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HEADQUARTERS
5TH TANK DESTROYER GROUP
APO 758, U.S. ARMY

29 May 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Operations Against the Enemy.

TO : Adjutant General, Army War College, War Department, Washington, D. C.

THROUGH: Commanding General, Seventh U. S. Army, APO 758, U.S. Army (Attention: Historian), and Commanding General, XV Corps, APO 436, U. S. Army.

1. In compliance with AR 345-105 dtd 18 Nov 1929, and change 4, dtd 10 Aug 1944; ltr, Hq ETOUSA, Subject: "Handling of Historical Documents in the European Theater of Operations", file AG 312.1 Op History, dtd 14 July 1944; and Sec IV, Bulletin 73, Headquarters, Seventh Army, dtd 16 May 1945, the following report is submitted.

2. Arabic numerals following certain statements refer to the serial numbers of the pertinent entries in the attached Unit Journal of this organization. See inclosure #3.

3. Report After Operations Against the Enemy, 010001 May to 102400 May 1945:

1 May 1945, Hq 5th TD Group, assigned to the Seventh Army and attached to XV Corps, was located in DACHAU, Germany (V/745690). The mission of 5th TD Group was to coordinate the antitank defense of the Corps, the Group Commander acting as Corps AT officer. May 1st there were three TD battalions in XV Corps, each attached to an infantry division. The 645th TD Bn (SP - M-36) was attached to the 45th Div in an assembly area near MUNCHEN. This battalion was performing maintenance, rehabilitation, and occupational duties. The 692d TD Bn (SP - M-36) was attached to the 42d Div, in an assembly area SE of MUNCHEN, prepared to move SE on Corps order. The 601st TD Bn (SP - M-36) attached to the 3d Div was in a similar position to the 692d TD Bn. 3 PW's were apprehended that day by Hq, 5th TD Group, bringing the total to 108 (1). Enemy tank activity had nearly ceased, but two tanks were captured by 3d Div, and two were observed by the 42d Div (16).

2 May, 5th TD Group moved its CP to MUNCHEN (MUNICH), a distance of 21 miles.

The following day, 3 May, Opns Instns #192, Hq XV Corps, directed that the Corps attack SW and capture SALZBURG, Austria (33). For the operation the 86th Inf Div was attached, with the 807th TD Bn (SP - M-18).

On 4 May, the Group S-3 visited the 807th TD Bn and oriented the staff on TD reports and procedures within the Corps (54).

There was no enemy armor reported on 2 May, but on 3 May the 601st TD Bn destroyed an SP gun while supporting the advance of the 3d Div. The 4th of May the last two tanks encountered by the XV Corps were destroyed by the 20th Armd Div (63).

5 May, as per Opns Instns #193, XV Corps, the Corps assembled in vicinity of SALZBURG, Austria. Therefore Group CP moved to SALZBURG, Austria, on 5 May, traveling 94 miles. An advance CP was set up temporarily in BERCHTESGADEN, Germany, while enroute to SALZBURG. (72) (73)

May 6, the CO and S-2 of the 807th TD Bn reported into the Group CP and conferred with the Group Commander on the tactical situation (86). The G-1 of XV Corps detailed 10 EM from Hq and Hq Co, 5th TD Group to the Provost Marshal (99). These men guarded the Corps PWE and escorted high-ranking German officers for a period of three days. The 45th Div, 645th TD Bn attached, was relieved of attachment to XV Corps.

7 May all units of Corps were stopped in position and began to secure and police the areas occupied (65). TD battalions in the Corps were assigned sectors by the divisions to which they were attached and began these duties. Hq, 5th TD Group remained in SALZBURG. The message announcing the surrender of all German forces in

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the Corps area as of 070141B May was received (105).

9 May at 0001B all firing ceased. Personnel of Hq and Hq Co, 5th TD Group began a two-day period of rehabilitation and preparation for an inspection on 11 May. No other activities were carried out.

The chaplain of 5th TD Group was attached to 645th TD Bn for the period and gave services for personnel of that and nearby units.

The Group dentists were at the 601st TD Bn for the period and performed dental treatment for that unit and Hq, 5th TD Group.

For the period, the CO, 5th TD Group, served as AT Officer for XV Corps. During this period XV Corps is credited with knocking out six tanks and one SP gun. Since XV Corps became operational 311600B July 1944, the cumulative total of tanks and SP guns destroyed by all troops assigned, attached, or in support of XV Corps totals 1155. Of these 1155 tanks and SP guns destroyed, 89 were eliminated by the 5th TD Group and 773d TD Bn while on temporary detached service with V Corps during the period 17 - 22 August 1944.

L. E. Jacoby
 L. E. JACOBY
 Colonel, FA
 Commanding

4 Incls.

- Incl #1 - Statistical Data for Period 31 July 1944 to 10 May 1945
 - Section I - Chart of Group CP Locations
 - Section II - Armored Casualties Inflicted on Enemy
 - Section III - Decorations and Awards
 - Section IV - Battle and Non-Battle Casualties
 - Section V - Prisoners of War Taken
 - Section VI - Period of Service of Tank Destroyer Battalions with XV Corps or 5th TD Group.
- Incl #2 - Complete Personnel Roster
- Incl #3 - Unit Journal and Supporting Papers of Hq, 5th TD Group, 1 - 10 May 1945.
- Incl #4 - Record of AT Section, XV Corps of Enemy Armor destroyed during the period 1 - 10 May 1945

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HEADQUARTERS
5TH TANK DESTROYER GROUP
APO 758, U.S. ARMY

7 June 1945



SUBJECT: Report After Operations Against the Enemy.

TO : Adjutant General, Army War College, War Department, Washington, D. C.

THROUGH: Commanding General, Seventh U. S. Army, APO 758, U. S. Army (Attention: Historian), and Commanding General, XV Corps, APO 436, U. S. Army.

1. In compliance with AR 345-105 dtd 18 Nov 1929, and change 4, dtd 10 Aug 1944; ltr, Hq ETOUSA, Subject: "Handling of Historical Documents in the European Theater of Operations", file AG 312.1 Op History, dtd 14 July 1944.

2. Report After Operations, 110001 May to 312400 May 1945.

11 May 1945 Hq 5th TD Group was located in SALZBURG, Austria (Z 9837). 5th TD Group was assigned to Seventh Army and attached to XV Corps. All tank destroyer battalions in the Corps were attached to infantry divisions. They were: the 601st TD Bn (SP - M-36) attached to 3rd Inf Div, the 692d TD Bn (SP - M-36) attached to the 42nd Inf Div, and the 807th TD Bn (SP - M-18) attached to the 86th Inf Div. All TD battalions were performing occupational duties.

In finishing up the three day program of rest and care of equipment, the Group Commander inspected the EM of Hq Company during the morning of 11 May.

On 12th May, the officers and enlisted men of Hq and Hq Co, 5th TD Group, attended the showing of "Two Down and One to Go," a compulsory War Department film concerning the readjustment program following V-E Day.

On 12th May, the 807th TD Bn, attached to the 86th Division, was relieved of attachment to the XV Corps and moved NE from the Corps area. 11 May, the 813th TD Bn, attached to 101 Abn Div joined XV Corps. The battalion was in the process of assembling in the BAD REICHENHALL area (E 8416).

14th May, Hq and Hq Co initiated a daily 3 hour course in orientation, education, and athletics. The TD battalions were working on a program of their own in conjunction with the divisions to which attached.

XV Corps requested an officer to be placed on S/D with G-4 Section for liaison with certain German forces in XV Corps zone. Group Asst S-3 was selected, and he became the liaison officer between the G-4 Section and CG, Wehrkreis XVIII, with the mission of locating German Headquarters, QM, Signal, and Ordnance depots and dumps. This period of S/D lasted until 22 May at which time G-4, XV Corps, requested the transfer of this officer to Hq, XV Corps.

The Armored Section of Seventh Army delegated 5th TD Group with the responsibility of consolidating and cutting the order for all separate Tank and TD units in the army, which sent approximately 100 men and 2 officers back to the US for separation under readjustment regulations. This work was completed on 20th May and published as Special Orders #9, this headquarters.

During this period the Special Service Officer, 5th TD Group, furnished daily moving pictures for personnel of 601st TD Bn and Hq Co, 5th TD Group.

16th May, G-1, XV Corps, gave 5th TD Group the responsibility of running a Corps transient officers hotel with a capacity of 110 persons. The hotel selected was staffed by civilian personnel and it was necessary for 5th TD Group to furnish two officers and 16 enlisted men to supervise the hotel and sufficient mess personnel to do the cooking. In order to conserve personnel, Hq, 5th TD Group moved to the hotel, and Hq Co moved to the near vicinity in order to use the hotel mess facilities.

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18th May a replacement Protestant chaplain, Lieutenant Moshier, reported to the Group. He was oriented on his new assignment and remained with the group until 21st May when he was placed on temporary duty with the 813th TD Bn.

22nd May, Tec 5 Frank E. McAlevy, truck driver for daily supplies for Hq Co, 5th TD Group, was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service during operations against the enemy. Four other Bronze Star Awards were submitted to XV Corps for approval during the month.

At the end of the period a new schedule for the Educational and Recreational program was drawn up. This schedule tentatively embodied 12 hours of supervised activity per week; the remainder of the time was to be spent at operating the hotel, maintaining the Group Command Post duties and company duties of Hq Co.

During the period the dentists of 5th TD Group worked with personnel of 601st TD Bn. The Group chaplain was attached to 645th TD Bn until 17 May when he went on SD to XV Corps Rest Center at Nancy until the 23rd, at which time he joined the new chaplain at the 813th TD Bn.

L. E. Jacoby
L. E. JACOBY
Colonel, FA
Commanding



1 Incl.
Unit Journal and Supporting Papers of Hq,
5th TD Group, 11 - 31 May 1945

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