

~~SECRET~~

## UNIT JOURNAL - 628TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION (SP)

F E B R U A R Y

1 9 4 5

- 1 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. VK-7630. Headquarters Co. remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. VK-7630. Co. "A" relieved of attachment to CCA, 5th Armored Div. and moved from positions in vicinity of Eicherscheid and Simmerath, Germany at 1200 hours. Assembled at Neudorf, Bel. at 1230 hours and moved to Herbesthal, Bel. arriving at 1430 hours. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel., VK-7630. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel., VK-7630. Reconnaissance Co. Hq. remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel., VK-7630. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Belgium, VK-7630. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 2 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. Bn. attended movies in town. Hq. Co. remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. Co. "A" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Company performing motor maintenance. Co. "B" remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. Co. "C" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Rcn. Co. Hq. remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Belgium. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 3 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. Hq. Co. remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. Co. "A" remained in bivouac area in Herbesthal, Bel. performing motor maintenance and cleaning equipment. Co. "B" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Co. "C" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Rcn. Co. Hq. remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. Bn. Comdr. and S-3 visited all Co's. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 4 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Belgium. Entire Battalion alerted to move. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Bel. Co. "A" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Co. "B" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Belgium. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Bel. Rcn. Company Hq. remained in bivouac position in Herbesthal, Belgium. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position near Herbesthal, Belgium. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 5 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters left bivouac area near Herbesthal, Belgium at 2130 hours, destination Voerendaal, Holland. Still enroute at 2400 hours near Aachen, Germany. Headquarters Company left bivouac area near Herbesthal, Belgium at 2100 hours. Still enroute at 2400 hours near Aachen, Germany. Company "A" left bivouac area at Herbesthal, Belgium at 2130 hours, destination Windhagen, Holland. Still enroute at 2400 hours near Aachen, Germany. Company "B" left bivouac position in Herbesthal, Belgium at 2130 hours, destination Windhagen, Holland. Still enroute at 2400 hours near Aachen, Germany. Company "C" left bivouac area at Herbesthal, Bel. at 2145 hours, destination Kolmond, Holland. Still enroute at 2400 hours near Aachen, Germany. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters left bivouac area in Herbesthal, Belgium at 2130 hours, destination Voerendaal, Holland. Still enroute at 2400 hours near Aachen, Germany. Medical Detachment left bivouac area in Herbesthal, Bel. at 2130 hours, destination Voerendaal, Holland. Still enroute at 2400 hours near Aachen, Germany. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.

~~SECRET~~

**SECRET**

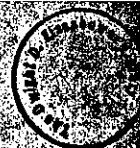
- FEB.** - Battalion Headquarters arrived at new bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland, VK-7355 at 0420 hours. Distance traveled--27 miles. Headquarters Company arrived at new bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland at 0615 hours. Company quartered in school building. Company "A" arrived at new bivouac position at Windhagen, Holland, VK-7353, at 0400 hours. Company "B" arrived at new bivouac position at Windhagen, Holland, VK-7353, at 0400 hours. Company "C" arrived at new bivouac position at Kolmond, Holland at 0430 hours. Company performed motor maintenance throughout the day. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters arrived at new bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland at 0600 hours. Medical Detachment arrived at new bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland at 0420 hours. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 7 FEB.** - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland. The Battalion Commander and S-3 visited all Companies. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac area in Kolmond, Holland, VK-7352. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 8 FEB.** - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland. The Battalion Commander visited all companies. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company prepared for movement to indirect fire positions. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Pioneer Platoon filled in enemy anti-tank ditch to make possible the movement of Company "A" destroyers near Puffendorf, Germany. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac area in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 9 FEB.** - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland. The Battalion Commander visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. 1st Lt. Lyle L. Fought, O-1824162, Ex. Officer, relieved of assignment and duty and assigned to Hq & Hq. Sq., 34th Fighter Wing, per Par. 2, SO #33, Hq. 4th Armd. Div., dtd 8 Feb. 1945. Company "A" left bivouac position at Windhagen, Holland at 2030 hours 8 February 1945 and arrived at new bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile North of Puffendorf, Germany at 0015 hours 9 February 1945, VK-9361. Distance traveled 30 miles. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 10 FEB.** - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position at Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion S-2 and S-3 visited Company "A". Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position in Puffendorf, Germany. Firing Platoons registered in and are ready for indirect firing. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company relieved of attachment to Division Artillery, 5th Armd. Div. and attached to CCB, 5th Armored Division. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

- 11 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile North of Puffendorf, Germany. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 12 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile North of Puffendorf, Germany. One reinforcement received this date. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 13 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander visited Company "A". Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Two reinforcements reported this date. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Four Reinforcements reported this date. Company "C" remained in bivouac area in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. One Reinforcement received this date. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 14 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander visited Company "A". Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile North of Puffendorf, Germany. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 15 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac area in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. 2nd Lt. Rayhugh E. Majors, asgd and joined this organization from the 18th Reinf. Depot and was assigned duty as Platoon Leader Recon. Company. Three  $\frac{1}{4}$  reinforcements received this date. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. One Reinforcement received this date. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 16 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company re-

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

- 16 FEB. - mained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 17 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander and S-3 visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. 1st Platoon fired 15 rounds HE interdiction fire during night. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion given Physical Inspection and lecture on Venereal Disease. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 18 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander and S-3 visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Occasional enemy artillery falling near area. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 19 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac area in Kolmond, Holland. 1st Lt. James M. Martin assigned and joined this org. from the 127th Ord. Maint. Bn. per Par. 10, SO #42, Hq. 5th Armd. Div. Asgd. to Co. "C" as Platoon Leader. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. 2nd Lt. Aubrey O. James, Co. "A", 2nd Lt. Theodore W. Rabey, Co. "B" and 2nd Lt. James A. King, Co. "C", promoted to 1st Lt. per SO #47, Hq. Ninth U. S. Army, dtd 16 February 1945. Date of rank from 16 February 1945. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 20 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander and S-3 visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Co. remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

- 21 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Executive Officer visited Company "A" in Germany. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Rain. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 22 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion Commander visited Company "A" in Germany. Commanding General, 5th Armored Division presented awards to members of this Battalion at Formation in Voerendaal, Holland. Lt. Col. William J. Gallagher, Captain Robert C. Jones, and M/Sgt. George Howell, of this Battalion were awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany. Enemy air activity over area at 2100 hours. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Company gunners fired 90 mm (M-36) guns on range. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac positions in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 23 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Bn. S-1 left to look for new bivouac area for Battalion. Battalion Commander visited Company "A". Headquarters Company remained in bivouac area in Voerendaal, Holland. Billeting party left to look for new bivouac area. Company "A" remained in bivouac position in Puffendorf, Germany,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mi. north. Company began firing indirect fire at 0245 hours and ceased firing at 0740 hours. Fired 1342 rounds of HE. Enemy artillery shells landed in area but caused no damage. Company "B" remained in bivouac position in Windhagen, Holland. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. Two Destroyers plus crews put on demonstration for SHAEF (GI Movie Week). Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac area in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 24 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Battalion alerted for movement. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Company "A" remained in bivouac position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Puffendorf, Germany supporting 5th Armored Division Artillery. Company fired 108 rounds HE interdiction fire during night. Enemy artillery shells landed near area and enemy air activity over area but no damage caused by enemy action. Company "B" left assembly position at Windhagen, Holland at 1330 hours and arrived at new position at Baesweiler, Germany at 1430 hours. Company "C" remained in bivouac position in Kolmond, Holland. S/Sgt. Raymond D. Roth, Co. "C", honorably discharged to accept commission as 2nd Lt. Rcn. Co. Headquarters remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Medical Detachment remained in bivouac position in Voerendaal, Holland. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

Company C.P., Recon. Plat., 2nd and 3rd Platoons attached to 10th Tank Bn. Recon. Platoon and 2nd and 3rd Platoons attached to 10th Tank Battalion. Recon. Plat. and 2nd Plat. moved to area  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile SE of Hottorf, Germany. 3rd Platoon moved to area  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile SE of Hottorf, Germany. Company Trains joined GCR trains  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile E. of Gevenich, Germany. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.

28 FEB. - Battalion Headquarters left Kofferen, Germany at 1000 hours and had a delay en-route at Bellinghoven, Germany, arriving at new bivouac position in Rath, Germany at 1500 hours. Headquarters Company left Kofferen, Germany at 1000 hours and arrived in new bivouac position in Rath, Germany, arriving at 1530 hours. Company "A" moved at 1500 hours from position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile NE of Erkelenz, Germany to new position 1 mile S. of Hardt, Germany. Company "B" in firing positions near Hilderath, Germany. Platoons under enemy artillery and mortar fire during day. Company "C" remained in respective areas. Reconnaissance Company Headquarters left bivouac area at Kofferen, Germany at 0930 hours and arrived at new bivouac position in Rath, Germany at 1600 hours. Medical Detachment left bivouac position in Kofferen, Germany at 1000 hours and arrived at new bivouac position in Rath, Germany at 1515 hours. Distance from Kofferen to Rath, Germany - 13 miles. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.

**SECRET**