

SECRET

S-3 REPORT

From: 312400B July 1944
 To : 312400B Aug 1944
 702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion
 Place: N-138117
 Date & Hour of Issue: 312400B Aug 44



No: 7

Maps: GSCS France, 1/50,000, 31/14SW, 31/12NW, 6G/2, 6G/A, 6G/2, 8G/3, 8G/2, 8G/1, 8G/4, 8F/6, 8F/2, 8F/4, 10F/1, 10F/5, 1A3.

1. Our front lines: Fluid. St Just en Chaussée in our hands.

2. Location of troops: Battalion less two companies 138117, vicinity of St Just en Chaussée. Company "A" attached to CC "A", Company "C" with left column of CC "B".

3. Location of adjacent units and supporting troops: The Third Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment assembled in area plus company of 41st Infantry Regiment.

4. Our operations for the period: The Battalion less two companies moved on cross country routes from vicinity of Villerbaudon, via Chevre la Paemelière - Tessy sur Vire, following Second Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment, Second Armored Division, morning of 1 August 1944. Outposted route with one platoon to cover movement of other Division Units. The battalion less two companies made contact with the Second Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment in the town of La Paemelière. Given mission of supporting attack by defense of flanks in tank attack on Tessy sur Vire. Elements of the 22nd Infantry Regiment assisted in drive. Attack began at 1500. Heavy shell fire and large number of tanks encountered. Company "A" assisted attack by destroying four Mark IV Tanks and two Mark V Tanks plus laying direct fire on machine gun and Infantry strong points. Upon occupation of Tessy sur Vire, Company "A" outposted the town. One M-10 out of action through maintenance faults; three casualties suffered. One M-8, Reconnaissance Company destroyed in enemy mine field while on mission to left of flank.

Company "B" attached to the First Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment, Second Armored Division assisted in attack on Tessy sur Vire on Highway between that city and Villerbaudon. Destroyed five Mark IV and two Mark V Tanks.

Battalion less one company (Company "B" attached to CC "B", Second Armored Division) assembled in area two miles east of Villerbaudon for reorganization, 021500B August 1944.

Total enemy material destroyed: Nine Mark IV's and seven Mark V Tanks; one enemy armored car; scout car, ammunition vehicle. 64 prisoners taken.

The Battalion less Company "A" relieved control of CC "A", attached to CC "B", 031930B August 1944. Moved to vicinity St Martin. Ordered to remain in Division Reserve prepared to repel tank attack on any of the three columns of CC "B", 4th August 1944.

Battalion less Company "A" remained in assembly area under Division Reserve control until 6 August 1944.

August 6, 1944, the Battalion less one Company and one platoon Company "C" (with CC "B" advance guard) made road march to CC "B" from Curves, south to St Hillaire du Parcquet, east to Baranton. Little resistance encountered. Platoon

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Company "C" attached to Advance Guard destroyed two Mark V Tanks.

From 8 August to 10 August 1944: Battalion less one company placed anti-tank defense around CC "B" assembly area in vicinity of Barenton. Also assisted in local attacks on enemy closed in pockets in that vicinity. ^{C. B DEST 10' MISC VEH}

Battalion less two companies attached to Division Reserve 11 August 1944. Company "A" attached to CC "A", Second Armored Division. Company "C" attached to CC "B", Second Armored Division. Company "B" continued on road block missions. Battalion on alert for movement throughout day.

The battalion assembled for maintenance and reorganization in the vicinity of Barenton, 12 August 1944 through 17 August 1944.

Battalion less Company "A" (Attached to CC "A") moved 18 August 1944 from vicinity Barenton to vicinity of Sees placing road blocks on main roads leading into assembly area of CC "B".

Battalion less one company on 19 August 1944 moved from vicinity of Sees in Division column by route Courtemer and Pourouvre to vicinity of St Anne.

Battalion less one company on 20 August 1944 moved from vicinity of St Anne to vicinity of Boisay les Perche in two columns. Assisted in drive on Verneuil. Direct fire laid on probable OP's and Infantry Positions. One enemy tank destroyed. Road blocks placed to defend assembly area of CC "B" from north and north west.

Movement from area vicinity of Grosbois 21 August 1944 to vicinity Les Gros Machere) under command of CC "C". Company "C" attached to 67th Armored Regiment, Second Armored Division on left column. The battalion provided road blocks on flanks assisted in advance of CC "B" toward objective. Company "B" destroyed one Mark IV and one machine gun nest.

22 August 1944, Battalion less one company relieved from road blocks around Le Breteuil to assist in drive toward Les Ptes ruyeres. Destroyed one Mark III and one half track vehicle.

23 to 25 August 1944, Battalion less one company assisted in drive forward of CC "B" toward Elbeuf. During this operation, Company "A" attached to CC "A" on left column destroyed one French Tank, three half track vehicles, four light reconnaissance vehicles, two supply trucks, two motorcycles, and captured two official sedans. During this operation, one M-10 was struck by 88mm shell, two men killed, two wounded - vehicle still in operation. Also during this operation, Company "C" destroyed three Mark V Tanks. Company "A" credited with three Mark V tanks and assisted in destruction of two Mark VI tanks (These Mark VI tanks were fired upon by both Company "A" guns and 76mm guns mounted on Division tanks)

Battalion to move by tactical groupings to vicinity of Facy sur Eure for assembly (Company "A" attached to CC "A" - Company "B" attached to Division Reserve - Remainder of Battalion attached to CC "B". Route: Louviers, Acquigny, Les Planches, Fontaine, sous Jouy, Croisy sur Eure, Facy sur Eure.)

28 to 28 August 1944: Reorganization and maintenance for half day. Alerted for movement to cross Seine River. Company "C" crossed Seine River 28/30 August 1944, assembling vicinity of St Martin. Battalion less two companies remained in present location awaiting further orders.

29 August 1944: Battalion less two companies moved from vicinity Mare a Coulouvres across Seine at Rosny sur Seine on order of CC "B" so area two miles east of St Martin la Garenne. During day, Company "C" supported 1st Infantry Regiment and 99th Separate Infantry Battalion on attack north of Vetheuil. Company "B" placed road blocks at Chaussy to prevent enemy attack on left flank. Battalion assembled less one company in vicinity of Comte, 2130H prepared to continue attack at dawn.

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30 August 1944: Battalion less Company "A" moved from Courtes in right column of CC "B" in attack north east. Company "A" attached to CC "A" in left column. Company "C" moved with 57th Armored Regiment to support column on flanks in event of enemy tank attacks. Battalion less two companies acting as rear guard for the right column. During this operation, Company "C" destroyed two trucks and one anti-tank gun. Battalion operating during the hours of darkness on road blocks protecting assembly areas and supply routes.

31 August 1944: Battalion moved in three columns (Company "A" in left column CC "A", Company "C" in left column CC "B", Battalion less two companies in right Column CC "B"). The battalion supported the advance by outposting flanks of Division Units. Battalion less two companies closed in area in Bois de Retibeuquet 312100Z August 1944. Company "B" less one Platoon plus Pioneer Platoon placed circular defense on all main roads leading into St Just en Chaussee with assistance of two platoons, 41st Infantry Regiment.

5. Weather and visibility: Does not apply.
6. Combat efficiency: Excellent.
7. Results of operations: Total enemy material destroyed: One Mark III, Twelve Mark IV, Twelve Mark V, One French Tank. Six Armored Cars, Six trucks, One anti-tank gun, Four Reconnaissance Vehicles, Two Motorcycles, and Captured two official sedans.



JOHN A. BEALI,
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Commanding.