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Auth: CG 35th Inf Div

Initials LK

Date 11 Nov 44

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HEAD QUARTERS 654TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
Office of the Commanding Officer
APO 403, United States Army

9 Nov 1944

SUBJECT: Letter of Transmittal.

TO : The Adjutant General, US Army, Washington, D. C.
(Thru channels)

In compliance with par 10 AR 345-105, and C 3, After Action Reports
this Unit for month of October are submitted herewith.

For the Commanding Officer:

James M. Woodruff
JAMES M. WOODRUFF,
SGO JG USA
Asst Adjutant.

2 Incls:

- 1 - After Action Reports.
- 2 - Unit Journals w/supporting papers.

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MAPS: 1/50,000, 34/14,15; 35/14,15.

011200-021200 October, 1944

Remainder of Bn no change. One $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton vehicle from "A" Co not operational due to mechanical failure. 2nd Lt. Richard Lee Smith, O-1824241 assigned and joined "B" Co.

021200-031200 October, 1944

No change in attachments of Gun Co's or Rcn Plts. Remainder of Bn. no change. "B" Co preparing to deliver indirect fire. "B" Co turned over 401 land mines to 60th Eng. Bn., for use in sector of 137th Inf. Regt. 1st Lt. Scott P. Cooper, O-415169 RTD from Hospital and assigned to "C" Co.

031200-041200 October, 1944.

No change in attachments of gun Co's or Rcn Plts. Remainder of Bn. no change. 1st Plt. "B" Co performed second day mission by firing interdiction fire. 6 concentrations fired.

041200-051200 October, 1944

No change.

051200-061200 October, 1944

"A" Co-1st Plt moved from Coord. (927208) to (985255) at 1215 relieved 3rd Plt. 3rd Plt moved from coord. (985255) at 1315 in reserve. 1st and 2nd Plt supporting 1st Bn. 134th in holding town of Manhoue. "B" Co forward CP vic Attilloucourt, France, (002216). Co. relieved from supporting 137th Inf. now supporting 320th Inf. Rear CP vicinity Bioncourt, France (Coord. 098224). C Co - 1st Plt relieved 3rd Plt. - 3rd Plt in assembly area performing motorcycle maintenance.

1st Plt positions — 051255
2nd Plt positions — 047661
3rd Plt positions — 972211
Co CP & Rcn Plt — 992226

Brig. General Ernest accompanied by Lt. Col. Cadenhead visited Bn. CP at 1100 hours. Staff Sgt. Windham, Rcn. Co., appointed 2nd Lieutenant. Sworn in by Lt. Col. Minton at 1030 hours (Battlefield promotion).

061200-071200 October, 1944

No change. "A" Company planning to move reserve plt to vic (965244). "C" Company to move reserve platoon to (012238).

071200-081200 October, 1944

"A" Company supporting 134th Infantry in attack at 080700. Pvt. Roach and 2nd Lieutenant Michaels WIA, 1 M-10 has one track off.

"B" Co continued in support of 320th Infantry.

"C" Co continued in support of 320th Infantry.

Chaplain Hodgkins 35th Division Artillery held Protestant service vis Bn C.P.

081200-091200 October, 1944

No change in attachments. "A" Company killed 5 enemy, wounded 3, captured 25 PW, 1 M-10 knocked out by enemy, 4 KM WIA by enemy basecra fire. Company Commander, Reconnaissance Company, with two armored cars established relay station between Battalion CP and 1st Rcn Plt. Relay station opened at 0800 and closed at 1700-8 October. "B" & "C" Companies in support of 320th Infantry.

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091200-101200 October, 1944

No change in attachment of gun Companies, Remainder of Bn., no change. "A" Company destroyed 2 enemy tanks (type unknown) South of Fossieux at 091230 October, 1944, destroyed 1 enemy tank (type unknown) at 100725 October, 1944. This tank was destroyed during attack on Fossieux. Company "A" captured 36 prisoners.

101200-111200 October, 1944.

C.P. no change. Company "A" in support 134th Infantry destroyed 1 enemy tank at Coord. (968295) at 0930 hours and aided in the capture of 45 enemy soldiers at Fossieux. 1 M-10 destroyed by enemy tank fire at (101030, one (1) M-10 damaged by enemy artillery fire at Fossieux (101830); 3 KM MIA; 1 WIA. One 2 1/2 ton ammunition truck damaged by enemy artillery fire vicinity of Fossieux. No contact with enemy by other units of Battalion. Company "B" and "C" supporting 320th Infantry during period.

111200-121200 October, 1944.

Company "A" continued to support 134th Infantry. 3rd Platoon under heavy enemy artillery fire in the town of Fossieux. No casualties. Two men treated at Bn Dispensary for shell shock, (1 sent to Hosp). 3 KM previously reported as "MIA to "KIA". Company "B" continued to support 320th Infantry. No enemy contact. Lt. O'Meara dy to hosp at 1800 (Appendicitis) 12th October, 1944. Company "C" continued to support 320th Infantry no enemy contact. Division continued to hold and defend sector. A few enemy planes over area during the period. No bombing or strafings reported.

121200-131200 October, 1944.

Enemy planes flew over CP at 1530 hours. No Bombing or strafings reported. Company "A" remained in support of 134th Infantry. No enemy contact. Company "B" remained in support 320th Inf. No enemy contact. Company "C" remained in support 320th Inf. No enemy contact. All Reconnaissance platoons, Reconnaissance Company attached to gun companies. First part of period overcast with intermittent showers latter part fair and cool.

131200-141200 October, 1944

Company "A" in direct support 134th Infantry with AT positions in Fossieux. One KM killed in Mmheue at 1200 hours result of enemy artillery fire. The four tanks destroyed between October 9-11 were all Mark VI Tanks. Company "C" no change in position. No enemy contact. Company "B" no change. Supporting 320th Infantry. No enemy contact. Two enemy ME 109s over vicinity CP at 141110. No bombing or strafings reported.

141200-151200 October, 1944

Company "A" in support of 134th Infantry; maintained Anti-tank positions in the town of Fossieux. No enemy contact. Company "B" remained in support of 320th Infantry. No enemy contact. Company "C" remained in support of 320th Infantry. No enemy contact. Moving picture shows to Company "B" & "C"

151200-161200 October, 1944.

Headquarters Company: Twelve (12) KM awarded Bronze Star Medal by Brig Gen Fitch, Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division Artillery at 1500 hours. Company "B" remained in support of 134th Infantry with Anti-tank positions in town of Fossieux. No enemy contact during period. Lt. Nealy awarded Bronze Star by Col. Miltenberger, Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry.

Company "B": Captain Stevens and Five EM decorated by Colonel Sears, 137th Infantry Company in support 320th Infantry. No enemy contact.
 Company "C" remained in support 320th Infantry. No enemy contact during period. Lt. Cooper and five enlisted men were decorated by Col. Byrnes, Commanding Officer, 320th Infantry at 1300 hours. Protestant services held in Chateau Fontaine at 1000 hours.

161200-171200 October, 1944.

"A" Co relieved from supporting 134th Infantry and placed in support of 137th Inf. 1 platoon on indirect fire mission during night. No enemy contact.
 Company "B" remained in support of 320th Infantry. 1 platoon indirect fire mission during night.
 Company "C" remained in support of 320th Infantry. 1 Plt on indirect fire mission during the night.

171200-181200-October, 1944

Company "A" remained in support of 137th Infantry. No enemy contact. Remained anti-tank positions vic Fossieux.
 Company "B" remained in support of 320th Infantry. No enemy contact. Antitank positions vicinity Gremecey and Chambrey.
 Company "C" remained in support of 320th Infantry. Fired 226 rounds indirect fire with 127th FA Battalion. Red Cross "Doughnuts" girls visited all companies during PM. S Sgt Lands, SWA september 27, died of wounds 16th October, 1944.

181200-191200 October, 1944.

Company "A" remained in support 137th Infantry with Anti-tank positions vic Fossieux. 1st platoon fired 99 rounds indirect fire with 127th FA Bn during night. Company "B" remained in support to 134th Infantry. 3rd platoon fired 100 rounds indirect fire with 127th FA Battalion during the night. Anti-tank positions maintained vic Gremecey and Chambrey. Company "C" remained in support of 320th Infantry. No enemy contact. Headquarters and Reconnaissance Company having Rocket Launcher instruction. Movie at Chateau Fontaine at 2100 hours. Letter from Mrs. George Marts, Pottsville, Pa., stated that Col. Marts was a prisoner of War in Germany.

191200-201200- October, 1944.

C.P. no change. Ten or fifteen unidentified planes were over the area at 2200 to 2300; and again at 0100 hours. No bombs or flares were dropped.
 Co "A" continued to support 137th Infantry with anti-tank positions in Fossieux. No enemy contact during period.
 Company "B" remained in support 320th Infantry. No enemy contact during period.
 Company "C" remained in support 320th Infantry. Two EM WIA at 1600 the result of enemy artillery fire. 2nd platoon fired 6 rounds for registration and 200 rounds harassing fire on indirect fire mission with 127th FA Battalion.
 Reconnaissance Company no change. 1 Reconnaissance platoon attached to each gun Co.

201200-211200 October, 1944

CP no change. Movie at Chateau Fontaine at 2100 hours.
 Company "A" continued in support 137th Infantry 3rd platoon fired 3 rounds for registration, and 82 rounds of harassing and interdiction fire with 127th FA Bn. Anti-tank positions in Fossieux. Company "B" remained in support 320th Infantry. No enemy contact, anti-tank positions vicinity Chambrey and Gremecey. 1st Plt. fired 6 rounds for registration and 120 rounds of harassing and interdiction fire.
 Company "C" no change. Remained support of 320th Infantry. No enemy contact.

211200-221200 October, 1944

CP no change. Sielle River Dam blown. Co "A" two EM DWA 1300 hours. 3rd Plt in indirect fire mission with 127th FA Battalion. Antitank positions remained in vicinity Fossieux supporting 137th Infantry. Company "B" 2nd platoon fired 120 rounds indirect fire from vicinity Bloncourt in support of 127th FA Battalion. Anti-tank positions maintained in Gremecy and Chambrey. Company remained support of 320th Infantry. Five EM decorated with Bronze Star Medal by Lt. Col. Minton at 1300 hours. Company "C" remained in support 320th Infantry. 1st Plts fired 190 rounds indirect fire. Capt. D. L. Benton awarded Silver Star and five EM the Bronze Star at 1400 by Lt. Col. Minton.

221200-231200 October, 1944

CP no change. One flying bomb fell vicinity Agincourt at 1300 hours. Company "A" remained in support 137th Infantry, fired 101 rounds indirect fire. Anti-tank positions at Fossieux. No enemy contact. Company "B" continued to support 320th Infantry, fired 104 rounds indirect fire. Anti-tank positions vicinity Gremecy and Chambrey. No enemy contact. Company "C" remained attached to 320th Infantry. No enemy contact.

231200-241200 October, 1944

CP no change. Large caliber artillery shells (280 MM) fell around En Personnel Section in Nancy, France during the night. Company "A" continued to support 137th Inf. No enemy contact. Company "B" continued to support 320th Infantry. No enemy contact. Company "C" continued to support 320th Infantry. 3rd platoon fired 228 rounds of indirect fire in support of 127th FA Bn. No enemy contact. Long Range enemy artillery shelled vicinity Justice Rear Echelon.

241200-251200 October, 1944

Company "A" continued to support 137th Infantry. 2nd Platoon fired 166 rounds of indirect fire with 127th FA Bn. No enemy contact. Company "B" supporting 134th Infantry. 1st Platoon fired 130 rounds indirect fire with 127th FA Bn. No enemy contact. 134th Infantry relieved 320th Infantry in defensive sector during period. Company "C" supporting 134th Infantry. No enemy contact. 134th Infantry relieved 320th Infantry during period.

251200-261200 October, 1944

Company "A" in support 137th Inf. No enemy contact. Company "B" in support of 134th Infantry. 2nd Plt. fired 310 rounds indirect fire with 127th FA Bn. No enemy contact. Company "C" in support 134th Infantry. No enemy contact. CP no change. 1 Officer, 6 EM to Paris on pass.

261200-271200 October, 1944

CP enemy planes over area at 2300 hours. No bombings. Company "A" supporting 137th Infantry. 2nd Platoon fired 174 rounds indirect fire with 127th FA Bn. Company "B" supporting 134th Inf. 1st Platoon fired 216 rounds indirect fire with 127th FA Bn. No enemy contact. Lt. Dorn asgd and joined company. Company "C" supporting 134th Infantry. No enemy contact. Movie at Chateau-Fontaine at 1900

271200-281200 October, 1944

CP: no change. Remained at Chateau-Fontaine. One enemy plane over area during night 27-28. Colonel Berry, Ex Officer, 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade visited CP and had lunch.

Company "A" continued to support 137th Infantry. No enemy contact.

Company "B" continued to support 134th Infantry. No enemy contact.

Company "C" ^{continued} to support 134th Infantry. 2nd Platoon fired 202 rounds of indirect fire with 127th FA Bn. No enemy contact.

281200-291200 October, 1944

CP: Religious service at Chateau-Fontaine.

Company "A" continued to support 137th Infantry. No enemy contact.

Company "B" continued to support 134th Infantry. No enemy contact.

Company "C" continued to support 134th Infantry. 2nd platoon fired 202 rounds indirect fire. No enemy contact.

291200-301200 October, 1944

CP no change. Major General Baade, Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division visited CP at 1500.

Company "A" continued to support 137th Infantry. No enemy contact.

Company "B" continued to support 134th Infantry. 3rd Platoon fired 282 rounds indirect fire. No enemy contact.

Company "C" continued to support 134th Infantry. No enemy contact.

301200-311200 October, 1944

CP: One enemy plane over area at 2300 hours. Company "A" continued to support 137th Infantry. No enemy contact. Company "B" continued to support 134th Infantry. Company "C" continued to support 134th Infantry. 1st Plt. fired 277 rounds of indirect fire in support of 127th FA Bn. No enemy contact.

Decorations and Awards October, 1944:

Bronze Stars	_____	47
Silver Stars	_____	2
Purple Hearts	_____	16

Total Decorations and Awards to Date

Bronze Stars	_____	87
Silver Stars	_____	5
Purple Hearts	_____	116