

HEADQUARTERS  
77th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
APO 403 US ARMY

10 December 1944



SUBJECT : Summary of Battalion Participation in Combat

TO : Commanding General, XX Corps, APO 340, US Army.

1. In response to recent instructions requesting a summary of Battalion participation in combat for possible reporting purposes, including mention of assignments, combat missions, results of combat and awards made to members of the Battalion, the following is submitted:

"Arriving on the fog shrouded beaches of Normandy in the forenoon of 8 August 1944, the 77th Tank Destroyer Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel CONRAD B. STURGES, of Lewisburg, North Carolina, assigned to the Third US Army, moved immediately to join the XX Corps in combat at Vitre, France.

Attached to the 317th Combat Team of the 80th Infantry Division, the unit accomplished its first combat mission, that of assisting in the closing of the Falaise Gap from the south.

Working with every major unit of the XX Corps, including the 5th Infantry Division, 80th Infantry Division, 90th Infantry Division, 95th Infantry Division, 7th Armored Division, 10th Armored Division and the 1st Tank Destroyer Group, the Battalion took active part in the lightning thrust of the "Ghost Corps" across France, and now on German soil after 125 days of continuous combat, is, with deadly accuracy, playing a major role in the systematic destruction of the reinforced concrete pillboxes of the highly touted "Westwall".

The major engagements in which the Battalion participated are the Falaise Gap, Argentan, Melun, Chartres, Reims, Verdun, Metz and Saarbrücken.

The total number of prisoners captured to date is 202.

Enemy equipment and materiel destroyed include 5 tanks, 4 Self-Propelled Guns, 4 Artillery Guns and 15 concrete pillboxes.

With a total of 20,418 rounds of 3" HE expended performing the secondary mission, that of indirect fire, this Battalion ranks high among Tank Destroyer units of the Third US Army in this type of employment.

The Battalion has expended 4,308 rounds direct fire, the majority of which has been at concrete emplacements and pillboxes.

Officers and men who because of their outstanding performance of duty have received awards are:

RANK	NAME	DUTY	ASN	AWARD
Lt. Col.	CONRAD B. STUNCESS Entered Service from Henderson, North Carolina	Inf CO	U-262907	Bronze Star
Major	OSWEN M. CULLENIS Entered Service-Tennville, Georgia	Inf B-3	O-411004	Certificate of Merit
Captain	JAMES D. BUTLER Entered Service from Lafayette, Indiana	Co, Co. "A"	O-448338	Croix de Guerre
Sgt	JAMES R. DURBIN Entered Service from Lovrain, Ohio.	Co. "A" Gun Commander	35020370	Bronze Star



CONRAD B. STUNCESS  
Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding