

AFTER ACTION REPORT NOTES - 705TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

Believed to have been written by Capt. Wayne Tennant

10 Oct 1944	0600	Track vehicles loaded on flat cars at Guer.
	2400	No change.
11 Oct 1944	0600	Train carrying tanks moves out.
	1330	Wheeled vehicles move out of bivouac - 1 mi north and move into new bivouac preparatory to march east.
12 Oct 1944	0600	Leave Camp Coetquidan and move east. 100 vehicles in Battalion
	1430	Bivouac coord approx 8 mi east LeMans
13 Oct 1944	1200	Leave bivouac and move east.
	?00	Bivouac coord vR9317 4 mi N.W. of Arpajon La Norville.
14 Oct 1944	?00	Leave bivouac and move east.
	?00	Bivouac coord T9860 2 mi E. of Ste Menehould
15 Oct 1944	?00	Leave bivouac and move east. Battalion attached to 95th Inf. Division, 3rd Army. Bivouac coord U6077 1.2 mi. north Norroy. CP located in Piennes, coord U6080. Note; route of four day march across France was as follows; Camp Coetquidan on N24 to Rennes. N12 to Vitre. N12 to Laval. N157 to Vaiges. N157 to Lemans. N157 to St. Calais. N157 to N826. N826 to Fontaine. N10 to Chateaudun. N827 to Toury. N20 to Angerville. N20 to Etampes. N20 to Etampes. N20 to Longjumeau. N20 to Pris. Exterior Blvd around Paris. N3 to Meaus. N3 to Laterte. N33 to Montmirail. N33 to Chalons. N3 to Ste Menehould. N3 to Clermont. N3 to Verdun. N18 to Etain. East from Etain to bivouac vicinity Norroy and Piennes.
	2400	No change.
16 Oct 1944	2400	No change.
17 Oct 1944	2400	No change.
18 Oct 1944	2400	No change.
19 Oct 1944	2400	No change.
20 Oct 1944	2400	No change.
21 Oct 1944	0915	Advance CP moves out of Piennes to Pagny, location of rear CP, coord U7544
	2400	No change.
22 Oct 1944	0800	Advance CP leaves Pagny and crosses Moselle River on Arnaville birdge. Bridge screened from enemy observation by smoke. Rear CP remain at Pagny. Advance CP enters Pagny bridgehead area and establishes headquarters in Arry, coord U774455. During day, TD companies move from Norroy to assembly area S.E. of Thiaucourt, infiltrating during the day into positions in Pagny bridgehead. Trains remained at Pagny. Co A 818th TD and Co A 774th TD Battalions attached to 705 TD Bn. 2400 - mp change.

23 Oct 1944 2400 No change.

24 Oct 1944 25 Oct 1944

0600 No 46 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At beginning of period, 705 TD Bn advance CP located ARRY, west of Moselle River, coord 774440. Rear CP located PAGNY, coord 747440. Co A CP located in VITTONVILLE, coord 772420. Co A 1st and 3rd platoon. indirect fire positions coord 778428. 2nd plat. direct fire position coord 804384. 2nd plat providing anti-tank defense in zone of 377th Inf. Reg. 1st and 3rd plat. reinforcing fire of Division artillery. During the 24 hour period, Co A no fires, no change in position. Co B CP located BOUXIERES, coord 798409. Co B platoons providing anti-tank defense in zone of 377th Inf. Reg. During the 24 hour period, no fires, no change in position. Co C CP located LORRY, coord 795448. Co C platoons occupying direct fire positions providing anti-tank defense in zone of 378th Inf Reg. During the 24 hour period no fires. Co A 818th TD Bn., atchd to 705 TD Bn, fired total of 212 rds. HE, 63 missions, during the 24 hour period harassing fires. Co A 774 TD Bn, atchd to 705 TD Bn, fired total of 40 rounds HE, 20 missions, during 24 hour period harassing fire. Plans were discussed for movement of 773 TD Bn into position PAGNY bridgehead to effect relief of Co A 774 TD Bn and Co A 818 TD Bn.

25 Oct 1944 26 Oct 1944

0600 No 47 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At 1400, 25 Oct., Co C CP moved from Lorry to Bouxieres, coord 798409. At 1600, 25 Oct, 2nd plat., Co C was relieved by one plat Co A 773 TD Bn and moved south to indirect fire positions coord 778395. At 1630, 3rd plat Co C ws relieved by one plat Co A 773 TD Bn., and moved south to indirect fire position coord 779397. At 1815, 1st plat Co C relieved by one plat Co A 773 TD Bn and moved south to new indirect fire position cood 778394. At 1605 advance CP left Arry and moved south to new location Bouxieres coord 798409, leaving officer detachment in Arry, arriving Bouxieres approximatel 1635. 1st and 3rd platoons, Co A CP and 705 TD Bn., shift to new indirect fire positions cood 784424. Co A CP and 2nd plat Co A no change in position. 1st and 3rd platoons, registered on base point center of impact fire, expending 18 HE rounds. Results unknown. Co B, 705 TD Bn, no fires, no change in position. At 1930 Co A, 774 TD Bn, relieved by Co C, 773 TD Bn and also relieved attachment to 705 TD Bn. During the 24 hour period Co A, 818 TD Bn fired total of 120 rounds, HE, 14 missions, harassing fires.

26 Oct 1944 27 Oct 1944

0600 No 48 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At 0930, Oct 26, Co A 818 TD Bn was relieved by Co B, 773 TD Bn and also relieved attachment to 705 TD Bn. During 0600 and 0930, Oct 26 no rounds were fired. During the hours of darkness 26 - 27 October, Co A 705 TD Bn fired a total of 73 rounds HE, 6 missions, harassing fires, results unknown. No change in position. During the 24 hour period, Co B and C, 705 TD Bn, no fires, no change in position.

27 Oct 1944 28 Oct 1944

0600 No 49 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At 1115 27 Oct. Co A CP moved from VITTONVILLE to LESMENILS, coord 803383. At 1400, 1st plat. Co A moved from indirect fire positions to direct fir positions, vic LESMENILS, coord 793396, 2nd plat remained in position in town of LESMENILS. 3rd plat. remained in indirect fire position N.E. of VITTONVILLE, firing two missions, expending 19 HE rounds. 1

unobserved harassing mission, 1 observed base registration mission, results unknown due to poor visibility. Co B no fires, no change in position. Co C attempted registration, expending 12 HE rounds, 1st plat. Rcn Co remained attached Co A, 2nd plat. Rcn Co remained atchd Co B, 3rd plat and pioneers located in BOUXIERES. Arrangements were made for relief of 2nd Rcn OP by Co B, 3rd Rcn. OP by Co A, to be effected 28 Oct 44

28 Oct 1944 29 Oct 1944

0600 No 50 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At 1000 Co B relieved Rcn Co. on OP2. At 1245 Co A relieved Rcn Co. on OP3. At 1630 3rd plat, Co A closed in new indirect fire position, coord 776391. At 1700 Co B reported the 1st section of 1st plat. moved to new direct fire position, coord 798410 northwest BOUXIERES and 2nd pla. moved to direct fire position coord 793429 s.w. MARDIGINY. 2nd plat. left one gun in mobile reserve in original position. Co A fired during daylight a total of 10 HE rounds indirect fire, results unknown. Co C fired base point registration and mas fire on enemy CP, expending a total of 35 HE rounds during daylight, 9 rounds during hours of darkness, total of ? missions.

29 Oct 1944 30 Oct 1944

0600 No 53 (unknown as to why nos 51 and 52 not recorded) Par 5 - Our operations for the period: During the period, all units no change in position. Co C fired 27 missions expending 484 HE rounds.

30 Oct 1944 31 Oct 1944

0600 No 54 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: During the period, all units no change in position. Three platoons of Co C and 3rd plat. Co A fired a total of 45 missions, 5 missions during daylight, 40 HE rounds, and 40 missions during darkness, 187 HE rounds, indirect fire on enemy mortar and machine guns and enemy installations and town of CHEMINOT.

31 Oct 1944 01 Nov 1944

0600 No 55 - Par 3 - Information of adjacent units and supporting troops: 5th Inf Div began infiltration into Pagny bridgehead during afternoon and night of 31st Oct., to effect relief of 95th Inf Div. Par 5 - Our operations during the period: At 0700 1st section 1st plat. Co B moved to new direct fire positions, coord 8095-4340. During the 24 hour period, Co C & 3rd plat Co A firing indirect fire, accomplished a total of 8 missions, 4 missions during darkness, 22 HE rounds target was enemy trenched in CHEMINOT. Results of fire reported good.

01 Nov 1944 02 Nov 1944

0600 No 56 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: Co C and 3rd plat. Co A fired a total of 29 missions, expending 132 rounds HE indirect fire. During the 24 hour period, no change in position.

02 Nov 1944 03 Nov 1944

0600 No 57 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: Co C and 3rd plat. Co A fired a total of 40 missions, expending 160 rd HE indirect fire. At 022400 705 TD Bn relieved attachment 95th Inf Div. Meeting of staff and Co Commanders held at 0030 3rd Nov. for purpose of discussing plans for the evacuation of Pagny bridgehead by 0830. Detailed orders were

issued for the march 50 miles north to Angevillers, where Bn ws scheduled to join Task Force Polk.

03 Nov 1944 04 Nov 1944

0600 No 58 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At 0720 3rd Nov, 705 TD Bn. Withdrew from Pagny bridgehead across Bouxieres bridge, being relieved by 818 TD Bn. Battalion formed in assembly area vicinity Thiaucourt. At 0930 Bn. began march to north to Angevillers to join Task Force Polk. Route of march; Thiaucourt, Beney, St. Benoit, Macheville, ?ar ville, Pareid, Buzy, Buchamps, Fleville, ?andres, Audun, Fontoy, Angevillers. Bn. arrived at destination at 1245 3rd Nov. Upon arrival, plans were drawn up for further movement of Bn. norht to bivouac east of Luxembourg, movement contemplated for night of Nov 4th. Rec Co attached to 43rd Reconnaissance Squadron, effective 061000.

04 Nov 1944 05 Nov 1944

0600 No 59 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: 705 TD Bn. located in Angevillers. Contemplated movement to vicinity Luxembourg to be made after darkness 04 November delayed by higher headquarters. Orders of 1242 delaying movement were confirmed by phone from 3rd Cavalry group at 1430.

05 Nov 1944 06 Nov 1944

0600 No 60 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: During the 24 hour period, 705 TD Bn. No fires, no change in position. Notice received fr Task Force POLK at 051535A of attachment Rcn Co. to 43rd Cav. Rcn. Sqd. effective 061000A.

06 Nov 1944 07 Nov 1944

0600 No 62 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: No change

07 Nov 1944 08 Nov 1944

0600 No 63 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: No change.

08 Nov 1944 09 Nov 1944

0600 No 64 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: Orders were received from Task Force POLK signed 072040, for this Battalion to move north to new location vic Weiller-la-Tour. At 1400, Command Group, followed by Co A, B and C moved out of Angevillers and advanced along route Angevillers-Escherange-Molvange-Volmerange-(?)delange-Burange-Bettenbourg-Weiller-La-Tour, Battalion relieved attachment Task Force POLK, and attached to 83rh Division Artillery. Rcn Co. reverted to Bn. control on arrival of Rcn Bn. in Weiler-La-Tour, and Co A attached to 802 TD Bn by order of T/F POLK, msg. signed 2040. 705 TD Bn Rear CO and trains remained in Angevillers. Co A, 802 TD BN to be attached to 705 TD Bn. upon receipt of Div order. Strength of Co A 802 TD Bn. 193 officer & men.

09 Nov 1944 10 Nov 1944

0600 No 65 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At approx 091100 Nov., Co A, 802 TD Bn. arrived in assembly area vic. Weiler-La-Tour. Atchmt to 705 TD Bn effective (?)00 by auth msg signed 091730, CG 83rd Inf. Div., Signed Watson, Capt. Effective 1800, 9 Novl, 705 TD Bn (-A) detached from T/F POLK and atchd 83rd Inf. Div, signed Watson, Capt. At approx. 091200 Rcn Co arrived in assembly area Weiler-La-Tour, reverting to

Bn. control. Rec. Co. returned from missions of providing security to town of Fixom, and hold hill N.W. of BERG - 1 battle casualty.

10 Nov 1944 11 Nov 1944

0600 No 66 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: At 101000A, Co B platoons began moving our assembly area vicinity Weiler-La-Tour for atchmt 330th Inf Regt. vic. coord VP 910066, east of Hassel. 2nd plat. Co B attached 2nd Bn and 3rd plat. Co B attached 3rd Bn. 330th Inf Reft., with 1st platoon Co B in reserve. At 101400A, Bn. CP moved from Weilers-La-Tour, reverting to former position angevillers, coord U477289, with advanced CP remaining Weilers-La-Tour.

11 Nov 1944 12 Nov 1944

0600 No 67 - Par 5 - Our operations for the period: During the 24 hour period, 3rd plat. Rcn Co. atchd Co C 1st plat Co C atchd 1st Bn, 331 Inf Regt, move to new position PUTTELANGE, coord. VP 937994. No other change, remaining positions as per overlay attached.

(Note - no entry for 13 Nov provided by National Archives - jss)

14 Nov 1944 1200 Co B moves out of Angefillers to vicinity Cattenom forest. Atchd 3rd Cav. Squad.
1415 Co C moves out of Angevillers to vicinity Cattenom forest. Atchd 43rd Cav. Squad.
(?) Co A reverts to Bn. control.