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HEADQUARTERS 695TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION TOWED
APO 230, U. S. ARMY

6 February 1945

SUBJECT: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

THROUGH: Commanding Officer, 4th Cavalry Group, APO 307, U. S. Army.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, 25, D. C.

REPORT SUBMITTED FOR JANUARY 1945

a. Original Unit: No change.

b. Changes in organization: Attached to 4th Cavalry Group, Mees.

<u>Strength:</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Warrant Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
	1 Jan 45	33	2	644
	31 Jan 45	34	2	690
<u>Increase or Decrease</u>		1	0	46

d. Stations: Belgium: Arrived 23rd December 1944.

e. Marches: All marches and moves by Battalion CP and Line Companies noted in narrative listed as Appendix No. 1.

f. Campaigns: Western Europe.

g. Battles: See Narrative Report, Appendix No. 1.

h. Commanding officer: Lt. Col. Gint Smith, OL23028, PA.

<u>Losses in action:</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>Wounded-Evacuated:</u>	1st Lt. Joe M. Inroix	20 Jan 45
	<u>Enlisted Men:</u>	
<u>Killed in action:</u>	Tec 5 Merle G. Couch	14 Jan 45
	fc Clyde (n) Miles	18 Jan 45
	Pvt Lawrence D. Carr	13 Jan 45

(In January 1 enlisted man was wounded in action and not evacuated, and 1 officer and 20 enlisted men were evacuated as non-battle casualties.)

i. Honor and award recipients who have distinguished themselves in action:

<u>Name and Rank/Grade</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Authority</u>
<u>Silver Star:</u>		
1st Lt. John S. Thompson		Hq VII Corps GC 3, 20 Jan 45
Col. William H. Graw		Hq VII Corps GCL, 10 Jan 45
Capt. Harold M. Jones		Hq VII Corps GC 3, 20 Jan 45
Col. Stanley L. Strong		Hq VII Corps GC 3, 20 Jan 45

Report on Report, 435th Infantry Division, 6 Feb. 45, cont'd.

<u>Name and Rank/Grade</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Authority</u>
Silver Star:		
Cpl William J. Lang		Hq VII Corps G-3, 20 Jan 45
Cvt Verne S. Stoner		Hq VII Corps G-3, 20 Jan 45
Bronze Stars:		
Pvt James H. Hipps	Hq	Hq VII Corps, G-1, 10 Jan 45
Pvt Howard B. Yogan		Hq VII Corps, G-1, 10 Jan 45
Sgt Joseph D. Crandall		Hq VII Corps, G-2, 16 Jan 45
Sgt Clarence L. Shuler		Hq VII Corps, G-3, 20 Jan 45
Rec 5 Glen H. McClurg		Hq VII Corps, G-3, 20 Jan 45

Received letter of commendation to Group Reinforced from Commanding General, 84th U. S. Infantry Division, with comparable indorsements from Commanding General, VII Corps; also comparable indorsement from Commanding Officer, 4th Cavalry Group, for the part this Battalion played while attached to the 84th U. S. Infantry Division from 2nd January to 15th January 1945, while Group, reinforced by this Battalion, screened the line of the Moselle River protecting the right flank of the VII Corps and, in addition, the Group attacked in a wide zone, through adverse terrain and weather, and seized the towns of Marcouret, Baroche, Villez, Borge, and Borsee against stubborn resistance. Certified true copy of basic letter of recommendation supported by indorsements noted herein attached as Inclosure #2.

k. Photographs: None.

l. Inclosures: Appendix no. 1 is Inclosure #1.
 Copy of Commendation from 84th U. S. Infantry Division is Inclosure #2.

LEW SMITH
 Lt. Col., P
 Commanding

29

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HEADQUARTERS 699TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION TOWED
APO 230, U. S. ARMY

APPENDIX NO. 1

NARRATIVE
Excerpts from Unit Journal
Incidents

January 1945

- 2 2nd Lt Louis Mitchell transferred to Hq VII Corps for further assignment per Hq First U. S. Army Special Order 357 of 28 Dec. 1944.

2nd Platoon Company B left 1st January for VII Corps Pwd to act as Corps Security Guard via coord P294987.

3rd Plat of Co B and Hq Ren Plats left CP 1 Jan to support Corps Guard at Ponton Bridge at Andenne, Belgium, mission 24 hours duration only.

Group attached to 84th U. S. Infantry Division per VOOG VII Corps.

Bn CP left coord 200927 at Sey, Belgium, at 0315 hrs 2 Jan and arrived at coord 209138 at Ronheville, Belgium, at 0630 hrs 2 Jan., distance traveled 24 miles.

Company B left coord 199928 at Sey, Belgium, at 0315 hrs on 2 Jan and arrived at 209138 at Ronheville, Belgium, at 0630 hrs 2 Jan. 1945 - distance traveled 25 miles.

Company C left coord 201928 at Sey, Belgium, at 0300 hrs on 2 Jan 45 and arrived at 215134 at Ronheville, Belgium, at 0715 hrs on 2 Jan 45 - distance traveled 22 miles.

Company A left coord 217892 1 mile west of Sin Sin, Belgium, at 0430 hrs 2 Jan 45 and arrived at coord 186124 at Solieres, Belgium, at 0900 hrs on 2 Jan 45 - distance traveled 23.1 miles.

Company A reported company reorganized into four destroyer platoons of three 3" guns each permitting them to retain three 3" guns in reserve at all times.

Received FO #1 dated 022200A Jan 45, Ho. 4th Cav Group Mees... Battalion (Company A attached to 24th Cav Ren Sdn and Company C to 4th Cav Ren Sdn) attached to 4th Cav Group Mees Reinf attached to 84th U. S. Infantry Division and further attached to TF Church which attacks in close support of CCA 2nd Arm Div and eliminates all pockets of enemy resistance within its zone of action. Protects west flank of the Corps, blocking any enemy movement across the Ourthe River. Blocks Jaroche, Belgium (P4678) by seizing Cielle, Belgium (P3679) and high ground (P4679). (VII Corps attacks 030830A Jan 45, seizes the area Houffalize (P6071) - Bovigny (7082), prepared to continue advance to the east on order of First U. S. Army. Formations, 3rd Arm Div on left, 2nd Arm Div on right, followed by 83rd U. S. Infantry Div in zone of 3rd Arm Div and 84th U. S. Infantry Div in zone of 2nd Arm Div. 2nd Arm Div

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Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 635th TD Bn. Towed, 6 Feb. 45, cont'd.

attacks 0930A Jan 45 through present front lines to seize the line of the Courthe River and establish bridgehead at Houffalize. 24th Inf Div attacks in close support of 2nd Inf Div, eliminated all pockets of resistance within its zone of action, protects the right flank of the Corps and blocks any enemy movement across the Courthe River. Company C 298th Eng Bn less 1st and 2nd Plats is attached to this Battalion. Company D 297th Eng Bn less 1st and 2nd Plats is relieved of attachment to 635th TD Bn.

3 Two ambulances assigned to Forward CP.

Elements of 297th Engineers attached to Forward CP relieved of attachment as of 2 Jan and one (1) combat platoon and one (1) Hq platoon attached to Forward CP from 298th Eng.

4 2nd Lt James S. Lynch, OIA22028, officer-reinforcement reported for duty per Par #7 90 3 of 3 Jan 45, Hq 92nd Repl Bn, 3rd Repl Depot.

Bn CP left coord 209138 at Ronheville, Belgium, at 0900 hrs 3 Jan 45 and arrived at coord 398965 at Barvaux, Belgium, at 1315 hrs 3 Jan 45 - distance traveled 27 miles.

Company B left coord 209138 at Ronheville, Belgium, at 0800 hrs 3 Jan 45 and arrived at coord 395964 at Barvaux, Belgium, at 1315 hrs on 3 Jan 45 - distance traveled 27 miles.

Company C left coord 215134 at Ronheville, Belgium, at 0815 hrs 3 Jan 45 and arrived at coord 399971 at Barvaux, Belgium, at 1400 hrs 3 Jan 45 - distance traveled 27 miles.

Company A left coord 186124 at Solieres, Belgium, at 0820 hrs on 3 Jan 45 and arrived at coord 366956 at Petit Han, Belgium, at 1100 hrs 3 Jan 45 - distance traveled 16 miles.

Company D left coord 366956 at Petit Han, Belgium, at 1705 hrs 3 Jan 45 and arrived at coord 443898 at Erzee, Belgium, the same day, distance traveled 10 miles.

5 Following report from Company A dated 4 Jan 45: Received PO #1 Hq 24th Cav Reg 3rd Bn dated 032000 Jan 45 - Company A supporting Squadron in mission of reconnoitering and mopping up pockets of resistance within assigned zone per PO #1 4th Cav Group Mac noted herein.

6 Following report from Company A dated 5 Jan 45: 0900-1300 hrs: Four Platoon Commanders on Reg in area Blier-Amonines-ny. 1430 hrs: 1st Plat moved from CP to gun positions in vic coord 446875 with A Troop 24th Cav Reg 3rd Bn mopping the roadblocks. Platoon went into position at 2000 hrs. 1930 hrs: 2nd Plat moved from CP to gun positions vic coord 450874 and went into position at 2350 hrs with CP located at coord 452875.

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Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 639th TD Bn. Toward, 6 Feb 45, cont'd.

7 Following report from Company A dated 6 Jan 45: 2215 hrs: CP placed on half hour alert for movement to Beffe, Belgium. 2230 hrs: Lts Thompson and Norman on road and gun position ran to and via Beffe, Belgium.

Received FO #3 dated 072200A Jan 45 Hq 4th Cav Group. VII Corps continues attack with 84th U. S. Inf Div jumping off at 080900 Jan. Group reinforced with 1st Bn 290th Inf Regt reinf attached secures the line of the L'Ourthe River from Randoix Bas to Jupille by 080900A Jan to prevent enemy movement east of river and clears Marcour. 4th Cav Rem Sqdn reinforced with our Company C attached will move to and occupy Marcouret relieving 1st Bn 334th Inf Regt prior to 081000 Jan to establish CP to cover crossing of L'Ourthe River at Jupille; prepare to assist in cleaning out of Marcour. Battalion less Company C will move on Group order and reconnoiter Marcouret for antitank defenses, coordinate emplacement of all TDs, employ reserves to establish defenses in depth.

8 Following report from Company A dated 7 Jan 45: Received FO #2 Hq 24th Cav Rem Sqdn dated 072300 Jan 45: Company A reverts to operations control of Commanding Officer 635th TD Bn-T and to make preparation for movement.

Battalion Commander, accompanied by S-3, Bn Ln O, established an Advance Forward CP amidst the rubble of Beffe, Belgium, to permit closer control of the screening missions assigned to the three firing companies, and to closely monitor the choice of appropriate antitank gun positions at the most likely tank approaches.

Company C left coord 397971 in Barvaux, Belgium, at 0900 hrs 8 Jan and arrived Marcouret, Belgium, 1730 hrs - distance 19 miles.

Company B left coord 395964 at Barvaux, Belgium, 1045 hrs 8 Jan and arrived 1350 hrs at Amonines, Belgium - distance traveled 9.7 miles.

9 Following report from Company A dated 8 Jan 45: 0845 hrs: Lt Games relieved of command of 2nd Plat and returned to Bn Rear Echelon. Lt Proctor, Company Executive Officer, took command of 2nd Plat. 1400 hrs: 1st Plat in position vic coord 410863. 2nd Plat in reserve with CP coord 443900. 3rd Plat in position vic coord 423850 and 4th Plat in position vic coord 434840.

10 Company C reported their CP vic Marcouret, Belgium, received considerable direct enemy tank fire during night of 9th Jan.

Bn Commander returned to Forward CP from Advance CP established 8th Jan at Beffe, Belgium.

Company B, retaining its Company CP in vic Barvaux, Belgium, moved one platoon into antitank positions at south end of Tevantave, Belgium, and another platoon on northwest edge of Tevantave, Belgium.

Company C went with 4th Cav Rem Sqdn from Barvaux, Belgium, to vic of Trinal, Belgium. Due to icy and impassable condition of roads, convoy unable reach

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Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 635th TD Bn Forward, 6 Feb 45, cont'd.

Marcouret, Belgium, until late that evening. Three platoons went into positions around the town on 9 Jan 45.

Company A reported that 4th Lt sustained considerable enemy shelling during late evening 9th Jan and also considerable shelling edge of Beffe, Belgium, during evening and night.

Enemy shelled Marcouret, Belgium, via Company C area from general vic Erzee, Belgium.

Following report received from Company A for 9 Jan 45: 1525 hrs: Moved from vic coord M3898 to Beffe, Belgium, coord 424850 arriving 1625 hrs - distance traveled 6 miles. 2150 hrs: Unable transmit over company radios; enemy jamming Battalion channels.

Received Operations Memo #2 10 Jan 45 Hq 4th Cav Group Meas: Group reinforced will support 334th Infantry Regiment. Group will continue to protect right (L) flank of VII Corps. Will extend zone of action to the east as shown, relieving 2nd Bn, 334th Inf Regt. Will establish and maintain contact with 3rd Bn 334th Inf Regt at M490813 on our left (E) flank. 4th Cav Ron Sdn with our Company C attached will relieve 1st Bn 334th Inf Regt in Cielles by dark 10 Jan. Will relieve 2nd Bn 334th Inf Regt on high ground vic coord M468797 by dark 10 Jan. Will establish and maintain contact initially with elements of 1st Bn 334th Inf Regt vic coord M475805 on left (R) flank. Will establish and maintain contact with elements of 24th Cav Ron Sdn upon relief of 1st Bn 334th Inf Regt by 24th Cav Ron Sdn. 24th Cav Ron Sdn with our Company A attached will reconnoiter position and relieve elements 1st Bn 334th Inf Regt in zone by 111400H Jan. Upon relief of 1st Bn 334th Inf Regt will establish and maintain contact with elements of 3rd Bn 334th Inf Regt vic coord M490813. Initial aggressive patrolling to south and southeast in zone of action. Company A this Battalion attached to 24th Cav Ron Sdn effective 101200H Jan 45.

Company B left coord 447875 at Amonines, Belgium, at 1425 hrs 10 Jan and arrived coord 423852 at Beffe, Belgium, at 1500 hrs - distance traveled 3.4 miles.

Company C left coord 438816 at Marcouret, Belgium, at 1500 hrs on 10 Jan and arrived at Cielles, Belgium, 1535 hrs - distance traveled 2 miles.

11 Bn Commander chose new CP area at Marcour, Belgium, and secured sufficient number of billets for entire forward CP.

Company C reported that during their move from Marcouret, Belgium, to Cielles, Belgium, their convoy heavily shelled by enemy artillery. Also that approx 60 rds from enemy tanks fell into their CP area this morning.

Forward Bn CP moved from vic Barvaux, Belgium, at 1235 hrs and arrived at 1335 hrs coord 423819 in Marcour, Belgium - distance traveled 14.2 miles.

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Battalion assigned the responsibility for the defense of Marcour, Belgium. Bn Commander assigned Lt Carlson, Bn Officer, to coordinate the defense with other units in and in vicinity of Marcour.

Following report received from Company A for 10 Jan 45: 1200 hrs: transferred from operational control of Battalion Commander to CO, 24th Cav Ren Sqn. 1500 hrs: 1st Plat in position via coord 441818. 2nd Plat in position via coord 439815.

Company A left coord 424811 at Beffe, Belgium, at 1530 hrs 11 Jan and arrived at Marcour, Belgium, coord 438818 at 1547 hrs - distance traveled 3 miles.

Received Ops Memo #3 dated 11 Jan 45 Hq 4th Cav Group: Mission of Group, Reinforced: 1st Bn, 334th Inf Regt, with 1 Plat Eng and 84th Ren Troop, attached, attacks 12 Jan to seize Berissemil, Nadrin and Pilly. Group Reinforced will advance to southeast within zone 120900A Jan 45, clear area of enemy, secure portion of LaRoche east of River and Villes - will sweep LaRoche-Maboge Road. 24th Cav Ren Sqn with Company A attached will advance within zone 120900A Jan, clear area of enemy and seize initial objective Borcee - will secure final objective Maboge-Berissemil Road within Zone.

12 Following report received from Company A for 11 Jan 45: 1330 hrs: 2nd Plat in position via coord 492820. 3rd Plat in position via coord 472808. 4th Plat in position via coord 486814. 1445 hrs: Sgt Spain WIA - remained duty status. Sgt Spain was standing alongside of road when a tank hit a mine. The concussion threw him approx 12 feet and he received pen wd left cheek and las wd lower leg from mine fragments. Given treatment by platoon medical aid man.

13 Bn CP area bombed by enemy planes at 1145 hrs. Six bombs were dropped, no damage other than broken glass.

Company C reported - 1st and 2nd Plats in LaRoche, Belgium, 3rd platoon in Cielles, Belgium, awaiting orders to assist Troop A's (4th Cav Ren Sqn) attack to south of LaRoche. Commanding Officer C Co with Platoon Officer and Platoon Sgt 3rd Platoon went forward with tanks to reconnoiter for gun positions. Commanding Officer, Co C, captured German officer of GAF in LaRoche. Sgt. Goodspeed's gun section reported a number of enemy artillery airbursts from tank gun in front of their position - were unable to locate tank - no damage.

Company C left coord 447795 at Cielles, Belgium, at 0900 hrs 12 Jan and arrived at coord 461781 at LaRoche, Belgium, at 0920 hrs 12 Jan - distance traveled 3 miles.

Company B moved - left coord 423852 at Beffe, Belgium, at 1145 hrs 13 Jan and arrived coord 422871 Marcour, Belgium, at 1210 hrs - distance traveled 3.3 miles.

14 From 0005 to 0035 hrs enemy planes estimated between 8 and 12 were over Bn CP area at Marcour, Belgium. Approximately 10 bombs were dropped and planes strafed. No damage other than broken glass.

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Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 635th TD Bn. Towed, 6 Feb 45, cont'd.

Bn Commander, S-3 and In O, left for coord 5081 Samree, Belgium, on group order to investigate the advisability of establishing an Advance Forward CP. Party returned due to change of Group mission. Bn Commander reported Tec 5 Merle G. Couch (Ho Co) KIA. Upon arrival at Samree, Belgium, with S-3 at approx 0930 hrs, Couch went to a fire made by some other troops to warm his hands. As he was about to come abreast of the fire, an enemy grenade buried in the snow exploded and hit him in the groin, fragments traveling upwards, killing him instantly.

Company B reported 2nd Plat assigned to VII Corps Forward for guard duty, moved with Corps Forward to Hiernieu, Belgium, on 13 Jan.

Company C reported: Company CP area bombed by enemy planes after midnight 13th Jan. Bomb fragments hit CP building and a number fell near Sgt Marintser's gun, but no damage done.

Company C moved 0800 14 Jan from coord 461781 laRoche, Belgium, and arrived coord 471773 Villez, Belgium, at 0815 hrs 14 Jan - distance traveled 2 miles.

Bn Received VII Corps (Secret) Troop Assignment #3 (Administration) confirming that this Battalion under 4th Cavalry Group Secs for administration.

- 15 Group released from attachment to 84th U. S. Infantry Division as of 1200 hrs 15 Jan and reverted to Corps control - Group Reinforced in rest stage as of that time, except 2nd Platoon Company B on duty with Corps Forward as Corps guard.

2 guns 3rd Plat and Plat Hqs, Co B, moved from antitank positions vic Devantave, Belgium, to rest area Marcour, Belgium. 2 guns 1st Plat and Plat Hqs moved from Beffe, Belgium to rest area Marcour, Belgium. Bn Commander assigned one Plat Company B the mission of river security in Marcour, Belgium.

2nd Plat, Company B, attached to Division Artillery, 3rd Armored Division and 3rd Plat, Company B, attached to Division Artillery, 2nd Armored Division for the purpose of firing an illuminating mission. 2nd Platoon released from assignment of guarding VII Corps Forward for this mission and reported to 3rd Armored Division Artillery at coord 510883 and went into position at coord 650825. 3rd Platoon went into position at coord 602770 and became attached to Battery C of the 78th Field Artillery Battalion of the 2nd Armored Division.

Following report received from Company A for 14 Jan 45: 1700 hrs - 2nd Plat moved from coord 492820 to Samree, Belgium, in reserve position. 3rd Platoon moved from coord 472808 to Marcour, Belgium, in reserve position. 4th Plat moved into sheltered positions in identical location. All of Company A now under cover and commenced on maintenance of vehicles, ordnance and personal equipment.

Company C moved - left coord 471773 at Villez, Belgium, at 1000 hrs 15 Jan and arrived coord 422819 Marcour, Belgium, 1200 hrs 15 Jan - distance traveled 7 miles - rest area.

SECRET

Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 635th TD Bn. Toward, 6 Feb 45, cont'd.

Company A moved - left coord 438818 Marcour, Belgium, 1405 hrs 15 Jan and arrived coord 458780 LaRoche 1445 hrs 15 Jan - distance traveled 6 miles - rest area.

16 Recommendations for battlefield promotions to 2nd Lt of S/Sgt Woodrow Larson, Company A, and S/Sgt Harold Harrington, Company B, also promotion to Captain of 1st Lt Charles B. Smith, Bn S-2, instigated by the Battalion Commander.

17 Company B reported that 2nd Plat attached to 3rd Armd Division Artillery fired 5 star shells and 2 HE time shells on 16 Jan - mission accomplished. Platoon area received enemy counter battery of approximately 200 rounds.

Company C alerted for movement 18 Jan with 4th Cavalry Ren Sqdn on a holding mission.

18 Received Field Order #4, dated 172400A Jan 45 Hq 4th Cav Group Mees; Mission - To relieve elements of 3rd Armd Division and defend line Sommerland-Vaux to prevent enemy movement to northwest. Company C attached to 4th Cav Ren Sqdn will move 180730A Jan 45 via Samree, Belgium, to relieve 83rd Ren Bn and elements to CC Howse - will establish defense of area along line Sommerland-Vaux within zone - will maintain contacts on right and left - will patrol aggressively to the southeast. 635th TD Bn-T less Company C and 2 platoons of Company B will Ren group zone and coordinate emplacement of tank destroyer guns. Will make recommendations for employment of reserves to provide defense in depth. Company A, 635th TD Bn-T, attached to 24th Cav Ren Sqdn will remain present location and prepare to reinforce or relieve Company C on order. Hq and 1st Plat of Company B, 635th TD Bn-T, will remain present positions Marcour, Belgium, prepared to move on order Battalion Commander.

0840 hrs: Bn Commander left Marcour, Belgium, and 10 enlisted men left to establish Advance Forward CP at coord 604800 area 5 miles north of Houffalize, Belgium, in conjunction with Company C's mission - was joined by Bn S-3 and Bn In O, - arrived 1000 hrs - distance traveled 19 miles.

Company C moved - left coord 422819 at Marcour, Belgium, 0900 18 Jan 45 and arrived at coord 630752 area 5 miles north of Houffalize, Belgium, 1330 hrs 18 Jan 45 - distance traveled 24 miles.

Company C reported - Lfc Clyde Liles and Pvt Lawrence D. Carr WIA 18 Jan at Vaux, Belgium, and evacuated - both had mortar fragments in legs.

19 3rd Plat, Company B, detached 19 Jan from 2nd Armd Div Artillery and reverted back to Group control - remained at coord 650825 for indirect firing on order.

Company B reported - 2nd Plat attached to 3rd Armd Div Artillery for illuminating missions fired 4 star shells 17 Jan - mission accomplished. Platoon Commander reported the infantry killed 49 enemy troops discovered removing our mines in front of a 3rd Armd Div road block.

20 Received Operations Memorandum #4, 19 Jan 45, Hq 4th Cav Group Mees: Group

Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 635th TD Bn. Formed, 6 Feb 45, cont'd.

Reinforced will relieve elements 2nd Armored Division - will extend zone to the east to include Cherain-Bettigney relieving elements of 3rd Armored Division now occupying positions in our zone. 635th TD Bn-T will move reserve platoon Company B from Marcour and reinforce 82nd Ren tank destroyer defenses within their zone - will reconnoiter eastern portion of group zone and coordinate and supplement antitank defenses as necessary.

2nd Plat Company B relieved as of 201200 Jan 45 from 2nd Armored Division and from guarding Corps Forward Hq and reverted to Battalion control.

Company B moved - left Marcour, Belgium, at 1045 hrs 20 Jan and arrived 1400 hrs 20 Jan, coord 607743 approx 1,000 meters southeast of Mont, Belgium - distance traveled 22.3 miles.

Company B reported their gun positions: 1st Plat coord 605737, 2nd Plat coord 629155, 3rd Plat 2 guns at coord 607743 and 2 guns at coord 614736.

Company C reported their gun positions: 1st Plat coord 654747, 2nd Plat 655768 and 3rd Plat 674760.

Company C reported: at 2230 hrs 19 Jan Pvt McNaughton captured German prisoner.

Company C reported: at 1030 hrs 20 Jan at approx coord 642755, 1st Lt Joe K. LaCroix, Commanding Company C was S/A by land mine badly lacerating his right side from legs through hip, neck and face, evacuated. His 1/4 ton hit land mine and was demolished and reported as battle loss for exchange. Radio salvaged. Driver Tec 5 Slonaker uninjured.

Company C CP and platoon positions shelled by enemy artillery 19 Jan - no damage.

Company C reported - on 17 and 18 January, 1st and 3rd platoons heavily shelled by enemy artillery and mortar fire.

Bn Commander appointed 1st Lt Archie A. Britchard to command Company C vice 1st Lt Joe K. LaCroix wounded-evacuated.

2nd Lt Atcherson Bercaw, O1824562, officer-reinforcement, reported for duty 19 Jan per authority per 52, SO 18, Hq 92nd Repl Bn, 3rd Repl Depot, 18 Jan 45.

Company C moved - left Sommeraine for Vaux, Belgium, coord 656766, 20 Jan.

23 Bn alerted for movement to rest area.

23 Jan 45 - the first day since committed to participate in the Battle of the Bulge this battalion out of contact with the enemy.

24 S-3 left with billeting party vic Huy, Belgium, designated as rest area and Bn Commander left for new area and to check our companies' march enroute.

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Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 699th TD Bn. Toward, 6 Feb 45, cont'd.

Battalion entered into rest, rehabilitation and refitting period - following moves governed:

Bn CP left coord 644000 via 5 miles north of Nouffalize, Belgium, 0900 hrs and arrived 3 miles east of Huy, Belgium, coord 212166 1310 hrs - distance traveled 52 miles. Balance Bn Fed CP joined Group and Company B column from Marcour, Belgium. Billeted in Chateau d'Alin.

Company A left LaRoche, Belgium, coord 458700 0900 hrs and arrived via Maillet, Belgium, coord 144070 1200 hrs - distance traveled 40 miles.

Company B left via of Mont, Belgium, coord 607743 0900 hrs and arrived via La Sarte, Belgium, coord 192147, at 1430 hrs - distance traveled 55 miles.

Company C left via Vaux, Belgium, coord 656768 at 0900 hrs and arrived coord 143524 via Sclimha, Belgium - distance traveled 55 miles.

26 Capt Dan R. Owen, Bn Adjutant, was appointed Information-Education Officer in addition to his other duties.

27 2nd Lt Gordon departed Bn on detached service to 3rd Armored Division per Letter Orders #44, Hq VII Corps, 27 Jan 45.

Received First U. S. Army TWX A40211 25 Jan 45, appointing S/Sgt Woodrow Larson, Co A, and S/Sgt Harold Harrington, Co B, 2nd Lts, AUS - both discharged as enlisted men this date.

Received memorandum from 4th Cav Group that 635th TD Bn-T, upon alert status for anti-airborne defense will establish check point in Ben-Ahin, Belgium, with the firing companies, less 3" guns, alerted for immediate commitment on group order. S-3 assigned mission of coordinating alert system.

28 Bn Adjutant swore in Harrington and Larson as 2nd Lts, AUS. Bn Commander assigned 2nd Lt Harrington to Company A and 2nd Lt Larson to Company B.

31 Received letter of Commendation to Group Reinforced from Commanding General, 84th U. S. Infantry Division, with comparable indorsements from Commanding General, VII Corps and Commanding Officer, 4th Cavalry Group, for the part this battalion played while attached to the 84th U. S. Infantry Division from 2nd January to 15th January 1945 while Group Reinforced by this Battalion screened the line of the Ourthe River protecting the right flank of the VII Corps, and, in addition, the Group attacked in a wide zone, through adverse terrain and weather, and seized the towns of Marcour, LaRoche, Villes, Maboge, and Borsee, Belgium, against stubborn resistance. Copy of letter of commendation attached.

Summary:

The Battle of the Bulge brought to an end, the Battalion was out of contact with the enemy for the first time on 23 January 1945 since its participation in this

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Appendix No. 1, Narrative, 635th TD Bn. Towed, 6 Feb 45, cont'd.

campaign, and on the 24th of January the entire battalion moved into its first rest, rehabilitation and refitting period since D-Day. After a 72 hour "all rest and no work" period, road marches to keep the personnel fit were inaugurated. A high state of maintenance of vehicles and ordnance was conducted and resulted in a superior rating from the Inspection Team of the 516th Ordnance Battalion. Weapons classes, classes on indirect firing and FDC were conducted. All companies went to designated firing ranges and fired small arms, machine guns, bazookas, and Reconnaissance Platoons fired their 37mm guns. Personal equipment was checked and cleaned. Men were given the opportunity to shower at designated shower points and the Medical Detachment physically inspected all personnel as prescribed. Moving pictures and stage shows were arranged for, as well as passes to the "on limits" towns of Huy and Andennes. In all, every advantage was made available to the personnel of this battalion during their rest period.

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