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*Auth: CG, XIX Corps

*Init:

*Date: 23 February 1945



**HEADQUARTERS
SECOND TANK DESTROYER GROUP
Office of the XIX Corps Antitank Officer
APO 339, U. S. Army**

23 February 1945

1. ENEMY ARMORED OPERATIONS

The 702nd TD Bn reported the destruction of an 88mm SP gun in vic FO23623 at 1000A. At 1025 a TOT was placed on two (2) tiger tanks vic FO9815565. Three (3) tanks were sighted moving W at 0900 hours in vic F340406. At 1000A hours, air picked up two (2) tanks vic FO95557. The HAMBACH FOREST produced three (3) tanks which were reported at FO93569. Artillery fire was being placed on these tanks at 1645 hours. Two (2) SP guns were reported in JULICH during the early hours, but this was not confirmed. At 1510 hours, ten (10) tanks were picked up moving SW along BRKLENZ (0076) to BAAL (9971) road. Artillery fire was placed on them but no results were obtained at close of period.

2. TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS

a. 2nd TD Group - K825456, (RAHE, GERMANY), atchd XIX Corps. Completed plans for ROER RIVER crossing operation. Maintained close liaison with atchd TD units and TD units in Corps throughout the period. Operating Fire Control Center to control indirect fires of 702nd and 801st TD Bns. Coordinated AF defense in Corps sector.

b. 643rd TD Bn (SP) - K610373, forward CP at K894547, atchd 83rd Inf. Div. Bn converted to self-propelled effective 22 Feb 45. Reorganization to be affected piecemeal as equipment becomes available. Co's in assembly areas as follows: "A" Co at K612376, "B" Co. at K619373 - one (1) platoon at K951551; "C" Co. at K614374; and Hon Co at K612377. Units continued maintenance and preparation for future operations. Bn has two (2) M-18's, 36 3" guns, and 36 prime movers operational.

c. 702nd TD Bn (SP) - K961572, atchd 2nd TD Group. Bn remained in direct and indirect firing positions along XIX Corps front lines. Briefing of Officers and preparation of Co's to perform secondary mission for coming operation was accomplished. Destroyed one (1) SP 88mm. Bn. has 36 M-36's operational.

d. 801st TD Bn (T) - K836467; forward CP at K978561. Bn (-) occupying indirect fire positions via ALDENHOVEN in support of Corps Arty. Co's disposed as follows: "A" Co at K970554 under Bn control; "B" Co. at K966562, atchd 29th Inf Div; "C" Co. at K960566, under Bn control. Bn fired 3,354 rounds 3" HE indirect in support of Corps arty during period. "B" Co relieved of secondary mission and attached 29th Div at 0700A hours. Bn has 36 3" guns and 36 prime movers operational.

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e. 821st TD Bn (SP) - K969574 (DURBOSLAR, GERMANY), atchd 29th Inf Div. "A" and "B" Co's fired a total of 4,136 rounds 3" HE and nine (9) rounds smoke S/C in support of river crossing operation. "C" Co. atchd 17th Inf for river crossing operation in assembly vic BOHRIM, GERMANY. Bn has 36 M-10's operational.

f. 823rd TD Bn (SP) - K968499, atchd 30th Inf Div. "A" Co atchd 119th Inf, "B" Co. atchd 120th Inf, and "C" Co under Bn control. Bn fired 400 rounds 3" HE indirect during period and continued preparations for future operations. Bn received three (3) reinforcements (EM) during period. 36 M-10's, four (4) 3" guns, and 12 prime movers operational.

PAUL B. BELL,
Lt. Col., F. A.,
Antitank Officer



OFFICIAL:

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 * Auth: CG, XIX Corps *
 * Init: *
 * Date: 24 February 1945 *
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HEADQUARTERS
 SECOND TANK DESTROYER GROUP
 Office of the XIX Corps Antitank Officer
 APO 339, U. S. Army

No. 1.

24 February 1945

1. ENEMY ARMORED OPERATIONS:

Four (4) deserters from 3rd PG Div picked up in V Corps state that the Div was pulling out of the line and heading E. Four (4) tanks or SP guns in MERSCH at 1230 were dive-bombed - air claims three (3) knocked out and one (1) withdrew under cover. Four (4) tanks or SP's were reported in STEINSTRAS at 1430. Three (3) tanks or SP's and one (1) AT gun located in chateau at F111559 at 1155 hours by 30th Div. 29th Div Arty reported three (3) tanks via FO52608 at 1503 hours. Air was to hit two (2) tanks or SP guns moving into PATTERN at 1620 hours but no results reported. At 1530 hours, three (3) tanks or SP's were reported via FO52608. At close of period, Tac/R reported five (5) armored vehicles in HAMBACH FOREST. Arty was to hit them.

2. TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS:

a. 2nd TD Group - Continued to operate a Fire Control Center, supervised five (5) TD Bns, and at 1100A hours closed into a new OP in ALSDORF (K883543).

b. Tank Destroyer Battalions:

(1) Changes in dispositions:

a. 702nd TD Bn - A-3, direct fire to indirect fire at FO35523.

b. 821st TD Bn - "A" and "C" Co's crossed ROER RIVER taking up platoon positions on all objectives in sector of 29th Division.

c. 823rd TD Bn - "A", "B", "C", and Rcn Co. crossed ROER RIVER taking up platoon positions on all objectives in sector of 30th Infantry Division.

(2) 821st and 823rd TD Bns supported infantry attacks.

(3) Missions:

	643	702	801	821	823
Tanks	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Veh-O	0	0	0	0	0
Conc. Fired	0	10	45	0	0
SP Guns	0	0	0	0	0
HE MC fired	0	900	3096	28	8001 (030001 to 041200)
HE RC fired	0	0	0	0	0
APC fired	0	0	0	4	0
Bns Operational	12	36	36	55	36

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 *Auth: CG, XIX Corps *
 *Init: *
 *Date: 25 February 1945 *
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HEADQUARTERS
 SECOND TANK DESTROYER GROUP
 Office of the XIX Corps Antitank Officer
 APO 339, U. S. Army



No. 2 (From 241800A - 251200A February 1945)

25 February 1945

1. ENEMY ARMORED OPERATIONS

823rd TD Bn knocked out two (2) Mk IV, one (1) Mk VI, and one (1) AT gun during period, via STEINSTRASS. The 821st TD Bn knocked out one (1) AT gun via MERSCH during the morning. SP guns or tanks, continued placing direct fire on our troops from dug-in or hidden positions. Enemy armor again reacted defensively. No coordinated attack was received nor were any large concentrations reported. Air picked up numerous armored vehicles movement throughout the day, along the Corps front and in the GREVENBROICH - BEDBURG area. The two (2) tanks destroyed by the 823rd TD Bn, were the only positive tank identifications during the period. Our air worked over what was believed to be elms of the 11th Pz Div on the roads W of BEDBURG. Tank activity was again reported in HAMBACH FOREST.

2. TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS:

a. 2nd TD Group - Coordinated AT defense within the Corps. Five (5) Bns employed.

b. Tank Destroyer Battalions:

(1) Changes in dispositions:

- a. 643rd TD Bn reconnoitered positions via PATTERN and MERSCH.
- b. 702nd TD Bn moving two (2) Co's to indirect fire positions in via NIEDERZIER with mission of firing on bridges across ERFT CANAL.
- c. 801st TD Bn atchd 113th Cavalry Group entered primary mission with "A" Co. near NIEDERZIER, "B" Co. near KRAUTHAUSEN and "G" Co. in reserve at PIER.
- d. 821st TD Bn in JULICH, with units under Bn control. Continued close support of 29th Infantry Division.
- e. 823rd TD Bn at F10552 continued close support of 30th Infantry Div.

(2) 821st destroyed one (1) AT gun and lost four (4) M-10's - two (2) of which burned. 823rd destroyed one (1) Mk VI and one (1) Mk IV tank with no losses.

(3) Missions:

	<u>643</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>801</u>	<u>821</u>	<u>823</u>
Tanks	0	0	0	0	2 1
SP Guns	0	0	0	0	0 1
Miscellaneous Vehicles	0	0	0	1	0 1
Coms. Fired (Indirect)	0	5	0	0	0
HE NC Fired	0	1769	0	91	-
HE RC Fired	0	0	0	0	0
APC Fired	0	0	0	-	-
Guns Operational	11	36	36	32	35

OFFICIAL:

LOHSE
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PAUL B. BELL,
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* Init: *
* Date: 23 February 1945 *



**HEADQUARTERS
SECOND TANK DESTROYER GROUP
Office of the XIX Corps Antitank Officer
APO 339, U. S. Army**

No. 3 (Period 251200A - 261200A February 1945)

23 February 1945

1. ENEMY ARMORED OPERATIONS

The tiger tank knocked out by the 823rd TD Bn yesterday, continued using its gun against advancing Inf. It was silenced early in the period. The 821st TD Bn set fire to a tank or SP gun but further reports were not obtained. This unit also fired several rounds of APC in support of the 29th Div, at what was believed to be an SP gun or tank camouflaged in a haystack. The gun was silenced but identification was not possible at close of period. An estimated 30 tanks and SP guns operated in Corps zone during period. At 1730 forces advancing on the sugar factory via TITZ - AMELN were counterattacked by two (2) tanks and infantry. At close of period this force was receiving fire from four (4) tanks in KALLRATH. Enemy armor operating against us appeared to be more aggressive than during previous period. But as usual, they worked in close support of Inf, harassing our forces with direct fire from concealed positions.

2. TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS:

a. 2nd TD Group - Coordinated AT defense within the Corps. Operating Fire Control Center. Five (5) Bns employed.

b. Tank Destroyer Battalions:

(1) Changes in dispositions:

- a. 643rd TD Bn. - Bn (-) closed in new CP via ALSDORF. "B" Co. continued supporting 550th Inf with platoons on all forward objectives taken during period. "C" Co. in assembly position via HONGEN.
- b. 702nd TD Bn. - Two (2) Co's moved to indirect fire positions SW and N of NIEDERZIER. Co "C" atchd CC "B", 2 AD effective 260930A and was on the move with CC "B".
- c. 801st TD Bn. - "C" Co in assembly position SE of NIEDERZIER displacing from via PIER.
- d. 821st TD Bn. - Via JULICH with platoons under Bn control. Plats. on objectives taken by Div and disposed in depth in Div sector.
- e. 823rd TD Bn. - Continued close support of 30th Inf with platoons on forward objectives taken during period.

(2) Activities:

- a. 821st TD Bn destroyed one (1) enemy vehicle believed to be a Mk IV and captured seven (7) PW's. 823rd TD Bn ("A" Co.) fired on concentration of enemy Inf with excellent results. Unit destroyed one (1) pill box, two (2) Mk nests, two (2) 20mm AA guns, one (1) Mk IV and another Mk IV is probable.

(3) Missions:

	643	702	801	821	823
Tanks	0	0	0	1	1
Miss Weapons & Equip.	0	0	0	0	1
Conc. Fired (Indirect)	0	0	0	-	-
HE MC Fired	0	1500	0	89	145

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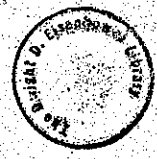
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	<u>614</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>801</u>	<u>821</u>	<u>825</u>
HE RC Fired	0	0	0	0	0
APC Fired	0	0	0	31	12
Guns Operational	24 (T) 11 (SP)	36	36	30	35

PAUL B. BELL,
Lt. Col., F. A.
Commanding

OFFICIAL:

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 * Date: 27 February 45 *



HEADQUARTERS
 SECOND TANK DESTROYER GROUP
 Office of the XIX Corps Antitank Officer
 APO 339, U. S. Army

No. 4 (Period 261200A - 271200A February 1945)

27 February 1945

1. ENEMY ARMORED OPERATIONS

The 821st TD Bn with the 29th Inf Div, knocked out a Mk VI, a Mk IV and took a Mk IV intact, in the late afternoon of the 26th. Ron elms of this unit knocked out two (2) arm'd cars in JACKENRATH during period covered by this report. At least two (2) Tigers were encountered near this town. The 30th Inf Div ran into 10 - 15 tanks and claim destruction of at least five (5). Arty fire dispersed 12 tanks moving toward HOHEMHOLZ at 1420 hrs. Enemy armor continued to support its infantry in small atks and from concealed posns. An estimated 25 tanks or SP guns operated in Corps Zone during period. Very little movement reported by our fighter bombers.

2. TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS:

a. 2nd TD Group - Coordinated AT defense within the Corps. Operating Fire Control Center. Five (5) Bns employed.

b. Tank Destroyer Battalions:

(1) Changes in dispositions:

- a. 643rd TD Bn: - No change.
- b. 702nd TD Bn: - Bn relieved attachment 2nd TD Group and atchd 2nd Arm'd Div 270700A Feb 45. Co "A" via MERSCH. Co "B" no change - in indirect fire posns firing call missions. Co "C" supporting CC"B" - plats on road blocks - STEINSTRASS and OBEREMBI.
- c. 801st TD Bn: - No change.
- d. 821st TD Bn: - Bn CP displaced via JULICH to TITZ (F080685). Co's "A", "B", and "C" supporting Div via KYBERG - BORSCHMICH - OTZENRATH.
- e. 823rd TD Bn: - Bn displaced to RODINGEN - closed 1100. "A" Co in RODINGEN. "B" Co - 2B via KALRATH, B1 via KIRCHERTEN, B3 via FLO9617. "C" Co in KIRCHERTEN, C1 and C2 via KIRCH - TROISBOUF.

(2) Activities:

- a. 821st TD Bn - Destroyed one (1) Mk IV.
- b. 702nd TD Bn - Fired 5 concentrations for a total of 2640 rds 90mm HE indirect.

(3) Missions:

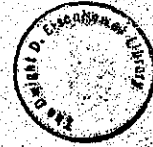
	643	702	801	821	823
Tanks	0	0	0	1	0
Misc Weapons & Equip	0	0	0	0	0
Cons. Fired (Indirect)	0	5	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	2640	0	0	0

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	<u>643</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>801</u>	<u>821</u>	<u>823</u>
HE MG Fired	0	0	0	0	0
APC Fired	0	0	0	0	0
Guns Operational	25 (T) 12 (SP)	36	36	25	31

PAUL B. BELL,
Lt. Col., F. A.,
Commanding



OFFICIAL:

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 *Auth: CG, XIX Corps *
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 Date: 28 February 1945

HEADQUARTERS
SECOND TANK DESTROYER GROUP
 Office of the XIX Corps, Antitank Officer
 APO 359, U. S. Army

No. 5 (Period 271200A - 281200A February 1945)

28 February 1945

1. ENEMY ARMORED OPERATIONS

Tac/R picked up numerous formations, though no large groups were reported. Our Inf and armor encountered scattered groups of tanks or SP guns which continued their defensive tactics. Air reported ten (10) tanks in a field displaying red panels at 1105 hours. PW's reported tanks in RHEYDT. The area E of the BRPT was reported by air to be active, with several groups of armored vehicles or tanks seen.

2. TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS:

a. 2nd TD Group - Coordinated AT defense within the Corps. Five (5) Bns. employed.

b. Tank Destroyer Battalions:

(1) Changes in Dispositions:

- a. 643rd TD Bn. - Moved to FO56662 - closed 1115A hours.
- b. 702nd TD Bn. - Bn. CP FO35614. "A" Co. moved from vic MERSCH to support CC "A" in attack on objectives JUCHEN and STESSEN. "C" Co. stand CC "R", moved N from vic STEINSTRASS to support attack on objective - road from MUNCHEN GLADBACH to NEUSS. "B" Co. supporting CC "R" protecting flanks.
- c. 801st TD Bn. - Moved to LICH with Co "C" indirect position vic STEINSTRASS, Co "A" in direct fire positions vic NIEDERRE and Co "B" in assembly area vic OBEREMBY. No missions fired.
- d. 821st TD Bn. - Captured 28 PW's in TETZ and eight (8) in JAGERATH. (Not previously reported). Bn CP moved to KUCKHOVEN. Bn. giving direct support to 29th Inf. Div.
- e. 823rd TD Bn. - Bn CP no change. A-3 has one (1) section in KONIGSHOVEN and one (1) in REISDORF.

(2) Activities:

- a. 823rd TD Bn. - "B" Co. destroyed one (1) Mk V, captured 108 PW's, destroyed two (2) MG nests. Bn. giving direct support to attack of 30th Inf. Div.

(3) Missions:

	643	702	801	821	823
Tanks	0	0	0	0	1
Misc. Weapons & Equip.	0	0	0	0	2
Conc. Fired (Indirect)	8	1	0	0	0
HE MG Fired	40	2600	117	0	111
HE RC Fired	0	0	0	0	0
APC Fired	0	0	0	88	0
Guns Operational	25 (T) 12 (SP)	38	36	25	29

OFFICIAL:

LOHSE
S-3

PAUL B. BELL,
Lt. Col., P. A.,
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