

1. See Battalion History month of August 1944. No change.
2. Enemy defense plan changed during this phase of action. The advance into the city brought about a change in tactics and defenses. Street and house to house fighting became the main method of advance. Tank Destroyers were used in clearing upper stories by means of their artillery and covered supported infantry with small arms and calibre .50 machine guns.
3. Disposition of enemy units. No change. Only local counter-attacks made in attempt to retake strategic ground lost, or to disrupt operations and secure prisoners when advantageous. No air or armor was used. One captured American tank knocked out by CO, Co "B", adjusting with 4.2 mortars.

Enemy equipment and personnel destroyed during period:

Killed: 17 enemy personnel

Destroyed:

3 - 80 mm guns
1 - Mortar
1 - 75 mm gun
1 - Ammo cart
1 - Tankette
3 - Pillboxes (probable)
2 - Pillboxes destroyed
2 - 88 mm self-propelled
1 - 105 mm
Several machine guns

4. During this period 9 officers and 945 enlisted men were taken prisoners by this Battalion

(h) ~~Elements Affecting Action:~~

1. ~~See Battalion History~~ month of August 44. No Change.
2. Attitude of civilian population was friendly and helpful but not required. By this time the battle had progressed to far for their information to be of current value.
3. A marked change was found in this phase of operations. The open area of the outskirts had been left behind and the battle was now fought within the close confines of the city streets.

(c) Action.

1. Hq 6th TD Bn was assigned to 3rd Army until 6 Sept. and then to the 9th Army for the balance of the period. Bn was attached to 8TH INF DIV ARTY. Bn CP was located at coord (9581 51).

Supporting units: None.

2. Mission: No change. - continue operations in the reduction of BREST.

THE BATTLE OF BREST (Cont)

Co "A" remained under the control of the 29TH INF DIV until 21 September 1944 performing close support missions for the various sub-divisions of the unit and Task Force Sugar along the coast west of BREST. During this operation many small pockets of resistance were mopped up including LE CONQUET, FRANCE. Here the heavy enemy MG and 20mm fire halted the 5th Ranger Battalion. The Second Platoon of Co "A" was ordered up and with its three inch guns and Cal .50 MGs firing on pillboxes and MGs caused the town to surrender.

Co "B" continued in close support of the 13TH INF firing on targets of opportunity. Many MGs were knocked out. The Co remained on this mission until sent to the CAZON PENINSULA.

Co "C", during the period, remained in close support of the 121ST INF. During this operation the Co was instrumental in the capture of KESCHOD and GOUVESNON, FRANCE, just north of BREST. Heavy direct fire from Co "C" 3" guns aided in the capture of BONNAZEL BARRACKS. When the infantry reached the outskirts of the wall of BREST, accurate fire destroyed a 105 mm flak gun halting their advance.

3. A greater proportion of demolition, grenades, white phosphorous and rockets were used during the fighting within the city for the purpose of increasing fire power.

Communications: No change.

4. Artillery pounded the town until it was a mass of rubble. Massed fires were used by all branches of artillery.

Engineers assisted in every means possible to work through defenses of the town. A large proportion of these operations entailed the use of demolitions.

5. Many new tactics and methods were improvised during this complete change of environment. Infantry advanced from house to house by "mouse holing" through the walls from building to building. Homes were cleared by use of grenades, bazookas and automatic weapons. Tank Destroyers cleared upper stories with their artillery and covered infantry advance with both 3" and cal .50 guns and were also used to breach walls by use of 8" and 8.1" mortar ammunition.

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6. Supply to Destroyers presented a problem. Most items being hand-carried to position. Rear area supply remained the same.

Evacuation: Good.

7. See Attached Casualty List.

h. Commanding Officers in Important Engagements:

- (1) BREST Offensive (Cont'd 1 Sept to 14 Sept 44)

CO, 644 TD Bn - EPHRAIM F GRAHAM, JR
CO, Hq Co, 644 TD Bn - Capt JAMES M CARPENTER
CO, Co "A", 644 TD Bn - Capt HENRY A GANTON, JR
CO, Co "B", 644 TD Bn - Capt CARL H WIGGENHORN
CO, Co "C", 644 TD Bn - Capt HARLOW F LENON
CO, Rcn Co, 644 TD Bn - Capt NELSON C WORKS, JR
Med Det - Capt NATHANIEL BERG

- i. Losses in Action: See atchd Casualty List.

- j. Members Distinguishing themselves in action: See atchd List.

CROZON PENINSULA 14 Sept 44 - 22 Sept 44.

(a) The Enemy

1. The German Forces left on the CROZON PENINSULA, plus remnants of troops evacuated from BREST, had gathered at the western portion of the CROZON PENINSULA as a last desperate effort to hold American troops in the area and delay our operations as long as possible. This force was made up of the same conglomeration of troops as those contacted at BREST.

Enemy had sufficient time to prepare defenses prior to operations.

No special weapons other than coast artillery were used. Morale was bolstered by the presence of paratroopers, SS Troops.

2. Enemy Defenses: Heavy Defenses consisting of concrete and steel dotted the peninsula with fields of fire in the direction of the ocean and the interior.

Usual use of natural obstacles, mines, and demolitions was encountered with the enemy taking advantage of natural approaches and terrain.

3. No changes in enemy disposition occurred during the period, enemy forces being confined to the western limits of the peninsula.

Local counter-attacks were launched on a small scale in order to re-occupy areas of tactical importance. These failed in all instances.

No enemy air or armor was encountered.

Enemy equipment destroyed during period: 2 MGs, 1 pillbox, and 2 gun emplacements.

4. Number of prisoners of war taken during period: 2 MIA

(b) Elements Affecting Action.

1. Enemy information and reconnaissance was practically non-existence.

2. The civilian population had been evacuated from the western portion of the peninsula. Those contacted in rear areas were friendly and helpful.

S E C R E T

3. The peninsula generally east and west with four fingers, jutting to the north, west, and south. High ground ran along the center of the peninsula with steep beaches at the eastern edge. Country was composed of low rolling hills with broad open areas cleared and planted with long posts made of tree trunks. These covered the entire peninsula and had been placed in the path as a precaution against airborne invasion.

(c) Action...

1. Hq to which Unit was assigned or attached - No change.
Bn CP located at coord (085823). Supporting units - none
2. Mission: To act and support the 8TH INF DIV in the clearing of CHOZON peninsula.

THE CHOZON PENINSULA

The Bn, less Co "A" moved with the 8TH DIV to give close support to the infantry in their attack on the peninsula. Here Co "B" was attached to the 28th INF and Co "C" to the 121ST INF. Co "B" worked closely with the BATT supplying both direct and indirect fire. Co "C" occupied positions upon its arrival on 14 September ahead of the infantry outpost line and delivered well placed fire on enemy infantry installations the next morning. Hedgerows were pushed through in the attack by the destroyers enabling tanks and infantry to pass. On 17 September, the first platoon knocked out a well sited 105mm Flak gun, halting the advance of tanks and infantry. The Co delivered direct fire on FORT CHOZON during the advance to capture this installation.

Reconnaissance Company fired long range harassing missions with their 37mm guns from 15 September through 17 September 1944. After the operation, the Bn moved to an assembly area on September 22.

3. Special weapons used: 4.2 Mortars fired white phosphorus against FORT CHOZON.
Communications: No change.
4. Supporting artillery acted in its usual role of pounding heavy emplacements and Engineers cleared mines, filled craters, and collaborated in the use of demolitions with the infantry.
5. Use of bayonets, flame throwers: None.
6. Supply and evacuation was excellent, limited supply of enemy ammunition was used only on tactical targets and rear areas were unharrassed.

h. Commanding officers in important engagements:

- II CHOZON PENINSULA - 14 Sept 44 to 22 Sept 44
 - CO, 6th TD Bn - Capt. PERRAIN F GRAHAM, JR
 - CO, 4th Co, 6th TD Bn - Capt. JAMES M CARPENTER
 - CO, A, 6th TD Bn - Capt. HENRY A GARTON JR
 - CO, B, 6th TD Bn - Capt. CARL H WIGGINTON
 - CO, C, 6th TD Bn - Capt. HARLOW F LENON
 - CO, 8th Co, 6th TD Bn - Capt. NELSON C WORKS, JR
 - MED DET - Capt. MATTHEW BERON

- i. Losses in action. See attached casualty list.
- j. Members distinguishing themselves in action. See attached list.
- k. Photographs of personnel, important scenes or events: See inclosures.

For the Commanding Officer:

Vincent C Bristol
VINCENT C BRISTOL
2d Lt, FA, Adjutant

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S E C R E T

- 3 Incls:
Incl 1 - Losses in Action, Officers and Enlisted Men and Former and Present Members Who Have Distinguished Themselves in Action.
Incl 2 - Photographs covering period.
Incl 3 - Movement of track vehicles from Landerneau, Brittany to Luxemburg.

Month of September 1944

1. LOSSES IN ACTION - OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN

1. Engagements.

- a. Brest Offensive
- b. Crozon Peninsula

2. Names.

a. Brest Offensive:

S/Sgt Frank F Adamo, 20234626 (WIA)
Sgt Donald P Putrino, 20234884 (WIA)
Sgt Joseph J Makowsky, 32183620 (WIA)
Cpl William R Ducharme, 34153454 (WIA)
Cpl Lonnie L Wolf, 38426031 (WIA)
Cpl John J Garibaldi, 23183585 (WIA)
Cpl Walter E Jakubik, 23184494 (WIA)
Cpl Stanley F Campbell, 36552664 (WIA)
Tec 5 Charles W Nourigat, 33418379 (WIA)
Tec 5 Albert M Tulli, 31056758 (WIA)
Pfc Stanley J View, 36273868 (WIA)
Pvt Michael H Andrusenki, 36764070 (WIA)
Pvt Vincent S D'Amico, 32717475 (WIA)
Pvt Michael P Espinoza, 39690644 (WIA)
Pvt Andrew J Lovrencic, 33418261 (WIA)

b. Crozon Peninsula:

None.

3. Killed in Action:

a. Brest Offensive:

None.

b. Crozon Peninsula:

None.

4. Wounded in Action.

a. Brest Offensive:

Fifteen (15) Enlisted Men.

b. Crozon Peninsula:

None.

5. Missing in Action.

None.

6. Taken Prisoner.

None.

J. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION

1. Engagement:

- a. Brest Offensive
- b. Crozon peninsula

c. For Operations during Normandy and Brittany Campaigns

2. Names:

a. and b.

Capt CARL H WIGGENHORN, 0349022
Capt HARRY L GODSHALL, JR, 0408475
Capt HENRY A GARTON, 0407272
Capt HARLOW F LENON, 01169215
Capt WILLIAM P BYE, 01822234
1st Lt CHARLES E COATS, 01822238

1st/Sgt Philip A DiCarlo, 20233710
S/Sgt Isaac L Wood, 20235836
Sgt Peter Di Stefano, 31056762
Sgt William F Hughes, 38047951
Sgt Melvin M Mounts, 33418358
Sgt Donald F Putrino, 20234884
Tec 3 Roy W Jackson, 37129332
Cpl Stanley F Campbell, 36552664
Cpl Walter E Jakubik, 32184494
Cpl John J Garibaldi, 32183585
Tec 5 Charles K Nourigat, 33418379
Pvt Andrew J Lovrencic, 33418261

c.

Lt Col EPHRAIM F GRAHAM, JR, 020838
Major EDWARD R GARTON, 0357538
Capt NELSON C WORKS, JR, 0420863
Capt JAMES C WILLIAMS, 01169838
Capt LESLIE P McDOUGAL, 01170855
1st Lt GERALD L HOFFER, 01822571
1st Lt WILLIAM M KEESLING, 01179478
3d Lt WILLIAM M PATTON, 01824358

M/Sgt James J Nelson, 32113876

3. Act:

a. and b. Captain Carl H Wiggenhorn, 0349022, Field Artillery (Tank Destroyer), Company B, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 24 August to 4 September 1944 in the vicinity of *****, France. Captain Wiggenhorn continually kept his tank destroyers in most advanced positions, thereby rendering invaluable aid to the infantry units. His utter disregard for his personal safety and many valuable suggestions contributed to the success of the operation. Entered the military service from Nebraska.

Captain Harry L Godshall, Jr, 0408475, Field Artillery (Tank Destroyer), 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Operations Officer in connection with extensive military operations in France during the period 1 September 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Captain Godshall's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from New Jersey.

Capt Henry A Garton, 0407272, FA, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for meritorious service in military operations against the enemy from 27 August 1944 to 11 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from New Jersey.

Captain Harlow F Lenon, 01169215, Field Artillery (Tank Destroyer), Company C, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Company Commander in connection with extensive military operations in France during the period 27 August 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Captain Lenon's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from Oregon.

Captain William P Bye, 01822234, Field Artillery, (Armored Force), Headquarters, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Adjutant in connection with military operations in France during the period 1 September 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Captain Bye's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from Ohio.

First Lieutenant Charles E Coats, 01822238, Field Artillery (Armored Force), Company C, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Platoon Leader in connection with extensive military operations in France during the period 28 August 1944 to 11 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Lieutenant Coats' outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from South Carolina.

1st Sgt Philip H DiCarlo, 20233710, 644th TD Bn, U S Army for gallantry in action against the enemy in Brittany, France. On 9 September 1944, while elements of the 5th Ranger Inf Bn, supported by the 644th TD Bn, were moving forward against the enemy near Le Conquet, intense enemy fire was encountered from pillboxes. Visibility being poor, 1st Sgt Di Carlo, acting TD platoon leader, with complete disregard for his own safety, braved the intense enemy fire while moving across 300 yards of open ground in order to reach a position where he could better direct the fire of his tank destroyers against the well constructed concrete pillboxes. Then, 1st Sgt DiCarlo directed his unit into position and succeeded in neutralizing the enemy strongpoint, thus insuring the success of the ranger battalion's attack. The initiative, courage, and devotion to duty displayed by 1st Sgt Di Carlo reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered Military Service from New York.

S/Sgt Issac L Wood, 20235836, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 9 September 1944, in Brittany France. Entered Military Service from New Jersey.

Sgt Peter DiStefano, 31056762, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 9 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from Rhode Island.

Sgt William E Hughes, 38047951, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 9 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from Texas.

Sgt Melvin M Mounts, 33418358, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 9 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from Pennsylvania.

Sgt Donald F Putrino, 30254884, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 16 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from New Jersey.

Technician Third Grade Roy W Jackson, 37129332, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 8 September 1944 in the vicinity of * * * France. With utter disregard for his own safety, Technician Third Grade Jackson crossed 100 yards of terrain devoid of cover to evacuate wounded crew members of a disabled tank destroyer. Despite intense small arms and artillery fire directed at the tank destroyer, he persisted in his efforts until all were moved to safety. Entered the military service from Missouri.

Cpl Stanley F Campbell, 36552664, 644th TD Bn, U S Army for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 16 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from Michigan.

Cpl Walter E Jakubik, 32184494, 644th TD Bn, U S Army for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 16 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from New Jersey.

Corporal John J Garibaldi, 32183585, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 8 September 1944 in the vicinity of * * * France. With utter disregard for his own safety, Corporal Garibaldi crossed 100 yards of terrain devoid of cover to evacuate wounded crew members of a disabled tank destroyer. Despite intense small arms and artillery fire directed at the tank destroyer, he persisted in his efforts until all were moved to safety. Entered the military service from New Jersey.

Pvt 5 Charles K Nourigat, 3448378, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 16 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from Pennsylvania.

Pvt Andrew J Lovrencic, 33418261, 644th TD Bn, U S Army, for heroic achievement in military operations against the enemy on 16 September 1944, in Brittany, France. Entered Military Service from Pennsylvania.

c. Lieutenant Colonel Ephraim F Graham, Jr, 020838, Infantry, (Armored Force), Headquarters, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself as Commanding Officer in connection with military operations in France during the period 8 July 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Lieutenant Colonel Graham's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from Missouri.

Major Edward R Garton, 0357538, Field Artillery (Tank Destroyer), 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Battalion Executive Officer, in connection with extensive military operations in France during the period 8 July 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Major Garton's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from New Jersey.

Captain Nelson C Works, Jr, 0420803, Field Artillery, (Armored Force), Headquarters, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Commanding Officer in connection with military operations in France during the period 8 July 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Captain Works' outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from New Jersey.

Captain James C Williams, 01169833, Field Artillery (Tank Destroyer), 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Supply Officer in connection with extensive military operations in France during the period 8 July 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Captain Williams' outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from Tennessee.

Captain Leslie P McDougal, 01170855, Field Artillery, (Armored Force), Headquarters, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Intelligence Officer in connection with military operations in France during the period 8 July 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Captain McDougal's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from Michigan.

First Lieutenant Gerald L Hoffer, 01822571, Field Artillery (Armored Force), Headquarters, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Motor Officer in connection with military operations in France during the period 8 July 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Lieutenant Hoffer's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from Indiana.

First Lieutenant William M Keesling, 01179478, Field Artillery (Armored Force), Company A, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious service as Executive Officer in connection with military operations in France during the period 15 July 1944 to 18 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Lieutenant Keesling's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from West Virginia.

Second Lieutenant William M Patton, 01824358, Field Artillery, (Armored Force), Headquarters, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Transportation Officer in connection with military operations in France during the period 8 July 1944 to 20 September 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Lieutenant Patton's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from Illinois.

Master Sergeant James J Nelson, 32113876, Field Artillery, (Armored Force), Headquarters Company, 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as Motor Maintenance Sergeant in connection with military operations in Western Europe during the period 8 July 1944 to 21 October 1944 against an enemy of the United States. Sergeant Nelson's outstanding accomplishments and performance of duties are in the highest traditions of the military service. Entered the military service from New York.

4. Awards.

a. and b. Silver Star Medal- 1st/Sgt Philip A DiCarlo
S/Sgt Isaac L Wood

Bronze Star Medal- Capt CARL H WIGGENHORN
Capt HARRY L GODSHALL, JR
Capt HENRY A GARTON
Capt HARLOW F LENON
Capt WILLIAM P BYE
1st Lt CHARLES E COATS

Sgt Peter Distefano
Sgt William E Hughes
Sgt Melvin A Mounts
Sgt Donald F Putrino
Tec 3 Roy W Jackson
Cpl Stanley P Campbell
Cpl Walter E Jakubik
Cpl John J Garibaldi
Tec 5 Charles K Nourigat
Pvt Andrew J Lovrencic

c. Bronze Star Medal- Lt Col EPHRAIM F GRAHAM, JR
Major EDWARD R GARTON
Capt NELSON C WORKS, JR
Capt JAMES C WILLIAMS
Capt LESLIE P McDOUGAL
1st Lt GERALD L HOFFER
1st Lt WILLIAM M KEESLING
2nd Lt WILLIAM M PATTON

M/Sgt James J Nelson

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 6th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

MOVEMENT OF TRACK VEHICLES FROM LANDERNEAU, BRITTANY TO LUXEMBURG

1. 26th September 1944:

0800 - Departed from Battalion Motor Park with Companies "A", "B", "C" thirty-four (34) M-10s and two (2) T-2s for LANDERNEAU Station. Weather: cloudy and drizzling.

0900 - Column closed at LANDERNEAU Station

1400 - Began loading flat cars.

2230 - Completed loading flat cars except two (2) replacement M-10s. The delay in loading was due to the railroad and RTO placing cars at very slow intervals. Loading went well and all Cos did an excellent job.

2. 27th September 1944:

0830 - Two (2) flat cars ~~supplied~~ and waiting for Lt OWEN to arrive with replacement M-10s.

1000 - Lt OWEN arrived at LANDERNEAU Station with two (2) replacement M-10s ("A" and "B" Company's).

1100 - Vehicles checked and loaded (two (2) M-10s).

1200 - Lt OWEN left LANDERNEAU Station with 2-1/2 ton truck to join wheeled column.

1300 - Conference held with all officers by Major GARTON and the balance of time at LANDERNEAU is to be used for care and clearing of material, personal equipment, check loading and improve where necessary. The safety regulations for the trip were issued at this time.

2300 - The trains were organized for the trip.

Train #1 - One (1) coach, twenty (20) flats (thirteen (13), "A" and seven (7), "C"), one (1) box car, one (1) caboose - four (4) officers, one hundred and four (104) enlisted men.

Major GARTON - Train Commander

Telephone communication with each car.

Train #2 - One (1) coach, nineteen (19) flats (thirteen (13), "B" and six (6), "C"), one (1) boxcar, one (1) caboose - five (5) officers, one hundred and three (103) enlisted men.

Captain McDUGAL - Train Commander

Telephone communication with each car.

3. 28th September 1944:

1000 - Trains #1 and #2 still lined up and we are awaiting further instructions regarding movement. Weather is clear and morale excellent.

1400 - Informed of departure time.

Train #1 - 0720, 29 September 1944.

Train #2 - 1120, 29 September 1944.

1415 - All officers notified of departure schedule.

4. 29th September 1944 - Train #1 - Major EDWARD R GARTON, Train Comdr.

0800 - Train #1 left LANDERNEAU Station. RTO has still not given us any sort of running schedule, etc, although we tried many times to get one.

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S E C R E T

1310 - Arrived St BR1 J. Water and latrine facilities.
1420 - Left St BR1 J.
1635 - Arrived RENNES. Water and latrine facilities. RTO still has no schedule or destination for us.
1705 - Left RENNES
2320 - Arrived LE MANS. Water and latrine facilities. RTO had doughnuts for all men. RTO very cooperative but still no schedule.

5. 30th September 1944:

0130 - Left LE MANS.
0830 - Arrived CHARTRES. Weather clear and cool; morale excellent.
0945 - Left CHARTRES. All equipment, etc, riding OK.
1715 - Arrived DREUX. The past four (4) hours have been slow travelling due to heavy railroad traffic.
1910 - Left DREUX.

6. 1st October 1944:

0730 - Arrived VERSAILLES. Very slow travelling from DREUX to here due to train wreck and lack of sufficient locomotive power.
0845 - Left VERSAILLES.
0945 - Arrived PARIS. Weather clear; morale excellent. Received information at this point that we are going to VERDUN. Can get no information as to length of stop, route, etc.
1745 - Travelling is very slow.

7. 2nd October 1944:

1130 - Arrived SEZANNE. Weather cloudy and cold; morale excellent.
1220 - Left SEZANNE.
1745 - Arrived SOMMESOUS. Issued one hundred and ten (110) K rations.
Water and latrine facilities.
1845 - Left SOMMESOUS.

8. 3rd October 1944:

1310 - Arrived at VERDUN. One and one half (1-1/2) hour stop. Men washed, shaved, etc. Water and latrine facilities. Weather clear and cool.
1450 - Left VERDUN.
1630 - Arrived COMPLAIN JARNY.
1700 - Left COMPLAIN JARNY.
1830 - Arrived LONGUON. Met by Lt STEVENSON who informed us that we would continue by rail to BASTOGNE, BELGIUM.
1845 - Left LONGUON. Lt STEVENSON will meet us at BASTOGNE and do all possible to make arrangements for unloading.
1940 - Delayed in mountains. One (1) engine cannot make the grade. Have telephoned for a second engine.
2015 - Second engine arrived and we are continuing our trip.
2145 - Arrived LOUVELL. Replacement of French Engine with Belgian Engine.
2215 - Left LOUVELL.

9. 4th October 1944:

0900 - Arrived LIBRAMONT, BELGIUM. Weather clear and cold; morale excellent.
0925 - Left LIB RAMONT
1330 - Arrived BASTOGNE.
1400 - Starting to unload.
1515 - Completed unloading.

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S E C R E T

1600 - Started rear march to Battalion area.
 1645 - C Co's remaining track vehicles (7) being taken to Bn assembly area, near Wilts, Luxembourg.
 1645 - Capt McDUGAL guiding "A" Company track vehicles to their area.
 1730 - Arrived at Bn assembly area. "C" Co's seven (7) vehicles and personnel bivouacking in this area overnight and will be met by Commanding Officer, Co "C" tomorrow morning.

10. Train # 2 - Capt LESLIE P MC DOUGAL, train Commander.

	<u>Material</u>	<u>Personnel</u>
Co "B" -	12 Destroyers, 1 T-2	5 Officers, 101 Enlisted Men
Co "C" -	5 Destroyers, 1 T-2	106 Total

11. 29th September 1944:

1139 - Left Landerneau.
 1304 - Arrived Morlaix.
 1315 - Left Morlaix.
 1700 - Arrived Guingamp.
 1735 - Left Guingamp.
 1914 - Arrived St Brieuc.
 1925 - Left St Brieuc.

Private Hayes, 1st Platoon, Co. "B", was in latrine at station and did not hear train whistle - was left behind.

2255 - Arrived Rennes. Got water and used latrine facilities. Reported loss of Hayes to RTO and was informed that he had turned himself into M's at St Brieuc, who sent him to Rennes. He rejoined train at Rennes. RTO at Rennes had no papers or itinerary for train commander.

12. 30 September 1944:

0001 - Left Rennes at 2340, 29 September 1944. Train O.K. All M-10's and personnel in good shape.
 0400 - Arrived at Le Mans. Had to put three (3) FFI men out of caboose; left immediately.
 1234 - Arrived Chartres. Drew water and one (1) day of C rations for 106. Latrines available.
 1400 - Left Chartres.
 1655 - Arrived Malun. RTO asked for papers which train commander did not have.
 1705 - Left Malun.
 1840 - Arrived Sezanne. RTO gave destination as Longuon. Said it might take two (2) days to get there. Drew two (2) days C Ration for one hundred and six (106).
 1950 - Left Sezanne.
 2230 - Arrived Bar-le-duc. Water and latrine facilities.
 2252 - Left Bar-le-duc.

13. 1st October 1944:

0400 - Passed through Verdun.
 0600 - Arrived Longuon. RTO said member of train crew (French) had seen a man fall off during night. Cpl Tremblay, Company "B", missing. Returned 1600.
 0700 - Began unloading.
 0830 - Unloading finished. Ordered by Lt Colonel KUNZIG TO go into bivouac and await train #1.
 1800 - Lt HOFFER and Lt STEVENSON arrived in Longuon with instructions. Prepared to move tracks to vicinity of Wilts, Luxembourg.

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S E C R E T

14. 2nd October 1944:

0800 - Tracks moved to bivouac at Wiltz. Arrived at 1400.
1500 - Reported to Lt Colonel GRAHAM.

REMARKS Trains #1 and #2):

1. Loading of equipment by all companies on flat cars was done in an excellent manner and without incident.
2. Placing of flat cars beside ramp by the RTO and railroad personnel at Landerneau was exceptionally slow. This condition delayed the completion of our loading many hours.
3. No personnel or vehicles were lost or damaged enroute.
4. Lt STEVENSON's careful planning and coordination expedited the unloading and movement of vehicles to their respective areas in Luxembourg.
5. The personnel of both trains performed all tasks in an excellent manner and morale was excellent during the entire train trip which was long and not too comfortable at times.

/s/ Edward R Garton
EDWARD R GARTON
Major, FA
Bn Ex O

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S E C R E T

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