

SECRET

S - 3 REPORT

From : 302400A Sept 1944
To : 312400A Oct 1944
Unit : 702nd Tank Destroyer Bn
Place : K847588
Date & Hour of issue 312400 Oct 1944

No. : 9

Maps: GSGS, Sittard Sheet 48, 1/50,000; Sheets 5002 and 5003, 1/25,000

I. OUR FRONT LINES: Fluid. Extend approximately from Hommerschen Southeast to Briel, Southeast to Waurichen, South to Beggendorf, Southeast to Baesweiler, South to Ordtweiler, and South to Schaufenberg.

II. LOCATION OF TROOPS: Battalion less two companies in vicinity of Palenberg, Germany (K847588). Company "A" attached to CC "A" in vicinity (K877579). Company "B" attached to CC "B" in vicinity (K866604).

III. LOCATION OF ADJACENT UNITS AND SUPPORTING TROOPS: Does Not Apply.

IV. OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD: On 1 October 1944 the Battalion less Companies "A" and "C" (attached to CC "A", 2nd Armd Div) was situated in the vicinity of Versilienbosch, Holland (K765597).

Company "A", 702nd TD Bn (attached to CC "A") was relieved from duty along the front line sector in the vicinity of Gillrath, Germany (K834662) 1 October 1944, and moved to the Battalion assembly area at 0800. The period 1 October to 7 October was spent in maintenance and preparations for future operations against the Siegfried Line.

Co "C", 702nd TD Bn was detached from control of the 113th Cavalry, and was relieved from outpost duty in the vicinity of Sittard, Holland (K690683) to move to the assembly area of the Battalion under Division control. Company "C" remained in the vicinity of Versilienbosch, Holland from 1 October to 4 October 1944 for purposes of maintenance and reorganization.

The Battalion less Companies "A" and "C" was alerted for movement on thirty minutes notice to assist CC "B" in drive against Siegfried Line on the 2nd and 3rd of October. Reconnaissance of routes and bridgeheads established by the 30th Infantry Division was made during the day by all companies. Possible gun positions was reconnoitered along the heights overlooking the Wurm River.

The Battalion Less Companies "A" and "C" moved from the vicinity of Versilienbosch, Holland (K765597) to Grotewrath, Germany (K820616) on the 4th of October.

Company "A" and "C" remained under attachments to CC "A" and Division control on alert to assist CC "B" if necessary.

Company "B" supporting the attack of CC "B" crossed the Wurm River at Palenberg, Germany (K849598) 4 October 1944. The 1st Platoon was attached to TF #1, CC "B"; and the 2nd Platoon attached to TF #2, CC "B". The 3rd Platoon was placed in CC "B" reserve. Road blocks were placed at points (K871592) and (K878599) by Company "B" to protect assembly area of CC "B". One M-10 Tank Destroyer was destroyed by an Mk IV Tank. (This M-10 was recovered but was not repairable)

Company "C", 702nd TD Bn (Division control) was placed in indirect firing positions in the vicinity of (K812603) October 4, 1944 to assist in the attack. Co "C" was on alert for movement to support Company "B" in event of a counterattack. Reconnaissance was made for possible gun positions during the day.

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Company "B", 702nd TD Bn on the 5 - 6 October 1944 was in direct support of CC "B", in the attack along Wurm River. Company "B" destroyed one AT gun; one artillery piece; one O.P. and five pillboxes; captured 90 prisoners and killed approximately 30 enemy EM. Two M-10 Tank Destroyers were lost through enemy action (Both M-10's were recovered and repairable) Two EM were killed and two wounded and evacuated.

Company "A" crossed Wurm River on 6 October 1944 at Palenberg, Germany (K849588). The 1st Platoon was attached to the 2nd Bn, 66th Armd Regt in the left column of CC "A". The 2nd Platoon was attached to the 1st Bn, 66th Armd Regt in right column of CC "A". 3rd Platoon remained in CC "A" reserve. Company "A" destroyed two AT guns during this operation.

Company "C", under Division control remained in indirect firing positions at (K812603) firing harassing fire at ranges beyond the reach of the Division artillery.

Elements of Company "B", in direct support of CC "B" were divided into two platoons of three guns each after the loss of three additional guns. Two M-10's were later recovered; one M-10 was destroyed by the 67th Armd Regt to prevent its falling into enemy hands during a counterattack on 7 October 1944. One Platoon Leader and two EM were killed and three EM slightly wounded. 1st Platoon supported the left column and 2nd Platoon supported the right column of CC "B". Large amounts of ammunition were expended on probable enemy targets--muzzle flashes, strong points, etc, without confirmed results. Company "B" was placed on road blocks along the CC "B" sector to provide security for the main communication and supply routes.

Company "A" (attached to CC "A") continued the attack and destroyed two SP guns 6 Oct 44; two SP guns on 7 Oct 44; and two Mk IV Tanks, two SP guns, and captured 18 prisoners on 8 Oct 44. One M-10 Tank Destroyer was temporarily disabled in a German mine field. Three EM were wounded.

Company "E" (attached to CC "B") remained in position on the 8th of October prepared to defend its sector against enemy tank concentrations formed on the North and East of CC "B" Sector.

Company "C" (attached to 3rd Bn, 66th Armd Regt under control of CC "A") moved to the vicinity of Ubach, Germany (K865590) prepared to assist in the attack if necessary. 3rd Platoon, Company "C" was attached to Ron Company, 66th Armd Regt with the mission of siezing and holding Beggendorf, Germany (K896595). This platoon assisted in siezing the town and remained in position through 29 Oct 44.

Company "A" attached to CC "A" remained in vicinity of Herbach, Germany (K856576) holding present gains while mopping up operations were carried on by CC "A". Several local counterattacks were beaten back. One M-10 was destroyed by AT gun (Not evacuated due to heavy artillery concentration) Three EM wounded. (Several attempts were made during the month but this M-10 could not be recovered as direct fire weapons covered this area from enemy positions.)

Battalion CP on 9 October 1944 moved from vicinity of Grottenrath, Germany (K820616) to vicinity of Palenberg, Germany (K847588).

Company "B" (attached to CC "B") on outpost duty along front line sector of CC "A" (1st Platoon supporting 2nd Bn, 66th Armd Regt (K905583), 2nd Platoon supporting 66th Armd Regt at (K905567), 3rd Platoon in CC "A" Reserve (K905559). Platoons were on constant alert.

Company "C", 702nd TD Bn, (attached to 3rd Bn, 66th Armd Regt) was in Division Reserve. Two platoons were in indirect firing positions in vicinity of Ubach, Germany (K865590). Approximately six thousand rounds were fired during this period at targets assigned by Division Intelligence, usually during the hours of darkness.

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Company "B" on road blocks in CC "B" sector fired from ten to twenty rounds daily direct fire at possible O.P.'s on orders from the Combat Command. Results of this fire are unknown.

An alert for threatened German counterattack was ordered 21 October 1944. Plans and reconnaissance was made by all companies. Company "C" minus one platoon prepared to assist either CC "A" or CC "B". All units were placed on instant alert until 25 October 1944. Extra ammunition was placed in accessible dumps and all extra light skinned vehicles recalled.

Enemy counterbattery fell on Company "C" during night of 22 October 1944 damaging one M-10.

Winterproofing and preparations for cold weather began 15 October 1944. All vehicles were completed by 28 October 1944. This processing was slow due to enemy observation along the front line outposts.

Preparations started the 28 October 1944 for relief of front line outposts by infantry. Company "C" was forced to move to position south of Ubach, Germany due to counterbattery fire. Companies "A" and "B" withdrew their outposts 29 October, reverting to CC "A" and CC "B" Mobile Reserve. Company "A" retained one outpost in vicinity of Ordweiler, Germany (K910650) consisting of one platoon (3rd Plat) of TD's and one Platoon (2nd Plat) of Reconnaissance Company to comprise CC "A" outpost in conjunction with infantry front lines on the right flank. Company "A" relieved the 3rd Platoon of Company "C" in vicinity of Beggendorf, Germany (K895593) 29 October, leaving one Platoon Company "A" in CC "A" reserve.

Company "C", under Bn control, in Division Reserve was held in Ubach, Germany prepared to assist in event of enemy counterattack. Reconnaissance and plans were made for possible counterattack. This company continued on indirect fire missions.

Company "B" assembled at (K866604) in CC "B" reserve on 28th of October to complete maintenance; reorganization; and check of all ordnance material in preparation for future operations.

V. WEATHER & VISIBILITY: Does Not Apply

VI. COMBAT EFFICIENCY: Excellent

VII. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS:

a. By Date and Company

<u>Date</u>	<u>Co "A"</u>	<u>Co "B"</u>	<u>Co "C"</u>
5 Oct 44	2 AT Guns		
6 Oct 44	2 SP Guns	90 Enemy EM Captured	
		30 Enemy EM Killed	
		1 AT Gun	
		1 Arty Piece	
		1 OP	
7 Oct 44	2 SP Guns	5 Pillboxes	
	2 Mk IV Tanks		
	2 SP Guns		
	18 Enemy EM Captured		

b. Total by Type

3	AT Guns
6	SP Guns
2	Mk IV Tanks Destroyed
108	Enemy EM Captured
30	Enemy EM Killed
1	Arty Piece
1	OP
5	Pillboxes

WINGRADT
 CG 49 E
 JOHN A. BEALL
 JOHN A. BEALL,
 Lt Col., Inf.,
 Commanding.