

8 March 1945

Subject: Battle Report

To : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, U S Army (Thru Channels)

Map : France 1/100,000 SAREBRUCKEN, Sheet V-1

Period Covered: 01 February to 28 February 1945.

PART I

SUMMARY

1. General:

a. The month of February 1945 was pretty routine. The situation was static defense throughout the period. No enemy armor was seen in the sector though from time to time a few rounds of high velocity came in from different directions indicating that 2 or 3 tanks or SPs were in the area.

b. The Battalion completed its changing over to M-36s. In an effort to test the rapid fire possibilities of the 90mm gun, "C" Company fired first 11 rounds with full recoil system - and the gun froze (would not go back into battery); next they fired 17 rounds with 3 ounces of oil outside of each side of recoil system and could have fired more. The rate of fire for the 17 rounds was 6 rounds per minute. Ammunition restrictions prevented further experimentation.

c. 2343 rounds of all types of ammunition were fired by the Battalion during the period; most of this in harassing artillery missions.

d. Training in company problems (night occupation of positions) was started and "B" Company completed it. "B" Company, Reconnaissance Company and Headquarters Company were put thru the gas chambers.

e. This Battalion relieved of attachment 45th Infantry Division and attached 42nd Infantry Division on 18 February 1945.

f. No enemy armor was destroyed by this unit during period.

PART II

DAY BY DAY RECORD OF EVENTS

By 2100A, 1 February, 11 guns of "B" Company had completed the relief of guns of "A" and "C" Companies, providing Antitank defense in 179th, 180th Infantry and 36th Engrs sectors. 3 guns "A" Company took up antitank defense on right flank of 45th Division sector, relieving guns of "C" Company. Three M-36s "A" Company relieved two M-36s of "C" Company in indirect fire position vicinity 778291 and 4 M-10s "A" Company relieved 2 M-10s "C" Company in indirect fire position vicinity SPARSBACH (770308). 4 guns "C" Company took up passive position vacated by "B" Company vicinity NEUWILLER and 7 guns "C" Company went into reserve vicinity 701276 (4 M-10s, 3 M-36s). Two Reconnaissance Company platoons providing security for "A" Company guns on Division right flank, with outposts vicinity 794312 and 807319.

2 February - At 0930A, one M-10 "A" Company moved from 770308 to 793332, registered with 3 rounds M54 (Time Shell) and at 2140A fired 10 rounds Star Shell vicinity 855395 and 837393 to illuminate area for 36 Engr (C) patrol, who reported the effect so startling that the men buried themselves in the snow and consequently were unable to observe any enemy movement. Other Star Shell missions were fired by M-10s of "B" Company vicinity 764341, when at 2122A, 10 rounds were expended in the areas vicinity 873404 and 794406, and between 2130A and 2245A, 10 more rounds vicinity 775414. Only one patrol of 180th Infantry had reached its objective in time to benefit from the illumination and they reported it enabled them to see a number of enemy who immediately "took to their holes." During the day the two indirect fire batteries of "A" Company completed registration but "B" Company's indirect fire battery (3 guns 697366) registration was incomplete.

3 February - "A" Company indirect fire batteries fired harassing fires on enemy traffic. "C" Company made extensive reconnaissance of the VOSGES LINE. M-36 crews received training on new M-36s. 2nd platoon "C" Company reconnoitered road net in 45th Division rear area and alerted to support task force headed by Major JOHN C NIEHAUS, Executive Officer of 645th TD Bn, task force to consist of 1 platoon of tanks, 1 platoon of TDs and 1 platoon Reconnaissance Company and to be used in event of enemy penetrations. 1 platoon Reconnaissance Company alerted for use in such event.

4 February - At 0230A, by request of 179th Infantry, 2 guns "B" Company vicinity 764341, fired 10 rounds Star Shell to illuminate areas vicinity 776-395. 3 gun battery vicinity 696367 completed registration and brought harassing fires on the towns of REICH, MOUTERHOUSE, and SCHINDELTHAL. "C" Company reconnoitered for positions in 179th Infantry sector from which to fire direct fire at enemy targets with the new M-36s and continued training of gun crews. At 2320A, one platoon Reconnaissance Company was alerted upon report of possible enemy infiltration in the vicinity of 710255 but information proved erroneous and no action was necessary.

5 February - At 1000A, one gun "A" Company moved from 794312 to 792332 in preparation for firing Star Shells in behalf of 45th Reconnaissance Troop patrols but mission was called off. At 2130A, two "B" Company guns vicinity 764341 fired 7 Star Shells to illuminate area to front of L Company 179th Infantry vicinity 759397 and reports from infantry disclosed that the firing was believed to have counter-acted enemy counter-attack plans. 3 M-10s in indirect fire battery vicinity 697366 were pulled out and turned into Ordnance awaiting exchange for M-36s.

6 February - The two "A" Company batteries continued harassing fire missions on towns of BAERENTHAL and MOUTERHOUSE. At 2115A "B" Company indirect fire battery vicinity 764341 fired 5 Star Shells vicinity 76453945, disclosing enemy and enemy positions which were immediately shelled by friendly artillery. 3 M-36s were drawn by "B" Company. "C" Company fired M-36s on direct fire range vicinity ERNOLSHEIM and drew 3 new M-36s.

7 February - 4 guns "A" Company in indirect fire position vicinity SPARSBACH were turned into Ordnance awaiting exchange for M-36s. One M-36 was damaged in collision on road. One M-10 of "B" Company vicinity of WIMMENAU was turned in for M-36. By request of 103rd Division, 2 M-36s vicinity 700-275, at 0900A, moved to SCHALKENDORF (875262), and during the afternoon expended 61 rounds HE, direct fire, on the town of KINDWILLER (898293). Explosions were observed in the town and it is believed that an ammunition dump was hit. Reconnaissance Company reconnoitered high ground and surrounding area SW of ROTHBACH for antitank positions.

8 February - "A" Company drew two M-36s. 4 M-36s of "B" Company took up indirect fire position vicinity 697366. At 1400A, 2 M-36s were moved to 744410 and at 1600A fired 5 rounds, direct fire, at enemy on hill at 755416 and something smoking and burning was observed. "C" Company drew 2 M-36s. 2nd platoon equipped with M-36s, fired 90 rounds HE on direct fire range vicinity of ERNOLSHEIM. Reconnaissance Company made extensive reconnaissance of ROTHBACH area for antitank positions.

9 February - "B" Company took over "A" Company's AT positions on Division right flank vicinity INGWILLER. "C" Company took over AT defense in 157th and 179th Infantry sectors, completing relief of "B" Company by 2200A. 2 M-36s set up indirect fire battery vicinity ERKARTSWILLER. During the afternoon, 1 M-36 moved to SCHALKENDORF and fired 33 rounds HE at bogged down enemy vehicle in KINDWILLER. One M-36, while enroute to forward AT positions, broke a sprocket vicinity 780360. Reconnaissance Company investigated front for firing positions for M-36s.

10 February - At 1530A, 2 M-36s, "B" Company, moved from SPARSBACH to SCHALKENDORF and fired a total of 52 rounds HE and APC, direct fire, at MG nest in church tower in KINDWILLER; scored 13 hits on tower, remainder of rounds hitting church and immediate vicinity. APC was very effective; collapsed part of tower. "B" Company's indirect fire battery harassed MOUTERHOUSE and SCHINDELTHAL and fired counter-battery at enemy artillery positions. "C" Company moved 2 M-36s from ERKARTSWILLER to PUBERG, making 3 gun (M-36) battery at that position. A new M-36 on way up to this position, rolled down embankment on road just south out of LA PETITE PIERRE, killing one man, and seriously injuring another. At 1330A, 2 M-36s "C" Company took up prepared firing position at 757387 and fired 18 rounds direct harassing fire on enemy dug-in positions on high ground vicinity 764394. 2 M-10s at 763340 fired 10 rounds Star Shell for infantry at 765395 at about 2300A.

11 February - "A" Company exchanged 2 M-10s for 2 M-36s. "B" Company drew 4 M-36s and set them up in indirect fire position vicinity ERKARTSWILLER. The "B" Company battery vicinity SPARSBACH harassed MOUTERHOUSE, SCHINDELTHAL, PETIT MARTEAU, and counter-battered enemy artillery. Before dawn, 1 M-36, "B" Company, moved from 793313 to firing position at 840338. At 1345A, it fired 2 rounds HE and 1 round APC at church tower in OFFWILLER and 3 rounds APC on stationary full-track at 852342, hitting it in sprocket. At dusk gun returned to original position. At 1400A, 1 M-36 "C" Company moved from 746380 to 765385, fired 16 rounds on dug-in enemy MG nest at 768392. Scored 5 direct hits, knocking fortifying logs sky high. The M-36 returned to original position and at 1600A, moved up to firing position at 758388 and fired 18 rounds on enemy in draw at 765393, and again withdrew to original position. 2 "C" Company M-10s vicinity 762343 fired 13 rounds Star Shell for the infantry, between 2115A and 2245A.

12 February - "B" Company indirect fire battery vicinity SPARSBACH harassed road junctions in MOUTERHOUSE, PETIT MARTEAU, SCHINDELTHAL, and BAERENTHAL, counter-batteries enemy artillery. Practice firing to the tune of 150 rounds HE and 4 rounds APC, was done at the ERNOLSHEIM range, by the other "B" Company 90mm battery. "C" Company, at 1440A, moved one M-36 from 746380 to firing position at 757388 and fired 26 rounds HE and 6 rounds APC at enemy on hill 768392; returned to original position after shoot. "C" Company's 3 gun (M-36) battery at 687437, harassed the ALTHORN - MOUTERHOUSE road.

13 February - "B" Company drew its 12th M-36. "B" Company's SPARSBACH battery, was unable to complete attempted registration; joined forces with ERKARTSWILLER battery (4 M-36s) to harass MOUTERHOUSE, PETIT MARTEAU, SCHINDELTHAL, BAERANTHAL, MEICH, enemy trails, roads, supply dumps and artillery. "C" Company's 3 gun (M-36) battery vicinity 687347 was successfully registered by air OP, expending 30 rounds HE and 4 rounds smoke; harassed ALTHORN-MOUTERHOUSE road and other enemy supply routes.

14 February - Before dawn, "B" Company moved 2 M-36s from 793313 to 840338. During afternoon fired 27 rounds APC and 5 rounds HE in effort to burn knocked-out enemy full track at 852343 and 10 rounds HE and 2 rounds APC at house containing enemy vicinity 865346. Scored direct hits on both targets; full-track was badly smashed up but did not burn. With darkness, the two guns moved back to position at 806320. "B" Company's two 4-gun batteries harassed MOUTERHOUSE, PETIT MARTEAU, SCHINDELTHAL, enemy supply routes and artillery positions. The ERKARTSWILLER battery successfully completed basepoint registration (Air OP) using Time Shell (M-67) and smoke. "C" Company's indirect fire battery harassed enemy roads. Reconnaissance Company started to reconnoiter roads and trails between ROSTEIG - INGWIILLER road and front line.

15 February - "A" Company drew its twelfth M-36, bringing Battalion up to 35 M-36s with one in Ordnance. "B" Company's ERKARTSWILLER battery harassed MOUTERHOUSE, PETIT MARTEAU and enemy roads. "C" Company's indirect fire battery interdicted enemy supply routes. One "C" Company M-36 moved from 790362 to 797362 and fired 16 rounds HE, direct fire, at enemy SP gun at 811401. Results unknown but enemy set off 2 smoke pots in target area after the 13th round. Reconnaissance Company continued reconnoitering roads and trails in forward areas across Division front.

16 February - "C" Company's indirect fire battery vicinity PUBERG interdicted enemy roads. One gun at 802367 fired 15 rounds HE direct fire on enemy dug-in positions in valley from 800372 to 788372 (1200A). 1 gun at 758388 fired 30 rounds HE and 9 rounds APC direct fire on enemy dug-outs on hill vicinity 768392. Reconnaissance Company continued mission of reconnoitering roads and trails in forward areas across 45th Division front.

17 February - "B" Company's batteries harassed MOUTERHOUSE and BAERENTHAL. "C" Company's battery interdicted enemy supply routes. Reconnaissance Company continued mission of reconnoitering roads and trails in forward areas across 45TH Infantry Division front.

18 February - Only activity was "C" Company's battery interdicting MOUTERHOUSE roads. The 45th Infantry Division was relieved by the 42nd Infantry Division and this Battalion was attached to the 42nd Infantry Division for operations.

19 February - "A" Company relieved "C" Company in antitank positions in the division right sector, in direct support of 232nd Infantry Regiment, with 4 guns in reserve at INGWIILLER (805316) and 4 guns in indirect fire position vicinity WEITERSWEILER. Company CP moved from 700275 to vicinity INGWIILLER (805316). "B" Company went into Battalion reserve with all 12 guns in battery positions vicinity SPARSBACH. "C" Company took over AT defense of Division left sector in direct support of 222nd Infantry Regiment, with 4 guns in reserve vicinity WINGEN. "C" Company's PUBERG battery interdicted enemy roads. Reconnaissance Company maintained road checks vicinity INGWIILLER.

Battle Report for Period 01 February to 28 February 1945 (continued)

20 February - "A" Company's battery at WEITERSWEILER harassed enemy supply routes. "B" Company fired some counter-battery, and "C" Company's PUBERG battery interdicted enemy roads. Reconnaissance Company maintained road checks vicinity INGWILLER.

21 February - "A" Company attempted to register its WEITERSWEILER battery by air OP, expended 45 rounds HE and 6 rounds smoke in incomplete registration. "A" Company's gun moved from reserve position to firing position at 840338, and at 1600A, fired 11 rounds HE and 4 rounds APC, direct fire, on enemy in house in OFFWILLER. At 2030A, retired to original position. "B" Company's guns harassed enemy supply routes with indirect fire, as did "C" Company's battery.

22 February - "A" Company's WEITERSWEILER battery completed basepoint registration, and harassed enemy supply routes. "B" Company began training of personnel pursuant to Battalion training schedule. Training in firing of small arms, tracking vehicles on roads, and daylight reconnaissance for firing positions to be occupied at night, was conducted during period. "C" Company's indirect battery harassed enemy supply routes. Moved one gun from 747386 to 758388, and at 1300A fired 51 rounds HE and 4 rounds APC, direct fire, on enemy dug-in positions on hill at 768392; withdrew after firing. Reconnaissance Company conducted training of personnel in small arms firing, training in night patrolling and night raiding.

23 February - "A" Company's battery shot counter-battery and interdiction missions. "B" Company continued training of personnel, rotating platoons on subject matter. "C" Company's battery harassed the enemy supply line, while Reconnaissance Company trained its personnel, rotating platoons on subjects.

24 February - "A" Company's battery interdicted enemy roads. At 1300A, 2 guns vicinity WEITERSWEILER moved to 790367. At request of infantry, 1 gun vicinity 790360 moved to 843346 and at 1100A, fired 26 rounds APC, direct fire, on enemy house containing MG nest. House was extensively damaged. "B" Company continued training of personnel as did Reconnaissance Company. "C" Company's battery harassed enemy supply routes, and then at 1130A, the 3 gun battery moved to reserve AT positions at WINGEN, and at 1330A, 2 guns moved from WINGEN to vicinity 725397, making total of 6 guns on the line and 5 guns in reserve.

25 February - "A" Company's 2 guns at WEITERSWEILER moved to reserve positions vicinity INGWILLER at 100A, giving "A" Coy 6 guns in reserve and 6 guns on line. "B" Coy and Rcn Coy continued training of personnel. "B" Coy engaged in a company problem, stressing infantry, tank, tank-destroyer teamwork in the attack. "C" Coy's only activity was to move 2 guns from 725397 to edge of woods vicinity 730398. Rcn Coy personnel had gas masks checked and went through gas chamber.

26 February - "B" Coy personnel went through gas chamber. 1st platoon battery fired counter battery and interdictory missions. "C" Coy moved its two guns at 725397 to 734406 (1 gun) and 733403 (1 gun) at 1500A.

27 February - At 1500A, one gun "A" Coy moved to 825358 and fired 13 rounds HE and 24 rounds APC at enemy pill-box at 837380, scoring 9 hits on target, then withdrew to original position. "B" Coy's 2nd platoon battery harassed enemy supply routes and counterbattered enemy artillery positions.

28 February - Hq Coy personnel went through gas chamber. "B" Coy and Rcn Coy continued training of personnel. "B" Coy's 1st platoon battery repeated harassing and counter-battery missions of previous day. "A" and "C" Coys continued support of 232nd and 222nd Inf Regts. respectively, in anti-tank positions on the front.

John C. Niehaus
JOHN C. NIEHAUS
Major, F. A.,
Commanding

ANNEX "A" - Administrative Report
ANNEX "B" - Report of Firing
ANNEX "C" - Motor Maintenance Report

2 incls

Unit Journal
Intelligence Summary

HEADQUARTERS
64TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 45, U S ARMY

8 March 1945

Subject: Intelligence Summary, 45th Infantry Division sector 01 February 1945 to 28 February 1945. To accompany Battle Report for same period.

Map : Central Europe, 1/100,000, WISSELBOURG, Sheet V-2

To : Commanding General Seventh Army, APO 758, U S Army.

The front line was static for the entire month, running from SARREINSBURG south east to ALTHORN, then following road WILDENGUTH, REIPERTSWETTER, ROTHBACH, with the enemy entrenched on the high ground north of the road and our troops on the south side overlooking of the road. Enemy activity during period was limited to light harassing artillery fire, outposting and patrolling. No enemy tanks were observed in Battalion sector during period; on a few occasions high velocity shells coming from different directions, were reported landing in our front lines.

Units contacted during period: 256 VG Div, 257 VG Div, 6th SS Mtn Div, 506 SS Pz Rcn Bn, 4th FLAK Co, 16 Inf Div (221 Inf Regt).

ENEMY ARMOR REPORTED DURING PERIOD IN VI CORPS SECTOR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
2 Feb	2	879317
	6	OBERHOFFEN
	2	ROHRWILLER
3 Feb	5	OBERHOFFEN
	4	HERRLISHEIM
4 Feb	6	913293
5 Feb	1	995263
6 Feb	1	OBERHOFFEN
8 Feb	1	15141819
	1	913227
9 Feb	1	851342
10 Feb	6	DRUSSENHEIM (vic)
11 Feb	2	OBERHOFFEN
12 Feb	2	157175
13 Feb	1	865345
	1	938319
14 Feb	1	777395
	1	DRUSSENHEIM (SW)
15 Feb	1	811401
	1	926289
	1	NIEFFERN
16 Feb	1	044256
	1	OBERHOFFEN
17 Feb	1	157187
	1	097217
19 Feb	3	REICHSHOFFEN
20 Feb	1	873325
	3	877316
21 Feb	1	056243
	1	92582885
22 Feb	1	955314
24 Feb	1	91303152
	1	870337
25 Feb	3	855347
26 Feb	1	871337
	1	909315
27 Feb	1	887314

A Total of 14 tks and SPs were destroyed and 9 Tks and SPs damaged during period.

No enemy materiel was destroyed by this Battalion during period.

For the Commanding Officer

JAMES H. LEGENDRE, JR.
Captain, F. A.,
S-2

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ANNEX "A"

SUBJECT: Administrative Functions, 645th Tank Destroyer Battalion,
For The Period 1 February 1945 - 28 February 1945.

I. - NARRATIVE

1. On the first of the month, having completed their work, the two dentists from 1st Armored Group Headquarters returned to their organization. During their period of temporary duty numerous fillings and extractions were made, greatly raising the dental standard of the Battalion.

2. Best wishes for a safe journey were extended to one of the officers and two enlisted men, who departed for the United States on February 5th for thirty (30) days of rest.

3. All efficiency reports were completed and forwarded on the 11th. Submission had been delayed pending the arrival of the new printed forms, but due to the fact that Army had previously distributed a work sheet, it was possible to transpose the information quickly.

4. On 12 February 1945, the organization gained an officer and temporarily lost the services of another. 1st Lt VERNON S. SMELTZER rejoined from the hospital, while 1st Lt NEVILLE R. SPENCER was placed on TD with VI Corps Headquarters to assist in operating the rest camp at NANCY. On the same day the organization sent an enlisted man to England. He was the first man from the battalion to be sent to that country under the new theater policy. However, this quota was quickly supplemented by two more enlisted men on the 15th and an additional one officer and three enlisted men on the 26th.

5. On 26 February, PFC David E. Hamilton was transshipped to the United States for discharge under the provisions of AR 615-362 (Dependency).

6. The month was brought to a close with the arrival of 23 reinforcements on the 27th. The arrival of the new men brought the battalion up to full strength, a figure it had not reached in months.

II. - CASUALTIES

One man killed in a vehicle accident.

III. - ROSTER OF KEY PERSONNEL

Lt.Col. EDWARD L. AUSTIN, O-311026	Commanding Officer
Major JOHN C. NIEHAUS, O-333318	Executive Officer
Major PAUL W. PRIOR, O-394217	S-3
Capt JAMES H. LEGENDRE JR, O-454767	S-2
Capt WILLIAM M. WESTFALL, O-205588	S-4
1st Lt. JOHN J. SNYDER, O-1165958	S-1

IV. - PROMOTIONS

1. S/Sgt Harold Eldrew Williams, 37093341, FA, promoted to 2nd Lieutenant HAROLD ELDREW WILLIAMS, O-2006852, FA, per Paragraph 1, SO #42, Seventh Army, dated 11 February 1945.

2. S/Sgt Edward Everett Tousignant, 36225499, FA, promoted to 2nd Lieutenant EDWARD EVERETT TOUSIGNANT, O-2006394, FA, per Paragraph 4, SO #36, Seventh Army, dated 5 February 1945.

3. 2nd Lt FRED E. GROOVER, O-1823732, FA, promoted to 1st Lieutenant, per Paragraph 3, SO #32, Seventh Army, dated 1 February 1945.

V. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS - See Supplement #1.

VI. SUMMARY - No usual problems were encountered in the month completed. An increase in the pass quota normally allotted this organization was noted, due no doubt to the opening of the VI Corps Rest Camp.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUPPLEMENT #1 TO ANNEX "A".

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

T/5 Alyre F. Gauthier, 31107327, Distinguished Service Cross
Capt JERRY B. MORGAN, O-420941, Silver Star Medal
1st Lt JACK W. LINDBERG, O-1821835, Silver Star Medal
S/Sgt William H. Vadakin, 20834384, Silver Star Medal
Sgt Joseph Astraski, 32263711, Silver Star Medal
T/5 Harry P. Gemung, 32243798, Silver Star Medal
S/Sgt Michael Anton, 36302799, Legion of Merit
1st Lt PHILIP A. DOHERTY, O-1167890, Oak Leaf Cluster to
Bronze Star Medal
1st Lt PHILIP A. DOHERTY, O-1167890, Bronze Star Medal
Major JOHN C. NIEHAUS, O-333318, Bronze Star Medal
Capt RICHARD B. KOOS, O-451638, Bronze Star Medal
Capt RICHARD B. WILDER, O-408747, Bronze Star Medal
1st Lt ROBERT V. MANES, O-18227-7, Bronze Star Medal
T/Sgt Jerold Bazinsky, 32194201, Bronze Star Medal
T/Sgt Alex G. McEachern, 31062530, Bronze Star Medal
S/Sgt Gilbert Matson, 3093411, Bronze Star Medal
Sgt Carl F. Berry, 31013231, Bronze Star Medal
Sgt Clarence B. Gaudette, 12077218, Bronze Star Medal
Sgt J. L. Harvey Jr, 34176801, Bronze Star Medal
Sgt Bernard Silver, 32263801, Bronze Star Medal
PFC Robert W. Albro, 35111532, Bronze Star Medal

ANNEX "F"

Subject: Report of firing, 645th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for the Period 01 February 1945 to 28 February 1945, inclusive. (To accompany Battle Report for same period).

To : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, U S Army.

DATE	COMPANY	M-24 ASSAULT FIRE TARGETS	ROUNDS	RESULTS
Feb 7	"C"	Target of opportunity in KINDWILLER	61 HE	Ammo dump hit
Feb 8	"B"	Ey on hill at 755416	5 HE	Unknown observed something burning.
Feb 9	"C"	Ey vehicle in KINDWILLER	33 HE	scored hits damaged unknown.
Feb 10	"B"	MG in church tower in KINDWILLER	52 HE & APC	13 hits on tower tower collapsed
Feb 10	"C"	Ey on high ground vic 768394	18 HE	Unknown
Feb 11	"B"	Church tower in OFFWILLER	2 HE 3 APC	3 hits on tower good effect.
Feb 11	"B"	Stationary full-track at 852342	3 APC	knocked sprocket off vehicle.
Feb 11	"C"	Dug in MG nest at 768392	16 HE & APC	5 direct hits, knocking fortifying logs, sky high.
Feb 11	"C"	Enemy in draw 765393	18 HE	Area well covered
Feb 12	"C"	Ey installations, hill 368392	26 HE 6 APC	Area well covered
Feb 14	"B"	Stationary full-track veh 852342	27 APC 5 HE	Put several holes in target.
Feb 14	"B"	Enemy in house at 865346	10 HE 2 APC	Direct hits on house.
Feb 15	"C"	Suspected SP position at 811401	16 HE	Two smoke pots set off in target area after the 13th round.
Feb 16	"C"	Enemy in valley 800372-788372	15 HE	Area well-covered
Feb 16	"C"	Enemy dug-outs on hill 768392	30 HE 9 APC	Unknown
Feb 21	"A"	Enemy in house, OFFWILLER	11 HE 4 APC	Unknown
Feb 22	"C"	Enemy dug-outs on hill 768392	51 HE 4 APC	Unknown
Feb 24	"A"	House at 846348	26 APC	Extensive damage
Feb 27	"A"	Suspected Pillbox at 837380	13 HE 24 APC	9 hits on target

ANNEX "B"

Report of firing, 645th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for the Period 01 February 1945 to 28 February 1945, inclusive. (continued)

INDIRECT FIRING

1. Number of rounds expended.

3 inch ammunition.

HE	300 rounds
Smoke	6 rounds
Time (M54)	3 rounds
Star	35 rounds

90mm Ammunition.

HE	1465 rounds
Smoke	33 rounds
Time (M67)	8 rounds

2. Targets:

Enemy supply routes.
Enemy supply points.
Enemy artillery positions.
Road junctions and towns.

3. Type of Targets:

Observed missions: None
Unobserved Missions: 18%

4. All fires were harassing missions on enemy held road net works, towns, artillery positions and supply routes. Results unknown.

All base points registrations were made with minimum rounds and guns were registered by Air OP.

ANNEX "C"
645 TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
BATTALION MAINTENANCE
3 MARCH 1945

Subject: February Maintenance Report.

To : Commanding Officer, 645 Tank Destroyer Battalion.

MAJOR ITEMS USED DURING FEBRUARY

1. 1/4 Ton C & R:

Carburetors	5
Water Pumps	2
Radiators	2
Transmission	2
Transfer case	2
Pressure plate assy	2
Axle shafts, front	1
Axle assy, complete	2
Differential carrier assy	2
Steering gear assy	2
Generators	2
Voltage regulators	3
Starter assy	2
Brake Shoes	16
Front springs	6
Valves, exhaust & intake	12
Valve springs	6
Bell cranks	3
Tie rod ends	6

2. Dodge 3/4 Ton:

Fuel pumps	2
Generators	1
Voltage regulators	2
Carburetors	3
Carrier assy, differential	1
Universal joints	2
Rear springs	2
Wheel cylinder	1
Brake Shoes	8

3. 2-1/2 Ton GMC:

Voltage regulators	3
Generator	1
Carburetors	2
Fuel pumps	3
Hydrovac cylinder	1
Master cylinder assy	1

4. 1/2 Tracks:

Distributor assy	2
Starter assy	1
Carburetor assy	2
Fuel Pumps	2
Voltage regulator	2
Bogie wheels	2
Bogie arm assy	2

5. M-8 and M-20:

Generator assy	1
Voltage regulators	2
Starting motor	1
Carburetors	2
Valve, intake & exhaust	5

5. M-8 and M-20:

Valve springs	10
Ignition coils	4

6. M-36:

Carburetors	2
Bogie wheels	2
Sprockets	2
Hub	1
Fan belts	8

7. Miscellaneous:

	Prestone	16 gal.
	Oxygen	8
	Acetylene	4
	Paint, OP	35 gal
	Spark plugs	260
	Received	Turned in
Tires, 600 x 16	32	9 (38 on order)
Tires, 900 x 16	7	8 (1 on order)
Tires, 750 x 20	25 on hand	29 (4 on order)
Tires, 900 x 20	6	7 (1 on order)

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

TYPE	COMPANY	WORK DONE
1/4 ton	B	Repaired radiator
2 1/2 ton	Hq. R	Installed new oil line
1/4 ton	C	Installed two new spider gears in rear differential
1/4 ton	Recon	Straighten trunion arm
1/4 Ton	Hq. F	Remove head, replace 3 valve springs, reset valve tappets.
M-36	A	Weld ammo racks, modified tube rest, (from rear to front).
1/4 ton	Recon	Repair radiator, straighten & weld fenders, straighten front spring.
1/4 ton	Recon	Weld water can brackets.
2 1/2 ton	A	Cut off racks
M-10	B	Drained 1 fuel tank, changed secondary fuel filters removed and checked fuel selector valve, blow out all fuel lines (this tank was sent to Ordnance for further repairs).
1/4 ton	Recon	Reinforce body to frame, weld aerial base to body.
3/4 ton	Hq. F	Removed front spring, installed new center bolt - adjusted steering.
M-36	B	Weld ammo racks, make modification on tube rest - removed from rear and installed on front.
M-36	B	Switched two sets of tracks from M-10s going to Ordnance put on M-36s.
M-20	C	Valve & carbon job on M20 - installed ten new valve spring, 5 new valves - adjust tappets.
1/4 ton	B	Installed new cross member and mid shields, put on new exhaust pipe.
1/4 ton	Hq. F	6000 mile inspection - steering adjusted new front spring installed, hood welded.
M-36	C	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded.
M-36	B	Switched tracks with M-10 being turned in to Ord.
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Tightened steering assy.
6M-36s and 1/2 track	C	New vehicle check
	C	Installed two new boggie wheels, two new bearings and one new bogie arm.
M-20	C	Both front axles checked and greased - front wheels bled - This M-20 going to Ordnance for further repair.
1 1/2 ton	Recon	Built fender supports and welded fenders.
M-36s (3)	B	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

TYPE	COMPANY	WORK DONE
M-36s (3)	C	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded
2½ ton	Hq. R	Removed generator - tightened bracket
1½ ton	C	Valve and carbon job-installed 9 new valves-installed ignition points and condenser.
1/4 ton	Recon	Repaired windshield wiper
M-36	C	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded
M-36	B	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded
M-36	A	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded, installed new rear idler wheel - repaired gun traveling lock.
M-36	A	Removed tracks, towed to Ordnance (final drive damaged).
1/4 ton	Hq. F	Steering adjusted, body bolts all tightened
M-36	A	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded-welded front step.
1/4 ton	Hq. F	Welded wire rack
M-36 (2)	C	Welded ammo racks and cut fenders
M-36	B	Cut fenders and welded ammo racks
M-36	A	Cut fenders and welded ammo racks
1/4 ton	Hq. F	Bled brakes
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Frame and cross members welded
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Installed 1 new valve spring, head gasket, adjusted tappets.
3/4 ton	Hq. R	Installed rear differential carrier assy.
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Installed new trunion bearing housing and steering arm.
M-36 (2)		New vehicle check
3/4 ton	Hq. R	Installed new gas line.
1/4 ton	Hq. F	Installed new valve and valve guide, ground valves, adjusted tappets.
M-36s (4)	B	Cut fenders and welded ammo racks, welded machine gun mount on turret, modified tube rest.
M-36	A	Fenders cut and ammo racks welded, removed brake shoes, for inspection; adjusted all brake linkage.
2½ ton	Recon	Removed front wheels to check bearings, replaced wheels, adjusted steering.
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Welded spare tire bracket
1½ ton	Recon	Body straightened and welded, cross members straightened and welded, gas tank repaired.
1/4 ton	A	Repaired radiator
1/4 ton	Recon	Repaired radiator
1/4 ton	Recon	Adjusted clutch and carburetor
M-36	A	Installed one track block and two track guides.
M-36 (5)		New vehicle check
3/4 ton	Hq. R	Installed new drive flange on trfr case, new universal joint, 4 trunion bearings, repack all wheels and adjust- ed steering assy.
1/4 ton	B	Installed new valve spring, new head gasket, ground all valves, adjusted tappets.
1/4 ton	Recon	Made oil breather
M-36	A	Welded ammo racks, cut fenders
M-36	A	Cut fenders and welded ammo racks, welded step on front of tank, changed tube rest to front of tank.
M-36	B	Cut fenders, welded ammo racks, switched tracks with M-10 being turned in to Ordnance; removed 3 sheared bolts from drivers hatch and installed new ones.
M-36 (2)	C	Cut fenders and welded ammo racks.
1½ ton	C	Install new ignition and horn wiring
3/4 ton	Hq. R	Body and frame welded.
1/4 ton	C	Installed new steering arm, fan belt, crankshaft pulley, and front springs; aligned wheels, frame welded, made new bumper.
1/4 ton	Hq. F	Bumper straightened and welded, welded windshield frame.
2½ ton	Hq. R	Welded water can brackets on front bumper
1/4 ton	C	Removed, repaired and reinstalled radiator
3/4 ton	Hq. F	Removed front wheels, installed four new grease seals, repacked wheels, changed grease in differentials.
M-36	C	Checked and repaired oil cooler
1/4 ton	C	Made new front bumper, frame straightened and welded, installed spare tire rack, curtain frame welded.
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Steering adjusted and wheels aligned

ANNEX #C
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

TYPE	COMPANY	WORK DONE
2 1/2 ton	Hq R	Torque rods reinforced and welded,
1 1/2 ton	B	Installed new radiator hose; cleaned carburetor, tuned up motor.
M-20	Hq F	Burned hole for aerial base.
2 1/2 ton	C	Seat welded, new bows made for body, all wheels removed wheel cylinders cleaned, bearings replaced, brakes bled.
M-36	C	Welded ammo racks
2 1/2 ton	Hq R	Grille welded and body reinforced - blackout drive light mount welded on fender.
1/4 ton	Hq F	Body straightened, reinforced and welded, side curtain frames welded.
3/4 ton	Hq F	Checked front wheels, installed two new grease seals, 2 trunion bearings; repacked wheels.
M-36	B	Installed bushing in steering brake linkage.
1 1/2 ton	B	Welded fender brace
1/4 ton	Reconn	Valve and carbon job, installed 2 new valves, tappets adjusted, checked timing.
1/4 ton	A	Installed new front end asy. two front springs; straightened and welded fender, hood, bumper, grille, chain compartment and rear body, and rear bumper.
1/4 ton	Hq F	New transmission and transfer case installed, repaired battery bracket.
3/4 ton	Hq R	Body reinforced and welded.
2 1/2 ton	Hq R	Body reinforced and welded, tail gate welded.
2 1/2 ton	C	Repaired and welded front seat, welded cab.
3/4 ton	Hq F	Install two new rear springs, weld tail gate hinges.
2 1/2 ton	C	Repaired rear view mirror
2 1/2 ton	Hq R	Straightened and welded tail gate, truck bed, front fenders and running board braces.
1 1/2 ton	B	Reinforced and welded both front fenders and running boards.
1/4 ton	Reconn	Welded fender support to frame.
2 1/2 ton	Reconn	Clean fuel filter, adjust carburetor, adjust steering.
1/4 ton	Reconn	Made new front bumper, straightened and welded wire cutter installed new transfer case.
1/4 ton	Hq F	Removed and repaired fan pulley.
Welder towed to C Co Area.		2 M-36's had fenders cut and ammo racks welded.
		8 M-36's had water can brackets welded on.
		Gas can carrier welded on 2 1/2 ton
		Hood straightened and welded on 1/4 ton.
		Shock absorber arm welded on 1/4 ton
3/4 ton	Hq F	Installed new left rear wheel cylinder, bled and adjusted brakes.
3/4 ton	Hq R	Installed new brake shoes, master cylinder - bled and adjusted brakes.
1/4 ton	A	Clean and adjust carburetor
1/4 ton	Hq R	Installed radiator
Welder towed to B Co Area.		12 M-36's had water can brackets welded on.
		7 M-36's had sand bag supports put on
		3 Recon 1/4 tons had radio racks welded on
		1 Recon 1/4 ton had cowl welded
2 1/2 ton	Hq R	Installed two new sets of trunion bearings and races, new tie rod pins, new grease seal in wheel, adjust clutch, adjust steering, tighten clutch and brake asy, tighten motor supports, adjust drag link, repack wheel bearings.
1/4 ton	Hq R	Installed new intake manifold, complete motor tune-up, adjust steering, install 2 new motor supports.
1/4 ton	Hq R	Carburetor cleaned and adjusted, motor tuned up
1/4 ton	Recon	Frame straightened and welded, bumper and wire cutter repaired.
M-36	A	Welded ammo racks
Welder towed to Recon Area.		Rear fenders repaired and reinforced on 2 M-8s
		Straightened and welded rear compartment on M-8
		Installed aerial bracket on M-20
		Welded hood, cowl and bumper on 2 1/4 ton
		Repair bumper on 1/4 ton
		Welded 2 front fenders, 2 side panels, and brush guard on 2 1/2
		Welded wire cutters on 3-1/4 ton.

ANNEX "C"

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

TYPE	COMPANY	WORK DONE
M-8s (2)		New vehicle check, installed new points and condensers.
3/4 ton	Hq. F	Welded fender supports to frame and running board.
1 1/2 ton	B	Battery mount welded to frame
3/4 ton	Hq. R	Fender bracket removed, welded and installed.
2 1/2 ton	Recon	Straighten bumper; straightened and welded water can bracket.
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Headlight bracket, hood hinge, hood, fender and frame welded.
2 1/2 ton	B	Welded hooks to body for tightening down tarp.
1/4 ton	Recon	Remove grille and fenders, welded body, fenders, and headlight bracket; removed water can rack.
1/4 ton	C	Spare tire bracket welded, body welded and reinforced to frame.
1/2 track	A	Rebuilt distributor.
1 1/2 ton	Recon	Welded cross member
3/4 ton	Hq. F	Weld tail gate chain
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Valve and carbon job; installed new steering assy.
Welder towed to C Co. area;		4 M-36s had water can racks welded on.
		1 M-36 had step welded on.
		Welded foot accelerator pedal on 1/4 ton.
		Welded mirror arm on 2 1/2 ton.
1/4 ton	Hq. R	Installed new fuel pump & carburetor, tuned up engine.
3/4 ton	Hq. F	Installed new rear spring leaf, straightened and welded gas tank inlet pipe.
M-20	Hq. R	Remove, straighten, and weld right front fender.
2 1/2 ton	C	Install new brake shoes on front wheels, repack wheel bearings, adjust and bled brakes.
2 1/2 ton	Hq. R	Repaired tail gate hinge, welded tail gate, welded on tarp hold-down hooks.
1/4 ton	C	Welded reinforcement straps to body.
1/4 ton	C	Weld and reinforced body, welded grille and body.
1/4 ton	Recon	Weld pintle hook, fender brackets, cross members, shackle supports and body.
2 1/2 ton	B	Weld chain carrier and seat.
M-8	Recon	Removed ammo racks from center and rewelded to one side-cut off one grenade box; welded step on front.

VEHICLE RECOVERY

2 1/2 ton	B	Towed to Ordnance
Worked with C Co., getting a Jerry tank for firing range (no success).		
1/2 track	A	Towed to Ordnance.
Picked up two Jerry 1/2 tracks for firing range-also two small trucks for 500 yard range.		
M-36	A	Towed to Ordnance-went back later to install tracks.
T-2	B	Stuck near SPARSBACH.
M-36	C	Turned back on tracks near LA PETIT PIERRE

Pulled welder to A Company area and loaded one set of steel tracks and brought them back to Battalion Maintenance.
Spare time was spent doing miscellaneous jobs around shop and cleaning tools and equipment.

HARRY W. KANODE
Captain, F. A.,
Bn. Motor Officer