

HEADQUARTERS 644TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

AGO 230
4 November 1944

SUBJECT: Monthly Operational Report

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



Following is operations of 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion for month of October 1944.

1. 1 October 1944, 644th TD Bn, less Co's A and B, was attached to CT 25 by SO #13, Hq 26th Inf Div, dtd 1 Oct 44. Hon Co relieved Tank Force "X" and took up duties patrolling that portion of Division sector between 13th Inf Reg't and 2nd Bn of 28th Inf Reg't. Contact with friendly units on either flank was maintained. Hon Co CP moved to vicinity of WASSER (780635). Fwd CP and Co C moved to vicinity of WELSTEIN (09936) and then to GUN VANK (779331). Co C was assigned mission of setting up defensive positions within Co C sector. Concurrent with the CP movements of this unit the tank track vehicles arrived by train and were dispatched to Co's A, B, and C.

2. On 13 further attached Co A to CT 121, which relieved OCB of 4th Armored Division. Co A moved to vicinity of THE MOUF (811377) and occupied defensive positions to support CT 121. During this period Co A fired indirect harassing missions on enemy fortifications and personnel in the Siegfried line.

3. Co B was attached to CT 13, which relieved 10th Inf of the 48th Division. Co CP moved to vicinity of HELLER (840702) and occupied defensive positions in support of CT 13. 1st and 2nd platoons of Co B took up positions in a salient which entered the Siegfried line defenses.

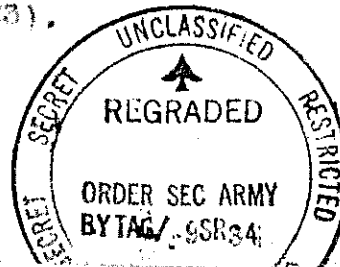
4. 6 October 1944, 644th TD Bn, less Co's A, B, C, and Hon, was released from attachment to CT 25 and became attached to 4th Div Arty. Fwd CP group moved to BOZVANNIS (710633) and there consolidated with the Hon Rear CP.

5. 21 October, Co C moved to HUNTERHAYNE (730370) and continued holding mission on their sector. Direct and indirect fire missions were fired at enemy defensive fortifications and personnel.

6. Hon Co was released from attachment to CT 25 by SO #14, Hq 26th Inf Div and returned to Bn control on 24 October 1944. Hon CP moved to vicinity ABBELBORN (710633).

- 1 -

S E C R E T



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7. HQ Co, 644th TB Bn, was organized into 6th Company, Provisional Bn which was formed by 6th Infantry Division for planned defense of WITZ. Provisional Company consists of sixty (60) RM and five (5) Officers.

8. Two (2) RM, this unit, were awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. Fourteen (14) Officers and nine (9) RM received the Bronze Star award. Decorations were awarded during month of October for achievements since 10 July 1944.

9. On 11 October 1944, two RM of this battalion, Philip A Di Carlo, 3225710 and Owen Roe McDermott, 32261950, received Commissions as Officers of U S Army and were reassigned to Bn as 2nd Lt.

For the Commanding Officer:

WILLIAM P BYE,
Captain, FA
Adjutant



S E C R E T

S E C R E T

HQ 3 INF DIV,
APC 8-U 3 Army
012000A Oct 1944

SECRET
Auth: HQ 3 Inf Div
Date: 1 Oct 1944
Init:

FO 413

Map: 1/100,000, Central Europe

1. a. See G-2 Periodic Report this date.

b. VIII CORPS (2 INF DIV & 5 ARMD DIV) relieves 28 INF DIV and 5 ARMD DIV in place beginning 1 Oct 1944, 2 INF DIV on the left and 3 INF DIV on the right, and holds the line now held by the 28 INF DIV and 5 ARMD DIV.

2. THIRD DIV

Alpha 445 AAA AW Bn (M)
644 TD Bn (SP)
709 TA Bn
174 FA Cp

relieving elements of the 28 INF DIV (109 Inf) in its sector and 5 ARMD DIV prior to 030600A Oct 1944, will hold the sector as shown on overlay (Annex No 1) and maintain contact with the THIRD ARMY (83 Inf Div) on the right. Formation boundaries - see overlay (Annex No 1).

3. a. GT13

Alpha: Co B 644 TD Bn

relieving elements of the 28 INF DIV (109 Inf) prior to 030600 A October 1944, will hold in strength its portion of the Div sector (Annex No 1). GT13 will maintain contact with 2 INF DIV on its left.

b. GT121 (less 3d Bn on TD Bn)

Alpha: Co A 644 TD Bn

relieving elements of the 5 ARMD DIV (002) after daylight 2 Oct. 1944, will hold in strength its portion of the Div sector (Annex No 1). GT121 will maintain contact with THIRD ARMY (83 Inf Div) on its right, and protect the Div right flank.

c. GT28

Alpha: 644 TD Bn (less Co B A&B)
Co D 709 TA Bn
8 Sen Tr

will assemble in area as shown on overlay (Annex No 1) prior to 021200A Oct 1944. GT28 will relieve patrols of the 5 ARMD DIV (002) and track route "X" of 28 INF DIV in its sector prior to 020600A Oct 1944, and will maintain aggressive patrolling in its portion of the Div Sector keeping contact with GT13 on the left (North) and GT121 on the right (South). One Bn will be prepared to move by motor to any portion of the Div Sector on orders from this Hq. GT28 will be prepared to defend with not less than two Bns, any two of the numbered centers of resistance shown on overlay (Annex No 1). Each such center of resistance will be reconnoitered and prepared for defense, but will not be occupied or defended without orders from this Hq. Routes to each center of resistance, from the CF assembly area, and between centers of resistance will be reconnoitered and plainly marked for use by day or night.



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- d. 445 AAA AW BN (M)
Attached to DIV Arty.
- e. 644 TD BN (SP) (less Cos A & B)
Attached to CT28 (Co B attached CT13; Co A attached CT121)
- f. 709 TK BN (less Co D)
AWAY ORDERS IN DIV REG in assembly area as shown on overlay (Annex No 1). Reconnoiter routes for counter-attacks in Div Sector (Co D attached CT28).
- g. 8 RCN TR)
ATTACHED to CT28.
- h. DIV & ATCHD ARMY (less 43, 45 & 56 FA Bns)
Place one medium Bn in support of CT121; One medium Bn in support CT13; one light Bn in support CT28. Remainder in general support paying particular attention to CT13.
 - x. (1) All attachments effective at once.
 - (2) CTs will conduct active patrolling to the front to maintain contact with the enemy and discover any indications of enemy offensive action.
- i. 30 trucks from 445 AAA AW BN attached to CT28 at 031200A Oct 1944 at a point to be designated by CG DIV ARTY. Other administrative details issued separately.
- 5. DIV CP, overlay (Annex No 1) * Time of opening to be announced. Units report location of CPs by 021200A Oct 1944.

SOI - Current Index 1-24, 25 sept 1944 in effect.

STROTT
Maj Gen



OFFICIAL: /s/ Beck
BECK
G-3
Annex #1 - Overlay

DEST: 13 Inf, 28 Inf, 121 Inf, 12 Engr Bn, 8 Med Bn, 8 RCN TR, 709 TK Bn, Ch Ln Co, CG Div Arty, 644 TD Bn, 445 AAA AW Bn, Corps (6), G-1, G-2, G-4, CG, Asst Div Comdr, Sig Co, Hq Comdt, MP.

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Auth: CG 8 Inf Div
Date: 22 Oct 1944
Init:

Hq 8 Inf Div
 APO 8, U S Army
 221200A Oct 44

FO #14

Maps: Central Europe, 1/100,000 & 1/25,000

1. a. See G-2 Periodic Reports
- b. VIII CORPS (2 Inf Div, 8 Inf Div, 83 Inf Div, 9 Armd Div) continues to hold its sector with the 2 Inf Div on the left (North), 8 Inf Div in the center 83 Inf Div on the right (South) and the 9th Armd Div in reserve.

2. THIS DIV

Atchd:

- 445 AAA AW Bn (M)
- 644 TD Bn (SP)
- 709 Tk Bn
- 687 FA Bn (105)
- 969 FA Bn (155)
- 52n Armd Inf Bn (9 armd Div) (effective 230700A)
- 89 Ron Sq (less Trs C & D) (9 armd Div) (effective 230700A)



continues mission of holding present sector.

3. a. CT121 (less 3d Bn with BBS)

Atchd:

- CG A, 644 TD Bn
- 52 Armd Inf Bn (effective 230700A)

will continue to hold its sector. Change in left (North) boundary (see Annex #1 hereto) effective at time to be mutually determined by CO CT28, but not later than 241200A Oct 1944. One Inf Bn CT121 will be assembled in Regtl Res in BIRKINCH (8642) not later than 241200A Oct 1944. This Bn, in addition to normal Regtl Res mission, will organize and be prepared to occupy and defend on orders from this Hq center of resistance No 10 (see Annex #1 to FO #13, 1 Oct 44, and Annex #1 hereto).

b. CT28

Atchd:

- CG C 644 TD Bn
- 89 Ron Sq (less Trs C & D) (effective 230700A)

will continue mission as prescribed in FO #13, with the exception that after 241200A Oct 1944 the 121 Inf will be prepared to occupy and defend center of resistance No 10 (see sub-paragraph as above). After change in fight boundary is effective, move Res Bn to vicinity ALSOWEID (7653). This Bn, motorized will be prepared to move on three hours notice to reinforce the 9 Armd Div or as directed by this Hq.

Ron Co 644 TD Bn, Ron Plat Hq Co 709 Tk Bn, Co D 709 Tk Bn and 8 Ron Tr are relieved from attachment to CT28 at a time to be determined by CO CT28 but not later than 241200A Oct 1944.

Atchd:

- CG B 644 TD Bn

continue mission as prescribed in FO #13.

d. 445 AAA AW Bn (M)

Atchd to DIV Arty

e. 644 TD Bn (less Cos A, B & C)

Atchd to Div Arty. Ron Co released from attachment to CT28 not later than 241200A Oct 1944. Co A Atchd CT121, Co B Atchd CT13, Co C Atchd CT28.

f. 709 Tk Bn

continues mission as prescribed in FO #13. Co D and Ron Plat, Hq Co, released

from Attachment CT28 not later than 241200A Oct 1944.

g. 8 Ron Tr

When relieved from Attachment to CT28, assemble in Div Res in the Vic of WILTZ (7053)

h. Div Arty (less 43, 45 & 56 FA Bns)

Atord:

687 FA Bn (105)

969 FA Bn (155)

644 TD Bn (less Cos A, B & C)

445 AAA AW Bn (M)

continue mission as prescribed in FO #13.

i. 52 Armd Inf Bn

Atord to CT121 effective 230700A Oct 1944.

j. 89 Ron Sq (less Trs C & D)

Atord to CT28 effective 230700A Oct 1944.

4. All movements directed in Par 3 above will be cleared through Traffic Control Officer, this Hq.

5. Div CP -- WILTZ (7053)

SOI -- Current Index 1-27, 17 Oct 44, in effect.



STROH,
Maj Gen

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Beck
BEGK
G-3

DIST: 13 Inf, 28 Inf, 121 Inf, 12 Engr G Bn, 8 Med Bn, 8 Ron Tr, 709 Tk Bn, Ch Ln C, 83d Inf Div, 2d Inf Div, 9th Armd Div, CG Div Arty, 644 TD Bn, 445 AAA AW Bn, Corps (3), G-1, G-2, G-4, CG, Asst Div Comdr, Sig C, Hq Comdt, Pro Marshal.

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HEADQUARTERS 64th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

MEMORANDUM:

**APO 230, U S Army
7 October 1944**

TO : Lt Colonel EPHRAIM F GRAHAM, JR



MOVEMENT OF TRACK VEHICLES FROM LANDERNEAU, BRITTANY TO LUXEMBURG

1. 26th September 1944:

0800 - Departed from Battalion Motor Park with companies "A", "B", "C" (thirty-four (34) M-10s and two (2) T-2s) for Landerneau Station. Weather: Cloudy and drizzling.

0900 - Column closed at Landerneau Station

1100 - Began loading flat cars.

2230 - Completed loading flat cars except two (2) replacement M-10s. The delay in loading was due to the railroad and NFO placing cars at very slow intervals. Loading went well and all ~~we~~ did an excellent job.

2. 27th September 1944:

0830 - Two (2) flat cars prepared and waiting for Lt OWEN to arrive with replacement M-10s.

1000 - Lt OWEN arrived at Landerneau Station with two (2) replacement M-10s ("A" and "B" Company's).

1100 - Vehicles checked and loaded (two (2) M-10s).

1200 - Lt OWEN left Landerneau Station with 2-1/2 ton truck to join wheeled column.

1300 - Conference held with all officers by Major GANTON and the balance of time at Landerneau is to be used for care and cleaning of materiel, personal equipment, check loading and improve where necessary. The safety regulations for the trip were issued at this time.

2300 - The trains were organized for the trip.

Train #1 - One (1) coach, twenty (20) flats (thirteen (13), "A" and seven (7), "C"), one (1) box car, one (1) caboose - four (4) officers, one hundred and four (104) enlisted men.

Major GANTON - Train Commander

Telephone communication with each car.

Train #2 - One (1) coach, nineteen (19) flats (thirteen (13), "B" and six (6), "C"), one (1) boxcar, one (1) caboose - five (5) officers, one hundred and three (103) enlisted men.

Captain McDONALD - Train Commander

Telephone communication with each car.

3. 28th September 1944:

1000 - Trains #1 and #2 still lined up and we are awaiting further instructions regarding movement. Weather is clear and morale excellent.

1100 - Informed of departure time.

Train #1 - 0720, 29 September 1944.

Train #2 - 1120, 29 September 1944.

1115 - All officers notified of departure schedule.

4. 29th September 1944 - Train #1 - Major EDWARD R GANTON, Train Comdr.

0800 - Train #1 left Landerneau Station. NFO has still not given us any sort of running schedule, etc, although we tried many times to get one.

1310 - Arrived St Brienc. Water and latrine facilities.
 1420 - Left St Brienc.
 1635 - Arrived Rennes. Water and latrine facilities. RTO still has no schedule or destination for us.
 1705 - Left Rennes
 2320 - Arrived Le Mans. Water and latrine facilities. RTO had doughnuts for all men. RTO very cooperative but still no schedule.

5. 30th September 1944:

0130 - Left Le Mans.
 0830 - Arrived Chartres. Weather clear and cool; morale excellent.
 0945 - Left Chartres. All equipment, etc, riding OK.
 1715 - Arrived Dreux. The past four (4) hours have been slow traveling due to heavy railroad traffic.
 1910 - Left Dreux.

6. 1st October 1944:

0730 - Arrived Versailles. Very slow traveling from Dreux to here due to train wreck and lack of sufficient locomotive power.
 0845 - Left Versailles.
 0945 - Arrived Paris. Weather clear; morale excellent. Received information at this point that we are going to Verdun. Can get no information as to length of stop, route, etc.
 1745 - Traveling is very slow.

7. 2nd October 1944:

1130 - Arrived Sezanne. Weather cloudy and cold; morale excellent.
 1220 - Left Sezanne.
 1745 - Arrived Sommesous. Issued one hundred and ten (110) K rations. Water and latrine facilities.
 1845 - Left Sommesous.



8. 3rd October 1944:

1310 - Arrived at Verdun. One and one half (1-1/2) hour stop. Men washed, shaved, etc. Water and latrine facilities. Weather clear and cool.
 1450 - Left Verdun.
 1630 - Arrived Conflans Jarry.
 1700 - Left Conflans Jarry.
 1830 - Arrived Longuon. Met by Lt STEVENSON who informed us that we would continue by rail to Bastogne, Belgium.
 1845 - Left Longuon. Lt STEVENSON will meet us at Bastogne and do all possible to make arrangements for unloading.
 1940 - Delayed in mountains. One (1) engine cannot make the grade. Have telephoned for a second engine.
 2015 - Second engine arrived and we are continuing our trip.
 2145 - Arrived Longivy. Replacement of French engine with Belgian engine.
 2215 - Left Longivy.

9. 4th October 1944:

0900 - Arrived Libramont, Belgium. Weather clear and cold; morale excellent.
 0925 - Left Libramont.
 1330 - Arrived Bastogne.
 1400 - Starting to unload.
 1545 - Completed unloading.

- 1600 - started road march to Battalion Area.
- 1645 - "C" Company's remaining track vehicles (7) being taken to Battalion assembly area near Wiltz, Luxembourg.
- 1645 - Captain McDONALD guiding "A" Company track vehicles to their area.
- 1730 - Arrived at Battalion assembly area. "C" Company's seven (7) vehicles and personnel bivouacing in this area overnight and will be met by Commanding Officer, Company "C", tomorrow morning.

10. Train #2 - Captain LESLIE P McDONALD, Train Commander.

Material
 Co "B" - 12 Destroyers, 1 T-2
 Co "G" - 5 Destroyers, 1 T-2

Personnel
 5 Officers, 101 Enlisted Men
 106 Total

11. 29th September 1944:

- 1139 - Left Landerneau.
- 1304 - Arrived Morlaix.
- 1315 - Left Morlaix.
- 1700 - Arrived Guingamp.
- 1735 - Left Guingamp.
- 1914 - Arrived St Brieuc.
- 1925 - Left St Brieuc.



Private Hayes, 1st Platoon, Company "B", was in latrine at station and did not hear train whistle - was left behind.

2255 - Arrived Rennes - got water and used latrine facilities. Reported loss of Hayes to RFO and was informed that he had turned himself into MPs at St Brieuc who sent him to Rennes. He rejoined train at Rennes. RFO at Rennes had no papers or itinerary for Train Commander.

12. 30th September 1944:

0001 - Left Rennes at 2340, 29th September 1944. Train OK. All M-10s and personnel in good shape.

0400 - Arrived at Le Mans. Had to put three (3) PFI men out of caboose; left immediately.

1234 - Arrived Chartres - drew water and one (1) day of G Rations for one hundred and six (106). Latrines available.

1400 - Left Chartres.

1655 - Arrived Melun. RFO asked for papers which train Commander did not have.

1705 - Left Melun.

1840 - Arrived Sezanne. RFO gave destination as Languon. Said it might take two (2) days to get there. Drew two (2) days G Ration for one hundred and six (106).

1950 - Left Sezanne.

2230 - Arrived Bar-le-Duc. Water and latrine facilities.

2252 - Left Bar-le-Duc.

13. 1st October 1944:

0400 - Passed through Verdun.

0600 - Arrived Languon. RFO said member of train crew (French) had seen a man fall off during night. Cpl Tremblay, Company "B", missing. Returned 1600.

0700 - Began unloading.

0830 - Unloading finished. Ordered by Lt Colonel KUNZIG to go into bivouac and await train #1.

1800 - Lt HOFFER and Lt STEVENSON arrived in Languon with instructions. Prepared to move tracks to vicinity of Wiltz, Luxembourg.

14. 2nd October 1944

0800 - Tracks moved to bivouac at Wilts. Arrived at 1400.
1500 - Reported to Lt Colonel GRAHAM.

REMARKS (Trains #1 and #2):

1. Loading of equipment by all companies on flat cars was done in an excellent manner and without incident.
2. Placing of flat cars beside ramp by the RFO and railroad personnel at Landerneau was exceptionally slow. This condition delayed the completion of our loading many hours.
3. No personnel or vehicles were lost or damaged enroute.
4. Lt STEVENSON's careful planning and coordination expedited the unloading and movement of vehicles to their respective areas in Luxemburg.
5. The personnel of both trains performed all tasks in an excellent manner and morale was excellent during the entire train trip which was long and not too comfortable at times.

/s/ Edward R Carton
EDWARD R CARTON
Major, FA
Bn Ex O



- 4 -

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 6th TANK DISTRICT BATTALION

APO 230, U S ARMY
4 October 1944



SUBJECT: Report on Dispositions of 1st Recon Company, 6th TD Bn

TO : CG, 28th Infantry Regiment

1. Strong Points and Outposts

a) WEISSBACH (820673)

1. Garrison: 1st Recon platoon with strength of 22 men, 1 officer, six (6) M1 from Pioneer platoon and 2 81 mm Mortars.

2. Disposition: (a) Strong point on South edge of village. All around wire (barbed) is planned based on houses and digging in.

(b) Outpost of 6 men and 1 radio on

WEISSBACH - KATZBACH road in a house.

3. Contact: (a) Every two (2) hours on the even hour w/13th Infantry Service Company at RJ (814652) by patrol from III Recon Platoon.

(b) Every hour on 15 minutes before the hour by radio to company Headquarters.

b) HILL 532 (815658)

1. Garrison: 3rd Recon Platoon with strength of 22 men, 1 officer, six (6) M1 from Pioneer Platoon and 2 81 mm Mortars.

2. Disposition: Strongpoint on Hill both sides of Highway 16. Plan all around wire based on small knoll and grove.

3. Contact: Every two (2) hours a patrol from this place will contact the strong points at WEISSBACH AND TIEBACH.

c) TIEBACH (808653)

1. Garrison: 2d Recon Platoon: strength 22 men, and 1 officer.

2. Disposition: Outpost of 1 section on each side of RJ

(808653)

3. Contact: (a) With 3rd Recon Platoon as above.

(b) With 1st Recon Company elements, 28th Infantry

at MARHANA (807631). 28th Infantry machine guns at that place. Contact every two hours. (as requested)

d) C.F. WITTE where Tank Force X had theirs (791653).

For the Commanding Officer:

HARRY L. GOODALL, JR

Captain, FA

S-3

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER
644TH TANK DESTRUCTION BATTALION

AGO 230, U.S. Army
1 November 1944

SUBJECT: Battle Losses of Major Ordnance Items

TO : G-3, 644th TD Bn
AGO 230, U.S. Army



1. The following listed, are battle losses of major ordnance items during this period, 1 October 1944 to 1 November 1944:

Trucks, 1/4 ton, 4x4

ea 1

/s/ James C Williams
JAMES C WILLIAMS
Captain, G-3
-4