

Date of arrival - 10 Apr 45 Date of departure - 11 Apr 45 None (OLT:, CERMANY (O68'(01) RESTRICTED

Date of arrival - 11 Apr 45 Date of departure - 13 Apr 45

Station: KIERSPE, GERMANY (895824)

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Date of arrival - 13 Apr 45 Date of departure - 15 Apr 45

Station: VORDE, GERMANY (761005)

Date of arrival - 15 Apr 45 Date of departure - 20 Apr 45

Station: WIPPENFURTH, GEHMANY (772805)

Date of **e**rrival - 20 Apr 45 Date of departure - 24 Apr 45

Station: BENG GLADBACH, GLAMANY (563850) Date of arrival - 24 Apr 45

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Date of arrival - 24 Apr 45 Date of departure - 28 Apr 45

Station: DARLINGF, WILLITY (955784)

Date of arrival - 28 .pr 45 Date of departure - 29 Apr 45

Station: MIRUIDAYIN, GLACANY (881932)

Date of arrival - 29 Apr 45 station at end of period

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k. Photographs: - None

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#### HEADQUALLERS 644TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

#### Record of Operations - April 1945

At the beginning of the period the 644th Tank Destroyer Battalian continued to be attached to the 8th Infantry Division. The Battalian (less Companies A, B, and C) was further attached to the 8th Division Artillery; Company A (less 3d Platoon) was attached to the 28th Infantry Regiment; 3d Platoon, Company A, was attached to the 8th Reconnaissance Troop; Company B was attached to the 13th Infantry Regiment; Company C was attached to the 121st Infantry Regiment. Dispositions were as follows:

Forward CP ALLENDORF Rear CP WURGENDORF Company A CP GEBHARDSHAIN lst Platoon, Company A GEBHARDSHAIN 2d Platoon, Company A GEBHARDSHAIN 3d Platoon, Company A RUPPERHAUSEN Company B CP NEUNKIRCHEN 1st Platoon, Company B SIEGEN 2d Platoon, Company B SIEGEN 2d Platoon, Company B MARIENHUTTE Company C CP HAINCHEN 1st Platoon, Company C KAAN 2d Platoon, Company C KAAN 2d Platoon, Company C GROSSENBACH 3d Platoon, Company C GROSSENBACH 3d Platoon, Company C GROSSENBACH Beconnaissance Co CP ALLENDORF 1st Plat, Ron Company GEBHARDSHAIN 2d Plat, Ron Company HAINCHEN

On the 2d and 3d of April Company A (less 3d Platoon) supported the 28th Infantry Regiment in assault missions. No armor was encountered and action consisted of mopping up of pockets of resistance immediately north of the SIEG River. The 3d Platoon of Company A, attached to TFC of 8th Infantry Division, supported this unit in attack.

Company B supported the 13th Infantry with all three (3) platoons in the attack upon SIEGEN and north of SIEGEN.

Company C supported the 121st Infantry with all three (3) platoons in an attack north and east of DIEGEN. One (1) tank destroyer of the 3d Platoon was hit and destroyed on 2 May 45 during a fire fight with enemy tanks.

The 3d Platoon of Reconnaissance Company, patrolling the zone of the l21st Infantry Regiment, secured three (3) towns during the period.

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On 4 April Company A (less 3d Platoon, continued to support the 28th Infantry Regiment in that regiment's zone of advance. The 3d Platoon, Company A, attached to the 8th Reconnaissance Troop, continued its anti-armor defense of that sector.

Company B continued to support the 13th Regiment which was counter-attacked frequently and quite heavily in the SIEGEN area. Company B was instrumental in repelling the counter-attacks, firing 3" HE, Cal .50 MGs and rifles. No armor was encountered in these attacks.

Company C continued to support the l2lst Regiment in its zone of advance. One (1) Mark VI tank was fired upon by the 2d Platoon. Hits were scored at 400 yards range with both APCBDF and HVAP. Tank was not destroyed, probably due to the angle of fire. but withdrew due to this action.

The 1st Section, 2d Platoon, Reconnaissance Company, operated patrols in the 13th Infantry sector. The 3d Platoon, Reconnaissance Company, patrolled in the 121st Infantry sector.

On 5 April Company A, attached to the 28th Infantry Regiment, moved with the 28th Infantry to the zone on the right flank of the 8th Division sector. The 3d Platoon was released from attachment to the 8th Reconnaissance Troop and re-joined Company A.

Company B, attached to the 13th Infantry Regiment, prepared for attack in the zone of the 13th Infantry.

Company C, attached to the l21st Infantry Regiment, prepared for attack in the zone of the l21st Infantry.

The 1st, 2d and 3d Platoons of Reconnaissance Company were attached to Companies A, B, and C, respectively.

On 6 April Company A supported the attack of the 28th Infantry in their new zone of advance. No armor was encountered.

Company B supported the 13th Infantry in their attack. All plateons fired numerous support missions against enemy buildings, personnel and strongpoints. No armor was encountered. One enemy counter-attack was repelled.

Company C supported the 121st Regiment in its attack and fired missions against enemy buildings, strongpoints and personnel.

All three Reconnaissance Company platoons, attached to the firing companies, engaged in reconnoitering and mopping up the flanks in each of the three (3) regimental zones of advance.

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On 7 April Company A supported the 28th Infantry Regiment in its zone of advance. Resistance was somewhat lighter than that previously experienced. One (1) half-track and one (1) small antitank gun were encountered and destroyed.

Company B continued to support the 13th Infantry Regiment in its Attack. Several counter-attacks were repelled by fire from the Tank Destroyers.

Company C continued to support the 121st Infantry Regiment with Two (2) platoons. The 1st Platoon of Company C spent the entire period at the Company C CP, performing maintenance and reorganization.

Reconnaissance Company, one platoon attached to each of the firing Companies, had three platoons engaged in reconnoitering and mopping up the flanks of each of the three (3) regiments of the division.

One (1) M-10 deadlined for repairs. One (1) M-10 to be delivered to Company C during next period to replace the one which was knecked out 2 April 1945.

On 8 April Company A was attached to the 86th Infantry Division, at 1600 hours.

Company B continued to support the 13th Infantry Regiment in its zone of advance. Several close support missions were fired. Two (2) Machine Gun emplacements were destroyed.

Company C, attached to l21st Infantry Regiment, supported that regiment with two (2) platoons on line and one platoon in reserve, performing maintenance until 1700 hours. At 1700 hours the Reserve Platoon (2d) was also placed in the line to exploit a small breakthrough. Several close support missions fired.

All three Reconnaissance Company platoons, attached to the firing Companies, engaged in reconnoitering and mopping up the flanks in each of the three Regimental zones of advance. 3d Platoon, Reconnaissance Company, patrolling in advance of the infantry captured 29 PWs.

On 9 April Company A was attached to the 342d Infantry Regiment of the 86th Infantry Division. Company A supported the 342d in their zone of attack.

Company B supported the 13th Infantry in their zone of attack with all three platoons. Several assault missions were fired and two (2) Mark IV tanks were destroyed.

Company C supported the 121st Infantry Regiment with all three (3) platoons in their zone of advance.

All three Reconnaissance Company platoons, attached to the firing Companies, engaged in reconnoitering and mopping up the flanks of each of the three regiment's zones of advance

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On 10 April Company A was attached to the 86th Infantry Division, supported the 342d Infantry Regiment in Attack. Resistance encountered was light. No armor was seen.

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Company B supported the 13th Infantry in their zone advance and destroyed the following equipment: One (1) Mark V tank, two (2) half-tracks, two (2) German 105mm gun batteries (6 guns), five (5) general purpose vehicles, and four (4) ammo trailers.w

Company C supported the 121st Infantry in their zone of advance and fired close support missions at enemy positions.

Reconnaissance Company continued reconnoitering and mopping up the flanks in each of the regimental zones of advance.

On 11 April Company A, attached to the 86th Infantry Division was further attached to the 343d Infantry Regiment. One platoon was placed in support of each battalion. Company gave close support th this regiment with all three platoons in said regiments zone of advance.

Company B, attached to the 28th Infantry Regiment after release from attachment to 13th Infantry Regiment at the beginning of the period. Two (2) enemy columns were caught on the road. In one column 12 Group vehicles were destroyed and in the other 18 large trucks and 13 trailers destroyed.

Company C supported the attack of the Regiment.

Reconnaissance Company had one platoon attached to each of the firing Companies and engaged in reconnoitering and mopping up the flanks of each of the three regiments of the Division.

On 12 April Company A, attached to the 86th Infantry Division, further attached to the 343d Infantry Regiment, supported that Infantry Regiment in attack with three platoons. Company A knocked out two (2) 20mm AA Guns.

Company B, supported 28th Infantry Regiment in attack with three platoons. Two Group vehicles were destroyed and one 150 Artillery piece was knocked out and destroyed.

Company C supported the 121st Infantry Regiment. One half-track and one LO5mm Artillery piece were knocked out and destroyed.

Reconnaissance Company continued to patrol in the Division sector, cleaning up pockets of resistance and protecting Regimental flanks

On 13 April the battalion (less Companies A, B, C) remained attached to the 8th Infantry Division Artillery.

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Company A, attached to the 86th Infantry Division, placed a platoon in support of each regiment. Each platoon supported its regiment in their respective zones of advance.

Company B supported the 28th Infantry Regiment with all three platoons. The 3d platoon had one M-10 destroyed when a mortar round dropped in the open turret, setting off ammunition and causing the destroyer to burn. This platoon destroyed one German half-track and four General Purpose Vehicles.

Company C was attached to the 13th Infantry Regiment at the beginning of the period and supported that regiment with all three platoons. Several close support missions were fired.

Reconnaissance Company continued to have three platoons attached to the three firing Companies and patrolled and mopped up the flanks of each Regimental zone of advance. 2d Platoon of Reconnaissance Company captured 74 PWs.

On 14 April the Battalion remained attached to 8th Infantry Division artillery (less Cos A, B, C,).

Company A remained attached to the 86th Division. One platoon was placed in support of the 341st Infantry Regiment, one platoon in support of the 342d Infantry Regiment and one platoon in support of the 343d Infantry Regiment. The platoons supported each of these regiments in their respective zones of advance.

Company B, supported the attack of the 28th Regiment in its zone of advance with all three platoons.

Company C supported 13th Regiment in its zone of advance with all three platoons.

Reconnaissance Company attached one platoon to the 28th Infantry Regiment and one platoon to the 13th Infantry Regiment. These platoons were active in mopping up pockets of resistance. The 2d Platoon worked as point for an armored and infantry column in the 28th Infantry sector. The 1st Platoon remained attached to Company A in the 86th Infantry Division sector.

On 15 April (Companies A, B, C) remained attached to 8th Infantry Division Artillery.

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Company A remained attached to the 86th Infantry Division. One platoon was placed in support of each Infantry Regiment and supported these Regiments in their advance to the RUHR River. One (1) Mark V tank was destroyed.

Company B was attached to the 121 Infantry Regiment when that regiment passed through the 28th regiment at the beginning of the period. Company B supported the 121st Infantry Regiment with all three platoons in their zone of advance to the West, after the RUHR River had been reached on the preceding day.

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Company C supported 13th Regiment with all three platoons in their zone of advance to the West, after the RUHR River had been reached on the preceding day.

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Reconnaissance Company, in the 13th and 121st Infantry Regiment zones of advance, patrolled aggressively, making contact with the enemy before commitment of infantry troops and armor.

On 16 April the Battalion remained (less Cos A, B, C) Attached to 8th Infantry Division Artiller

Company A, attached to the 86th Infantry Division supported each Infantry Regiment of that Division.

Company B, supported l21st Infantry Regiment with all three platoons in their zone of advance. Early in the period one destroyer was destroyed by fire from a 105 flak gun. Later in the period good progress was made against light resistance.

Company C, supported 13th Infantry Regiment in their zone of advance with all three platoons. Good pregress was made during the entire period.

Reconnaissance Company mopped up pockets of resistance in the .8th Infantry Division zone of advance.

On 17 April the Battalion (less Cos A, B, C) remained attached to 8th Infantry Division Artillery.

Company A was releaved from attachment to the 86th Infantry Division as of 1200 hours 17 April. Company A assembled in LUDENSCHEID (931913) and remained there awaiting further orders. Company engaged in maintenance of materiel.

Company B, attached to the 121st Infantry Regiment, maintained anti-armor defense positions throughout the Regimental sector.

Company C, attached to the 13th Infantry Regiment, maintained anti-armor defense positions throughout the Regimental sector.

Reconnaissance Compand had one platoon attached to each firing Company and engaged in maintenance of materiel.

On 18 April the Battalion (less Cos A and C) was attached to the 13th Infantry Regiment at the beginning of the period.

Company A, attached to the 28th Infantry, moved to an assembly area at NEUENKLEUSHEIM.

Company B moved to an assembly area at MILSPE.

Company C moved to an assembly area in LUDENSHEID.

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All platoons of Reconnaissance Company were released from

the firing Companies to which attached and assembled at the Reconnaissance Company CP in MILSPE.

On 19 April The Battalion (less Cos A and C) remained attached to the 13th Infantry Regiment. Company A was attached to the 28th Infantry Regiment and Company C to the 121st Infantry Regiment.

The Forward CP and Reconnaissance Company moved to BENRATH and Company B to DUSSELDORF. The mission given the entire Battalien was security and Military Government.

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For the period 201200 April 1945 until 25 April 1945 the Battalion (less Cos A and C) remained attached to the 13th Infantmy Regiment. All echelons were engaged in security and military government of the DUSSELDORF area.

Company A attached to the 28th Infantry Regiment, was engaged in securing their assigned area and in military government work in vicinity of OLPE.

Company C, attached to the 121st Infantry Regiment, engaged in security and military government of their assigned area in vicinity of DUNNWALD.

In the afternoon of the 25th all elements of the battalion were relieved from attachment to other units and assembled in the BENRATH area. A program of maintenance of materiel and preparation for a motor march was carried on until 28 April 1945. On the 28th of April the Battalion moved to GODDINGEN, GERMANY, SE of MANDING. The Battalion closed in this area late on the 29th of April. The Battalion engaged in maintenance of materiel on 30 April. Just before the close of the period Company A moved across the KLER River to support the 504th Parachate Regiment of the S2nd Airborne Division.

At the close of the period the battalion (less Company A and the rear CP) were in an assembly area in the visinity of GODDINGHN, GERMANY. Company A was across the ELME River supporting the 504th Parachute Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division. The battalion Rear CP was located at KIRCHWEYHE, GERMANY.

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