

HISTORICAL RECORD
BATTLE OF BRITTANY

From: 01 Aug 44
To: 21 Sep 44
Unit: Hq & Hq Co, 6th TD Gp
Place: Vic Brest, France
Issued: 22 Sep 44

To: The Adjutant General
War Department
Washington, 25 D.C.
(Thru Channels)

MAP: France, GSGS #2738
Scale: 1/250000

01 Aug 44: This unit with 705th TD Bn atchd moved from Le Valdecie (T1199) via La Haye du Puits - Lessay - Brehal to Equilly (T2833) to assemble as a part of Task Force A.

02 Aug 44: TF-A asgd mission of moving on Northern Route thru Brittany Peninsula to secure major railroad bridges enroute and make contact with 6th Armored Div moving thru central part of peninsula to Brest. Hq & Hq Co, 6th TD Gp formed Clm B consisting of reserve trs of TF-A (705th TD Bn, 159th Engr C Bn, 509th Engr LP Co and TF combined tns. Mission of Clm B to immediately follow Clm A and be prepared to send supporting trs forward to support or reinforce Clm A in action against enemy resistance.

03 Aug 44: Clm B moved out at 0240 hrs in close clm 1 min behind Clm A via Avranches and Ponterson toward Dinan (X7694). Clm A encountered enemy strongpoint at Baquer (T0303); Clm B made road halt with hd of clm at Sains (T1103). Strongpoint bypassed moving via Pleine - Fougères - Lanhelin to assembly pos vic Le Tronchet (X9296). Mission on arrival to be prepared to reinforce Clm A in probing outer defenses of St Malo. CO (Col L.C. Berry) went to 15th Cav Gp as comdr of Clm A to replace former CO missing in action. Col F.T. Searcy assumed temp comd of Clm B. Under intermittent arty fire, sent Engrs into woods to clear out reported snipers, and reorganize few units undergoing first battle experiences.

04 Aug 44: Displaced forward to assy pos vic Miniac (X8798).

05 Aug 44: Reassembled in vic St Pierre de Plesquen (X8693) with TF-A. 3rd Bn 330th Inf Regt, Btry C 323rd FA Bn and 429th Med Coll Co atchd to Clm B.

06 Aug 44: Clm B moved via Lanhelin - Evran - Colinee - Moncontour to assy pos vic Plouec (X2385). Engrs constructed bypass around blown bridge at Evran.

07 Aug 44: Clm B moved via St Briec - Guingamp to vic Louargat (R8512) with intermittent road halts while Clm A reduced enemy resistance at Tremusen, Chatelaudren and Guingamp. Furnished reinforcing trs to Clm A on call. One Co Engrs left at St Briec to secure town and nearby RR bridges and establish PW Enclosure.

08 Aug 44: Clm B moved via Morlaix to vic Plouvorn (R3317) with intermittent road halts while Clm A reduced resistance at Le Ponthou, Plouigneau and Morlaix. One Co Engrs left at Morlaix atchd to 17th Cav Sqn to secure town and nearby RR bridges and establish PW Enclosure. The 15th Cav Gp Tns, contrary to orders of Combined Tns Comdr remained at Plouigneau, were attacked by enemy elms and lost 4 lt tks plus small number of casualties.

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09 Aug 44: Clm B moved via Lesneven to vic Ploudaniel (R0913). The mtzd Inf moving thru Ploudaniel at tail of clm was strafed by friendly planes; panels were displayed. No casualties suffered.

10 Aug 44: Clm B moved to assy pos vic Lesneven (R1015) and provided reinforcing trs to Clm A in action at Plougerneau (Q9623).

11 Aug 44: Clm B made all night move commencing at 0130 hrs via Morlaix - Le Ponthou - Lanuellec to vic Ploumillian (R6826). To support TF-A mission of securing St Michel Beach for landing of supplies. Engrs of Clm B cleared mines and obstacles on beaches and approaches thereto.

12 Aug 44: Continue Mission. No change in loc.

13 Aug 44: Clm B made fast mtr march ave speed 25 MPH - to clear E-W road at Morlaix by 1000 hrs. 509th Engr LP Co released to VIII Corps at Morlaix. Movement continued to vic Gallac (W7096).

14 Aug 44: Clm B moved to assy pos vic Begard thence to assy pos vic Caouennec (R8027). Clm A reinforced to clear Treguar area.

15 Aug 44: Clm B moved to assy pos vic La Roche - Derrien thence to assy pos vic Tredarzee (R9435) reinforcing Clm A in clearing Lezardrieux. Established rcn screen from Pontrieux to Lanvollon and secured river crossings at Pontrieux.

16 Aug 44: Received mission of reconnoitering N from rcn screen line toward Paimpol and holding river crossings at Pontrieux secure. One TD Plat 705th TD Bn atchd to rcn for mission. Rcn made contact with road blocks on main roads leading into Paimpol generally along 33 E-W grid line. Mission changed to move in on enemy strongpoint just SE of Plounez. Clm B suffered 7 casualties in action.

17 Aug 44: Reassembled in assy area after action in Paimpol area ceased.

18 Aug 44: Clm B moved to vic Plouneventer (R1911). Mission asgd to place AT road blocks on all bridge crossings of Landerneau River between Landerneau and Landivisiau, incl.

19 Aug 44: Clm B moved to vic Plouedern (R1510). Mission unchanged.

20 Aug 44: No change.

21 Aug 44: Clm B moved to vic Urbain (W1498) to reinforce Clm A in carrying out rcn in force in Plougastel - Daoulas Peninsula.

22-26 Aug 44: Clm B moved to assy pos vic Daoulas (W1196) to support Clm A. Operated PW Encl, WP and Engrs cleared and marked roads.

27 Aug 44: Clm B moved to assy pos vic Hanvec (W1890).

28 Aug 44: No change.

29 Aug 44: Clm B displaced forward to assy pos vic Port Launay (W2479).

30 Aug 44: Clm B moved to vic LeFaou (W1689) with mission of securing coast line from rivers Daoulas to Chateaulin.

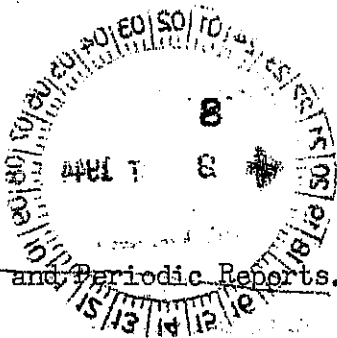
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31 Aug-21 Sep 44: Mission accomplished. A few prisoners taken crossing by water from Crozon Peninsula. Some TD harassing fires placed on Crozon Peninsula in support of Cln A advancing W.

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1 Incl. *map*
Incl 1 - Supporting Journals, msgs and Periodic Reports.