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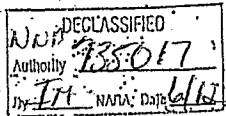
HEADQUARTERS
679th Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 464 - U.S. Army

UNIT HISTORY FOR MAY, 1945

May
45

- May 1. The Battalion moved from Genoa to Aulla, Italy for the purpose of relieving the 370th Infantry. The mission was to occupy the Serchio Valley, establish road blocks and to do general guard duty. The Battalion CP and Hq Co were established in the village of Aulla. The firing Co's were deployed as follows: Co "A", Pontremail and vicinity; Co "B", Vessano Ligune and vicinity; Co "C", Fivizzano and vicinity.
- May 2. Companies set up CPs in assigned villages and took over guard duties, completed establishing road blocks. All German troops in Italy officially surrendered.
- May 3. Preparation for inspection. The Battalion devoted this day to general preparedness with emphasis on vehicles and equipment.
- May 4. Two (2) reconnaissance platoons under Capt Schofield and Lt Seeley returned to Battalion control.
- May 5. Main activity was an extensive maintenance program with daily routine and sectional duties. Battalion retreat formation as per prescribed by Division Headquarters.
- May 6, 7, & 8. Battalion staff officers and company officers conducted a detailed inspection of companies on these dates. Vehicular tools were displayed, individual clothing and equipment inspected, and all shortages consolidated.
- May 9. War in Europe officially ended as of 0001 this date. Allied Force holiday.
- May 10. Headquarters Company was inspected by Battalion Staff and Company Officers.
- May 11. Majority of troops were given day off. Many attended churches in vicinity and at areas where troops were stationed.
- May 12. Personnel section returned to the Battalion from Genoa.
- May 13. Battalion improved maintenance on vehicles and guns. Participated in athletics.
- May 14. Routine duties. Maintenance and athletics.
- May 15. The Battalion moved to Bolzanetto, Italy (5 miles north of Genoa). One accident enroute. Half-track and 3" gun overturned during march. Seven (7) men were injured.

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- May 16. Battalion showed film "Two Down and One To GO". Received detailed instructions of command inspection to be held 22 May 1945.
- May 17. Lt Col McGrayne spoke to men at battalion formation and cited our battle participation here in Italy through 2 May 1945. Continued preparation for command inspection.
- May 18. Signal property checked by Battalion and Company Officers. Shortage lists prepared on all Signal equipment and maintenance was continued.
- May 19. Show-down inspection was held on all organizational and individual equipment in the Battalion. All shortages consolidated and requisitioned. Maintenance sections continued work on automotive equipment. Inspection conducted by Battalion and Company Officers.
- May 20. Preparation for command inspection.
- May 21. Work of entire Battalion devoted to readying Battalion for command inspection.
- May 22. Command inspection conducted by General Almond, General Wood, Lt Col Ross and Officers of the 92d Infantry Division. The Battalion rated excellent.
- May 23. Battalion entered its first phase of I & E Training. Following schools were organized: Radio, auto-mechanics, welding, carpentry, plumbing, cooking, and illiteracy.
- May 24. Routine duties. Battalion sent Honor Guard to Genoa.
- May 25. Routine duties. Maintenance of small arms, vehicles and 3" guns. Athletics.
- May 26. Rehearsal for retreat parade to be held in Genoa on the 28th. Routine duties and maintenance on vehicles.
- May 27. Parade practice.
- May 28. Retreat parade at Pizze di Victoria, Genoa. Very good according to Division Artillery.
- May 29. Preparation for Memorial Day Services.
- May 30. Memorial Day services in Genoa. Battalion participated.
- May 31. Routine. I & E Training. Maintenance and athletics.