

3rd Anniversary



806th Tank Destroyer Battalion Camp Shelby, Mississippi

15 MARCH 1945

DEDICATION

This Third Anniversary is respectfully dedicated to the officers and men who were once with this Battalion, and are now serving overseas.

HISTORY

The 806th Tank Destroyer Battalion was activated at Camp Gordon, Georgia, 15 March 1942, from a cadre of officers of Camp Wheeler, Ga., and men of the 638th Tank Destroyer Battalion of Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

We began our training with M3 Destroyers under the command of Lt. Col. William H. Halstead, and were brought to T/O strength rapidly.

Moving to Camp Hood, Texas, in October, 1943, we underwent the AUTC program. Lt. Col. Walter P. Goodwin assumed command on New Year's Day, 1943. A month later we transferred to Camp Rucker, Alabama.

April brought forth M10's and attachment to the 35th Division. Then came the summer and Second Army Maneuvers in Tennessee. Remember the July and August heat, the choking dust and rest periods in Nashville?

Upon completion of maneuvers, we returned to Camp Rucker. Lt. Col. Howard Ayers took over command of the Battalion 8 November 1943, and in December we were reorganized as a towed battalion equipped with the 3" gun M5. Lt. Col. Ayers left in February, 1944, and Major Wilkes, Executive Officer, commanded until the arrival of Lt. Col. Rolland E. George, 28 March 1944.

Men were fluctuating in and out en masse now. In May 312 men left for an AGF replacement depot. Even now word from some of them dribbles back from the far flung corners of this war-time world. Also during this month we were attached to the 21st TD Group.

Moving again, this time by motor convoy, we rode into Camp Shelby on 17 June 1944. We began growing by receiving men from TDRTC during the period, 1 July to 10 July.

With the summer season "sweated out," the Battalion participated in Fall Field Exercises conducted by the 69th Division during September and October.

More friends left us—200 strong—1 August 1944, to be transferred to various Engineer Battalions. Lt. Col. Francis F. Schweinler assumed command 30 October 1944.

On 15 November 1944 our towed guns were replaced with the M18 Hellcat Destroyer.

January led us up to indirect firing which we took in stride. Blown in with March winds came the powerful M36's, just about completing our weapon repertoire.

Once again our hearts are high. May this be our time to serve.

Bn. CO—Lt. Col. F. F. Schweinler
Ex.O.—Major R. J. Preble
S-1—Lt. R. H. Holmes
S-2—Capt. P. H. Wetmore
S-3—Major L. G. Bean
S-4 Capt. R. Dworsky

Headquarters Company

Capt. F. S. Williams
Capt. E. K. Faltz
1st Lt. H. A. Weinstein
1st Lt. E. F. Fruhbauer
1st Lt. J. L. Miner
2d Lt. H. Weatherspoon
2d Lt. J. J. O'Connell
CWO G. W. Muir
WOJG R. A. VonSchwab
1st Sgt. H. C. Catley
M/Sgt. M. B. Fauer
M/Sgt. J. N. Lichlyter
T/Sgt. S. H. Sheldon
S/Sgt. L. B. Gatewood
Sgt. J. Verbonitz

A Company

Capt. K. W. Whitaker
1st Lt. A. W. Smillie
1st Lt. R. W. Meyer
1st Lt. M. R. Bunn
1st Lt. T. O. Phillips
2d Lt. D. J. Mol
1st Sgt. W. T. Johnson
S/Sgt. H. L. Chaffin
S/Sgt. M. A. Tropiano
S/Sgt. E. F. Vogt
Sgt. A. X. Morin

B Company

Capt. W. H. Williams
1st Lt. W. H. Matson
1st Lt. John R. Rouse
1st Lt. P. V. Arrington
1st Lt. G. W. Gould
2d Lt. J. W. Miller
1st Sgt. J. R. Darden
S/Sgt. J. A. Parks
S/Sgt. F. A. Langer
S/Sgt. R. C. Dorn

C Company

Capt. W. T. Alexander
1st Lt. J. L. Memale
1st Lt. F. C. Rozzelle
1st Lt. T. L. Payne, Jr.
1st Lt. J. M. Wood, Jr.
2d Lt. W. H. Harrison
1st Sgt. L. Stawiszynski
T/Sgt. J. Hrinda
S/Sgt. C. D. Terlizzi
S/Sgt. D. Stewart
S/Sgt. E. J. Hogan

Reconnaissance Company

Capt. C. B. Gray
1st Lt. E. P. Peters
1st Lt. E. C. Laube
1st Lt. J. D. Wilson
2d Lt. J. L. Pilkington
2d Lt. A. L. Shannon
2d Lt. J. T. Mellen

1st Sgt. T. J. Warwick
S/Sgt. C. C. Watson
S/Sgt. J. F. Scott
S/Sgt. F. J. Montella
S/Sgt. F. J. Honis
S/Sgt. J. P. Calo

AUTOGRAPHS