

NARRATIVE REPORT

Month of March 1945 -- 614th Tank Destroyer Bn.

From the 1st of March to the 9th March, the battalion was in a static position securing the MLR. The Bn CP was located in Printzheim, France. During this period very little enemy activity was noticed, with occasional mortar fire being received, but causing no casualties. The various elements of the battalion indulged in special training and motor maintenance. All companies and the two rcn platoons had training on the firing range, with the rcn platoons patrolling the division sector and the roads leading into it.

On the 10 March, the Division Commander and Battalion CO inspected the various gun positions, making suggestions and initiating corrections in camouflage and direction of fire. From this date to the 14th of March, routine patrolling and training was conducted, and no enemy opposition was received.

The Seventh Army went on the attack in the early morning of March 15th. The battalion participated in the sector assigned to the 103d Inf Div, with all companies and rcn platoons being assigned various missions. The Bn CP moved to Menchhoffen, France, closing at 0900 hrs. Co A moved to Schillersdorf, France. Co. A formed a task force consisting of personnel from the Co. Headquarters platoon, with the mission of attacking and capturing Kindwiller, France. The town was taken under fire at 1000 hrs, and during the action, Capt. B. King, the Co. Comdr of Co. A was seriously wounded. The Platoon Sgt took command of the platoon and succeeded in accomplishing the mission. Co. B and Co C supported the infantry regiments to whom they were attached with direct fire. The two Rcn Platoons, led by the Bn CO were assigned the mission of storming and capturing the town of Bischholtz, France. The 1st Plat of Co B supported the attack with their 3-inch guns in direct fire positions. A total of 41 German prisoners, including one officer, were taken from the town. The task force didn't suffer any casualties during this action. After clearing this town, the task force moved to Rothbach and Offwiller, France, but did not encounter any opposition.

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On the 16th of March, very little enemy resistance was met by the battalion. The 1st Plat of Co A fired on enemy MG nests and AT gun emplacements, destroying six nests and two AT guns. The 2d Rcn Plat captured 4 PW NE of Offwiller, France.

Co A was relieved from attachment to the 410 Inf Regt and reverted to Bn Control on March 17. Co. B moved to Gundershoffen, France, and Co. C opened CP in Niederbronn, France.

The Bn CP, Hq. Co., and Co B moved to Reichshoffen, France on 18 March. Co C moved to Wingen, and Co A to Mitschdorf. No enemy activity reported.

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The Bn CP departed Reichhoffen, France, at 1000 hrs, on the 19th of March, and arrived at Goersdorf, France, at noon. Co B remained in support of 409th Inf, and Co. C with the 411th Inf. the 1st and 2d Rcn Platoons were assigned mission of clearing road from Wingen to Nothweiler, Germany, and hold until relieved by elements of the infantry. The platoons met stiff enemy resistance, but completed mission at 1700 hrs.

On 20 March, very little enemy opposition was encountered. The companies continued in mission of supporting the Inf Regts; the rcn platoons establishing road blocks on outskirts of the town of Nothweiler, Germany, and protecting the left flank of the division.

The Bn CP moved to Nothweiler, Germanz, and assigned the mission of securing the left flank of the division and setting up road blocks. Approximately 25 rounds of enemy mortar fire fell in the vicinity of Co C CP, causing no casualties, but slightly damaging two vehicles. The 1st section of 3d Platoon, Co C neutralized an enemy pillbox, forcing the surrender of 33 enemy soldiers. The 2d Rcn Platoon was attached to Task Force Rhine. This concluded the activities on 21 March.

During the day of 22 March, the Bn CP, Cos A and B, and the 1st Rcn Platoon continued the mission of providing the left flank security for the division. Co C was held in readiness for support of the infantry regiment.

A total of 111 prisoners were accounted for by the battalion during the daz of 23 March. One EM from Co B was killed when a half-track overturned. No enemy resistance encountered. The Bn CP moved to Lautersshwan, Germany, during the late evening.

On the 24 March, the Battalion, less Co A, assembled at Impflingen, Germany, and assisted the Military Government in occupying the town. The 2d Rcn Platoon was relieved from attachment to Task Force Rhine and reported in to Bn CP. This platoon, with light tanks attached to it, was the point on the Task Force Rhine, and participated in heavy fighting, being ambushed two times and although three of the vehicles were badly shot up, no man was injured. Several recommendations for awards were submitted in recognition of the fine work the platoon accomplished.

From 25 March to 27 March, the battalion was located in Impflingen, Germany. This time was spent on maintenance and care of equipment. Co A reverted to Bn control and arrived at 1800 hrs.

On 28 March, the Battalion moved to Waldsee, Germany. The companies were assigned the surrounding towns to occupy, and work in conjunction with the Military Government authorities. There was no change in operations from the 28 March to 31 March, 1945.

*Frank S. Pritchard*  
FRANK S. PRITCHARD,  
Lt. Col., Inf.,  
Commanding, 614th TD Bn.

H-E-A-D-Q-U-A-R-T-E-R-S  
614th Tank Destroyer Battalion

APC 758 U. S. Army  
1 April 1945

ROSTER OF OFFICERS

LT COL	FRANK S. PRITCHARD	MAJOR	LEROY H. SAMPLE
MAJOR	ROBERT J. O'LEARY	CAPTAIN	JAMES H. CARR
CAPTAIN	ROBERT L. FINLEY	CAPTAIN	CHARLES W. OGELBY
CAPTAIN	CHARLES J. RICHARD	CAPTAIN	HARVEY E. JOHNSON
CAPTAIN	THOMAS M. CAMPBELL	CAPTAIN	WALTER S. SMITH
1ST LT	LEONARD I. BURCH	1ST LT	MILTON B. DEAS
1ST LT	ANDREW J. FAVORS	1ST LT	PRESTON HELM JR.
1ST LT	JOSEPH L. KEEBY	1ST LT	SERREO S. NELSON
1ST LT	CLAUDE W. RAMSEY	1ST LT	ROBERT S. WILLIAMS
1ST LT*	JESSE S. HICKMAN	1ST LT	ORMAND A. FORTE
1ST LT	EDWARD J. CAREY	1ST LT	LLOYD A. GREGORY
1ST LT	CHARLES C. ROBINSON	1ST LT	RAYMOND H. POWELL
1ST LT	CHARLES J. NELSON	1ST LT	FORREST A. WALKER
1ST LT	THOMAS H. SHAW JR.	1ST LT	FLOYD J. STALLINGS
2ND LT	JOHN W. HURNS JR.	2ND LT	OLIVER S. COX JR.
2ND LT	JOHN E. STUBBS JR.	2ND LT	ALFONSO T. McARTHUR
2ND LT	CHRISTOPHER J. STURKEY	2ND LT	JOSEPH AWKARD JR.
WOJG	ANNIE E. HOLLINS	WOJG	RAYMOND LAMB

2ND ADAMS W. BERRY

For the Commanding Officer:

*Jesse S. Hickman*  
JESSE S. HICKMAN, 1st Lt.  
Ass't Adjutant

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ROSTER OF KEY NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

M/Sgt Willard L. Hill	M/Sgt Stonewall Jackson
1st Sgt Sloan King	1st Sgt Gordon Brown
T/Sgt Charles E. Terry	1st Sgt Robert Cannon
T/Sgt Henry Evans	T/Sgt James W. Early
T/Sgt Isaac Thomas	T/Sgt Richard Irvin
T/Sgt Clinton T. Walker	T/Sgt Garfield Gladden
T/Sgt Amos Dashiell	T/Sgt Giles W. Pearson
S Sgt Columbus Bryant	T/Sgt Charles I. Anderson
S Sgt Warren J. Glapien	S Sgt Lazarus L. Garrett
S Sgt Johnnie King	S Sgt L. C. Hendley
S Sgt Smiley T. Basly	S Sgt Lewis Manns
S Sgt Leo S. Smeot Jr.	S Sgt James Holley
S Sgt John O. Weir	S Sgt George Toney
S Sgt Chester Perry	S Sgt LeRoy Williams
S Sgt Ernest E. Joynes	S Sgt Ester T. Mays
S Sgt James McDougald	S Sgt Wilbur Turner
S Sgt Chester Thomas	S Sgt Harvey Claybrook
S Sgt Clarence R. Wilson	S Sgt Arthur Page
S Sgt Sylvester Harrington	S Sgt Lonnie Summers
S Sgt James Roundtree	S Sgt John J. Lee

Tec 3 Julius Highe Jr.

For the Commanding Officer:

*Jesse S. Hickman*  
JESSE S. HICKMAN  
1st Lt. Infantry  
Ass't Adjutant