

S E C R E THEADQUARTERS
612th Tank Destroyer
Battalion

APO 230, New York, N.Y.

HISTORY - 612th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

The 612th Tank Destroyer Battalion was activated as a light battalion at Camp Swift, Texas, on 25 June 1942 under the command of Lt. Col. W.A. Hedden. The battalion was then assigned to Third Army, attached to VIII Corps, and in turn attached to the 95th Infantry Division. Later detached from VIII Corps and attached to Fifth Headquarters, Special Troops, Third Army. A cadre of two (2) officers and seventy-three enlisted men was furnished by the 631st Tank Destroyer Battalion. Three hundred and twenty five fillers were received from various Replacement Training Centers during the period July to December 1942. In July 1942 the Battalion was designated as self-propelled. Eleven officers were received from the 1st Student Training Regiment, Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, during November 1942, and thirteen officers from TD, OCS, on 9 Nov 42.

On 4 December 1942, the Battalion was assigned to Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Texas, and was on that date moved to Camp Bowie, Texas and attached to Basic Unit Training Center, 9th Tank Destroyer Group, where fillers were received as follows: One hundred twelve on 31 December 1942 from TD, RTC, and five hundred four from Induction Centers on 6 January 1943. Basic Training was completed at Camp Bowie, Texas. Maj Jos M. Deeley assumed command of the Battalion on 27 February 1943.

The Battalion moved to Camp Hood, Texas on 3 March 1943, and attached to Advanced Unit Training Center, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for advanced training. Later attached to 12th Tank Destroyer Group. Advanced training was completed on 12 June 1943, and on 14 June 1943 the Battalion moved to Camp Swift, Texas, assigned to Third Army and attached to Fifth Headquarters, Special Troops, Third Army. Later it was detached from 5th Headquarters, Special Troops, and attached to VIII Corps, 11th Tank Destroyer Group. On 13 Sept 1943 the Battalion was moved to the Third Army Maneuver Area in Louisiana, attached to 14th Headquarters, Special Troops, Third Army, where it participated in Third Army Maneuvers 15 Sept 1943 to 15 November 1943 and on 18 November 1943 was again moved to Camp Swift, Texas, and began an intensive training program to complete PQM requirements. Later it was detached from VIII Corps and attached to XVIII Corps, 11th Tank Destroyer Group. Later it was detached from XVIII Corps and assigned to Fourth Army and attached to XXIII Corps, 11th Tank Destroyer Group.

On 20 December 1943, the Bn was reorganized as a Towed Battalion, and one hundred fifty-two replacements were received from the 810th Tank Destroyer Battalion during December 1943. The Battalion was alerted on 18 February 1944, with readiness date 1 April 1944 which was later changed to 25 March 1944.

On 26 March 1944, the Battalion was moved from Camp Swift, Texas, to Staging Area at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey and assigned to New York P of E, arriving on 29 March 1944. On 4 April 1944 the Battalion was alerted for overseas movement and on 5 April 1944 was moved to New York Port of Embarkation and embarked

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His Majestys' Troop Transport "Ile de France". The Battalion sailed on 7 April 1944, and dropped anchor at Greenock, Scotland on 15 April 1944. The Battalion disembarked in two (2) groups at Greenock, Scotland, on 16 and 17 April, and moved by rail to Failand SummerTented Camp, arriving on 17 and 18 April, 1944, respectively. It was assigned to First Army, attached to V Corps and in turn attached to 3rd Tank Destroyer Group.

Battalion received an air raid alert at 0200 on 24 April 1944.

Battalion was alerted on order of 1st Army 15 April 1944 and began drawing supplies and equipment. Was fully equipped on 26 May 1944. Concurrently with the drawing and supplying of the organization, intensive training in meeting POM requirements (SSV) was undergone.

Forward echelon moved from Camp Failand to Barton Stacey "G" Camp on 27 May 1944, departing at 1400 and arriving at 1850. Rear echelon moved on 30 May 1944 to join the forward echelon at Barton Stacey.

On 11 June 1944 the battalion was alerted for movement by the RTO Andover to the marshalling area. Forward elements moved from Barton Stacey at 0600 on 12 June 1944 arriving in the marshalling area at 0952 on 12 June 1944. Battalion was billeted at Camp B 7 Brockinghurst, England. Second stage of waterproofing was completed. Lifebelts were issued and instructions given on their proper use. All men received partial payment of \$4.03. Three elements of Co B were alerted for movement to the Hards and cleared the marshalling area at 2300 hrs on 12 June 1944. At 1142 hrs 14 June 1944, Hqs & Hqs Co moved from the marshalling area and proceeded to the Hards. Capt Rosenblatt and his supply section along with Lt Grandy and his 1st Ren platoon were loaded whereas the remainder of the Group returned to the marshalling area. At 0215 hrs 15 June 1944 the remainder of Hqs & Hqs Co, Co A, elements of Co B, Co C and the Medical Detachment again moved from the marshalling area and proceeded to the Hards and began loading from Dock Q2. Loading commenced at 0518 hrs 15 June 1944 and was completed at 0922 hrs 15 June 1944. 304 EM, 16 O's, and 76 vehicles had been loaded on ~~EST~~ #542 which sailed at 0932 hrs 15 June 1944, anchoring in the harbor and leaving at 2400 hrs headed for France. Anchor was dropped off the coast of France at 1330 hrs 16 June 1944 and the first vehicle was unloaded at 1713 hrs 16 June 1944. After disembarking the column proceeded to Transit Area #2 where dewaterproofing was accomplished, after which the battalion moved out and closed into bivouac area for the night. At 1429 hrs ~~16~~ 17 June 1944 Bn CP was established in Foret De Gerisy, coordinates 643707 and liaison was established with the 2nd Infantry Division, battalion having been attached to that organization. On 17 June the remainder of Co C arrived at the Bn CP and on 18 June Lt Johnson and his vehicle arrived, making the forward echelon complete, comprising 575 EM and 25 O's. The rear echelon arrived at 2330 hrs on 25 June 1944 making ~~the~~ the Battalion complete.

The first elements of the forward echelon of the 612th TD Bn, consisting of two platoon of Co "B", landed in France on 14 and 15 June 1944 and immediately moved into position in the 2nd Infantry Division sector. The third platoon went into direct fire positions at the crossroads at Rte Littee, and the first platoon took up indirect fire positions near La Mave. The second platoon later joined the first platoon in indirect firing in the vicinity of

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La Mave. The remainder of the forward echelon arrived on 16 June 1944, the entire forward echelon being composed of 25 officer and 575 enlisted men. The battalion was at its complete strength of 35 officers and 813 enlisted men on 25 June 1944, upon the arrival of the rear echelon.

The battalion was attached to the 2nd Inf Div on arrival. Field Order Number 8, Hq V Corps, dated 18 June 1944 confirmed this attachment.

During the period of 16 to 18 June, the first and second platoons of Co "A", were in prepared anti-tank positions to protect the division right front from mechanized attack. The third platoon was in indirect fire position, firing unobserved harassing and interdiction fire. Co "B" was in prepared anti-tank position to protect the division left front from mechanized attack. Company "C" was in battalion reserve.

During the period of 18 to 20 June, first and third platoons of Co "A" were in prepared anti-tank position to protect the division right front from mechanized attack. The second platoon of Co "A" was in indirect fire position, firing unobserved harassing and interdiction fire. First and second platoons of Co "B" were in indirect fire positions, firing unobserved harassing and interdiction fire, and the third platoon of Co "B" was in prepared anti-tank position to protect the division central front from mechanized attack. Co "C" was in battalion reserve.

During the period of 20 to 27 June, the first and third platoons of Co "A" were in newly prepared anti-tank positions to protect the division right front from mechanized attack, and the second platoon was in indirect fire position, firing unobserved harassing and interdiction fire. The third platoon of Co "B" was in prepared anti-tank position to protect the division central front from mechanized attack. Co "C" was in battalion reserve. The first and second platoons of Co "B" continued firing unobserved harassing and interdiction fire from their previous indirect fire positions.

During the period of 28 to 30 June, the second and third platoons of Co "A" were in indirect fire positions, firing unobserved harassing and interdiction fire, whereas the first platoon was held in battalion reserve. Co "B" was in prepared anti-tank positions to protect the division right front from mechanized attack, and Co "C" was in prepared anti-tank positions to protect the division central front from mechanized attack.

During the period of 16 to 30 June, no battle casualties were sustained by this organization and no replacements were received, due to the fact that the battalion was well over-strength. Two officers were assigned the organization from the 2nd Infantry Division on 25 June 1944. The morale of the troops was high, and the fighting efficiency of troops was excellent during this period.

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The battalion is commanded by Lt. Col. JOSEPH M. BEELEY.
 Headquarters Co is commanded by Capt. JOHN B. MYERS.
 Co "A" is commanded by Capt. CHARLES A. HARDING.
 Co "B" is commanded by Capt. JOHN J. KENNEDY.
 Co "C" is commanded by 1st Lt. DICK H. KING.
 No changes in command were made during the period.



The strength of this organization at the beginning of the period reported on was 36 officers and 794 enlisted men. During the period of 1 July to 3 July Company "A" was in indirect fire positions, firing unobserved harassing and interdiction fire. Company "B" furnished anti-mechanized protection for the 2nd Infantry Division's right front while Company "C" furnished protection for the Division central front. On 3 July Company "C" sustained two battle casualties: one enlisted man killed in action, and one enlisted man wounded in action. On the same day one officer was assigned to this organization from the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

During the period 4 July to 6 July Company "A" furnished anti-mechanized protection for the Division central front while Company "B" furnished protection for the Division right front. Company "C" fired unobserved, harassing and interdiction fire from indirect fire positions.

During the period of 7 July to 16 July Company "A" furnished anti-mechanized protection for the Division left front, Company "B" for the Division central front, and Company "C" for the Division right front. During the attack on hill 192 Company "A" was in direct support of the 9th Infantry, Company "B" with the first Rcn platoon attached, was in direct support of the 23rd Infantry, and Company "C" with the Second Rcn platoon attached was in direct support of the 38th Infantry. On 12 July Company "C" sustained one battle casualty: one enlisted man wounded in action. On 15 July one enlisted man from Company "B" wounded in action.

During the period of 16 July to 20 July Companies "A", "B", & "C" continued to furnish anti-mechanized protection for the Division left, central and right front, respectively from their prepared positions. On 19 July seven officers and nineteen enlisted men were recommended for the award of Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. On 20 July nineteen enlisted men and six officers were awarded the Bronze Star Medal on General Order No 61, Headquarters 2nd Infantry Division, dated 20 July 1944.

During the period 21 July to 27 July the first and second platoons of Company "A" furnished anti-mechanized protection for the Division left front with the third platoon in reserve position. First and second platoons of Company "B" furnished protection for the Division central front, while the third platoon furnished protection for the Division left front. Company "C" furnished anti-mechanized protection for the Division right front. On 21 July Company "A" sustained four battle casualties: one enlisted man killed in action and three enlisted men wounded in action. On this same date, one enlisted man from Headquarters Company, first Rcn platoon was wounded in action. One half-track Company "A" was completely destroyed and was immediately replaced. One 3" gun was slightly damaged and was repaired and inspected by ordnance. On 24 July the following recommendations for awards

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were submitted to Division: Bronze Star Award for meritorious service, one officer and nineteen enlisted men; Bronze Star Award for gallantry in action, one officer and two enlisted men; Silver Star Award, three enlisted men. One of the above recommendations for award of Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service was submitted posthumously for Corporal Willis D. Smith, 34500874. General Order No. 77 Headquarters 2nd Infantry Division dated 25 July 1944 awarded Bronze Star Medal to one officer and nineteen enlisted men, one of the enlisted men's award being posthumous. Two 3" guns, Company "B" were hit by shrapnel on 26 July 1944, causing damage to said guns which were immediately replaced. Two enlisted men of Company "C" were wounded in action on 26 July. On 27 July Company "C" had one 3" gun replaced which had been damaged by shrapnel. General Order No. 79 Headquarters 2nd Infantry Division dated 27 July 1944 awarded the Bronze Star Medal posthumously to one enlisted man of Company "C", Pfc John W. Sowers, 35327011.

During the period 28 July to 31 July, Company "A" furnished close in anti-mechanized protection and support in the attack on the Division left front, while Company "B" and Company "C" furnished close in protection and support on the Division central and right front, respectively. On 28 July one enlisted man from Headquarters Company, first Rcn platoon, was wounded in action. On 30 July 1944 Company "C" was called upon to knock out an enemy OP situated in the church tower at St. Amand, France. Twenty four rounds were fired consisting of 3 concrete piercing, 5 A.P.C., and 16 H.E. Twenty hits were scored and the enemy OP was destroyed. Information was later received that additional damage resulted from this action: namely, 2 Germans killed and one German self-propelled gun destroyed. Seventeen enlisted men were recommended for the Bronze Star Award for meritorious service on 31 July 1944. Company "C" sustained 3 casualties on 31 July 1944 from enemy mortar fire.

The strength of the Battalion at the close of the period was 37 officers and 769 enlisted men. To date 2 enlisted men have been killed in action and 13 enlisted men wounded in action. No officer casualties have been sustained. There were no changes in command during the period.

The strength of this organization on 1 August 1944 was 37 officers and 768 enlisted men. During the period 1 August to 3 August 1944 Co "A" furnished close in anti-mechanized support and protection to the Division right front for the Ninth Infantry Regiment, Co "B" furnished close in anti-mechanized support and protection to the Division left front for the Thirty-Eighth Infantry Regiment, Co "C" was in mobile reserve. On 1 August 17 enlisted men were awarded the bronze star medal for meritorious service, and 1 officer and 3 enlisted men the bronze star medal for heroic achievements per General Order #85, Hqs 2d Infantry Division, dated 1 August 1944. On 2 August 1944, the first Rcn platoon was attached to Co "A" and the second Rcn platoon was detached from Co "C" and attached to Co "B". On 2 August 1944 at about 2030 hours Captain Charles A. Harding, commanding Co "A", and Private John J. Arvin, Co "A", were reported as missing in action. Captain Harding, together with his company officers and enlisted personnel of his company, were on a reconnaissance for gun positions in the vicinity of coordinates 599420. Private Arvin was wounded by enemy fire and Captain Harding remained with the wounded man after all small arms ammunition had been expended. As a result of this action Captain Harding and Private Arvin were in all probability captured by the enemy and were reported as missing in action. S/Sgt Maynard C. Taylor, Co "A" was also wounded in action

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in an unsuccessful attempt to rescue Captain Harding and Private Arvin. 1st Lt. William S. Groff, Jr. assumed command of Co "A".

The following fragmentary oral orders were issued late afternoon of 3 August 1944 by Col. Deeley to company commanders as follows:

To CO Co "A": Occupy, without delay, direct fire positions with platoons generally in area vicinity of 605403, 600405, 616405. Principal directions of fire to S and SW.

To CO Co "B": Occupy without delay direct fire positions as follows: 1 sec Vic of 630426, 1 sec Vic 632420, 1 plat Vic 637411, principal direction of fire E, NE and SE. One plat vic of 627391. Principal direction of fire SE.

To CO Co "C": Occupy without delay direct fire position as follows: 1 plat Vic of 631439, 1 plat Vic of 630403. Principal direction of fire E, NE and SE. Retain 1 plat in position of readiness Vic 610419 prepared to reinforce Co "A", Co "B" or either of the other two platoons Co "C". Continue rcn for position for this platoon.

On 3 August 1944 1 enlisted man from Co "A" and 1 enlisted man from Co "B" were slightly wounded in action.

During the period of 4 August to 6 August Co "A" and Co "B" and Co "C" furnished anti-mechanized protection for the division from prepared positions. The following fragmentary oral orders were issued AM of 4 August 1944 by Col. Deeley to company commanders as follows:

To CO Co "A": Move the platoon with position vicinity 607403 to direct fire position vicinity of 600393, principal directions of fire SW and S. Thereafter move no platoon before released by me, except to improve fields of fire.

To CO Co "B": Leave platoons in present positions until released by me. Move guns only to improve fields of fire. Maintain close liaison with 23rd Infantry and continuous reconnaissance for general position area as the attack advances, prepare to resume direct support of that unit on order.

To CO Co "C": Resume the direct support of the 38th Infantry. Place platoons in direct fire positions in this order: 1st, the platoon now in position of readiness (Bn reserve), 2nd, the platoon now in position near 627408, 3rd, the platoon now in position near 631439, but this platoon not to be moved until I give you clearance on it.

On 6 August 1944 10 enlisted men on detached service from the 41st Replacement Battalion were relieved of attachment and returned to that organization. On this same date the 1st and 2nd Rcn platoons were relieved of attachment to "A" and "B" Co, respectively, and reverted to battalion control. 4 half-tracks together with driver and assistant driver, were loaned to the engineers in exchange for four 6x6 trucks.

During the period of 7 August to 13 August Co "A" was attached to the 9th Infantry Regiment for movement to south of Vire and to furnish close-in anti-mechanized protection and support in the attack for the 9th Infantry Regiment. Co "B" and Co "C" furnished anti-mechanized protection for the division center and right fronts, respectively from prepared positions. On 7 August 1944 the companies were informed regarding the displaying of fluorescent panels and the repainting of white star markings where necessary. On 7 August 1944 the 1st Rcn platoon was again attached to "A" Co, and the 2nd Rcn platoon was alert-

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ed for movement. On this same date 2 officers and 23 enlisted men were recommended to 2d Division for Bronze Star awards for meritorious service and 2 enlisted men for the Silver Star award for gallantry in action. On 8 August 1944 2 officers and 23 enlisted men were awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service per General Order #92, Hqs 2d Infantry Division, dated 8 August 1944. On 9 August 1944 Co "A" was placed in direct support of the 38th Infantry, Co "B" in direct support of the 23rd Infantry, and Co "C" in direct support of the 9th Infantry. On 10 August 1944 Co "A" sustained 2 battle casualties as a result of a jeep being hit by enemy shell fire.

On 11 August 1944 1st Lt. Charles R. Mann was evacuated due to injuries received in a fall. Injuries sustained were broken pelvis bone and broken left forearm. On this same date the bronze star medal for meritorious service was awarded to Lt. Col. Deeley by General Order #93, Hqs 2d Infantry Division, dated 11 August 1944. On 12 August 1944 2 enlisted men from Co "A" were wounded in action. On 13 August 1944 1 enlisted man from Co "A" and 2 enlisted men from Co "B" were slightly wounded in action.

During the period 13 August to 15 August Co "A" with the 1st Rcn platoon attached furnished close-in anti-mechanized protection and support for the 9th Infantry Regiment, Co "B" for the 23rd Infantry Regiment, and Co "B" for the 38th Infantry Regiment. On 14 August 1944 17 enlisted men and 2 officers were recommended for the Bronze Star award for meritorious service. On 15 August 1944 7 enlisted men were recommended for Bronze Star awards for meritorious service. On this same date 2 officers and 17 enlisted men were awarded the bronze star medal for meritorious service per General Order #95, Hqs 2d Infantry Division, dated 15 August 1944. 1 enlisted man from Co "C" was wounded in action on 15 August 1944.

On 16 August 1944 Co "A" with the 1st Rcn platoon attached was in mobile reserve while Co "B" and Co "C" remained in support of the 23rd Infantry Regiment and the 38th Infantry Regiment, respectively. On this same date 1st Lt. Edward H. Farrington was injured in both hands by flying particles of a shell fuze which exploded in his hands. Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement was awarded to 1 enlisted man and the Oak Leaf Cluster of the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement was awarded to 1 enlisted man by General Order #96, Hq 2d Infantry Division, dated 16 August 1944.

On 17 and 18 August 1944 the entire battalion with the exception of one platoon of Co "C" was performing maintenance and rehabilitating personnel. On 17 August 1944 this organization was relieved of attachment to the 3rd Tank Destroyer Group, and on 18 August 1944 was attached to the Third United States Army and relieved from attachment to V Corps, effective 18 August 1944.

At 0611 hrs on 19 August 1944 the first vehicle of this battalion crossed the Division IP enroute to the vicinity of Lesneven, France. On 20 August 1944 at 0721 hrs the battalion closed in its new bivouac area, coordinated 067148, having travelled 231.2 miles enroute. After the arrival of the battalion in the vicinity of Ploudaniel on 20 August 1944 from operations in the vicinity of Vire, immediate reconnaissance and preparations for the attack on Brest were begun.

During the period 21 August to 24 August 1944 Co "A" with the 1st Rcn platoon attached, Co "B" with the 2nd Rcn Platoon attached and Co "C" furnished anti-

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mechanized protection for the 2nd Infantry Division, and continued reconnaissance and preparation for the coming attack on Brest. On 23 August 1 officer and 1 enlisted man were recommended for the Silver Star Award, 1 enlisted man for the Bronze Star Medal for Gallantry in Action, and 1 officer and 15 enlisted men for the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. On this same date 2 enlisted men of Co "B" were slightly wounded in action. On 24 August Co "B" was attached to the 23rd Infantry effective 1900 hrs (Authority VCGG), and Co "C" was in direct support of the 23rd Infantry for the coming operations. On 24 August 3 enlisted men of Co "B" were slightly wounded in action.

During the period 25 August to 28 August Co "A" with the 1st Rcn platoon attached furnished close-in anti-mechanized protection and support for the 9th Infantry Regiment, Co "B" with the 2nd Rcn platoon attached was attached to the 23rd Infantry Regiment and furnished direct fire support in the attack, and Co "C" furnished direct fire support to the 23rd Infantry Regiment in the attack. On 25 August 1944 2 enlisted men of Co "C" were wounded in action. On 26 August Co "C" sustained 2 battle casualties as result of enemy mortar fire and Co "B" 1 battle casualty as a result of enemy artillery fire. On 25 and 26 August Co "B" and Co "C" fired 311 rounds at the following targets: 5 concrete emplacements, 14 buildings, 3 dugouts, 1 machine gun, 1 mortar (suspected), 1 big gun, 1 entrenching detail larger than a squad, and troops and hedgerows suspected of containing troops. The results were as follows: 43 Germans estimated killed, 1 self-propelled gun (Infantry reported this gun was destroyed by fire on a building), 3 motorcycles, 1 truck (about 1 ton), 1 machine gun, and dugouts, gun emplacements, and buildings as listed above. On 27 August 1944 Co "B" fired 6 rounds HE on probably enemy pillbox. On this same date Co "C" 1st Platoon fired 35 rounds on an enemy self-propelled gun and mortar and believe both were destroyed. 2nd Platoon Co "C" fired 50 rounds on a concrete blockhouse, several houses, a suspected CP, and a gun emplacement. They estimated that 12 Germans were killed. On 28 August 1 enlisted man Co "C" was recommended for the Soldier's Medal. On this same date Co "B" fired 22 rounds, estimated results, 5 machine guns and 1 mortar destroyed, as well as 37 enemy personnel killed. Co "C" fired 32 rounds on enemy infantry and houses.

During the period 29 August to 31 August Co "A" continued to furnish support in the attack for the 9th Infantry Regiment, Co "B" remained attached to the 23rd Infantry Regiment, furnishing direct fire support, and Co "C" with the 1st Rcn Platoon attached, furnished direct fire support with its first and second platoons, while the third platoon furnished support by indirect fire. On 29 August Co "B" destroyed 2 enemy machine guns, 2 mortars, and killed or wounded 41 enemy personnel. In addition 9 houses were destroyed on order from higher headquarters and 123 rounds of ammunition were expended on the above targets. On this same date Co "C" fired 35 rounds at houses and suspected enemy gun positions, as well as 1377 rounds by indirect and unobserved fire. On 30 August Co "A" expended 32 rounds HE, 8 rounds APC, and 20 rounds of concrete piercing on the following targets: 1 house, (suspected enemy pillbox), 1 barn (enemy strongpoint), 1 house, (enemy strongpoint) and a suspected enemy machine gun nest. All of the above targets were destroyed and enemy casualties unknown. Co "B" fired 114 rounds HE, destroying 1 enemy machine gun, and estimated 35 enemy killed. In addition Co "C" fired 120 rounds destroying 2 enemy guns, and estimated 16 enemy killed. In addition Co "C" fired 1332 rounds of indirect and unobserved fire. On 30 August Co "B" sustained 1 battle casualty and on 31 August Pvt Haycock, Co "A", accidentally shot himself in the neck. On this same date Co "A" fired 42 rounds HE and 6 rounds AP, destroying 1 enemy pillbox and

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estimated 5 enemy killed. In addition 528 rounds were fired indirect. Co "B" expended 69 rounds ammunition, destroying enemy machine gun and killing approximately 30 enemy personnel. Co "C" expended 190 rounds destroying 2 enemy machine guns and estimated 30 enemy personnel killed.

During the period 25 August to 31 August the gun companies fired 1202 rounds direct fire with following enemy losses: 2 self-propelled guns (probably 1 additional), 12 machine guns, (probably 6 additional), 2 trucks, 3 motorcycles, 4 mortars, (probably 2 additional), 9 concrete emplacements, 4 dougouts, 4 guns (caliber undetermined), 1 CP, 24 buildings, and 311 estimated enemy casualties. During this same period 3250 rounds were fired indirect, all firing being interdiction, harassing and unobserved.

The strength of the battalion at the close of the period reported on was 34 officers and 728 enlisted men. To date 2 enlisted men have been killed in action, 1 officer and 1 enlisted man missing in action, and 35 enlisted men wounded in action. One change in command occurred during the period, namely, 1st Lt. Groff assuming command of Co "A" after Captain Charles A. Harding was reported as missing in action.

The strength of the Battalion on 1 September 1944 was 34 officers and 728 enlisted men. This organization remained attached to the 2d Infantry Division and continued to participate in the attack on the city of Brest.

During the period of 1 September to 3 September the 1st and 3rd platoons of Co "A" furnished close-in anti-mechanized protection and support in the attack for the 9th Infantry Regiment, while the 2nd platoon was in indirect fire positions. Co "B" with the 2nd Rcn platoon attached, furnished direct fire support to the 23rd Infantry. The 1st and 2d platoons of Co "C" together with the 1st Rcn platoon attached, furnished direct fire support in the attack for the 23rd Infantry, while the 3rd platoon was in indirect fire positions. The following oral orders by Colonel Deeley were issued on 1 September to CO Co "B": "Place a section in vicinity of 030501 for direct fire to the W and SW." On this same date Co "A" fired 133 rds of HE and 8 rds of AP, destroying one anti-tank gun, one machine gun nest, and an estimated 15 enemy casualties. Co "A" also fired 760 rds HE in indirect fire. On 1 September Co "C" fired 905 rds indirect and 192 rds direct fire destroying one enemy gun. On 2 September 1944 one enlisted man of Co "C" was wounded in action. On this same date Co "A" fired 683 rds indirect and Co "C" 618 rds. On 3 September 1944 the following oral orders were issued by Colonel Deeley: To CO Co "A": "Remain in direct support of 9th Infantry. Reconnoiter for possible position on higher ground near 986035 from which to support attack of the 38th Infantry by direct fire to the S." To CO Co "B": "Select and prepare platoon direct fire positions vicinity 995032 and 003021 from which you can deliver fire on hill 92 in support of the attack. Occupy the positions during darkness tonight. Establish liaison with 38th Infantry but continue also to maintain it with 23rd Infantry. Place section in AT position vicinity 010008 and 015004 tonight." On 3 September Co "A" fired 150 Rds HE indirect and Co "C" 34 rds. Troop Assignment No A-28 Hq, Third U S Army dated 21 August 1944 was received this date attaching the Battalion to Eighth Corps effective 18 August 1944.

During the period 4 September to 5 September Co "A" continued to support the 9th Infantry Regiment while Co "B", less the 1st platoon which was attached

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to the 38th Infantry for direct support, continued to support the 23rd Infantry. 1st platoon Co "C" furnished direct fire support to the 23rd Infantry, while the 2nd and 3rd platoons were in indirect fire positions. On 4 September Co "A" fired 102 rds indirect and Co "C" 32 rds indirect. On 5 September the following oral orders were issued by Colonel Deeley: To CO Co "A": "Prepare to replace 1st platoon Co "B" with one of your platoons tonight. Reconnoiter for direct fire positions for an additional platoon in that general area: field of fire desired: Hill 92 and Pencreach Hill." Later, "Move two platoons into the position selected, during darkness tonight. Establish and maintain liaison with 38th FA Bn which will control your fires." To CO Co "B": "Reconnoiter for and prepare to move 1st platoon to vicinity 3rd platoon during the night. Establish and maintain liaison with the 37th FA Bn which will control your fires." Later, "Move 1st platoon to the position selected." 1 enlisted man of Co "B" was slightly wounded in action. This battalion was relieved from assignment to First U.S. Army and attachment to Third US Army and assigned to the Ninth U.S. Army, effective 5 September 1944 per Troop Assignment No. 42, Hq 12th Army Group, dated 5 September 1944. On 5 September Co "B" fired 81 rds HE and 9 rds APC and reported approximately 65 enemy casualties. Co "C" fired 126 rds in indirect fire.

During the period of 6 September to 10 September Co "A" with the 1st Rcn platoon attached was in support of the 38th Infantry, Co "B" with the 2nd Rcn platoon attached was in direct support of the 23rd Infantry. The 1st and 3rd platoons of Co "C" were in direct fire positions in support of the 2d Infantry Division, while the 2nd platoon was in indirect fire positions. On 6 September one enlisted man of Co "B" was wounded in action. On this same date Co "A" fired 206 rds of HE and 35 rds of CP at enemy strongpoints, destroying 2 houses, 1 machine gun nest, and 1 AA gun. Co "B" fired 167 rds HE, 20 rds APC, and 3 rds CP on suspected enemy positions, destroying one enemy gun (caliber unknown) and an estimated 28 enemy casualties. 100 rds were fired indirect by Co "B" on this same date. On 7 September Co "A" fired 655 rds HE, 28 rds CP, and 29 rds APC at enemy strongpoints. Co "B" fired 469 rds HE and 19 rds APC at suspected enemy OP's and installations, while Co "C" fired 57 rds direct fire and 42 rds indirect. On 8 September Co "A" knocked out 2 machine gun nests, 3 AA guns, 1 horse-drawn carriage with estimated enemy casualties placed at 20. 292 rds of HE, 17 APC and 24 CP were fired at the above-named targets. Co "B" fired 131 rds HE, and 47 APC, destroying 2 enemy AA guns, one SP gun, one mortar, and 39 enemy personnel. Co "C" fired 211 rds direct, and 148 rds indirect. On 9 September Co "B" fired 90 rds HE at enemy locations of personnel. On this same date 11 prisoners were captured by Co "B". On 9 September the following oral orders were issued by Colonel Deeley: To CO Co "B": "Prepare to move two platoons from hill 105 to hill 92." Later, "Move the two platoons to the positions selected". Later, "Move 3rd platoon to the vicinity 987995 as soon as that area has been cleared." On 10 September 1944 Co "B" fired 17 rds HE and 9 rds APC, destroying one enemy machine gun, 1 AA gun, and wounding 13 enemy personnel.

During the period 11 September to 12 September Co "A" remained in direct support for the 38th Infantry, Co "B" for the 23rd Infantry, and Co "C" was in general support from an assembly area. The following oral order was issued by Colonel Deeley on 11 September: To CO's Co's A, B, & C: "Follow the Infantry closely with reconnaissance for gun positions from which you will be able to fire on and over the wall." On this same date 2 enlisted men of Co "B" were wounded in action. Co "B" fired 2 rds HE at an enemy pillbox on 11 September. The following oral order was issued by Colonel Deeley on 12 September: To CO

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Co "C": "Contact CO 9th Infantry and reconnoiter for positions in his zone for direct fire to the S. Later: "Occupy during darkness tonight the positions selected." On this same date Co "B" expended 76 rds HE and 78 rds APC, destroying 1 enemy 6 inch naval gun, ammunition dump, 2 pillboxes, 2 underground dugouts, a captured M-8, machine gun nest, and 28 enemy personnel wounded or killed.

During the period 13 September to 18 September Co "A" remained in direct support for the 38th Infantry, Co "B" in direct support of the 23rd Infantry, and Co "C" was in direct support of the 9th Infantry. On 13 September Co "B" fired 104 rds HE and 87 rds APC at enemy installations and probable enemy OPs. The following oral order was issued by Colonel Deeley on 14 September: To CO Co "A": "Move platoons to vicinity of present positions of "C" Co's platoons for direct fire in support of 38th Infantry". On this same date Co "B" fired 190 rds HE and 126 rds APC destroying one enemy pillbox and 2 machine guns, and Co "C" fired 613 rds direct into the city of Brest. On 15 September 1944 d enlisted men of Co "A" were wounded in action by enemy artillery. Co "A" fired 460 rds direct fire at enemy strongpoints on 15 September. On this same date Co "B" fired 171 rds HE and 89 APC on suspected enemy positions, possible OPs and area concealing enemy personnel. On this same date Co "C" fired 500 rds direct at enemy installations and pillboxes. The following oral order was issued by Colonel Deeley on 16 September: To CO Co "A": "Move platoons to direct fire positions vicinity 952999 tonight". On this same date Co "A" fired 200 rds at enemy strongpoints and Co "B" fired 145 rds HE and 62 rds APC, destroying 1 enemy machine gun and a possible enemy OP. Co "C" fired 501 rds at buildings in Brest and in addition fired 700 rds of Captured German 20MM HE. On 17 September 1 enlisted man of Co "C" was slightly wounded in action. On this same date Co "B" fired 171 rds HE and 142 rds APC, destroying 6 enemy pillboxes, 2 machine guns and several buildings concealing snipers. On this same date Co "B" assisted the Infantry in capturing 8 prisoners.

During the period of 18 September to 26 September the Battalion was assembled near Landerneau, France, performing maintenance on vehicles and equipment and rehabilitating personnel. On 18 September 1944, Captain Charles A. Harding (MIA) and S Sgt Maynard C. Taylor were awarded the Bronze Star Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster) for gallantry in action by GO #107 Hq 2d Infantry Division dated 18 September 1944. On 23 September Private Lester P. Hirsch, Co "C" was awarded Soldier's Medal per GO #111, paragraph I, Hq 2d Infantry Division, dated 23 September 1944.

During the period 27 September to 30 September the Battalion moved by motor transportation from Landerneau, France to vicinity of St. Vith, coordinates 886847, travelling a total of 692 miles.

During the month of September 6584 rds were fired direct with the following results: enemy captured, 11; enemy casualties, 186; destruction of 1 SP gun, 9 machine guns, one 6 inch naval gun, 2 anti-tank guns, 7 AA guns, 1 mortar, 2 guns (caliber unknown), 8 concrete emplacements, 1 dugout, 1 ammunition dump, 1 horse-drawn carriage, 1 captured M-8, and numerous buildings. 3883 rds were fired indirect.

The strength of this organization on 30 September 1944 was 34 officers and 717 enlisted men. 16 battle casualties were sustained during the period. There were no changes in command for the month reported on.

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The strength of this organization on 1 October 1944 was 34 Officers and 717 Enlisted Men.

During the period of 1 October to 3 October the battalion was situated in an assembly area in the vicinity of Steinebruck, performing maintenance and rehabilitating personnel for coming operations. On 1 October First Lieutenant Howard R. Long, Co. "B", was confined to the hospital due to a condition of deafness, and was later dropped from assignment with the organization. On 2 and 3 October reconnaissance was conducted over the area to be assigned to Lt. Col. Deeley as Task Force Commander.

On 4 October the 612th TD Bn, less Co "C", was detached from Division Artillery and Co "B" was attached to the 23rd Combat Team. Task Force "X" was constituted, consisting of Hq & Hq Co, 1st and 2nd Rcn platoons, and Co "A" of the 612th TD Bn, Co "K" and Cannon Co, 9th Infantry, and Co "D", 741st Tank Bn, all under the command of Lt. Col. Deeley. Task Force "X" was activated pursuant to FO # 11, 2d Infantry Division, dated 2 October 1944. On 4 October Task Force "X" relieved elements of the 12th Infantry and 4th Rcn Troop of the 4th Infantry Division. On this same date 2nd platoon Co "C" was attached to 9th Infantry Regiment.

During the period of 4 October to 22 October, Hq, Hq Co, the 1st and 2nd Rcn platoons, and Co. "A" were attached to Task Force "X", Co "B" to the 23rd Combat Team, and Co "C" less one platoon to 38th Infantry Regiment, while the 2nd platoon of Co "C" was attached to the 9th Infantry Regiment. On 4 October 1 prisoner of war was captured by the 1st Rcn platoon and 2 prisoners of war were captured by Co "A". On 5 October 1944 Co "A" captured 3 more prisoners. On 6 October Co "A" killed 1 enemy and wounded 2, with small arms fire. On 7 October Co "A" captured 1 prisoner of war, and Co "B" had 1 EM slightly wounded in action. On 9 October Co "C" captured 1 prisoner of war. On 11 October 1944 Co "C" shot and captured 1 prisoner of war. On 12 October the 3rd platoon of Co "A" sent out 3 patrols with the following results: One enemy Officer fired upon and hit as well as the location of 2 enemy OP's, anti-personnel mines and teller mines ascertained. On 13 October a patrol sent out by Co "A" captured 4 prisoners of war from a German outpost. On this same date Co "C" had one EM slightly wounded in action. On 14 October 1944 a patrol of Co "A" killed 1 German and wounded another and located enemy teller mines at coords 035957. On 15 October 2 prisoners of war were taken by the 3rd platoon of Co "A". On this same date 1 EM of Co "B" was slightly wounded in action. On 17 October 1944 3 EM of Co "C" were slightly wounded in action, 1 of which was evacuated and the other 2 remaining for duty. On 18 October 2 EM of Co "B" were slightly wounded in action, neither of which required evacuation. On 20 October 1 squad of the 3rd platoon of Co "B" received a direct hit by enemy artillery fire, killing 3 EM and wounding 1 EM. EM killed in action were Sgt Pebsworth, Jack W. 38 277 862, Pvt Heiderhoff, Walter E. 20 424 794, Pvt King, Wade K. 34 501 896. On 20 October 612th TD Bn was relieved from assignment to the Ninth U.S. Army and assigned to the First U.S. Army, effective 22 October 1944, pursuant to Troop Assignment # 87, Hq 12th Army Group, dated 20 October

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1944. On 22 October the command of Task Force "X" was turned over to the Commanding Officer, 18th Cavalry Squadron, and Hq & Hq Co 612th TD Bn, was detached from Task Force "X" and attached to Division Artillery, pursuant to Letter of Instruction, Hq 2d Infantry Division, dated 22 October 1944. On this same date this organization having been assigned to First U.S. Army, is further attached to VIII Corps, effective 22 October 1944, pursuant to Troop assignment # 129, Hq First U.S. Army, dated 22 October 1944.

During the period of 23 October to 31 October Hq & Hq Co less 1st and 2nd Rcn platoons, was attached to 2d Infantry Division Artillery, Co "A" and the 1st and 2nd Rcn platoons to Task Force "X", Co "B" to the 23rd Combat Team, Co "C", less one platoon to the 38th Infantry Regiment, and the 2nd plat of Co "C" to the 9th Infantry Regiment. On 23 October 1 EM of Co "B" was slightly wounded in action. On 25 October 1944 1 EM of Co "C" was seriously wounded in action. On 28 October 1944 Co "A" captured 3 prisoners of war while on patrol action. On 28 October enemy rocket hit the CP of the 1st plat of Co "B", causing slight damage to a half-track and a 1/4 ton truck. No casualties were sustained. On 29 October 1944 Co "A" had a 1/4 ton truck damaged by enemy schrapnel. On 31 October 1944, small enemy patrol damaged one half-track vehicle. Patrol was later driven back by small arms fire and no casualties were sustained.

During the month of October 1944 this organization fired ninety-seven (97) rounds in direct fire with the following results: Estimated five (5) enemy pill boxes destroyed, four (4) enemy M.G.'s, and two (2) enemy O.P.'s. In addition thirty eight (38) enemy personnel were killed or wounded and twenty eight (28) taken prisoner.

The strength of this organization on 31 October 1944 was 33 Officers and 695 Enlisted Men. During the month of October 3 EM were killed in action and 11 EM wounded in action. There were no changes in command during the period reported on.

On 1 November 1944 the strength of this organization was 33 officers and 694 enlisted men. The battalion continued to be attached to the 2nd Infantry Division with Company A and the 1st and 2nd Rcn Platoons attached to task Force "X". Co B attached to the 23rd Infantry Regiment, and the 2nd Platoon of Co C attached to the 9th Infantry Regiment. Hq and Hq Co, less the 1st and 2nd Rcn Platoons, and Co C, less the 2nd Platoon, remained attached to 2d Infantry Division Artillery.

On 2 November 1944, 15 enlisted men replacements were received from The Third Replacement Depot. On this same date 1st Platoon of Co A captured 2 prisoners in the vicinity of Roth. On 6 November 1944, Co B was relieved of attachment to the 23rd Infantry Regiment, and the 2nd Platoon of Co C was relieved of attachment to the 9th Infantry Regiment, with the 612th TD Battalion (less 1st and 2nd Rcn Platoons and Co A) attached to 2nd Division Artillery per letter of Instructions, 2nd Infantry Division dated 6 November 1944. All Units remained in direct support of the Infantry Regiments to which they had previously been attached.

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On 7 November 1944, 8 enlisted men replacements were received from the Third Replacement Depot, and again on 8 November 1944, six enlisted men replacements were received. On 9 November 1944, an additional 10 men were received as replacements from various divisional units. On 10 November 1944, Co C sustained 3 battle casualties, all of the men being slightly wounded and not requiring evacuation. On this same date a Reconnaissance patrol from Co A contacted the enemy killing 2 enemy personnel.

On 12 November 1944, Tec 4 Thomas D. Davis was appointed 2nd Lt, pursuant to paragraph 6, SO 312, Hq First U. S. Army dated 13 November 1944, with date of rank 12 November 1944 and duty of Battalion Liaison Officer. On this same date the 3rd Platoon of Co A captured one prisoner, and on 13 November the 1st Platoon of Co A captured another prisoner. On 13 November one replacement was received by this organization, and on 15 November two additional replacements were received. On 16 November, Co A captured one prisoner. On 17 November one additional replacement was received from the Third Replacement Depot.

On 20 November 1944, Co B received a Unit Citation from the Commanding General, 2d Infantry Division, for its outstanding performance of duty during the campaign for Brest, France. On this same date the 1st Platoon of Co A captured five prisoners, and on the day following captured one additional prisoner. On 23 November 1944, 1 enlisted man of Co A and 1 enlisted man of Co C were slightly wounded in action, neither of these men requiring evacuation. On 24 November 1 enlisted man of Co B was slightly wounded in action, and did not require evacuation or hospitalization, as did an enlisted man of Co C who was slightly wounded in action on 25 November 1944.

On 30 November 1944 the strength of this organization was 34 officers and 732 enlisted men. During the month of November 7 battle casualties were sustained, all of which were slight and not requiring evacuation or hospitalization. No changes in command occurred during the month reported on.

The strength of this organization on 1 December 1944 was 34 officers and 732 enlisted men. This battalion continued to be attached to the 2d Infantry Division, with Co A and the 1st and 2nd Rcn Platoons attached to Task Force "X". Co B in direct support of the 23rd Infantry Regiment, Co C (less 2nd Platoon) in direct support of the 38th Infantry Regiment, and the 2nd Platoon of Co C in direct support of the 9th Infantry Regiment.

On 2 December 1944, the 3rd Platoon of Co A captured one prisoner of war. On this same date 30 rounds of 3" ammunition was expended by Co C

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at enemy pillboxes and strongpoints. On 3 December 1944, Co C fired 20 rounds of HE and 5 rounds of APC, knocking out one enemy OP. On this same date, S Sgt William H. Brannon, Co A, S Sgt Alan G. Robertson, Co B, and Sgt Stanley G. Zabetakis, Co C, were appointed 2nd Lieutenants pursuant to TWX, Hq 1st US Army dated 1 December 1944, with date of rank 3 December 1944, and were assigned to their respective companies for duty.

On 5 December 1944, Co C fired 55 rds of 3" ammunition at enemy pillboxes and strongpoints, and on 7 December fired 20 rounds of HE and 5 rds of APC at German fortifications. On 7 December 1944 Pfc Rogers P. Tyndall, Co B, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Gallantry in Action per General Order No. 140, Hq 2d Infantry Division, dated 7 December 1944. On 8 December Co C fired 20 rounds of HE and 5 rds of APC at enemy pillboxes and buildings. On 9 December 1944 Pvts Reeve C. Hensley and Raymond W. Hubler, Co A, were awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement and Cpl David D. Barto, Co A, was awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement per General Order No. 141, Hq 2nd Inf Div dated 9 December 1944.

On 11 December 1944, one enlisted man of Co A was slightly wounded in action. On this same date the 820th TD Bn began to relieve the units of this organization and said relief was completed at 0130 hours on 12 December 1944. The 612th TD Bn was relieved from VIII Corps and was attached to V Corps effective 11 December 1944, pursuant to Troop Assignment No 147, Hq 1st US Army, dated 13 December 1944. On 12 December 1944, the battalion moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of Sourbrodt, Belgium, coordinates K-854095. On 13 December, Co A was attached to the Regimental Combat Team of the 9th Infantry and moved to direct fire positions in the vicinity of Hofen, Germany, coordinates 953195. On 15 December 1944, the Battalion CP moved from Sourbrodt to the vicinity of Wirtzfeld, Belgium, coordinates 951042. On this same date the battalion was attached to the 3rd Tank Destroyer Group and remained attached to the 2nd Infantry Division pursuant to paragraph 2, Troop Assignment letter, Hq V Corps, dated 15 December 1944. On 16 December the 1st Rcn Platoon was attached to Co B, which in turn was attached to the 23rd Infantry Regiment, and Co C was in Division Reserve. At 0530 hours on 16 December 1944, the 3rd Platoon of Co A was attacked by the enemy and 18 prisoners of war were captured by the 3rd platoon. In addition, the 1st platoon of Co A captured 3 prisoners of war, one machine gun nest, and mortar positions. One enlisted man of Co A was wounded in action as a result of these operations.

On 17 December 1944, Co B, with the 1st Rcn Platoon attached, was detached from 23rd Infantry Regiment and attached to the 99th Infantry Division, moving to the vicinity of Honsfeld, Belgium, coordinates 969991, taking up a position of readiness. An enemy attack from the southwest by enemy tanks and armored infantry resulted in the 1st and 2nd platoons of Co B and the 1st Rcn platoon of Hq Co, being surrounded, with 3 officers and 110 enlisted men of Co B being reported as missing in action and 1 officer and 18 enlisted men of the 1st Rcn platoon also reported as missing in action. During the course of this action the 1st Rcn Platoon

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knocked out 3 enemy halftrack personnel carriers before being overrun by enemy infantry, the 1st platoon of Co B knocked out 2 SP anti-tank guns, and the 2d platoon knocked out 1 enemy tank, before the platoon was knocked out by fire from enemy machine-guns. One enlisted man of the 1st Rcn platoon, S Sgt Billy F. Wilson, escaped and was successful in returning to our lines, being wounded in action while infiltrating to safety. 1st Lt Gribbin, Tec 5 Charles R. Mossis, and Pvt Ronayne G. White, after being reported as missing in action, returned to duty, having successfully escaped from the enemy. In addition, 3 enlisted men of the Medical Detachment, were reported as missing in action as a result of action on 17 Dec 1944. During the action Co A was in direct support of the 3rd Bn of the 395th Infantry Regiment, 99th Infantry Division. On this same date the Bn CP moved from Wirtzfeld, Belgium, to vicinity of Sourbrodt, Belgium, coordinates 854095. One enlisted man of Co C was slightly wounded in action this date but did not require evacuation.



On 18 December 1944, the 2nd Rcn Platoon was attached to Co C, which in turn was placed in direct support of the 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division. On this same date, the remnants of Co B were relieved from attachment to the 99th Infantry Division and placed in direct support of the 23rd Infantry Regiment. On this same date Co A was attacked by an enemy force estimated to be one regiment, and Co A was successful in fighting back this enemy counterattack. As a result 1 enlisted man, Sgt George S. Nuttall, 33 172 175, was killed in action. In addition, 1st Lt James R. Penton and 3 enlisted men were slightly wounded in action, 2 of the said enlisted men not requiring hospitalization. During the course of this action Co A killed 2 Germans and captured 5. On this same date the maintenance platoon and Co Hq of Hq Co under the command of 1st Lt Kosak, was attached to Task Force Hoke and maintained defensive positions southeast of Berg, Belgium, coordinates 921054.

On 19 December 1944, Co C plus the 2nd Rcn Platoon was relieved from the 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Inf Division, and placed in direct support of the 38th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division. On this same date Co A was again attacked by a strong enemy force but the enemy was driven off. 11 enlisted men of Co A were reported as missing in action as a result of this engagement. 1st Platoon of Co A captured 11 prisoners of war on this date. On this same date Co C fired 5 rounds of APC at enemy tanks, results unknown.

On 20 December 1944, the maintenance platoon and Co Hq of Hq Co was relieved from their defensive positions occupied in the vicinity of Berg and returned to Hq Co's CP, vicinity of Sourbrodt. On this date a large caliber shell struck the Hq CO kitchen, causing 11 casualties, 8 of which required evacuation. Tec 5 Sidney A. Scarborough, later died as a result of wounds sustained from the enemy shell. In addition 1 man from the Medical Detachment was wounded as a result of the above mentioned shelling. On this same date Lt Col Deeley, Captain Rooney, and the S-3 Section left to establish an advance CP in Elsenborn at Dauntless Advance CP.

On 21 December 1944, Co A killed 5 enemy paratroopers and captured one. On this same date one enlisted man of Co C was slightly wounded in action, but did not require hospitalization. On 22 December one enlisted

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man of 2nd Rcn Platoon and 2 enlisted men of Co A were wounded in action. On 23 December 1944, 1st Lt Hairston was slightly wounded in action but did not require hospitalization. On 24 December the Bn CP area was strafed 3 times by enemy aircraft, puncturing 6x6 truck tires, and setting afire an ammunition truck, which was extinguished by members of the Maintenance Platoon. On this same date 6 replacements were received from the 3rd Replacement Depot. On 25 December 1944, one enlisted man of Co A was wounded in action. On 27 December 1944, four replacements were received by this organization from the 3rd Replacement Depot.

On 28 December 1944, one enlisted man of Co A was wounded in action and one enlisted man of Co C was slightly wounded in action but did not require evacuation. On 29 December 1944, Co A was relieved by Co A of the 801st TD Bn at Hofen, and Co B relieved from support of the 23rd Infantry Regiment by Co B of the 801st TD Bn. The 612th TD Bn, less Co C, moved to an assembly area two miles East of Verviers, Belgium, coordinates 725217, for the purpose of reorganization into a SP Battalion, pursuant to Secret Letter Hq 1st US Army, dtd 28 Dec 1944. On this same date 1 enlisted man of Co C was slightly wounded in action. On 30 December 1944, one enlisted man of Co C was slightly wounded in action, but did not require evacuation. On this same date, Capt George W. Scott was relieved from assignment as Bn Rcn Officer and assigned to Hq Co for duty as Co Comdr, and Capt John B. Myers was relieved as CO of Hq Co and assigned as Maintenance and Repair Automotive Officer. 1st Lt Sanford A. Johnson was relieved from assignment to Hq Co and assigned to Rcn Co for duty as Co Comdr, and 1st Lt Joseph C. Kosak was relieved from assignment to Hq Co and assigned to Rcn Co for duty as Company Ex Officer. 1st Lt George E. Bruner was relieved from assignment to Co C and assigned to Rcn Co for duty as platoon leader, and 1st Lt Lowell E. Sturup was relieved from assignment to Co B and assigned to Hq Co for duty as Hq Co EX Officer. On this same date one enlisted man of Co C was slightly wounded in action, but did not require hospitalization. On 30 December 1944, 1st Lt Eugene T. Oborn from the 899th TD Bn was placed on SD with this organization to instruct personnel of this battalion on indirect fire. On 31 December 1944, fifteen replacements were received from the 3rd Replacement Depot.

The strength of this organization on 31 December 1944, was 33 officers and 569 enlisted men. Two changes in command occurred during this period, namely, Capt George W. Scott assuming command of Hq Co, upon Capt John B. Myers being assigned as Maintenance and Repair Automotive Officer, and 1st Lt Sanford A. Johnson assuming command of Reconnaissance Company.

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