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HEADQUARTERS
628th Tank Destroyer Battalion (SP)
APO 403, U. S. Army.

1 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy - Month of October 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Hq. 5th Armored Division, APO 255, U. S. Army.



1. Campaign of Western Europe.

2. Commanding Officers Were:

a. Battalion Commander: William J. Gallagher, Major, F.A., o-384952, from 0001 hours 1 October 1944 to 2400 hours 31 October 1944.

b. Hq. Company Commander: Daniel L. Thomas, Captain, F.A., o-422582, from 0001 hours 1 October 1944 to 2400 hours 31 October 1944.

c. Company "A" Commander: James H. Lloyd, Captain, F.A., o-409317, from 0001 hours 1 October 1944 to 2400 hours 31 October 1944.

d. Company "B" Commander: Paul L. McPherran, Captain, F.A., O-317706 from 0001 hours 1 October 1944 to 2400 hours 31 October 1944.

e. Company "C" Commander: Robert C. Jones, 1st. Lt., AUS-TD o-1822013, from 0001, hours 1 October 1944 to 2400 hours 31 October 1944.

f. Res. Company Commander: David (NMI) Doerr, 1st. Lt., AUS-TD, O-1821835, from 0001 hours 1 October 1944 to 2400 hours 31 October 1944.

g. Medical Detachment: Francis T. England, Captain, M. C., O-1683056, from 0001 hours 1 October 1944 to 2400 hours 31 October 1944.

3. Losses in action were as follows:

a. Killed In Action:

(1) Wellington Brundage, Private, FA, Company "B", SWA in vicinity of Conde, Belgium, 3 September 1944, by enemy machine gun fire, evacuated to hospital and subsequently DOW on 4 September 1944.

b. Wounded and Injured Men in Action:

None.

c. No personnel of this Battalion Missing in Action during the month of October 1944.

d. No personnel of this Battalion Captured during month of October 1944.

4. Battles:

a. The enemy.

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(1) This Battalion was not actually in contact with the enemy during the month of October 1944 and no enemy armor was seen.

(2) Occasionally enemy counter battery fire fell in the vicinity of our guns. There was no enemy air or armor employed against elements of this organization.

(3) Enemy Information and reconnaissance as effecting our units was inaccurate and no counter battery fires received were ever even close to our position.

(4) No prisoners of war were taken by this Battalion during the month of October 1944.

h. Action.

(1) This Battalion remained attached to the 5th Armored Division and was further assigned to Division Artillery who assigned the companies to the various Combat Commands.

(2) The Battalion was inoperational from 1 October 1944 until 12 October 1944. The Battalion remained attached to Division Artillery and performed maintenance and followed a provisional training schedule. On 12 October 1944 the Companies were assigned to various combat commands to provide A*T defense. Two companies, "B" and "C" were without specific missions both combat commands were held in reserve. Company "A" attached to CCR supported the 95th. F.A. Battalion in indirect fire missions. The fires were generally harrassing and interdiction. Some fires were observed and their effect was reported as excellent. Companies "B" and "C" followed training schedules during their static period.

(3) No special weapons were used.

(4) The Companies were so far apart that radio communication was out of the question. Messengers, Officer Liaison and telephone were utilised with success.

(5) No comment.

(6) No bayonets, flame throwers, or grenades were used.

(7) During the month of October 1944, supply operations were largely spent in changing over to new T/O and E, 18-25 dated 4 March 1944. Supplies, throughout the month, were stable, with the exception of Ordnance Materiel. The latter part of the month was spent in exchanging Carriage, Motor, M-10, 3" Gun for Carriage Motor, 90 mm., M-36.

(8) During the month of October there were no battle casualties therefore there were no evacuations made from the front. The non-battle casualties were evacuated through the Battalion Aid Station to the 75th Medical Collecting Company which was located approximately 4 miles from the Battalion Aid Station. Supplies were obtained by submitting requisitions to Battalion S-4. Supplies were adequate; no shortage of any specific items noted.

(9) Casualties: Types of casualties handled by Medical Detachment for the month of October are as follows:

Battle Casualties

None

Non-Battle Casualties

2 GSW self inflicted.
1 Upper respiratory infection
1 Battle Fatigue
2 Disease.
1 Injury

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a. When the Firing Companies were attached to Combat Commands and the Commands operated fairly close to each other, it was possible for the Companies to be serviced from the Battalion Trains. During October's operations, however, the Combat Commands were 30 to 40 miles from each other and at one time Company "A" was in Belgium, Company "B" in Holland and Company "C" in Germany. It was impractical to service these companies so distant from the Battalion Trains area, therefore a proportionate share of the Battalion's Trains, such as one fuel truck and one ammunition truck per company were directly attached to each T-D Company to be serviced through the S-4 of each respective combat command. This method of servicing the T-D Companies was very satisfactory.

b. Prior to entering combat this Battalion underwent extensive training in its secondary role of supporting indirect fires. While the companies had acquired some experience in this type of fire during brief periods in August and September 1944. The first real test of this training came during October 1944, when Company "A" had the mission of supporting the fires of the 95th FA., Battalion. Company "A" conducted their own survey, operated their own FDC entirely independent of the FA Battalion's FDC and delivered accurate harrassing and interdiction fires thus performing their secondary mission of indirect fire in a commendable manner.

1-Incl.

1. Unit Journal - October 1944.

William J. Gallagher
WILLIAM J. GALLAGHER
Lt. Col., F.A..
Commanding

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