

HEADQUARTERS, 3rd TANK DESTROYER GROUP  
APO 230

(1)

2 October 1944

SUBJECT: Action Against The Enemy, Reports After/After Action Report

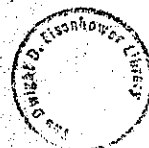
TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.  
(Through Channels)

1. Tank Destroyer Units Operating in the V Corps Sector during the period 1 Sept through 30 Sept 1944, and attachments were:

<u>TD UNITS</u>	<u>DATES OPERATIONAL WITH CORPS</u>	<u>ATTACHED TO</u>
3rd TD Group	1-30 Sept 1944	V Corps
893rd TD Bn (SP)	1-30 Sept 1944	4th Inf Div
801st TD Bn (Towed)	1-30 Sept 1944	4th Inf Div
630th TD Bn (Towed)	1-30 Sept 1944	28th Inf Div
629th TD Bn (SP)	1-14 Sept 1944	5th Arm'd Div
	15-30 Sept 1944	28th Inf Div
628th TD Bn (SP)	1-30 Sept 1944	5th Arm'd Div

2. During the period, the following targets were engaged by Tank Destroyers of V Corps with results indicated:

- a. Tanks knocked out-----56
    - Mk V-----13
    - Mk IV-----39
    - Sherman-----1  
(Captured and in use by enemy)
    - Unidentified-----3
  - Halftracks knocked out-----13
  - SP Guns knocked out-----1
  - AT Guns knocked out (20-mm, 57-mm,  
75-mm)-----25
  - 88-mm Guns knocked out-----5
  - General Purpose vehicles destroyed-----24
  - Machine Gun Positions destroyed-----30
  - Mortar Positions destroyed-----2
  - Strongpoints reduced-----10
  - Roadblocks reduced-----2
  - Pillboxes destroyed-----118
  - Pillboxes damaged-----3
  - OP's neutralized-----6
- b. Known enemy killed-----413
  - P/W captured-----629



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- c. Captured intact:
  - American 1/4 Ton Truck (in use by enemy) 1
  - General Purpose vehicles----- 31
  - Bicycles-----Truckloads----- 3

During the period, Tank Destroyer Battalions operated in close support of the infantry. During mobile situations, the SP Destroyers moved with the leading elements and engaged targets of opportunity as the advance was held up. The less mobile towed guns covered road blocks on the flanks of the columns and remained in reserve. As the situation became more stable in the latter part of the period, the SP Tank Destroyers remained in close support of front line troops in covered positions slightly to the rear, and towed guns took up positions in defense of the Division Command Post and in protection of Regimental and Division flanks. Reserve guns of both the SP and Towed guns engaged in indirect fire during the stable period.

In several instances, Tank Destroyers broke up and turned back local enemy infantry counterattacks with great loss to the enemy by direct fire, RA, and automatic weapons from positions within the infantry lines. Aside from the great destructive capabilities of Tank Destroyers thus employed, the continuous presence of Tank Destroyers unquestionably bolstered the morale of the infantry tremendously.

The engaging and destroying of targets listed above by Tank Destroyers has proven their worth in adaptability and versatility with or without the destruction of tanks. The Tank Destroyer is the most flexible and destructive weapon on the battlefield.

3. Targets for Tank Destroyer Guns in indirect fire positions with the Corps during the period were reported enemy concentrations and crossroads. Fire was unobserved interdictionary and harassing.

- a. Concentrations-----102
- b. Rounds-----1330

CHURCH M. MATTHEWS  
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Commanding



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