

UNIT JOURNAL - 628TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

S E P T E M B E R

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- 1 SEPT. - Division announced mission of marching to Belgium border. Bn. Hq. with Medical Detachment and Headquarters Company and Reconnaissance Company Hq. attached to Hq. CCB, 5th Armored Division, left bivouac area 1 Mi. S. of Villeneuve, 292838, at 1430 hours, stopped for temporary halt at 1540 hours in Forest de Compiègne, moved out again at 1800 hours and continued on until halt at 2230 hours near Noyen when leading elements in column ran into enemy A-T guns and infantry. Still enroute at 2400 hours. Company "A" with one Platoon Rcn. attached, in Division Reserve, were temporarily attached to 95th FA Bn. and fired 8 concentrations indirect fire from 0900 to 1145 hours using 325 rounds of ammunition. Company returned to Division Reserve, pulled guns out of indirect fire positions at 1145 hours and left bivouac area $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. S of St Vaast at 1300 hours. Still enroute at 2400 hours. Company "B" with one Rcn. Platoon attached, attached to 81st Tk. Bn. remained in bivouac near Pontpoint, France. Company "C", with one Rcn. Platoon attached, attached to 15th Inf. Bn. 1st & 3rd Platoons moved into woods in position of readiness at 0300 hours 1 mi. NE of Lacroix St Quen. 2nd Platoon took up road block position about 2 Mi. NE of Lacroix St Quen. 1st and 3rd Platoons left bivouac area near Lacroix St Quen at 1900 hours and moved N towards Belgium and were enroute at 2400 hours. 2nd Platoon moved out earlier as advance guard for CCB and were held up at 1700 hours in Bellenglise, France. This Platoon destroyed 1 enemy pillbox, 1 enemy vehicle and killed 1 German soldier then continued march and were enroute at 2400 hours. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.
- 2 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters with Medical Detachment, Headquarters Company and Reconnaissance Company Hq., together with Company "A" (in Division Reserve) pulled off road at 0215 hours approximately 6 Kilometers S of Noyen on Route N-32 for temporary halt awaiting daylight and the cleaning up of enemy opposition enroute by advance elements. Continued march at 0840 hours. Pulled off road for temporary halt at 1015 hours at point 1 mi. N of Quiscard (N-6230) and continued at 1115 hours arriving at new bivouac area 1 mi. N of Conde, France (O-0615) at 2235 hours. Company "B" left Pontpoint at 1430 hours, made temporary halt at Remy at 1800 hours, left Remy at 1930 hours, still enroute at 2400 hours. Company "C", after temporary halt to await daylight continued march. 1st and 2nd Platoons arrived at bivouac area 2 Mi. N of Conde, France at 1100 hours. 3rd Platoon was held up by enemy fire at 1800 hours in Verchan and remained there as road block. Weather cold and raining. Health of troops Excellent.
- 3 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters with Headquarters Company, Company "A" less 2 Platoons, Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac area 1 Mi. N of Conde, France during entire day awaiting movement orders and performing necessary maintenance. 1st and 2nd Platoons, Company "A", with Rcn. Sections attached sent on road block missions in town of Conde and on crossroads in vicinity of bivouac area but had no enemy action. Company "B" was enroute at 0001 hours and arrived at Pogany, France at 0435 hours for temporary halt awaiting daylight. Left Pogany at 0915 hours. Headquarters Platoon encountered small arms and mortar fire in Conde, France at 1300 hours. Arrived in bivouac area 3 Mi. N of Conde at 1430 hours. 3rd Platoon, Co. "C" rejoined remainder of Co. in biv. area at 1130 hours and entire Co. remained in biv. area for rest of day. Rcn. Pl. attached to Co. "C" was given Rcn. mission during which at 1600 hours they destroyed an enemy 88 mm gun and captured an enemy signal communications truck. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.

1. - At 0600 hours 1st Platoon, Company "A", which had established road block at crossroads NE of Conde shot up an enemy infantry patrol and took 13 prisoners. Preparations were made for movement. Company "C", less 3rd Platoon, which set up road block in Conde until column cleared, left bivouac area 2 Mi. N of Conde at 1300 hours to join Battalion in bivouac 1 Mi. N of Conde. Battalion Headquarters with Headquarters Company, Company "A", Company "C", Reconnaissance Company Headquarters and Medical Detachment left bivouac area near La Romagne (518248) arriving at 2200 hours. Company "B" left bivouac area 3 Mi. N of Conde at 1000 hours and moved south to new bivouac area 2 Mi. E. of Givron, arriving at 1900 hours. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.
- 5 SEPT. - Remained in bivouac near La Romagne. Entire Battalion detached from CCB and attached to CCR. Left bivouac area 1 Mi. SW of La Romagne at 1200 hours and arrived at new bivouac position near Damouzy (809378) at 1430 hours. The Battalion then received orders as to the disposition of its companies to the various units within CCR; Company "A" attached to 10th Tank Battalion. Company "B", less 1 Platoon, attached to 47th Infantry. 1 Platoon, Company "B" attached to 15th Inf. Company "C" attached to Trains. Headquarters Company rides with Trains of CCR. Battalion Command Post rides with Command Post of CCR. All companies remained in bivouac for night. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.
- 6 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters with Reconnaissance Company Headquarters and Medical Detachment left bivouac position at Damouzy at 0845 hours for new bivouac position 1 1/2 mi. S of Givonne (0-018274) arriving at 1630 hours. Headquarters Company and Company "C" left Battalion Bivouac Area at 0800 hours and joined CCR Trains also near Damouzy, left with CCR Trains at 1130 hours for new bivouac area near St. Laurent (0-868334) arriving at 1600 hours. Company "A" left Battalion bivouac position at 0700 hours and joined 10th Tank Battalion at Le Theux and left with 10th Tank Battalion at 1745 hours and were enroute at 2400 hours. Company "B" left Battalion bivouac area at 0800 hours. Company less 1 Platoon joined 47th Infantry (while one Platoon joined 15th Inf. enroute) and proceeded to new bivouac area 1 1/2 mi. S of Givonne arriving at 1800 hours. 2nd Platoon, Company "B" had successful action against MG nests in vicinity of Illy, and verified one German killed, three wounded and captured, four prisoners. Pfc Edward (MMI) Mickacnich, Company "B", 33035715 was killed in bivouac area by accidental discharge of an M-1 rifle. Weather cloudy with some rain.
- 7 SEPT. - Company "A" arrived in bivouac area 1/2 mi. S of Givonne at 0310 hours. All units of Battalion remained in respective bivouac positions for entire day awaiting movement orders. Battalion Headquarters bivouac area was subjected to enemy interdiction artillery fire during night but no shells fell even close to either vehicles or personnel. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.
- 8 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters, with Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Headquarters, left bivouac area 1 1/2 mi. S. of Givonne at 1430 hours for new bivouac area near Florenville, Bel. arriving at 1715 hours. Headquarters Company and Company "C" remained in bivouac area with CCR trains until 1730 hours, then moved SE arriving at new bivouac area in vicinity of Givonne at 1930 hours. Company "C" took up perimeter defense positions for supply trains. Company "A" left bivouac area 1/2 mi. S of Givonne at 1410 hours for new bivouac area 1/2 Mi. E. of Florenville arriving at 1730 hours. Company "B" left bivouac area 1 1/2 mi. S. of Givonne at 1830 hours for new bivouac area 1 Mi. W. of Florenville arriving at 2045 hours. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.





- 9 SEPT. - Battalion, with Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Headquarters left bivouac area near Florenville, Belgium, at 0800 hours arriving at new assembly position $\frac{1}{2}$ Mi. SE of Useldange, Lux. at 2100 hours. Column was fired on by enemy A-T guns and MG in vicinity of Metzert, Belgium, but no casualties were sustained. Headquarters Company and Company "C" left bivouac area and def. positions respectively near Givonne with GCR Trains at 1600 hours arriving at new bivouac area 2 Mi. NE of Etalle, Belgium at 1900 hours. Company "A" left bivouac area $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. E. of Florenville at 0730 hours for new bivouac area in Ripweiler, Lux. arriving at 2030 hours. Company "B" left bivouac area 1 Mi. W. of Florenville, Belgium at 1030 hours, temporarily halted $\frac{1}{4}$ Mi. W. of Etalle, Belgium at 1245 hours, continued at 1600 hours to new bivouac area $\frac{1}{2}$ Mi. E. of Lischert, Belgium, arriving at 1930 hours. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.
- 10 SEPT. - Battalion S-4, 1st Lt. Arthur L. Travis, FA, O-1168953 and Reconnaissance Company Commander, 1st Lt. Douglas H. Ketchum, FA, O-405209 received notice of their promotions to Captains effective 1 September 1944. Battalion Headquarters with Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Headquarters left bivouac area near Useldange, Lux. at 0835 hours, had temporary halt NE of Mersch at 1000 hours when leading elements of column ran into enemy resistance. Continued about 1800 hours to new bivouac area at Schronndweiler, Lux. arriving at 2045 hours. Headquarters Company left bivouac area near Etalle, Bel. at 0900 hours, halted temporarily in field NE of Mersch, Lux. at 1800 hours, then proceeded to new bivouac area near Cruchten, Lux (L-858329) arriving at 2100 hours. Company "A" left bivouac area near Ripweiler, Lux. at 0830 hours. Met enemy resistance enroute. 2nd Platoon on direct fire mission near Eberglabach, Lux. expended 40 rounds HE and 2 rounds AP but could not determine effect of fire. Company moved into bivouac area at Stegen, Lux. (P-890373) arriving about 1800 hours. Company "B" left bivouac area $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. E. of Lischert, Bel. at 0730 hours arrived new bivouac position at Schronndweiler, Lux. at 2015 hours. Company "C" left bivouac area near Etalle, Bel. at 0900 hours and moved east to join 10th Tank Battalion. 3rd Platoon given mission of road block near bridge in Mersch, Lux. Remainder of Company continued with 10th Tank Battalion to new bivouac area 1 mi. S. of Wilsdorf, arriving about 2000 hours. Pioneer Platoon of Reconnaissance Company was given mission of assisting Engineers build bridge in Mersch which had been destroyed by enemy. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.
- 11 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters with Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Hq. left bivouac area near Schronndweiler, Lux. at 1915 hours and arrived at new bivouac position (P-892388) $1\frac{1}{2}$ Mi. NW of Ermsdorf, Lux. (Brucherhof Farm), at 2100 hours. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac area near Cruchten, Lux. (L-858329). Company "A" relieved from attachment with GCR and attached to GCB at 1140 hours. Left bivouac area at Stegen, Lux. at 1350 hours and arrived at new bivouac area $\frac{1}{2}$ Mi. N. of Lipperscheid, Lux. at 1645 hours. 1st Platoon attached to 81st Tank Battalion, 2nd Platoon to 15th Infantry Bn., 3rd Platoon held in Reserve. Company "B" left bivouac area at Schronndweiler, Lux. at 1715 hours and arrived at new bivouac area 1 Mi. NW of Ermsdorf, Lux. at 1815 hours. No enemy action but captured 4 prisoners enroute. Company "C" remained in bivouac area near Wilsdorf, Lux. 3rd Plat. still guarding bridge and cross-roads with Pioneer Platoon, Ron. Co. at Mersch, Lux. Weather Fair. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 12 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters, with Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac performing motor maintenance. Headquarters Company left bivouac area near Cruchten, Lux. at 1700 hours arriving in new bivouac area 1 Mi. E. of Stegen, Lux (L-890372) at 2030 hours. Company "A" remained in bivouac area near Lipperscheid. Firing Platoons given road block missions around area. Company "B", less 2nd Platoon, remained in bivouac area 1 Mi. NW of Ermsdorf, Lux. 2nd Plat. given road block mission at Wiedernach, Lux. Co. "C" remained in bivouac area near Wilsdorf, Lux. 3rd Platoon, Reconnaissance, given mission of establishing O.P. in Lux at

- 13 SEPT. - L-924437 overlooking Siegfried Line installations $\frac{1}{4}$ mile W. of Anmeldingen, Germany. Weather Cloudy. Health of Troops Excellent.
- 13 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters, Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Hq. remained in bivouac area. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac area. Company "A" left bivouac area $\frac{1}{2}$ Mi. N. of Lipperscheid, Lux. at 1320 hours for indirect fire mission. Arrived at gun positions $\frac{1}{2}$ Mi. E. of Lipperscheid, Lux. at 1450 hours. Fired on targets of opportunity across German Borderline. Nothing of importance knocked out. Company "B" Headquarters remained in bivouac area near Ermsdorf. 1st and 3rd Platoon given indirect fire missions supporting 95th FA Bn. on targets of opportunity and harrassing fires throughout night. 2nd Platoon in position near Bigelbach, Lux. on direct fire mission on German Pillboxes and other enemy targets in vicinity of Blesdorf, Germany. 3rd Plat., Company "C" was relieved from road block mission in Mersch, Lux. and returned to company bivouac area near Gilsdorf, Lux. Company Hq. remained in bivouac all day. 1st Platoon left bivouac area at 1300 hours on indirect fire mission supporting 95th FA Bn., returned to bivouac area at 1930 hours. 2nd Platoon left bivouac area at 1230 hours on direct fire mission. Moved across Moselle River and fired on enemy pillboxes NE of Hoegsdorf, Germany (939438). Knocked out 6 pillboxes and returned to bivouac area at 1730 hours. Battalion Commander visited all companies. Weather Cloudy and rain. Health of troops Excellent.
- 14 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters, Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Headquarters left bivouac area near Brucherhof Farm, Lux. at 0955 hours arriving at new bivouac area at Reisdorf, Lux. at 1045 hours. Headquarters Company remained in bivouac area near Stegen. Company "A" remained in firing and bivouac positions $\frac{1}{2}$ Mi. E. of Lipperscheid, Lux. and fired indirect fire missions supporting 71st FA Bn. on targets of opportunity, both cities and bridges in Germany. Results of firing not known. Company "B" with Rcn. Plat. attached to 47th Armd. Inf. Bn. left bivouac area 1 Mi. NW of Ermsdorf at 1200 hours and arrived at assembly position 300 yards S of Reisdorf, Lux. at 1400 hours then moved into firing positions on high ground east and NE of Reisdorf (945419) on direct fire support mission for 47th Armd. Inf. Bn. attacking fortifications of Siegfried Line NE of Wallendorf, Germany. Two prisoners were captured. Company "C" with one Rcn. Plat. still attached to 10th Tank Bn. left bivouac area at Gilsdorf, Lux. at 1315 hours, moving to an assembly area 5 Mi. E. of Gilsdorf. 1st Platoon then moved to Wallendorf, Germany to set up road block guarding main body of CCR. 2nd Platoon assisted 1st Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division (also attached to CCR) and moved with 112th Inf. in seizing of Reisdorf, Lux. and to establish roadblock there. 3rd Platoon moved 1 Mi. N. of Wallendorf, Germany to guard right flank of CCR. Pioneer Platoon, Rcn. Co. attached to Company "C", 22nd Armd. Eng. Bn. for bridge building mission. Weather Cloudy with rain. Health of troops Excellent.
- 15 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters, Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Headquarters remained in bivouac at Reisdorf, Lux. Enemy artillery shelled bivouac area at 0730 hours and 8 shells fell within radius of 100 yards of Bn. C.P. but did no damage to vehicles nor personnel. Left bivouac area at 1400 hours and arrived at new bivouac on Hill 408, 1 Mi. of Frelingen, Germany at 1700 hours. Hq. Company remained in bivouac area near Stegen, Lux. Company "A" remained in bivouac near Lipperscheid, Lux. and continued with indirect fire missions supporting 71st FA Bn. Company "B" Headquarters left bivouac area near Reisdorf, Lux. at 1230 hours arrived new bivouac area on Hill 408, 1 Mi. N. of Frelingen, Germany at 1745 hours. Captured 6 prisoners and destroyed one 57 mm AT gun. 1st and 3rd Platoons in direct fire support of Task Force Boyer's (47th Inf.) attack on Hommerdingen, Germany (982465) and Hill 408 (995490). Objectives were taken. 2nd Platoon supported 1st Bn., 112th Inf. Regt., 28th Inf. Div. in



15 SEPT. - its attack NE towards Gruchten, Germany (980455) and E. of that point towards Stockigt, Germany. Company "C" formed on road near bivouac area 1 Mi. N. of Wallendorf, Germany and moved NE with 10th Tank Bn. and took up positions 1/2 mi. S. of Gruchten, Germany. Company (less 3rd Plat) moved N. with 10th Tank Bn. until held up by enemy artillery fire on northern edge of Halsdorf, Germany (023489). 1st Platoon remained in position N. of Halsdorf while 2nd Platoon moved back into Halsdorf and set up road block. 3rd Platoon remained in position 1/2 Mi. S. of Gruchten, Germany to set up security for 10th Tank Bn. C.P. Co. C.P. located 1/2 Mi. SW of Halsdorf, Germany. Weather Cloudy. Health of Troops: Excellent.

16 SEPT. - Battalion Headquarters, Medical Detachment and Reconnaissance Company Hq. with Headquarters CCR came under enemy artillery fire about 1030 hours in bivouac area on Hill #408 and withdrew to new bivouac position West of Freilingen, Germany (994418). Remained there rest of day. Headquarters Co. left bivouac area near Stegen, Lux., at 0800 hours, proceeded to Heisdorf, Lux., crossed river and arrived at new assembly position at Wallendorf, Germany at 0915 hours. Left assembly area at 1315 hours and proceeded to new bivouac area at Hommerdingen, Germany (L-985467). Company "A" left bivouac area 1/2 Mi. E. of Lipperscheid, Lux. with CCB at 1145 hours. 1st Platoon attached to 15th Inf. 2nd Platoon to 81st Tank Bn. Remainder of Company in reserve with 71st FA Bn. arrived at new bivouac area at Hommerdingen, Germany at 2015 hours. Company "B" 1st and 3rd Platoons in position SE of Hill 408. No action except for fire placed on Sinspelt, Germany (L-985535) when a small enemy infantry patrol appeared in that area. 2nd Platoon in position on Hill #298 near Stockem supporting 1st Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, in direct fires and A-T defense in their attack on Wettingen, Germany and NE undergoing heavy enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire. Recon platoon attached to 2nd Platoon Company "B" suffered 1 MM KIA and 3 MM wounded from enemy shell fire. 1st and 2nd Platoons, Company "C", in A-T defense of 10th TK. BN positions SE of Stockem (030487) and NW of Halsdorf (024488) respectively. 3rd Platoon in A-T defense of CCR trains near Hommerdingen (982405). 2nd Lt. Seymour (MM1) Feldman AUS T-D O-1621990 Company "C" promoted to 1st Lt. as of September 13, 1944. Pioneer platoon, Recon Company, was released from attachment with Company "C", 22nd Eng. Bn. so that casualties suffered by Recon platoon could be replaced from the personnel of the Pioneer platoon. Bn Hq. and all companies reorganized this date under TO/E 18-25 (T.D. BN (SP) AND Medical Detachment), 18-26 (Hq. and Headquarters Company T.D. BN SP), 18-27 (T.D. GUN Company SP), and 18-28 (T.D. Recon Co.) dated March 15, 1944 per Ltr Hq. First U.S. Army, APO #230, dated September 10, 1944: Subject: Reorganization, File 320 (O). Weather: Cloudy

17 SEPT. Bn. Hq., Recon Co. Hq. and Medical Detachment remained in the biv area and came under frequent enemy shell fire but none hit in a near biv area. Headquarters Company remained in biv area. Company "A" (less 2nd Platoon) attached to Task Force Anderson (81st TK BN., 15th INF., and two platoons of 22nd Eng.) at 1200 hours and moved from biv area near Hommerdingen, Germany, at 1305 hours arriving in new biv area at Ammeldingen, Germany, at 1720 hours. Company "B" was in contact with enemy elements all day. 2nd Platoon repulsed three enemy attacks against their position E of Wettingen, Germany inflicting an estimated 150 enemy casualties. The Platoon suffered from intense enemy artillery and mortar fire having 1 MM KIA, 1 MM SWA, and 9 MM LWA. Also expended ammunition and had 3 out of 4 M-10s knocked out together with 1 ton sec. veh. All personnel and vehicles were evacuated to safety. The Platoon was recommended for a unit citation, also the Platoon Leader for the Distinguished Service Cross, as a result of this action. No action reported in area of the 1st and 3rd platoons of Company "B" which remained in position. No change in all three platoons of Company "C". 2nd Platoon in position at Halsdorf had direct fire action against enemy tank column about 0900 hours and knocked out 2 tanks, 1 truck, and 1 artillery piece. Enemy artillery fire heavy and intensive in all areas. Weather: Cloudy with rain



Bn Hq., Hon Co. Hq., and Medical Detachment remained in biv area under frequent enemy artillery fire but no casualties were sustained. Headquarters Company remained in the biv area also under occasion of enemy artillery fire but suffered no casualties. Company "A" remained in the biv area destroying pillboxes and acting as AT defense for Infantry. Company "B", 1st and 2nd Platoons SE of Hill #408 with 2nd Platoon pulled back to Bn Motor Strip at the Headquarters Company position for necessary repairs to vehicles. Company CP and Third Platoon remained in position. 1st Platoon and one section of 2nd Platoon took up position on NE outskirts of Stockem. Other section of 2nd Platoon moved back to crossroads in Halsdorf to set up road block. All units of Company "C" under continuous enemy artillery fire entire day. 1st Lt. Fought, Hq. Co. Sx., was instructed to return to Bn Administrative Center located with Rear Echelon, 5th Armored Division, to obtain true copies of all unfilled requisitions for personnel and proceed to Hq. First Army, have requisitions approved and then to personally endeavor to obtain replacement personnel at Replacement Pools in view of losses sustained and inability of replacement system to fill requisitions promptly. Three Officer replacements joined this date: 1st Lt. Ben J. Smith, AUS-TD O-182438 (assigned Company "C" as Platoon Leader, 21 Sept. 1944), 1st Lt. Jack H. McCann, Inf., O-437682 (assigned Company "A" as Platoon Leader, 21 Sept. 1944), and 2nd Lt. Everett L. Winchester, AUS-TD, O-182331 (assigned Company "A" as Exec. Officer, 21 Sept. 1944). Capt. Douglas H. Ketchum, PA, O-405209, Hon Co. Commander, complained of eye trouble and was given permission by Battalion Commander to visit nearby 75th Medical Clearing Co. who in turn evacuated him as a battle fatigue case. Weather: Rain

19 SEPT.

Bn Hq., Hon Co. Hq., and Medical Detachment together with CP of OOR came under artillery fire hitting in biv area and causing casualties in OOR CP area forcing all units in the area to withdraw Hommerdingen, Germany at 0930 hours. All vehicles of the Battalion Commander's party were then instructed to join up with Headquarters Company vehicles while Battalion Commander and S-1 vehicles joined CP of OOR. Bn Hq. (less CO, S-1 vehicle), Hon Co. Hq., Medical Detachment and Headquarters Company with OOR trains moved from Hommerdingen at about 1200 hours to position 500 yards N of Crutchen, Germany, and came under heavy enemy artillery fire and moved again to position 200 yards E of Niedersdorf, Germany. Continuous enemy artillery fire in the area of OOR trains knocked out Company "C" T-2 recovery vehicle after two direct hits forcing withdrawal of all vehicles at 1700 hours back through Wallendorf bridge to position of safety near Dethendorf, Luxemburg, to reorganize at 1900 hours. Left reorganization area at 2015 due to heavy enemy artillery fire and moved into biv area previously used 1 mile E of Spagen, Luxemburg, at 2145 hours. Enroute to Wallendorf bridge artillery fire knocked out Bn Communication Officer's 3/4 ton truck, killing T/A William L. Boswell, PA, 34473763, and seriously wounding another BM in vehicle which was abandoned. Battalion Commander's party (Bn CO's vehicle and personnel, S-1 vehicle and personnel, and S-2 riding with Bn CO) while with OOR CP were forced to move several hundred yards at a time on four separate occasions as a result of enemy artillery fire directed against their positions from 1200 hours to 1400 hours. Eventually reached temporary assembly area 1000 yards W of Hommerdingen. Left this position with OOR CP at 2130 hours to withdraw back through Niedersgegen, Germany, and across Wallendorf bridge to Luxemburg. Still enroute at 2400, Company "A" remained in area near Anneldingen destroying pillboxes and other Siegfried Line installations in that area. Company "B" (less 2nd Platoon under repairs) in position N of Frelingen, Germany, protecting left flank of OOR knocked out 6 MK VI tanks approaching position from vicinity of Muttingen, Germany, by direct fire at ranges 1500 to 3000 yards (credited to 1st Platoon, Company "B") and assisted tanks attached to 47th INF. BM. in knocking out an additional five tanks, two armored vehicles, and inflicting numerous casualties upon enemy personnel, at 2000 hours. Company withdrew with 47th INF. BM. after being under intense artillery fire



all day towards Luxemburg and was still enroute at 2400. Company "C", 1st Platoon with one section of 2nd Platoon held position NE of Stegen, Germany. Other section of 2nd Platoon maintained road block at Haldorf, Germany. 3rd Platoon established OP and firing position on reverse slope of hill 150 yards NE of Hommerdingen, Germany, to protect left flank of 1st Platoon OP came under direct enemy 80mm fire at 1700 hours which resulted in Pvt. Willie B. Greene, PA, 343710 S and Pfc Earl V. Ward, TA, 340717 G being killed and two other MIA. Repeated efforts to evacuate bodies of Greene and Ward were unsuccessful due to direct enemy 80mm fire being directed at anyone who attempted to approach bodies. Platoon thus had to withdraw from position later in evening on orders from GCB without evacuating bodies which were left in vicinity of 971470. Company started withdrawal movement back to Luxemburg at night, and were still enroute at 2400. Weather: Fair

20 SEPT.

Battalion Commander's party enroute back to Luxemburg passed knocked out Hq. Communications 3/4 ton truck at about 0300 and Bn. S-2 recovered communications documents and 301 and some radio equipment. Body of MIA killed had previously been evacuated. Could not destroy vehicle as it would have given away the route of traffic. Party crossed Tallendorf bridge at 0330 hours and halted for night 1 mile S of Diekirch, Luxemburg, at 0400 hours. Rejoined rest of Battalion Hq. and Headquarters Co. in biv area 1 mile S of Stegen, Luxemburg, at 1300 hours. Bn. Hq., Hon Co. Hq., Medical Detachment, and Hq. Co. remained in biv area remainder of the day. Company "A", 1st and 3rd Platoons (with Hon platoon attached) attached to Task Force Anderson (CCB). 2nd Platoon attached to Task Force Gibson (CCB). Company knocked out two pillboxes, and undetermined number of troops. Company CP moved from biv area Ammeldingen, Germany, to new biv area 1 mile NW of Rosdorf. 1st Lt. (NMI) Watrekl AUG-TO, O-1821257, Platoon Leader, wounded in leg and evacuated. Company "B" enroute from Germany at 2400 19 September 1944 continued to former biv area 1 mile W of Tamsdorf, Luxemburg, arriving about 0500 hours and remained in biv area rest of day. Company "C" enroute from Germany at 2400 19 September 1944 continued to new biv area 1/2 mile E of Hilsdorf, Luxemburg, arriving about 0600 hours and remained in biv area rest of day. Weather: Fair



21 SEPT.

Bn Hq., Hon Co. Hq., Medical Detachment and Hq. Co. remained in biv area 1 mile E of Stegen, Luxemburg, all day reorganizing, taking inventory of losses of equipment, and performing necessary motor utnce. Company "A", all firing platoons employed as AT defense and rear guard protection for 21st TK. BN. Knocked out two enemy vehicles and undetermined number of men. Company CP moved from vicinity of Rosdorf, Luxemburg, to new biv area 1/2 mile E of Stegen, Luxemburg, arriving at 1700 hours. Company "B" remained in biv area 1 mile W of Ernsdorf, Luxemburg. Company "C" remained in biv area 1/2 mile S of Hilsdorf, Luxemburg. Lt. Fought who left on 18 September returned with 23 MIA replacements after having copies of personnel requisitions approved at Hq. First U. S. Army and by taking transportation with him and personally picking up men at 3rd Replacement Depot. Three additional officer replacements reported and were assigned as follows: 1st Lt. Basil W. Belaw, AUS-TO, O-1821132 to Company "B" as Platoon Leader; 2nd Lt. Craig L. Winson, AUS-TO, O-1823799 to Hon Co. as Pioneer Platoon leader; 2nd Lt. Kenneth (NMI) Brown, AUS-TO, O-1821587 to Hon Co. as Platoon Leader. 1st Lt. David (NMI) Barr, AUS-TO, O-1821835, relieved of assignment as Exec. Officer, Hon Co. and assigned as Company Commander, Hon Co. vice Capt. Ketchum. Weather: Fair

22 SEPT.

Bn Hq., Hon Co. Hq., Medical Detachment and Hq. Co. remained in biv area in Commander vehicle, S-1 vehicle, S-2 vehicle and personnel assigned to those vehicles established new Forward OP at Brucherhof Farm, 2 miles W of Ernsdorf, Luxemburg, at 1600 hours to be more centrally located for control of all companies. Company "A", 1st Platoon, 500 yards SE of Ammeldingen, Germany, (O 5140) acted as rear guard for one of CCB Task Forces in evacuating

their position at 0600 and reported enemy tanks and horse drawn vehicles moving in vicinity of Ammeldingen (938445). 2nd Platoon left position near Hoesdorf, Luxemburg, and 3rd Platoon left position S of Ammeldingen, Germany, and Company assembled in area 3/4 mile SE of Stegen, Luxemburg, (890373) Company "B" Hq. remained in biv all day with 2nd Platoon in reserve. 1st Platoon in position near Bigelbach, Luxemburg, watching area in vicinity of Wallendorf, Germany. 3rd Platoon in position NE of Heisdorf, Luxemburg, also watching area around Wallendorf, Germany, received heavy concentration of enemy artillery and had to withdraw S of above position. Company "C" moved from biv area near Gilsdorf, Luxemburg, to new biv area near Bucherhof Farm, 2 miles W of Ermsdorf, Luxemburg, arriving at 1700 hours

23 SEPT. - Bn Commander's party remained in biv area. Hq. Co. with the remaining vehicles of Bn Hq. left biv area E of Stegen at 1500 hours for new biv area SE of Schrondweiler, Luxemburg, arriving at 1545 hours. Company "A" remained in biv area. Company "B", 1st and 3rd Platoons, relieved from forward position at 1600 hours and rejoined rest of company in biv area 1 mile W of Ermsdorf, Luxemburg. Company "B" relieved of attachment to 47th INF. and attached to 16th TK. BN. Company "C" attached to 47th INF. left biv area near Bucherhof Farm. Company "C" and 3rd Platoon established new position 1/4 Mi. S of Bettendorf, Lux. while 1st and 2nd Flat. took up position NE of Bettendorf, Lux. at (925435) and (908403) respectively. 2nd Platoon came under enemy mortar fire after 2100 hours resulting in 2 EM KIA, 1 EM SKA and 5 EM LTA. Weather Rain. Health of troops Excellent.

24 SEPT. - Battalion Commander's party, Bn. Hq., Recon. Company Hq., Hq. Co. and Medical Detachment remained in respective bivouac area. Company "A" remained in bivouac area. Company "B" remained in bivouac area. OP established by 400th FA Bn. by 1cn. M attached to 1st Platoon attached by enemy patrol in vicinity of Bigelbach. One Officer and 1 EM of the 400th FA Bn. and Pfc Everett (M41) Bartlebaugh, FA, 13067316, Reconnaissance Co. was probably captured by patrol. Bartlebaugh listed MIA. Company "C", 3rd Platoon replaced 1st Flat. in firing positions at 0800 hours. 1st Platoon returned to Company C.P. Company C.P. and 1st Platoon moved from bivouac area to new bivouac area 1 1/4 Mi. S. of Bettendorf, Lux. arriving at 1100 hours. 2nd Platoon moved from firing position and returned to new Company C.P. position arriving at 2000 hours. Weather cloudy. Health of troops Excellent.

25 SEPT. - Battalion Commander's party, Bn. Hq., Recon. Co. Hq., Medical Detachment and Headquarters Company remained in respective bivouac areas. Bn. Commander visited various company positions. Company "A" left bivouac area 1/2 Mi. E. of Stegen at 1530 hours arriving at new bivouac area 1/2 Mi. E. of Gilsdorf, Lux. at 1710 hours. 3rd Flat. attached to 81st Tank Bn., remainder of Co. still attached with CCB. Co. "B" remained in bivouac area. Company reld. of attachment with CCB at 1200 hours and returned to Bn. control. Company "C" remained in bivouac area. Relieved of attachment to CCB at 1200 hours and returned to Battalion control. All companies except Co. "A" now attached to Division Artillery control. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.

26 SEPT. - Battalion Commander's party remained in bivouac area. Bn. Hq., Medical Detachment and Headquarters Company left bivouac area S. of Schrondweiler at 1510 hours and arrived at new bivouac area 1 Mi. N. of Ermsdorf, Lux. arriving at 1610 hours. Company "A" remained in bivouac area and set up A-T defense for CCB. 3rd Platoon still attached to 81st Tank Bn. Co. "B" remained in bivouac area. 3rd Platoon, Company "C" moved from firing position S. of Bettendorf and returned to Company C.P. area 1 1/2 Mi. S. of Bettendorf. Entire Company moved S. to join Bn. and set up bivouac near Bucherhof Farm 2 Mi. W. of Ermsdorf, Lux. Weather Fair. Health of troops Excellent.



- 27 SEPT. - Battalion Commander's party remained in bivouac area. Rest of Bn. Hq., Medical Detachment, Hq. Co., Company "B" and Company "C" left bivouac area 2 Mi. W. of Ermsdorf, Lux. about 1030 hours for new bivouac area 1 Mi. W. of Stegen, Lux (P-872379) arriving about 1145 hours. Company "A" remained in bivouac area 1/2 Mi. E. of Gilsdorf, Lux. on road block missions for CCB. Captain Hal A. Burgess, Jr., FA, O-1160508, relieved as Company Commander, Co. "C" and assigned as Battalion S-3 this date. 1st Lt. Robert C. Jones, AUS-TD, O-1822013, reld as Plat. Ldr., Co. "B" and asgd as Company Commander, Co. "C", this date. Weather Cloudy. Health of troops Excellent.
- 28 SEPT. - Battalion Commander's party remained in bivouac area at Brucherhof Farm. Remainder of Bn. Hq., Medical Detachment, Hq. Co., Company "B" and Company "C" remained in bivouac area 1 Mi. W. of Stegen, Lux. Company "A" remained in bivouac area near Gilsdorf forming road blocks. Weather Cloudy. Health of troops Excellent.
- 29 SEPT. - Battalion Commander's party moved from bivouac area near Brucherhof Farm at 1300 hours to rejoin other units of Bn. in bivouac 1 Mi. W. of Stegen. Rest of Bn. Hq., Med. Det. and Hq. Co. remained in bivouac area. Company "A" relieved of attachment to CCB at 1700 hours and rejoined Bn. in bivouac area 1 Mi. W. of Stegen arriving at 1810 hours. Company "C" attached to CCB at 1700 hours. Co. Hq., 1st and 3rd Platoons remained in Battalion bivouac area 1 Mi. W of Stegen. 2nd Plat. moved from Bn. biv. area to take up road block position with 81st Tank Bn. previously occupied by Company "A" near Gilsdorf, Lux. Weather Cloudy with rain. Health of troops Excellent.
- 30 SEPT. - Entire Battalion (less 2nd Platoon Company "C") remained in bivouac area 1 Mi. W. of Stegen, Lux. performing motor maintenance and awaiting movement orders. 2nd Plat. Co. "C" still on road block mission with 81st Tank Bn. near Gilsdorf, Lux. Weather Cloudy. Health of Troops Excellent.

