

## FRANCE

October 4, 1944 Traveling along coast of FRANCE all morning. Part of convoy split off at NICE, part to TOULON, and we came on. Were in sight of MARSEILLES about 2 p.m. MARSEILLES is guarded by a large island out in its harbor, similar to Alcatraz, but with many gun emplacements. Beautiful winding roads along edge of harbor to the left, winding over arched bridges and through numerous tunnels.

We pulled into harbor and dropped anchor at 4 p.m. To the front, is a large cathedral. To the right of town, on a high peak within the town, is NOTRE DAME with two large spires. To our right are the two fortress islands. Can't see much of the docks which are supposed to be terribly damaged but the city seems almost undamaged from here, and factories to the city edge seem to be operating.

October 5, 1944 A beautiful day as we still set in the harbor, with the city stretched out before us. Don't know when we will unload.

October 6, 1944 Unloaded this morning. Moved through town in a downpour of rain to an area about 8 miles from town. Town seems little damaged and there are more civilian vehicles moving than in anyplace we have been.

October 7, 1944 Went to MARSEILLES this afternoon on a pass. A lot nicer place than NAPOLI, but not as nice as ROME, in my opinion. Shops have a lot of beer but its weak as water.

October 8, 1944 Went to MARSEILLES this morning to Mass at Notre Dame, the big church on the hill. This is the first thing that catches your eye as you come into the harbor, with its large spires and large gold statues of Our Lady on top. In the entrance to the church were many canes and crutches. I presume, left by cripples who had come here to pray and had been cured. Shortly, after I got into church, someone said, "Hi Jim." It was Tommy Kendrick, from my home town. After Mass, I went back with him to his A.A. Outfit, only about a mile away. Had dinner with him, and visited all afternoon while we walked around and occasionally dropped in to a bar for a short one.

October 9, 1944 Went to MARSEILLES again today with Tom D. and Baker. Found a place to get film developed, and where I could buy paper to print my own pictures.

October 10, 1944 Had a mine field demonstration today.

October 12, 1944 Baker, Rocky, and I went to MARSEILLES this morning. Was able to buy a couple of rolls of film. Was on guard 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

October 13, 1944 Rain again today. Baker was in town, and bought for me four rolls of film.

October 14, 1944 On 24-hour alert. Went to MARSEILLES and bought film, developer, and fixer powder to develop my own film, if I have time.

October 15, 1944 Went to Mass at Cathedral in

MARSEILLES. In the afternoon was called suddenly to go to firing range. As eight of our destroyers are supposed to load tomorrow.

October 16, 1944 Rain again today.

October 18, 1944 Developed some pictures today. Didn't do too bad at all.

October 19, 1944 Worked all day fooling with my pictures. By developing other peoples film, I can make extra copies and have a good set of pictures for my own use. Also, if I get enough time and paper I can make multiple copies for other guys, who do not have any camera.

October 20, 1944 Moved to a new area about a mile nearer AIX in PROVENCE. Went in to AIX and spent the afternoon. All of our destroyers have loaded out on the train, and we are to leave tomorrow.

October 22, 1944 Moved out at daybreak for MARSEILLES marshalling yards. Loaded and pulled out at 8 a.m., headed for EPINAL and the front.

October 23, 1944 We were going through PIERLATTE, when I awakened. Went through CHATEAU NEUF, RHONE, MONTELMAR, LORIOU, LIVRON, and VALENCE before dark. We are going right up the Rhone Valley. Have been paralleling the river most of the time. Our air force has really done a good job knocking out the bridges along the Rhone, and knocking out thousands of vehicles and railway cars. Also, saw eight or more big railway guns of Jerries, similar to Anzio Annie.

October 24, 1944 Moved on a little during the night. All day we've been going along from town to town and laying over several hours at each place, away out in the yards away from town. Passed through LYON during the night, and today went through MEURAUULT, CORGOLOIN, GEUREY, and CHAMBERLINE. At dark we were still in the yards at DIJON, where we have been for several hours.

October 25, 1944 Passed through COLMONT, CHALINDRY, and LANGRES. About seventy miles from EPINAL when it gets dark.

October 26, 1944 Pulled into EPINAL middle of the morning. Yards have been blown up considerably, but are operating to some extent. Moved out 18 kilometre to a yard and unloaded. Went another 6 km to a bivouac area.

October 28, 1944 Developed a bunch of pictures today. We may move up toward the front tomorrow.

October 29, 1944 Went to Mass in a little village near here. Worked on radio. We are supposed to move tomorrow.

October 30, 1944 Up at 5:30, left at 7:00. Arrived at outskirts of LUNEVILLE where battalion bivouaced. Destroyers moved up a few miles farther to the front.

Arrived at bivouac area, approx. 4 miles S.E. of LUNEVILLE at 10.

1st and 2nd platoons moved at 3 p.m., to relieve B-CO. 813 T.D. Platoons moved through LUNEVILLE and went N.E. through LANEUVILLE and EMBERMENIL to occupy same

positions that the 813th used N.E. of EMBERMENIL.

3rd Platoon, Recon CO, Lt. Galvan plus 29 e.m., reported to company and established ground security, during hours of darkness, for 1st and 2nd Platoons received heavy mortar fire in their respective positions during the evening and night.

No enemy activity could be observed. No targets appeared. No ammo expended.

3rd Platoon in reserve.

All men and vehicles o.k.

October 31, 1944 Fellows had it pretty rough in the destroyers last night.

Third platoon moved at 0600 hours via LUNEVILLE, LANEUVILLE, and EMBERMENIL to assembly position North of EMBERMENIL.

CO-C.P. moved at 0930 hours via LUNEVILLE. At 1300 hours, CO C.P., received order to move to EMBERMENIL, from Major Shirley, in order to secure closer cooperation with infantry. The infantry has its C.P. here.

1st and 2nd Platoon leaders and Capt. Anderson made thorough reconnaissance of front to secure best firing positions and routes of approach. It was decided to move two guns of 1st Platoon, Nov. 1, to secure the part of terrain that the Infantry wanted covered by T.Ds. No targets or enemy activity could be observed. No ammo expended.

Recon Platoon plus 7 men from CO security furnished security for 1st and 2nd Platoon during darkness.

All men and vehicles, O.K.

November 1, 1944 Froze last night. Was plenty cold to try to sleep.

1st Sect., 1st Platoon, attacked by 3 ME-109 at 4:45 on Oct. 31. Area strafed. 200 rounds of 50 cal. expended. One plane wing was observed to be smoking. Approx. 60 rds of mortar and 30 rds of med. art. 75 mm. came into area during the day. B-311 was hit on left side, just below turret, by med. artillery. Slight damage. Vehicle in working order. Section moved up approx. 300 yards to left. New position 25,2-04.5. Recon Sect. furnished security. No ammo 90 mm expended.

2nd Sect., 1st Platoon. Area was quiet. Patrols (Inf) were active in front of position between 0300 and 0430 hrs. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security. Vehicles and men o.k.

2nd Platoon. Received on Oct. 31, at 1700 hrs., 15 rds. of med. art. in area, also, 15 rds. mortar during the afternoon. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security. All vehicles and E.M., o.k.

3rd Platoon. In assembly area near EMBERMENIL. Received heavy artillery fire between 1500 and 1730 hrs. Nov. 1, approx. 6 to 8 rds. every 10 minutes, 88 mm, 105mm, and a few larger cal. B-511 was hit at 1715 hrs., left side rear bogie wheel of middle suspension, bogie wheel, guides, and rocker arms damaged. Vehicle out for

reparis for 24 to 36 hrs. Huff went back to LANEUVILLE for rest.

C.P. Group received heavy art. fire by 88, 105, and a few larger cal, probably 150mm between 1500 and 1730 hrs. (5 dead and 15 casualties were suffered by infantry personnel located less than 50 yds. from C.P.)

November 2, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. No change in position. No mortar or artillery came into area. No ammo expended. All men and vehicles o.k. Recon furnished security, reported hearing enemy vehicles during the night in front of positions.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. No ammo expended. Inf. reported track vehicles in XOUSSE at 0900 hrs. Could not observe from area. No shelling in area. Recon furnished security.

3rd. Platoon. in assembly area. No enemy fire in area. B-311 still out for repairs. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group C.O. contacted all 3 Regm'tl C.O.s by 1000 hrs. Eight men went up to relieve 8 crew members at 1st and 2nd Platoons.

November 3, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Received harassing artillery all day long. Believe to be 3-88 dual purpose guns since they also fire at AA. No ammo expended. Recon furnished guard (3-88 located east of position.)

2nd Sec., 1st Platoon. Received 8 rds of artillery, 75mm at 1600 hours. Patrols were very active in front of position. Two enemy soldiers came up to near our guns at 0200 hrs. No ammo expended. Recon furnished guard.

2nd Platoon. Area generally quiet. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group. Contact was made with C.O., CO C-749 Tank Battalion. Communications and plans were discussed in case we work together. Eight men were sent up for relief for 1st and 2nd Platoons.

November 4, 1944 Were paid today. Received a bunch of mail. We are still sitting in reserve. Hope we stay here.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved one gun 50 yards left to get better cover. Rec'd 3 rds of 88mm at 1900 hrs. and 3 rds at 2130 hrs. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. Received approx. 30 rds mortar fire around area. Area generally quiet. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

2nd. Platoon. Received 4 rds. 75mm harassing fire at 0830. Some mortar fire fell on infantry troops in front of destroyers. Area received some MG indirect fire at night. No ammo expended. Vehicles and men o.k.

3rd. Platoon. In assembly area. No ammo expended. Six men used for relief at 1st and 2nd Platoons.

C.P. Group. Contact was made with Lt. Cole regarding 1st Platoon, 1st Sec., covering some ground in Lt. Coles sector, which he could not cover very well, toward LEINTERY. Twelve men were sent up for relief of 1 & 2

Platoons. Majority of men were paid today.

November 5, 1944 Went to Mass today in a little village church outside LUNEVILLE. After lunch went up to the Company C.P. at EMBERMENIL, to work as radio operator. Was on from 2:30 to 7. No shells came in.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Lt. Holmes made thorough recon. to see if he could cover area in front of A-CO. He can cover area toward LIENTERY by getting to crest of hill and exposing his destroyers. He can also see XOUSSE and REMONCOURT, but has a lot of dead space between his guns and the towns.

Tank officers were in area today, and were looking over the terrain. Area generally quiet. No ammo expended. The Sec. was alerted at 0100 hrs by infantry. They heard unidentified tanks running. Recon furnished security.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. Area generally quiet. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

2nd Platoon. Area quiet. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

3rd Platoon. In assembly area. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group. Capt. finished paying. All vehicles and men o.k. Enemy infantry reported at 275-996. Enemy tanks reported at 274-073. Not in our sector.

November 6, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Area generally quiet. A few rds mortar fell on infantry lines during night. No ammo exp. Recon furnished sec. Vehicles and men o.k.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. 8 rds of 88mm came into area about 2200 hrs., harassing fire. Two enemy (Polish) prisoners gave themselves up and reported there were more Poles who wanted to give up, but were afraid of the German soldiers. No ammo expended. Area generally quiet. Recon furnished security. Vehicles and men o.k.

2nd Platoon. Area quiet. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security. Vehicles and men o.k.

3rd Platoon. In assembly area. No ammo expended. Vehicles and men o.k.

C.P. Group. Lt. Cole and Wadle called at 1000 hrs.

November 7, 1944 Up again on radio 2:30 to 7. Raining all the time. Came back this afternoon to rear.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Area quiet. One gun of friendly art. btry. fires short when btry. fires in front of our area, and short rds fall in trees near our destroyers. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. At midnight last night area received 8 rds harassing fire. At 0700 hrs., 9 rds harassing fire came in the area. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

2nd Platoon. Area quiet. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security. 2 Sgts. from Regimental S-3, were in area and were checking A.T. defense in left boundary of regimental sector.

3rd Platoon. In assembly area. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group. Lts. Ritter and Bratland went up to



relieve Lt.s Ira and Holmes. Vehicles and men o.k.

November 8, 1944 Roosevelt has been elected again.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Area received some mortar and artillery fire yesterday at 1600 hrs. Approx. 25 rds mortar fell in and around area at 1330 hrs today. Last night infantry in front of position captured one enemy captain and 5 pvts., at about 2400 hrs. No ammo expended. Vehicles and men o.k. Area very muddy.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. Area quiet. No ammo expended. Vehicles and men o.k.

2nd Platoon. Mortar fire fell all around area at 1600 hrs yesterday. Mortar and artillery fire fell to right front during night. Friendly aircraft were over area at 1330 hrs. Bombing and strafing was observed in direction of XOUSSE. No ammo expended. Vehicles and men o.k.

3rd Platoon. In assembly area. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group. Capt. returned to Bn C.P. at 1000 hrs for meeting.

November 9, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Received 8 rds artillery harassing fire to right front approximately 75 mm. Area generally quiet. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. Received harassing fire from two tanks, one big and one small. First at 1200 hrs., they fired from right front and then at 2200 hrs fired from left front. Fired approx. 25 rds from each position. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

2nd Platoon. Received 8 rds approx. 75mm harassing fire at 1700 hrs. Area generally quiet. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

3rd Platoon. In assembly area. Alerted to move into artillery position.

C.P. Group. Contact was made with 220 F.A. Group about indirect firing of 3rd Platoon. Capt. went to regimental meeting at 1600 hours.

November 10, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Area quiet. Art. S.P. gun moves up at night and fired on ridge in front of destroyers.

Lt. Holmes made reconnaissance with Engineer and Tank officers regarding a road near firing position and about moving into position. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. Area quiet. A few rds. of harassing fire during the night. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

2nd Platoon. Area generally quiet. A few rds of art. fell on road and on infantry in front of position. No ammo expended. Recon furnished security.

3rd Platoon. Guns were moved into artillery positions 300 yards of EMBERMENIL. Three men from 7th Army Pictorial Svc., took approx. 15 pictures of 3rd Platoon moving into position, guns in firing position, guns in hull defilade position. One gun was fired for motion picture camera. Pictures of turret and top

were taken.

November 11, 1944 Raining today but it is cold. Spit a little snow. 3rd Army pushed off a few days ago and are going good and looks like we will push off in a day or two.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Area quiet. No ammo expended.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. M-5 by destroyers hit by enemy artillery. Area quiet.

2nd Platoon. No report.

3rd Platoon. In artillery position at 23.170-04184. No ammo expended. Layed on 2388. B.P. is to be:

31.8-09.3 approx. 11,000 yds.

33.4-09.2 approx. 12,000 yds.

31.2-07.9 approx. 9,800 yds.

C.P. Group. Sweating out attack that is coming up.

November 12, 1944 Went to Mass again this morning in MANCEL DE LUNEVILLE, about a mile from here.

No report today on all three platoons.

Preparing for artillery shoot tonight by 3rd Platoon. Capt. oriented all officers and E.M., on coming attack.

November 13, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Still in same position. Received some high velocity, approx. 88mm from right front. Could not observe route of advance of 3rd Bn. Inf. to help them out.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. 0800 hrs alerted to shoot up pill box at 25.5-08.7. Could not observe it and when arrangements were made to go in after it with tanks and T.D.s the objective was captured by infantry.

Alerted again at 1430 hrs to shoot up pill box on hill No. 266.4 (26.6-06.7).

Artillery had it covered with smoke and we could not observe it.

2nd Platoon. Area quiet. No targets could be observed to left front or to front.

3rd Platoon. Guns in artillery position at EMBERMENIL. Fired 372 rds of H.E., Fuse and Delay 90mm from 1800 hrs. Nov. 12, to 0600 hrs Nov. 13, 11 out of 17 Corp Missions were fired. 152 rds expended. Ten Div. Art. missions were fired. 220 rds expended, 3rds damaged. 70 rds ammo left. Plus 5 rds, smoke left. Guns were moved 1330 hrs to support tanks (reserve C-CO 749 Tank Bn.)

Moved 2 guns 25.4-05.4 and 2 guns to 24.9-05.4.

November 14, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Guns moved to 1000 S of 28 to be in better position to help infantry. No ammo expended. Sgt. Thomason got shot by sniper when on recon.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. Guns moved to ridge on right to overwatch 3rd Platoon and tanks as they advanced to woods in draw. No fire could be brought on 88mm 26.10-06.05 or on pill box on hill 266.4 vicinity of REMONCOURT. No ammo expended.

2nd Platoon. Area quiet. No enemy could be observed to front. No ammo expended.

3rd Platoon. Moved to support tanks (749 Tank Bn CO-C) down road through woods at 25.5-05.7. Received approx. 25 rds AT. fire from estimated 4 A.T. guns. Another attack at 1020 also fizzled out. Rain in afternoon stopped maneuverability. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group. Close contact was maintained with 324 Inf. Regt. No ammo expended. All vehicles and men o.k.

November 15, 1944 1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved guns Nov. 14, to position 1000 S. of 28. No targets could be seen. No ammo expended.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. No change today. No ammo expended.

2nd Platoon. Route recon was made and route was found to hill 290 to bring fire on pill box in 324 sector O.P. is being maintained. No ammo expended.

3rd Platoon. Still in same position. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group. Close contact was maintained with 324 Inf. Vehicles and men o.k. No ammo expended.

November 16, 1944 Day report missing.

November 17, 1944 1st Platoon. Lt. Holmes moved from EMBERMENIL at 0730. Moved on R.R., in direction of AVRICOURT, supporting tanks and infantry. Expended B-311 15 rds H.E.; B-344, 1 rd H.E. and 1 rd Concrete fuse. Results; 4 enemy M.G. knocked out. Twenty-five Germans known killed, over 100 prisoners taken. When we arrived at AVRICOURT, 60 rds carbine and 10 rds 45 cal. were used. PFC Coleman was hit by schrapnel in the face. Not serious.

2nd Platoon. No change in location. No ammo expended. Area quiet. Recon furnished security.

3rd Platoon. Moved from EMBERMENIL approx. 1530 hrs. on R.R., in direction of AVRICOURT. Was overcome by darkness because of heavy traffic, and later ordered off the R.R., by B. Gen. of 44th Div. Stayed there for the night. B-511 was out because of mechanical difficulty.

C.P. Group. Close contact was maintained with 324 Inf. Lt. Ritter went with advanced detail to new location of Regmt. C.P.

C.P. moved from EMBERMENIL at 1500 hrs to vicinity of 324 Regt. C.P.

November 18, 1944 Moved up this morning to LANEUVILLE. 7th Army has started a drive. So, also, has the 3rd, 1st and 9th Armies. Slept in a barn last night. Had a pile of hay and slept warm.

1st Platoon. Stayed in AVRICOURT during night. Moved out to overwatch 3rd Platoon taking high ground East of DEUTCH and AVRICOURT.

2nd Platoon. Moved from position South XOUSSE, through XOUSSE, REMONCOURT, MOUSSY to AVRICOURT. Recon CO cleared and checked roads on the route taken.

3rd Platoon. Moved into AVRICOURT at 0800 hrs. Moved out with 749 Tanks to high ground, East of DEUTCH. AVRICOURT captured. 60 to 70 prisoners in woods to right and in REICHOURT. About that many killed. Expended 63 rds H.E.

C.P. Group. Moved from 28.3-05.7 to AVRICOURT 31.5-05.95.

November 19, 1944 Our bunch is moving slowly and has captured several towns. Our company captured over 75 prisoners yesterday, and last night, and killed a bunch of others. News today, is that the 3rd Army is in METZ and that other elements of the 3rd to the north have passed into GERMANY. 1st, 9th, and British 2nd, are already in GERMANY and are gaining. 7th Army captured 12 towns yesterday and French 1st is driving on BELFORT and farther to the South.

1st Platoon. Bivouaced in RECHICOURT. Refueling and maintenance work done. No ammo expended. Vehicles all o.k.

2nd Platoon. Moved into AVRICOURT at 0900, refueled and moved into RECHICOURT at 1100 hrs. Moved from RECHICOURT at 1530 hrs. to relieve 3rd Platoon at 38.5-06.7. No ammo expended.

3rd Platoon. Moved from RECHICOURT to 38.5-06.7 to support tanks.

C.P. Group. Moved from AVRICOURT to RECHICOURT at 1030 hrs.

November 20, 1944 Moved up early to place at outskirts of AVRICOURT which our B-CO took yesterday. Raining all day and night.

1st Platoon. Moved from RECHICOURT to vicinity of 43.4-10.0 to support attack on HEMING. Expended 4 rds. supporting M-8 fire on suspected sniper nest. On Nov. 18, fired 7 rds. into brush where 30 to 40 Germans were observed. After firing, no more movement could be seen.

2nd Platoon. Moved to 43.4-10.0 to support 324 Inf. attack on HEMING. Expended 37 rds.

3rd Platoon. Moved into vicinity 41.7-08.7 to support attack on HEMING.

C.P. Group. Moved from RECHICOURT to ST. GEORGES.

November 21, 1944 Moved to outskirts of ST. GEORGE. A-CO and infantry took SARREBOURG last night. We are 15 km from SARREBOURG with our vehicle. Radio news tonight says we are 5 miles from SARREBOURG. That's how up-to-date the radio news is sometimes. None of our men have been hurt except Coleman, got a black eye, when a mortar dropped one in close to their destroyer and shook them up a bit.

TO S-3: DAILY OPERATIONAL REPORT:

3rd Platoon. Lt Bratland.

On November 19, plans were discussed to attack railyards at DEUTCH-AVRICOURT. The final plan was to use 1 platoon of tanks, 1 platoon t.d.s, and one CO of 324 Inf. to attack down the railroad track. No contact was made with the enemy at the railyard. We again assembled and made plans to attack at 1430 hrs., the high ground to the right of DEUTCH-AVRICOURT at 34.3-06.5. We started up to the high ground in line formation and when we reached the crest and the woods on the other side the enemy infantry was dug in fox holes and trenches. We



fired at point blank range into the trees around them. We killed 25, and captured 67 prisoners. We fired 90mm, 50 cal. and 30 cal. at them. This was done without a single casualty to us. We left the Infantry to clean out the fox holes, the tanks and t.d.s, then attacked RECHICOURT. The T.D. stayed on the high ground and fired at suspected A.T. and M.G. emplacements short and to the right of RECHICOURT, and at enemy infantry. 10 En. Inf. were observed going into house at 35.2-07.5. One gun fired 3 rds at 2400 yds, and next morning 5 enemy dead was observed in front of the house. Probably, the 5 others were casualties. The tanks advanced down the hill into RECHICOURT. The T.D.s stopped firing and the tanks took the town. The T.D. fired into RECHICOURT at range from 1000 to 1700 yards. 37 rds were expended on both operations. No losses or casualties.

1st Platoon. Moved from 43.2-09.8 to HEMING. Nov. 20, fired 4 rds into suspected M.G. nest in straw stack in vicinity of HERTZING.

2nd Platoon. Moved from 43.2-09.8 to HEMING. Nov. 20, fired 37 rds. Fired at M.G. nests in HERTZING, at 4 guns on rt N.W. of HEMING (crews abandoned guns), and at pill boxes and vehicles on road from HEMING to BEBING.

3rd Platoon. Moved from 41.8-08.8 to HEMING.

C.P. Group. Moved from ST. GEORGE to HEMING. Contacted 114 Inf. Regtl. Relieved from 324 Regtl. for a couple of hours only. Back with them.

November 22, 1944 Moved about 1000 hrs to SARREBOURG, with maintenance and cook crews. Went to outskirts of town and bivouaced in GERMAN army garrison. We were the first Americans into this garrison and had a field day picking up souvenir garrison caps, etc. I got a good warm quilted jacket, and a supply of good canned food. The destroyers are up a long way past here. We will probably move again tomorrow or being Thanksgiving, we may wait until Friday.

1st Platoon. 0720 hrs. road march from HEMING to HANGWILLER. At 1630, put in road block at SCHOENBOURG, the regimental objective for the day.

2nd Platoon. 0720 road march from HEMING to HANGWILLER. 1700 hrs, 2 guns were then put in road block at 65.6-24.5. Two remaining guns stayed in HANGWILLER.

3rd Platoon. 0720 road march from HEMING to HANGWILLER. Bivouaced in HANGWILLER.

C.P. Group. Moved from HEMING to HANGWILLER.

November 23, 1944 Got a letter from home last night Brother J, is a P.W. Today is Thanksgiving and now I have something to be thankful for. Went downtown in SARREBOURG, this afternoon. Rained all day. Veale's destroyer got a direct hit and knocked it out this morning. Destroyer did not burn and no one was hurt. We are really pushing and have knocked out lots of equipment and taken prisoners. We got a Jerry truck and two passenger cars in running order. Will paint them tomorrow, so we can keep them for a while, until the high brass take them

away from us.

1st Platoon. Lt. Holmes moved with combat troops from 65.7-25.1, to put in road block.

2nd Platoon. Lt. Ira moved from road block 65.7-24.6 with 324 Inf. down the pass to DOSSENHEIM. The first mission was to move to ESCHBOURG with 3rd Bn. When it was learned that he was not needed there, he was assigned to 1st Bn. to continue up the road. One destroyer, B-433 was hit by an A.T. gun and disabled. Targets then began to appear, and when the pass was opened we knocked out 6 A.T. guns; 4 105mm HOW and 4 75mm HOW, all horse drawn and a battery of mortars. 13 prisoners were captured. (Besides what the infantry took). 120 more horses were loose, near the guns we knocked out. Approx. 12 automobiles and trucks were also captured. Expended 10 rds A.P.G., and 33 rds H.E.

The sights on the 90mm guns were fogged up with moisture and could not be used. The gunner looked over the top of the turret and traversed and elevated the gun until he thought he was on the target and then fired. Very good results were obtained.

The guns, then moved through DOSSENHEIM to HATTMATT to put in road blocks for the night. One vehicle was lost. Received credit from 44 Div. for 1 Mark-V tank burned by the enemy, when we were coming through the pass 72.2-22.4.

3rd Platoon. Followed our leading 2nd Platoon into DOSSENHEIM, and then to HATTMATT to block roads.

G.P. Group. Moved from HANGWILLER to GRAUFTHAL and later to DOSSENHEIM.

November 24, 1944 Jerry counter attacked and it was reported that we were cut off, but now the situation has cleared. Lt. Wiesweaver and his driver from Recon were killed by a mine today. C-CO had several men taken prisoner.

1st Platoon. Stayed in NEUWILLER as roadblock and protecting left flank of 324 Infantry.

2nd Platoon. 0600. Moved from HATTMATT to HANGWILLER, METTING, and to SIEWILLER to help A & C-CO, in stopping armored counter attack. 1700 hrs came back and went to NEUWILLER to protect left flank.

3rd Platoon. 0600. Same as 2nd Platoon. 1700 hrs moved to DOSSENHEIM as regmtl. mobile reserve.

November 25, 1944 Mediums came over a little before dusk, when the weather had cleared and gave the Jerry's hell. The fighters followed and gave them the works. We are alerted to move. There is a large bunch of Jerries surrounded between here and the RHINE, but they don't care to give up. They have been counter attacking in an attempt to break out. They really threw a bunch of shells at us until midnight.

1st Platoon. 1630 hrs moved from NEUWILLER to GRIESBACH to put in road block. 1630 hrs, moved to REDDING with 1st Platoon.

3rd Platoon. 324 mobile Regmtl. Reserve bivouaced

## DOSSENHEIM.

C.P. Group. No change. No ammo expended. 11 vehicles o.k.

November 26, 1944 Went to Mass in SARREBOURG. The announcements were made first in FRENCH, then in GERMAN. You can sure tell we are close to GERMANY, by the appearance of the people. Most of the people on the street speak German and most of the shop signs are German.

The church was undamaged and had beautiful stained glass windows. Seems strange to go to church carrying my Tommy-gun, but that is our rules, as this town is not completely in our hands. Snipers are still being picked up and there are a bunch of them near here that still have fight left in them.

1st Platoon. 1000 hrs moved from vicinity LEXHEIN back to NEUWILLER.

2nd Platoon. 1000 hrs moved from vicinity LEXHEIN to GRIESBACH.

3rd Platoon. Remained in DOSSENHEIM. Regmt'l mobile reserve.

C.P. Group. Moved into DOSSENHEIM.

November 27, 1944 A stray cow came in today and we will have fresh milk for a while.

1st Platoon. Moved from NEUWILLER to OBERMODERR at 1500 hrs. Joined B-Troop 106 Cav. and put in road block.

2nd Platoon. Moved from GRIESBACH to WEINBURG at 1630 hrs. Platoon was loaned to 645 T.D. Bn. by 106 Cav. Gr. to protect and to support 157 Infantry.

3rd Platoon. Moved to SCHALKENDORF at 1500 hrs. Joined C-Tr, 106 Cav., and put in road blocks.

C.P. Group. Contacted 106 Cav. Gr. and 106 Cav. S was relieved from 324 Infantry. 1700 hrs moved from DOSSENHEIM to KIRRWILLER.

November 28, 1944 Got another big Jerry truck today. Traded our little one to recon for a big horse transport.

1st Platoon. 0930 hrs relieved from B-Tr, 106 Cav. at OBERMODERR and returned to CO at KIRRWILLER. 1200 hrs moved from KIRRWILLER to SCHELBACH. 1900 hrs moved from SCHELBACH to WEYER. Reserve for 71st Regtl and will be in support of A-CO, if needed.

2nd Platoon. No report.

3rd Platoon. 0930 hrs relieved from C-tr, 106 Cav. at SCHALKENDORF and returned to CO at KIRRWILLER. 1200 hrs moved to SCHELBACH. 1600 hrs. Moved to WEYER. Reserve for 71st Regtl and will be used in support of A-CO, if needed.

C.P. Group. Moved at 1200 hrs from KIRRWILLER to SCHELBACH. No ammo expended. 10 vehicles o.k.

November 29, 1944 Simpson and Bill killed a cow today and we have fresh meat for supper.

1st Platoon. Bivouaced in WEYER.

2nd Platoon. 2000 hrs., Nov. 28, moved from 80.5-31.6 to DOSSENHEIM. Relieved from 106 Ca. While with 106 Cav., expended 10 rds H.E on suspected A.T. gun on

order from Col. Davis. 106 Cav. vicinity 79.2-33.0. Range 1500 to 2000 yards. 0800 hrs moved from DOSSENHEIM to DRULINGEN.

3rd Platoon. Bivouaced in WEYER.

C.P. Group. Capt Anderson had 2nd Platoon relieved from 106 Cav. Contact and liaison was established with 71 Regtl and with Lt. Cole A-CO.

November 30, 1944 Moved up this morning about 15 miles. Got a room in a house with a young woman and a couple of kids. Everyone here speaks German, but they are fairly good to us. Maybe they figure they have to be. This young woman's husband is in the German Army.

1st Platoon. Bivouaced in WEYER.

2nd Platoon. Bivouaced in DRULINGEN.

3rd Platoon. Bivouaced in WEYER.

C.P. Group. Moved from SCHELBACH to DRULINGEN at 0930 hrs. No ammo expended. 10 vehicles and men o.k.

December 1, 1944 Went to Mass at 0730, just across the street from where I stay. We were paid this afternoon.

1st Platoon. Moved from WEYER to BETTWILLER 1300 hrs.

2nd Platoon. Bivouaced in DRULINGEN.

3rd Platoon. Moved from WEYER to GUNGWILLER.

C.P. Group. Contacted 324 and plans were discussed for coming operation.

December 2, 1944 Still in same town, MITTLEBRON. Cold and gloomy today.

1st Platoon. 0600 hrs moved from GUNGWILLER to DURSTEL. 1300 hrs moved out with tanks and 324 Infantry to attack WALDHAMBACH. Expended 7 rds H.E., at suspected A.T. gun or tank and a group of Germans in the vicinity of it. Range 2200 yards.

2nd Platoon. 0600 hrs moved from DRULINGEN to ASSWILLER.

3rd Platoon. 0630 hrs moved from BETTWILLER to DURSTEL.

C.P. Group. Moved from DRULINGEN to South of Durstel.

December 3, 1944 Went to Mass just across the road. This afternoon went down to a beer garden about a mile away. The place is run by a German as is every place here. They even use Germany currency and don't care much to accept francs, but they do reluctantly. George Newkirk came back from the front for a little rest. A lot of our men are reaching the point of breaking.

1st Platoon. 1000 hrs moved into WALDHAMBACH and covered West end of the town. Moved during the night to DIEMERINGEN, after the engineers fixed the blown bridges.

2nd Platoon. 1200 hrs moved into WALDHAMBACH. Expended 8 rds on probable infantry enemy O.P., and what looked like a pillbox vicinity 00.8-37.9.

3rd Platoon. Moved from DURSTEL to high ground East of WALDHAMBACH. Expended 22 rds K.O. an enemy 88mm S.P. at 0800 Yards. Fired 2 rds at it and received 2 hits.



Fired 3 rds into suspected infantry in trees.

C.P. Group. No change.

December 4, 1944 Lt. Ira came in tonight, not feeling good. Strand's destroyer was knocked off a track and busted a bogey or two.

1st Platoon. Moved out of DIEMERINGEN with tanks, on road 60.05-38.5, and moved N.E. to 61.39. Tried to get within 800 yards of RATZWILLER. We drew all caliber of artillery fire and had to pull back. We could not observe where the fire came from. Later we moved out on road 60-38.3 going east. One of the tanks that we were with got knocked out and we again had all kinds of A.T. fire. One gun followed our last destroyer all the way back to town.

Expended 33 rds H.E., and 5 rds A.P.C. We believe we hit one tank. The rest of the firing was done at possible targets, German jeeps, wheeled vehicles, infantry and possible A.T. positions.

2nd Platoon. Bivouaced in WALDHAMBACH. No ammo expended.

3rd Platoon. Moved out of WALDHAMBACH at 0600 hrs. Moved to N.E. and one destroyer hit a mine, (teller) at 62.6-37.4. The road was supposed to have been swept and the mines marked. One mine was marked but the others overlooked. The rest of the platoon came back until the road was cleared. 0430 two guns moved up as far as 63-38.7, and the platoon sgt. went on foot to contact the people whom he was supposed to support. He was accompanied by a Lt. from the Infantry who was looking for the same outfit, so he could deliver the rations to them. They ran into a German outpost, exchanged shots and came back. Since there was no infantry around, the destroyers came back into town.

December 5, 1944 Lt. Ira and I went to 0730 Mass this morning.

1st Platoon. 0600 hrs. Lt. Holmes accompanied by tank officer went out on terrain reconnaissance to see how they could get to RATZWILLER. On the way back they captured 8 prisoners in a house at 62.3-38.7.

1230 hrs. Moved on road E. of DIEMERINGEN to RATZWILLER. 1600 hrs. Moved on to BUTTEN. Expended 12 rds H.E.

2nd Platoon. 0900 hrs. Moved with tanks from WALDHAMBACH to high ground vicinity of RATZWILLER.

3rd Platoon. 1600 hrs. Moved to RATZWILLER and later established a road block at 63.7-40.8.

December 6, 1944 Moved after dinner and stayed at DRULINGEN tonight.

1st Platoon. Dec. 5, 1700 hrs., expended 14 rds on estimated 50 Germans, and their vehicles in vicinity 63.8-42.9, range 2000 yards. One Mark III tank and a recovery vehicle were hit. A number of personnel were killed. Casualties unknown.

December 6, 0730 hrs moved with 325 Infantry and tanks from BUTTEN N.E., to vicinity 66.9-45.9. No ammo expended.

2nd Platoon. 1200 hrs. Moved from BUTTEN to 66.4-44.7.

3rd Platoon. 1200 hrs. Moved from BUTTEN to 66.8-45.6.

C.P. Group. 1000 hrs. Moved from WALDHAMBACH to BUTTEN.

December 7, 1944 Moved out to a wood about 3 miles from DRULINGEN.

1st Platoon. 0730 started to attack with infantry 2nd Bn, 324 at 66.9-46.9, to the north and went about 1000 yards and was held up by at least 4 A.T. guns. They were fired at us from all directions. B-311 expended 13 rds at M.G. nest, marked by infantry tracer fire. Destroyed one trailer that looked like a C.P. trailer and at pillbox. B-344 expended 8 rds at a A.T. gun range 2200 yds. The position got too hot so we had to pull back. B-333 got hit in the back by an enemy 105mm artillery.

2nd Platoon. No change.

3rd Platoon. 0730. Went up to support the 1st Platoon, but could not help so had to come back.

C.P. Group. No change.

December 8, 1944 Moved up this morning to within a mile of BUTTEN. Bivouaced in the woods.

1st Platoon. 3 guns came back for maintenance. 4th gun joined 2nd Platoon and made a full Platoon.

2nd Platoon. Vic. 66.9-45.9. Received enemy artillery fire many times during day. Recon of infantry positions to secure firing positions.

3rd Platoon. Vicinity 66.9-45.9, received enemy artillery fire many times during the day.

C.P. Group. No change. No ammo expended. 7 M-36 O.K.

December 9, 1944 We have only six destroyers left on line. DeCortes had a chunk knocked out of it. Bratland hit a mine and knocked a track off and others had motor trouble.

1st, 2nd, 3rd Platoons. No change. Enemy artillery ceased to shell. 2nd and 3rd Platoons and it seems they switched and are shelling 12th armored area. No ammo expended. 6 M-36s O.K.

December 10, 1944 Set up another tent because so many fellows are coming back ill. Eleven of us in one tent last night.

1st Platoon. Out for maintenance. Ready to go up Dec. 11.

2nd Platoon. No change. No ammo expended.

3rd Platoon. Moved to 66.9-46.8 to overwatch tanks advancing N.W. and later N.E. Later moved up to 67-49.9, where the tanks were stopped by a bomb crater. No ammo expended.

C.P. Group. No change.

December 11, 1944 Freelander was killed today. Lt. Bratland got out but was in hospital. This is third time he has been wounded and has had three tanks knocked out from under him; two by mines and one by artillery.



1st Platoon. 0800 hrs moved from HD maintenance (rear) to ROHRBACH. 1500 hrs moved to MAIERHOFF and at 1800 hrs moved to PETITE REDERCHING (Eastend of town). Enemy artillery fire was very heavy.

2nd Platoon. 0900 hrs moved to ROHRBACH and later moved to MAIERHOFF after dinner, when the road was not congested. After dark moved to PETITE REDERCHING. Enemy artillery was heavy all night & day.

3rd Platoon. 0900 hrs moved from woods 66.9-46.8 to ROHRBACH and later to MAIERHOFF. Platoon was in support of tanks and infantry. B-553 opened fire at range 900 yards at 2 Mark VI tanks that were firing at tanks. After we fired the first shot and missed he ceased to fire at the tanks and started to fire at us. The first shot missed and we threw 2 more A.P.C at him and they bounced off, and his second shot hit us and the tank exploded. Lt. Bratland, T/5 Metzдорff and Private Berg and Corp Freelander jumped out. The enemy then threw an H.E. shell and it hit between Freelander and Berg and then the tank poured M.G. fire on the 4 men, Lt. Bratland and Metzдорff were able to get away. Pvt. Berg was picked up by aid men, but the tank was on fire and exploding and the M.G. was still spraying the area so they could not get to Freelander. Tank hit coordinates 68.95-50.35.

December 12, 1944 Bob Bartley got his field commission today. Nice clear day and our planes are out in force. Bob Elijah is missing. He went into a building and the building was hit by artillery. After the smoke cleared away they looked for him and couldn't find him anywhere. Freelander was killed by machine gun fire. Metzдорff got a slug of machine gun fire. Berg they think was pretty seriously hurt. Bratland was scratched and is back.

1st Platoon. In support of the 324 Infantry, and at 0755 was to move to high ground 699-514. The engineers swept the wrong road and when the right road was swept it was daylight and any attempt to move tanks or T.D.s brought high velocity flat trajectory fire from three pillboxes located N.E. of PETITE REDERCHING. The Col. of 324 Inf. called Capt. Anderson and wanted him to give the platoon a direct order to move. The Capt. called the Platoon and found out what was holding them up. Col. Moorhead arrived, and they talked it over with Col. Anderson, 324 Inf. Col. Allen, called to find out what was holding us up. Col. Jacoby, T.D. Gr. called to find out the situation.

1545 hrs Platoon started to move to farmhouse 70.8-52.8. No later information available. Expended 13 H.E. and 14 A.P.C., at pillboxes and other targets.

2nd Platoon. In support of 2nd Bn, 324 Inf., and were to move at 0800 hrs to high ground at 69.2-52.2. The route of approach was out in the open and the situation was the same as with the 1st Platoon. The same

guns from the north had good observation and it was not wise to move out any tanks or T.D.s. The enemy was not firing at infantry or at patrols.

3rd Platoon. One gun came back for maintenance. One gun joined the 1st Platoon. Sgt. Elijah, KIA in MAIERHOFF. Artillery shell hit building, and killed S/Sgt. Anderson, C-CO. Platoon Sgt. Elijah was missing and could not be found by Vosburg and crew after search of the area.

C.P. Group. Big day. Visits from Col. Moorhead; Col. Allen, Corp G3; Col Jacoby 5T; T.D. Group Major -----, 44 Div. Engr., Capt. Wier; and Lt. Hovey.

December 13, 1944 1st Platoon 1600 hrs Dec. 12, moved from PETITE REDERCHING to farm house at 70.8-52.8.

0800. Dec. 13, Platoon in support of 1st Bn, 324 Inf. to clean out all the enemy resistance west of SCHWALE RIVER, and then to support 3rd Bn, as they established bridge head across. One destroyer was placed in position vicinity of 71.2-52.8 to cover crossing. The destroyer was accompanied by 2 tanks.

Lt. Holmes reported 5 enemy tanks at 69.5-54.4, but could not bring fire on them. The other two destroyers were in position at 70.6-52.5. They had to move out of farm yard because of constant enemy fire.

2nd Platoon. 1600 hrs. Dec. 12, moved from PETITE REDERCHING to 69.0-51.6. 0800 hrs platoon in support of 2nd Bn, 324 Inf., to take high ground hill 355.2, 69.1-53.1. One CO 324 took the hill without opposition and then the armor was moved east to vicinity farmhouse at 70.8-52.8 to be in position to move north at high ground 70.8-55.2.

3rd Platoon. One gun attached to 1st Platoon. 2nd gun was attached to 2nd Platoon, but gun got stuck in vicinity of 69.0-51.1.

C.P. Group. Moved from ROHRBACH to PETITE REDERCHING.

C-CO 3rd Platoon in vicinity of PETITE REDERCHING to move across river when 3rd Bn, 324, establishes bridges.

December 14, 1944 1st Platoon still in support of 1st Bn, 324 Inf., was not attacked today. One destroyer in position 71.2-52.9. This area received 72 rds 88mm artillery and 48 rds 81mm mortar. The bridge that was put in was no good as it had poor support in middle and would not hold tanks and T.Ds. Nothing has been said about fixing it.

Two guns are in position at 70.3-52.9 to secure positions to cover to N. and E. Area received heavy enemy fire. One gun that was out for maintenance is back in PETITE-REDERCHING.

3rd Platoon. One gun attached to 1st Platoon. One gun in PETITE-REDERCHING.

C-CO 3rd Platoon in reserve at PETITE-REDERCHING.

C.P. Group. Received warning from 324 Inf. C.P. at 0945 of a tank attack on BETTWILLER. Our guns were alerted. 3rd Platoon, C-CO was alerted to move to high

ground 69.2-52.2 Capt. Wier, C-CO brought another Platoon to town and one platoon to MEIERHOFF. O.P. was established by Recon Lt. Vergano on 69.2-53.1. Lt. Galvan, Recon, established liaison with 12th Armored Div. at BETTWILLER. Lt. Galvan received some information from a Sgt. in the 92 Recon, that he heard enemy tank movement in vicinity of RIMLING, but could see nothing. We received another warning which turned out to be wrong.

3 enemy tanks were reported at 1440 hrs to be at 72.8-54.5. We could not observe them.

December 15, 1944 1st Platoon. No change.

2nd Platoon. Close contact is maintained with 2nd Bn, 324 Inf.

3rd Platoon. No change.

C.P. Group. Contact was made with Col. Anderson, 324 Inf., and the 324th was not attacking. We had Lt. Galvan, Recon., set up an O.P. in a house on N.E. end of PETITE-REDERCHING and they picked up flashes of guns firing at the end of town, and we reported it. Artillery was notified and fire was brought on it. 324 reported enemy tanks and infantry in eastend HOTTWILLER. Our guns were notified. At 1509 hrs we received report of 3 enemy tanks at 72.2-54.8, and one tank at 72.8-54.5, and we gave this to the guns.

Capt. Anderson went on reconnaissance with Capt. Wadle to see if positions could be found so we could bring direct fire on fort at 73.1-52.3.

December 16, 1944 Moved up past ENCHENBERG. Bob Elijah has been found through G.R.O. All they know is that he has been buried.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Lt. Galvan at 0700 hrs to help set up an O.P. in farmhouse at 71.2-51.8.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Communications was established between guns, 2nd Platoon and O.P.

3rd Platoon. Two guns to move tonight at dark to hill 355.2 at 69.3-53.0 to cover to N.E.

C.P. Group. Capt. Anderson made reconnaissance for position on hill 355.2. O.P. was set up by Lt. Galvan, recon CO at 71.2-51.8.

Received word from Chaplain that he searched all hospitals and finally checked graves registration officer and they had Sgt. Elijah buried on Dec. 14, 1944, KIA, in MAIERHOFF, LORRAINE, FRANCE.

December 17, 1944 1st Platoon. No change in position. Gun crew at B-344, in position at 71.5-52.9 is to be relieved by a crew and Lt. Wilson, C-CO, tonight. Destroyer is to remain in place. Area quiet of artillery fire.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Lt. Galvan, Recon., set up O.P. on high ground in front of gun positions. Guns to be relieved by C-CO tomorrow morning before daybreak. Area quiet of enemy fire.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. Guns to be relieved by C-CO before daylight tomorrow.

C.P. Group. No change. Arrangements made with C-CO to occupy our C.P. and we move into theirs tomorrow

morning. The front has been very quiet. Only once, report of tanks, 73.5-55.7. Our O.P. could not pick them up. PETITE-REDERCHING has been quiet. Last shelling approx. 1600 hrs on Dec. 16.

December 18, 1944 Went up and had supper with Tom Dautremont. Our C.O. moved back in the morning to regimental reserve, and rest moved into former C-CO C.P. area.

December 19, 1944 Our company moved back for a few days to work on destroyers. I will work as radio operator as long as we are here.

Two guns still in direct support of 2n Bn, 398 Inf., 100 Division reported there this morning. Remainder of company doing maintenance work.

December 20, 1944 Doc Petersen and Frenchie got back from hospital today. I went to Confession, Mass and Communion, in an old barn near here. I thought I recognized the chaplain, and found it was Father Britt, who used to be stationed at Hannibal and Shelbina, MO. We had a fine talk and he told me Charlie Hamilton and Bob Hays are both near here.

1st Platoon. In company bivouaced. Lt. Holmes made recon around BETTWILLER for positions in case of counterattack from N & N.E.

2nd Platoon. Moved to PETITE-REDERCHING 1400 hrs to move into firing positions N. & N.W. of town in case of counterattack.

C.P. Group. No change. Remainder of CO doing maintenance work.

December 21, 1944 1st Platoon moved with 3rd Serial, 324 C.T., 1st Bn to vicinity of HABKIRCHEN, GERMANY 56.4-59.5, arriving in position just before dark.

2nd Platoon. Moved with 2nd Serial, 324 C.T., 2nd Bn, to position 59.5-60.5, north of REINHEIN, GERMANY.

3rd Platoon. Moved with 1st Serial 324 C.T., 3rd Bn., to vicinity 56.1-59.9, N. of HABKIRCHEN.

C.P. Group. Moved from farm to BLIES EBERSING. All guns were in position by dark and C.O. of 324 Inf. was well satisfied.

Route of march for guns was from MAIERHOGG through ROHRBACH, GROS, REDERCHING, FOLPERSVULLER, FRAUENBERG, across RIVER LE BLIES to HABKIRCHEN and REINHEIM.

December 22, 1944 Moved up about five miles from SARREGUIMINES. 44th Div., whom we are with is all over in the 3rd Army now, while the 3rd has been moved over to help against the offensive that has been thrown against the 1st Army. (Battle of the Bulge)

1st Platoon. Platoon leader made reconnaissance for positions and routes of approach to the N. & N.E. Platoon is in such a position that it can easily be shifted wherever it may seem necessary.

2nd Platoon. Platoon leader made reconnaissance for better positions and routes of approach. One section of platoon to be moved to 58.6-61.1 to cover ground to N. & N.W. One section to remain at 59.5-60.5 to cover



N., N.E. & E.

3rd Platoon. Platoon moved early this morning to 56.5-60.6 to cover ground to W & N.W. and N.E. Ground reconnaissance was made by platoon leader.

C.P. Group. Captain Anderson contacted 324 Inf., and the separate Battalion about future operations. Later made reconnaissance with the platoon leaders for better positions.

December 23, 1944 Clear day today. Aircraft is able to help now against the new offensive of the Jerries.

No company report. Recon was made for positions which we did not use. Withdrew across river tonight after main body of troops crossed.

December 24, 1944 Bradford and I came up with our track to CO C.P. at SARRENNMINES about four miles from Germany. We are supposed to go into indirect positions with four guns. We stayed in a house in Sarrenmines overnight. Had a drink of Schenelys, the extent of my Christmas cheer.

1st Platoon. Received orders to withdraw across LE BLIES RIVER, after main body of 324 Inf. was across. The Inf. started to cross at 1800 hrs and the guns moved across and into assembly area at 2030 hrs.

Today Recon was made by Platoon leaders to find good A.T. positions. Two guns were used to go into artillery positions.

2nd Platoon. Received order to withdraw across the LE BLIES RIVER, after the main body of 324 Inf. Guns came across river and into assembly position 0200 hrs. Dec. 24, Recon was made for positions today. Two guns were used today to go into artillery positions.

3rd Platoon. Received orders to withdraw across the LE BLIES RIVER, after main body had crossed river at 0415 hrs. Dec. 24, Recon was made for positions today, 10 rds A.P.C. were expended on enemy tanks that were in vicinity of 56.5-60.8. Range 5000 yds. Results could not be observed.

C.P. Group. Moved to SORTEINSMING Dec. 23.

December 25, 1944 Moved at daybreak to a point 2,000 yds from German border. Set guns in and strung wire. We set up a tent back in the brush behind the destroyers. Had a little cold turkey for dinner. Was cold this morning. Had to thaw ice to get water for coffee.

December 26, 1944 Fired off and on all night. We are limited to fifty rounds a day for four guns. Found two dead Germans about 15 or 20 yds from our tent. One was from INGWILLER a French town, we freed a few weeks ago. Who in the hell are we fighting. Vern Anderson was wounded today by mortar fire. Got him in the upper leg. Not too serious.

1st Platoon. One gun at 55.1-58.9 in cover position ready to move to position on hill side to fire on any target that appears. Covers ground to N.E. and E. One gun at 56.0-58.3 in cover position and covers ground to N. Lt. Holmes also has an O.P. in this vicinity. Two

guns with Lt. Bartley in artillery position.

2nd Platoon. Two guns in artillery position.

Guns in artillery position fired 11 rds H.E. to register between 2004 and 0715 hrs on the 25 & 26 of Dec. Fired 48 rds harassing fire at irregular intervals. All targets were towns. ERFWEILER, ORMESHEIM, WITTERSHEIM, and OMMERSHEIM. Each gun on separate target. Fired volleys total 12 rds per gun. One gun in position 58.9-56.6

Recon CO has O.P. at 58.4-57.0.

3rd Platoon. Two guns in position at 57.0-58.8. Fired 14 rds H.E. on Dec. 25, at enemy infantry on north side of river. Results could not be seen. One gun in position at 58.8-56.6

C.P. Group. Capt. Anderson made recon with Col. to see if a gun could be dug in N of FOLPERSWEILER to cover N. & N.E.

December 27, 1944 Spent all day digging a dug-out. This sleeping in a tent is too dangerous, we figure. Last night mortars fired all night.

1st Platoon. No change in position. O.P. is being maintained, but no good targets could be seen. Recon is being made to find a good position to cover more of the enemy held ground. T-5, Vernon Anderson was injured yesterday by mortar fragments from FOLPERSWEILER.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Expended 24 rds between hrs of 2109 & 2345. 6 rds per gun on same target, the town of RUBENHEIM.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. Expended 22 rds H.E. on enemy infantry at 56.6-60.5 and 55.8-60.6. Results unknown.

C.P. Group. Recon is being made to find better positions for the guns so they can cover more of the enemy held ground. Capt. went out this morning on recon with CO of 324 Inf.

December 28, 1944 Got typhus and typhoid shots today. Finished digging out dug-out and moved in. Fired harassing fire all night.

1st Platoon. No change in position. A position is being dug tonight at 55.3-58.3 by recon pioneers for one of the guns so it can cover HABKIRCHEN and road that runs N.E. down to the draw.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Expended 26 rds on Dec. 27, during daylight. Expended 26 rds on Dec. 27 & 28 during the night.

3rd Platoon. No change in position.

C.P. Group. Arrangements are being made and coordinated for the digging-in of the 1st Platoon gun.

December 29, 1944 Sick with fever from shots. Stayed in bed all morning. Caught a couple of chickens and had fried chicken for supper.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Emplacement for one destroyer was constructed by recon, last night, but it was not occupied because it was full of water this morning.

2nd Platoon. Dec. 28, expended 51 rds road running S. of WITTERSHEIM 1940-0500 hrs. Three guns of this platoon have new chevron tracks installed. Dec. 27, expended 50 rds H.E. between hrs 1005 & 2355. Target was BEBELSHEIM, WITTERSHEIM, ORMESHEIM, ERFWEILER.

3rd Platoon. No change in position.

C.P. Group. O.P. being maintained by recon in our sector.

Recon of routes in A & C CO area was made this morning.

December 30, 1944 Fired again all night. Expecting a counterattack in this area. Jerry is massing armor and men across the river. A few nights ago two krauts in American uniforms were captured near here. They are pulling the same tactics they used against the 1st Army. I hope we can hold. Destroyer crews butchered a calf today and I got a whole side of ribs. Will have fresh meat for New Years. Bob and Sackman with one of the guns went up about a mile and blasted the hell out of a house across the river in Germany.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Dug-in positions not occupied because water seeps into the dug-out.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Expended 50 rds harassing fire night of Dec. 29 & 30. Lt. Bartley made recon of routes in A & C areas. B-444 fired 20 rds H.E., 4 of them with T-105 fuse, and 7 rds A.P.C. at an enemy occupied house vicinity 55.6-60.5. The fire was called for by an O.P. who saw movement around the house.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. Lt. Ira made recon of routes in C-CO area.

C.P. Group. Two O.P.s are being maintained by recon CO C.O.. Made recon CO A & C CO areas. 6 M-36s are now equipped with new chevron tracks.

December 31, 1944 Jerry started a big counterattack tonight at 2130.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Lt. Holmes made recon of A & C CO area and roads.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Expended 87 rds on Dec. 30-31 on cross roads, etc. Expended 24 rds on Dec. 31, 1000-1600 hrs.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. Platoon leader and platoon Sgt. made recon of roads and area in A & C CO areas.

C.P. Group. No change.

January 1, 1945 Jerry raising hell over to our right in the 71st Div. Sector. Up at 5 to fix broken wires. Our destroyers went up to help repulse the counterattack. We brought the half-track back to rear.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Enemy attempted a crossing in vicinity of HABKIRCHEN at 2100 hrs. A few infantrymen got across and three P.W.s were captured. Enemy mortar fire was falling thick and fast in FOLPSVILLER last night. Today it has been fairly quiet in this sector. 50 enemy infantry were observed by O.P. moving E. from HABKIRCHEN and mortar fire was brought

on them.

2nd Platoon. Fired at artillery until 0030 expended 50 rds H.E. Guns moved to 58.6-55.5 to be in position to move to A-CO sector, when they would be needed as it looks as if the enemy tanks would be coming through the right flank of the Division. Guns are still in the same position and are now responsible for the terrain to N., N.E., & E.

3rd Platoon. One gun moved from railroad bed to vicinity 56.9-58.0 because the mortar fire was too intense and close. The enemy attempted to cross river E. of BLIES-EBERSING in early hours of the mornign but the crossing was broken up by the artillery and S.A. fire.

C.P. Group. Capt. stayed the better part of the night at Regtl. HQ. 324, keeping in touch with the developments of the attack. Many tanks were reported during the night and this forenoon in the areas to the N & N.E. of our positions. We have not been able to see any of them from our positions. The situation at the present seems to be quiet. Woods in Grid SQ 60-55 are being cleaned up by 34th Bn Infantry after the Germans infiltrated into it last night. The line in this sector has been pretty well restored to the former position. Enemy mortar fire was very intense, in the sector where recon has its O.P., 58.2-56.8 in the day time.

January 2, 1945 Got attack stopped without to much loss.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Expended 12 rds H.E. at a gun flash in HABKIRCHEN that was supporting the infantry that was crossing the river, and assembling in the cemetery S. of FRAUENBERG. Results could not be seen, but the gun ceased to fire. The firing was done at about 0100 hrs. FOLPERSWEILLER was under heavy mortar fire and medium and heavy artillery fire during the night.

2nd Platoon. No change in position at 58.6-55.5 covering to the East.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. Area received some mortar fire when the motor was started and the destroyer was moved.

C.P. Group. Recon was made of the right sector for better positions and to see some of the tanks that are being reported to us.

January 3, 1945 Cold. More snow last night. Boys are still in tight spot. Jerry still attacking.

1st Platoon. Two guns in vicinity of FOLPERSWILLER relieved by two guns of 614 T.D. Our two guns came back to our C.P. and later moved to WEISVILLER to be in reserve.

2nd Platoon. No change in location.

3rd Platoon. Expended 26 rds H.E., and 4 A.P.C. at enemy infantry digging in vicinity of the railroad overpass at 59.1-56.1. Expended 10 rds h.e. & 4 A.P.C. at church steeple in BLIESBROCK. The steeple was reported to have had an enemy M.G. firing from it at our infantry. Four hits were observed and there were big holes in it



but it was not torn down completely.

C.P. Group. No change.

January 4, 1945 Jerry threw a few fast rounds back in this area last night. Snow again and situation is still tense.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Platoon received a heavy shelling from German artillery yesterday at 1700 hrs.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. Lt. Ira made recon of the area N. edge of woods.

Grid SQ 58-56 to find positions to cover road going west from BLIESBROCK. A small attack started west of BLIESBROCK about 1600 hrs yesterday, but was quickly broken up and nothing came of it.

C.P. Group. No change. Has been quiet. Yesterday the Regmtl expected an attack from the woods at Grid SQ 59-55 because the enemy put smoke on the SW edge of the woods but nothing came of it.

January 5, 1945 Went up to guard destroyers tonight. Only a few hundred yards from the river, the border of Germany. Lots of mortar and artillery fire but not much small arms. Almost froze, it was so cold. Almost zero.

January 6, 1945 Slept a little and am almost sick from last night. Jerry suffered heavy losses from his attack and is using 4-Fs of all descriptions. Old men and young kids. He has one battalion known as the stomach trouble battalion, from which we have taken prisoners. His manpower must be low, yet they fight on and even start an offensive. I don't see how they do it. Yesterday, two SS troops brought back across the line two of our fliers who had parachuted from the fortress which was knocked down. They brought them back and surrendered themselves. No compre why they did. They are supposed to be Hitlers crack troops.

The situation here is clearing up and though we lost a little ground it isn't too bad.

1st Platoon. In AACHEN, put in road blocks. The town was very quiet. No enemy artillery came into town during the night. Platoon moved to the indirect positions that we used in the vicinity of the farm 57-56, tonight to be in position to move to whatever spot we need more guns.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Area shelled quite heavily this afternoon.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. One gun moves up to RR in the morning to cover the ground, W. out of BLIESBRUCK, also, ground S. out of BLIESBRUCK. One friendly tank was hit by artillery at 56.8-56.0. A direct hit killed 3. This area was shelled quite heavily this afternoon.

C.P. Group. Capt. made recon with Lt. Ira and went as far 58.4-57.5 then NW about 1000 yds. The 114 Inf. had quite a time in the woods and our latest news is that they are back in the road where they started this morning. Captain could not see any of the reported tank or enemy

infantry that was reported to be in that vicinity of 50.3-56.2.

January 7, 1945 1st Platoon. The platoon is in assembly position 56.7-55.6 near the big farm. Lt. Holmes contacted C.O., 1st BN, 324 Inf. and would be in their support if they were to be committed. The platoon is to relieve the 2nd Platoon tonight.

2nd Platoon. Lt. Bartley reported that the star shell did illuminate the area well but the haze and fog made it impossible to see very far. One gun in firing position 58.9-56.6 tonight. The 1st Platoon will take its place.

3rd Platoon. Two guns moved after dark last night into positions to cover the road leading W. from BLIESBRUCK. One gun at 57.25-58.1 is mobile to move down the RR track to two other firing positions. If it was necessary. One gun at 57.9-57.75 also covering the same approach. One gun at 57.05-58.1 covering the ground on the other side of the river.

C.P. Group. No change. No ammo expended. 11 M-36 o.k.

January 8, 1945 Lots more snow and more coming. Destroyers still at front and in hot spot. Huff came back from hospital tonight. Still has stomach trouble. They did him no good. Four of our guns went into indirect positions again.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Visibility very poor today. Area was shelled yesterday about 1600 hrs.

2nd Platoon. The platoon is in artillery position and is ready to fire tonight.

3rd Platoon. No change in position. Visibility very poor today.

C.P. Group. We just received orders to be prepared to move to 100 Div. Sector.

January 9, 1945 Most of our guns moved over toward ROHRBACH where Jerry has a bunch of our infantry trapped. We got a new replacement today.

1st Platoon. Moved from 324 Sector to direct support 1st Bn, 398th Inf. Platoon moved this morning to GUIRING and later one section moved to BETTVILLE. Expended 13 rds at three S.P. guns at 65.3-54.9. The guns scattered and took off behind the high grounds. No exact results can be reported. The platoon was to move to high ground at 64.6-54.6 when the infantry took it and then cover the 2nd Platoon move to RIMLING.

2nd Platoon. Moved from 324 Inf. Sector to ROHRBACH in support of 398 Inf. Platoon moved one section to BETTVILLE and one section to GUIRING. Platoon was to move to RIMLING, when a route was found and after the 1st Platoon had positions in vicinity of 64.6-54.6. So far, the plans have not materialized and the platoons are in their same positions. 1st Platoon A-CO. One gun in RIMLING in support of Inf. koed one enemy tank and

Kod 1st Jagtzeig  
 & Hermann named M4!

damaged another. Also, fired at enemy infantry. One gun stuck in creek. We tried to get it out between 0400-0700 hrs, this morning but one T-2 could not pull it out.

Two guns in position N. of GUIRING. One gun was to move to RIMLING early this morning and a guide was to be furnished but the guide could not be found this morning, and so the destroyer came back.

C.P. Group. Moved to ROHRBACH. Contact was made with 397 Inf., 3rd Platoon still in 324 Sector.

January 10, 1945 1st Platoon. In position in vicinity of GUIRING. Expended 29 rds H.E. & 7 A.P.C. at enemy tanks and S.P. guns. Results could not be observed. Lt. Holmes took one gun into RIMLING last night after dark, and was going to tow back A-CO's destroyer. He could not contact the platoon leader and he could not locate the destroyer, after making a recon of the town. Our artillery started to shell the town and the infantry was all gone, so he came out.

2nd Platoon. In position vicinity of BETTVILLER. Expended 2 rds H.E. and 10 A.P.C. at enemy tanks and S.P. Hit one Mark-V at range 3000 yds. The crew was seen leaving it. 64.5-55.7.

3rd Platoon. Returned to company control from 324 Sector. Platoon is now in ROHRBACH. One gun stayed in 324 Sector and will be relieved tonight and then join us at ROHRBACH.

C.P. Group. No change in location. Lt. Kujawski with two T-2 B&C CO.s went down last night to retrieve the destroyer of A-CO, that was stuck in the creek. The infantry was withdrawing when we arrived at 1845 hrs. The two retrievers were hooked onto the tank and the tank was also running. Every effort was made to bring it out. Later, Lt. Holmes tried and still it could not be brought out. By this time, all the friendly infantry had withdrawn and friendly artillery was shelling the town of RIMLING. Friendly tanks were parked on the road and were going to shell the town. We asked them to hold up the fire until we could try again. They stayed about 20 minutes and then pulled back to town of BETTVILLER without firing. After every effort was made to pull it out we decided it was impossible to pull it out tonight. We pulled out the two retrievers and destroyer. Lt. Holmes destroyer fired 3 rds and destroyed the one that was stuck.

January 12, 1945 I came up to ROHRBACH to work as CO C.P. radio operator.

1st Platoon. Improving positions and finding better fields of fire in vicinity of BETTVILLER. Town of BETTVILLER received some mortar fire today.

3rd Platoon. One gun returned from 324 Sector this morning. All three guns now in ROHRBACH in reserve.

C.P. Group. We are trying to contact the C.O. 398 when he takes over the Sector from 397 Inf.

On Jan. 12, on radio again. A bunch of German para-troops dropped in vicinity about 1900. Our heavy bombers

were over today.

1st Platoon. No change in position. Lt. Ira made recon with the Bn CO 398 Inf. of his gun positions around GUIRING, and he seemed well pleased with the positions. Visibility poor this morning. Slightly better in afternoon.

2nd Platoon. No change in position. Lt. Bartley continued recon for better positions and fields of fire. Visibility poor this morning. Slightly better in afternoon. BETTVILLER received some mortar fire yesterday.

3rd Platoon. Moved two guns to farm at 63.9-52.4 at 1700 hrs yesterday to replace gun that C-CO had there. One light tank of recon CO was also sent there as security because it was not known definitely what the infantry situation was like for the night.

C.P. Group. Capt. Anderson made contact with C.O. and S-3 of 398th Infantry.

January 13, 1945 1st Platoon. No change in position. Platoon leader made recon for better fields of fire. The enemy fired approx 8 rds of screaming meemie mortar into GUIRING. Damaged recon light tank that was being used by liaison Sgt.

2nd Platoon. No change in positions. Platoon leader made recon for better fields of fire. Screaming meemie also fired a few rounds into BETTVILLER.

3rd Platoon. No change in position.

C.P. Group. Lt. Stoltz reported the following information.

50-75 men coming from GUDERKIRCH toward RIMLING or to the woods E. of RIMLING this morning. They were fired on by artillery.

The O.P. fired on and Koed flackwagon at 66.7-56.5.

The O.P. saw a large van disappear into woods E. of RIMLING.

The O.P. fired on 3 vehicles at 68.3-56.2. One probably stopped.

The O.P. fired on vehicle at 65.5-54.5 and Koed.

The screaming meemie was spotted at 66.4-56.6 and fired on and nothing more has been heard from him.

January 14, 1945 Up on radio at 0200. Went to Mass across the street this A.M.

11 guns operational. CO C.P. at ROHRBACH. Guns of 1st Platoon at 65.6-53.3 and 65.3-52.4. Received a few rounds of air burst over their positions. BETTVILLER received a few rounds artillery during the night. One gun is to be used for harassing fire between 1600-1700 hrs today to fire into RIMLING. Gun at 68.8-51.9.

January 15, 1945 Nice clear day and a lot of our bombers over. Russia started another offensive in South Poland.

11 guns operational. 43 rounds H.E. expended. Morning of Jan. 14, Recon was made for firing positions to enable a gun to fire into RIMLING. Inf. Co did not want firing to be done from close proximity of their troops, which necessarily limited the recon party in



their selection. Point above RIMLING was selected on which gunner was to lay his direct sight East, range 6000 yds. Lt. Bartley at BETTVILLER was informed of this point and he was to do the adjusting from his O.P. in BETTVILLER. Sgt. Montagues gun left ROHRBACH at 1605 hrs and was firing at 1635. 1st round was picked up easily and deflection was correct. Range was lowered to bring burst into center of RIMLING and then only minor changes in deflection were made by the gunner on the direct sight upon word from Lt. Bartley. Radio communication was used through out. 28 rds fired. Harassing effect was very good.

1630 hrs. One gun of 1st platoon fired 15 rds H.E. on a target identified by the Infantry O.P. as a S.P. gun at COORD. 64.6-54.7. Several hits were observed and the O.P. reported it was put out of commission. Some of the enemy were seen limping away from the position. Inf. O.P. estimated it as a 75mm range 2400 yards.

January 16, 1945 Russian offensive still going good and only 30 miles from Germany.

Eleven vehicles operational. Ammunition expended 26 H.E., 3 A.P.C.

1145 hrs, one gun fired 26 rds H.E. and 3 A.P.C. harassing fire into woods N.E of RIMLING. The O.P. was in BETTVILLER, and he observed tree bursts in the woods. The gun was located at 51.0-65.8 range 6000 yds average. The gunner could observe his shots so he changed his range and deflection after each shot. One gun is going to 68.0-50.3 at 1600 hrs to do some harassing fire into RIMLING.

January 17, 1945 Snowing again. The front is fairly quiet.

Eleven guns operational. Ammunition expended 26 H.E.

Visibility very poor. 1630 hrs on Jan 16, one gun fired from 68.0-50.3 into RIMLING 26 rds harassing fire, fuse quick was used for adjustment and then we used delayed fuse. The O.P. was in BETTVILLER and reported good results.

January 18, 1945 I feel like hell today. Cold in my chest and ache. Its warmer tonight with a warm west wind and thawing a little.

Dark as the hubs of hell tonight, and with the wind blowing the loose tiles and pieces of tin around, the infantry going by in their white snow suits, it's something out of Poe's best thrillers.

Eleven guns operational. Ammunition expended 29 H.E.

January 18, 1300 hrs. Expended 29 rds. Gun at 69.5 51.0 at GUIDERKIRCH. Group of building hits were observed and black smoke was seen coming from left side of large building. We could not see what was hit. Visibility only fair.

One gun is at MEIERHOFF now 1530 hrs and is going to fire on enemy infantry and a possible A.T. gun that the O.P. in BETTVILLER spotted this afternoon. The A.T. gun and infantry were spotted just north of RIMLING.

January 19, 1945 Warmer today. We got a barrel of beer today, but its flat like all the beer over here. I feel a little better today. Russians are really on the move again. Supposed to be fighting on the borders of German SILESIA. The whole east front is on the move from EAST PRUSSIA to BUDAPEST.

Eleven guns operative. Ammunition expended 30 H.E.

Roving harassing fire missions on RIMLING and vicinity. Jan. 18, 1530 hrs. One gun fired from 68.0-50.3 at enemy infantry at 65.3-55.8. 24 men were actually seen and it is believed there were more than a platoon in the vicinity. Our O.P. in BETTVILLER watched the enemy dig in an A.T. gun at 75.7-55.8, then when they were about through, we fired into the area and hits were observed in the vicinity of it.

January 20, 1945 Eleven guns operational. Ammunition expended, 21 H.E., 9 A.P.C., 4 T-105 fuse. B-322 on Jan. 19, 1530 hrs fired 20 rds H.E. fuse quick & delay harassing fire into GUIDERKIRCH and East end of RIMLING. Gun was at 66.8-50.3. Good harassing effect was observed by O.P. in BETTVILLER.

Jan. 20, 1145 hrs B-411 fired 14 rds into SW edge of RIMLING. A flash had been picked up by members of two different crews of our destroyers in BETTVILLER. Rounds were landing in BETTVILLER and vicinity but firing ceased after our gun engaged the target. 12 rounds observed striking in target area. Our gun located at 67.3-53.5.

The enemy was more active today than in the last few days. He fired 20mm, a small A.T. gun and a gun of approx. 75 or 77 cal. into BETTVILLER this morning. All enemy fire came from RIMLING.

Capt. Anderson contacted C.O. and S-3 of 71st. Regtl. and gave them our gun positions also C.O.S of the separate battalion are being contacted. 2nd Platoon, Lt. Bartley has wire communication with 2 C.O.s of 2nd Bn in BETTVILLER, and 3rd Bn can contact him through 2nd BN if necessary.

January 21, 1945 Went to Mass across the street. About noon came back to rear to medic. They sent me to 119 Clearing CO, and now I'm in 93rd Evac. hospital, near DIEUZ. Backman is in the same room with me.

Daily operation report. Ten vehicles operational, one out for minor repairs.

No ammo expended. Two guns are at farm 63.9-52.4, are to be relieved by C-CO, and are to move to vicinity of ROHRBACH tonight.

January 22, 1945 I did nothing today, but eat pills. Doc finally looked at me about 1600 hrs. I hope to stay here for a few days.

Daily Company Report. Eleven vehicles operational. 33 rds H.E. expended. CO C.P. at ROHRBACH. One gun fired from 65.9-51.0 harassing fire into woods N.E. of RIMLING and into school house and buildings at GUIDERKIRCH. 33 rds H.E. were used and good harassing

effect was observed by O.P. in BETTVILLER 1400 to 1500 hrs.

January 23, 1945 Had X-ray of lungs.

Company operational report. Ten vehicles operational. One out for repairs. 27 rds ammo expended. Jan. 23, 1945 hrs fired at roads. H.E. harassing fire into Grid SQ 66-56. Guns were located at 66.8-50.4. Observation was poor and we could not observe well enough to adjust fire. None of our men could observe the two tanks (German) that were reported in RIMLING this afternoon.

January 24, 1945 Still in hospital. They quit giving me pills today.

Company operational report. Ten vehicles operational. One vehicle in repair. No ammo expended. Visibility too poor to do any shooting today. Capt. Anderson and Sgt. Vosburg were out on recon of all positions in GUIRING and BETTVILLER. CO C.P. at ROHRBACH.

January 25, 1945 CO Report. Ten vehicles operational. One vehicle in repair. No ammo expended. CO C.P. at ROHRBACH. Jan. 24, the infantry wanted us to demolish a house North of BETTVILLER, but today they changed their mind, and are figuring a different way to do it. Visibility poor. Third Platoon destroyers had their 100 hr check and went up to take the place of the 1st Platoon in GUIRING. The one gun in the forward position is to be changed tonight, and will come back later. 1st Sgt. Brunton to hospital.

January 26, 1945 CO Report. Nine guns operational. Two in repairs. 31 rds H.E. expended. 2 rds A.P.C. One gun fired harassing fire. 1500-1615 hrs from position 68.0-50.3, into area around GUIDERKIRCH. Good harassing results were observed, by O.P. in BETTVILLER. Fuse quick and delay were used.

January 27, 1945 Released from hospital at 0800 this morning. Sent to a replacement CO., across road. They had no place to sleep and no fire so told us if we wanted to we could hitch back to our outfits. Hitched a ride back through SARRE UNION, SAARALBE and by mistake into SARREGEMUND. Came on back and found the rear echelon at KALLHAUSEN.

Company Report. Ten vehicles operational. Two in repairs.

Seven rds H.E. expended. C.P. still at ROHRBACH. Snowing all day and visibility too poor to see anything. Grundhoefer came up with new destroyer. Test fired 7 rds.

January 28, 1945 Came back to Company C.P. at ROHRBACH about noon.

CO report. Ten vehicles operational. Two in repairs.

No ammo expended. No change in position of vehicles. CO C.P. in ROHRBACH.

Platoon was alerted last night because of an unusual amount of enemy activity in this sector. Everything quiet today. Visibility poor.

January 29, 1945 On guard this morning 3 to 6.

CO Report. Ten vehicles operational, two in repair.

No ammo expended.

CO C.P. in ROHRBACH. Two guns of the first Platoon are going to go up to BETTVILLER tonight to relieve two guns from the 2nd Platoon. Enemy action very quiet in this sector.

January 30, 1945 Russians still moving toward BERLIN.

CO report. Nine vehicles operational, three in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. Sector quiet. Visibility poor. Lt. Bartley returned from PARIS, Capt. Anderson left for PARIS & BRUSSELS.

January 31, 1945 Warm today. Snow melting. CO daily report. Nine vehicles operational. Three in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

Friendly artillery more active today, than the last few days. Visibility fair this morning. Poor this afternoon.

February 1, 1945 Still warm. We were paid. Russians captured town 65 miles from Berlin. Reported to be 40 miles from Berlin.

CO report. Ten vehicles operational. Two in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. BETTVILLER received more enemy fire today than in the past few days.

February 2, 1945 On radio shift 0130 to 0430. Warm as spring. Most of snow gone. Went back to KALLHAUSEN to a movie this afternoon. First I've seen in France. We got a good batch of mail today.

CO report. Ten vehicles operational. Two in repair. Ammunition expended 29 H.E., 1 A.P.C. Fired 30 rds harassing fire. Gun at 66.8-50.4. Fired into vicinity of GUIDERKIRCH. The O.P. was in BETTVILLER. Good harassing effect was observed. All four guns of 1st Platoon are now in BETTVILLER, and are occupying the positions that the 2nd Platoon used while there. Contact was made with the 324 Inf. today after they relieved the 71st.

February 3, 1945 On radio 2:30 to 5:00. Rained all day. CO report. Ten guns operational. Two in repair. No ammo expended CP at ROHRBACH.

Two guns from 2nd Platoon going to farmhouse at 63.8-52.3, tonight to relieve C-CO at that position. Visibility poor.

February 4, 1945 On radio 2:00 to 4:30. Went to Mass and Communion at 11:00. Came back to KALLHAUSEN for a few days. Moved into shack next to the depot with the medics. CO report. Ten guns operational. Two in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. Sector quiet today.

February 5, 1945 CO report. Twelve guns operational. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. Sector quiet today. Visibility poor.

February 6, 1945 Eleven vehicles operational. One in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. Sector quiet. Visibility poor.

February 7, 1945 More rain and warm. Got a barrel



of beer at SARREBOURG yesterday. No good. CO report. Eleven guns operational one in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. Visibility very poor.

February 8, 1945 Nice day but nothing to do. The monotony of this life is getting me. I'm almost nuts with nothing to do, but sleep, eat a little, play cards and maybe write a letter. Day after day with maybe a few hours of radio duty. I wish this Western front would push off and get this damn war over with so we could go home. Day after day, month after month, year after year with melting in the summer sun and freezing in the winter snows. Its no damn good, and all for what purpose. I don't know and neither do thousands of others like me. Who the hell wants it. The Greeks don't, The Eyties don't. The Belgians don't. The Slavs don't. Save DEMOCRACY. So we'll cram it down their throats and make them like it. Bull, I want to go home or what there is left of it now.

CO Report. Eleven vehicles operational one in repair, 20 rds ammo expended. O.P. at ROHRBACH. B-411 fired 10 rds quick fuse and 10 rds delay fuse harassing fire into RIMLING this afternoon between 1555-1630 hrs. Gun was located in MIERHOFF. Good results were observed from the O.P. in BETTVILLER.

February 9, 1945 Slight gains being made by the 1st and 3rd Armies against the SEIFRIED LINE.

CO Report. Eleven vehicles operational one in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

2nd Platoon. 2 guns from farm 63.9-52.4, returned to ROHRBACH to night.

Enemy artillery was quite active yesterday, just about dark, they shelled GUIISING and road between GUIISING and BETTVILLER.

February 10, 1945 Rain all day today, until late evening. Fighters came over and gave Jerry a little dive bombing about sundown.

CO Report. Eleven vehicles operational. One in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

2nd Platoon. 2 guns in GUIISING, 2 in ROHRBACH. This change will take place after dark tonight. 324 Inf. requested that we shoot down the church steeple in RIMLING, today but the visibility was nil when we reached the firing position.

February 11, 1945 No place to go to church. Still a bad rainy day.

CO Report. Eleven vehicles operational. One in repair.

33 rds H.E. expended. CO C.P. at ROHRBACH.

1000-1100 hrs one gun B-433, fired from 66.8-50.4, into RIMLING. The steeple was hit a number of times but it was not entirely knocked down. Range 6000 yards. Good harassing effects were observed by O.P. in BETTVILLER.

February 12, 1945 Did a bit of washing today. It still rains and more rain. Our roof leaks like a sieve. Had a letter from Dad written February 5, only 7 days ago. Best I received.

CO Report. Eleven guns operational. One in repair.

No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. One gun, 2nd Platoon moves to GUIISING tonight, and one gun 3rd Platoon comes back to ROHRBACH. Visibility poor. Capt. Anderson and Lt. Alfreds, C-CO, made recon of our gun positions.

February 11, 1945 CO report. Eleven guns operational. One in repair. C.P. at ROHRBACH. No ammo expended. 1st Platoon in BETTVILLER, 2nd Platoon vicinity GUIISING, 3rd, vicinity ROHRBACH. CO and platoon leaders made recon for positions to support coming operations.

February 14, 1945 I was sick last night, went to bed this afternoon, and by 1800 hrs had 104 temperature. Had Kubala take me back through clearing station. Then came on back to evacuation hospital about midnight.

CO report. Eleven guns operational one in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

1st Platoon. No change.

2nd Platoon Moves three guns from GUIISING to BETTVILLER tonight.

3rd Platoon. Two guns from ROHRBACH move to MOELLING tonight and take up positions East of MOELLING in the morning. One gun to be at pill box on right side of road S. of GUIISING.

February 15, 1945 Feeling a bit better. Temperature 99.6, but jumped up to 104 toward evening. Didn't sleep at all last night.

CO report. Twelve guns operational. 7 rds H.E. expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved and reached 68.5-54.9 by 0710 this morning. It received direct fire from vicinity of ERCHING. Smoke was requested from 324, but they refused because it would ruin visibility for everyone. We placed direct fire on ERCHING, from 3rd Platoon guns that were near MOELLING. Under the cover of fire the 1st Section, 1st Platoon, moved to east edge of woods at 68.3-56.3, their objective.

2nd Platoon, 2nd Sec. Will move to vicinity of 1st Sec., 1st Platoon, after dark tonight the woods is covered with mines, and the area has received it's share of enemy artillery and mortar fire today. Turret covers are to be improvised tonight from logs for protection against tree burst. One friendly tank hit a mine south of the woods, when they tried to reach the west edge of the woods.

2nd Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved to vicinity 66.8-54.2, before daylight. The plan was to send tanks and 1st Sec., 2nd Platoon to support the infantry and clean out the RIMLING MILL at 66.4-55.4. The tanks started, but found the routes mined and waited until they could be cleared. Later they tried again, and ran into the same trouble. The mine clearing was too slow, so the infantry went up and took it themselves. Approx. 60 prisoners were taken from MILL and vicinity. In the afternoon, the 1st Sec, 2nd Platoon moved by route used by 1st Sec., 1st Platoon in the morning to vicinity 68.4-45.6 and they are going to try to reach their objective, west edge of woods, by

going around the woods. The area was found to be too heavily mined, to risk it, without having the engineers work it over first with mine sweepers. The Section will move to their objective as soon as the route is cleared. For tonight it is planned to stay in vicinity of 68.4-56.4 2nd Sec., and Platoon is to remain in BETTVILLER tonight or to put one gun at C.R. west of RIMLING, and one at 66.9-54.2. These positions offer very little cover.

3rd Platoon, 1st Sec. in position on road 68.5-52.8, fired 7 rds harassing and covering fire into ERCHING this morning on request of Lt. Holmes, 1st Platoon, while he moved into his objective. After 1st Platoon guns received direct fire from that general vicinity when they tried to advance to their objective. One gun was in position at 65.4-53.2 and covered the advance of the 1st and 2nd Platoons to their objective. One gun in position at 66-51 on call to fire any target that appeared in vicinity of woods and GUIDERKIRCH. This gun at 65.4-53.2, will come out of that position and assemble with remainder of Platoon in BETTVILLER after dark tonight.

February 16, 1945 Chilled and burnt up all night, but slept a little. Wish they'd find out what's the matter with me.

CO report. 9 guns operational. 1 lost to enemy action, 2 in repair. 33 rds H.E., 2 rds A.P.C., 1 shot of T-105 expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

1st Platoon. 4 guns in BUCHENBUCH woods covering sector to N & N.E. This position was shelled quite heavily yesterday and last night.

2nd Platoon. One gun in position on road in W. end of BUCHENBUCH woods. One gun hit a mine and is Koed at 67.4-56.2. Two guns in BETTVILLER.

3rd Platoon. Two guns in BETTVILLER. One gun at 68.5-52.8 This gun fired 35 rds harassing fire into area that tanks were reported in all day today. It fired into area NW of ERCHING, and into woods in SQ64-58.

Corp Olwick injured when B-411 hit a double box mine in woods.

February 17, 1945 Felt bad all day, but didn't have any chills.

CO report. 9 vehicles operational. 1 lost to enemy action, 2 in repair.

No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

1st Platoon. Enemy tanks were heard this morning to the N & E of positions. Visibility was too poor to be able to see them. Area received heavy artillery and mortar fire last night and today.

2nd Platoon. Same as above.

3rd Platoon. Guns in reserve, to be moved to support either flank in case of an attack. B-411 recovered from woods 67.3-56.5 last night. An all night job. Evac tonight from ROHRBACH.

February 18, 1945 I have Malaria, the Doc said. Had another chill and my temperature went to 105. Moved to

another ward.

CO report. 9 guns operational, 1 lost to enemy, 2 in repair.

No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

The crews of the 1st and 3rd Platoons changed places tonight. The BUCHENBUCH woods receive enemy fire from artillery mortars. Rockets and some high velocity A.P. last night.

February 19, 1945 Doctor told me I had a kind of Malaria that usually didn't last over three years. That is encouraging as some types last a lifetime. He said most cases went back to their outfits after a week but he would try to keep me a month. I don't know why, unless he just wants to give me a break after so much front line duty. There have been quite a bunch of wounded brought in the past few days. Several Germans amongst them. We have made slight gains in the 7th Army Sector and any push means a bunch of casualties. My appetite is picking up, and I haven't had any chills and fever for 24 hrs. Hope I'm on the road to recovery.

CO Report. Nine guns operational, 1 lost to enemy action, 2 in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH. One enemy tank was heard moving in vicinity of GUIDERKIRCH. last night but it could not be seen. Sector quieter than it was the first few days.

February 20, 1945 Heard tonight a news broadcast from MOSCOW by a Capt. of the 101st Div., who was captured on June 8, and had been released from STALAG 12 D, by the Russian advance. Hope this means that brother J, also has been released.

CO report. Nine guns operational. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. Recon was made today with C-CO officer, and EM and relief will be made after the Inf. Bn complete their relief. All B-CO guns will be in ROHRBACH.

February 21, 1945 Moved out early this morning to a railhead evacuating point at SARREBOURG to be sent back to a General Hospital someplace. I feel good now. Don't see why I need to go. Stayed here all day. All around me are amputees. To each side are fellows with their legs off below their knees and to my foot a kid with his right lower arm gone. Just back of me is a young Percival looking fellow with shell rim glasses. He is no sissy though. His leg is off well above the knee and not a whimper out of him. In fact, I've heard no grumbling or bitching from any of them here all day. Just a way down is a little Mexican kid in a cast from his knees up to his chest. Probably has a broken pelvis. Broken arms and broken legs all around and too, quite a number of us fortunates who have nothing wrong except Malaria, Pneumonia and the like. We will go back to fight again and if we are lucky to return to the States again all in one piece, when our time comes.

February 22, 1945 Loaded on a hospital train this morning, to go to General hospital in NANCY. Cars were



fixed up very comfortably and we were racked up three high, in litters with the worst cases at the bottom. I got a top bunk, but I could see out better from here. Most of the fellows here are sick and broken bone cases. Nothing real serious. No amputees. One fellow across the aisle has most of the meat shot off his hind quarter, but is getting along fine. There are three French in this car. One, a master Sgt., is in DE TASIGNY outfit. One has fought with Le Clerc, and the other doesn't talk much. He has a heart condition. We pulled out about 3 o'clock. Went through a lot of little towns we had fought for. The fields are looking a lot greener as if Spring will be here before long. Had a good trip and got into NANCY about seven o'clock, and were unloaded fairly quickly, and were taken to Second General Hospital.

I was put in a ward with about eighteen men and it seems I'm back in something resembling the States again. We have a bed with a springs, thick mattresses, white sheets and clean white blankets. No stinking O.D. blankets, that I have slept in for two years, but white clean ones. I would find it easy to get used to this again.

February 23, 1945 I got the best sleep last night that I've had in weeks. This morning had a fairly good breakfast and just lolled around all morning, basking in the comfort, I'm not so used to. Doctor examined me and said he would start me on a rugged cure that should cure my malaria for good. I'm to get 45 grains of quinine a day for a week. Then ten grains for a week, then atabrine for a half a week, before they will release me. Then I will have to take atabrine every day for three months.

CO report. 36 rds H.E. expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH. One gun fired from 65.9-51.1, at a tank at 65.83-58.16. The air O.P. directed the fire. One hit was scored at range of 7300 yds. Fired between 1500-1630 hrs, 36 rds were expended.

February 24, 1945 My ears are ringing and I am getting deaf, already from this damn quinine. I'm not supposed to budge from the bed all this week. It's getting tiresome already. I've read three books since I've been here. I'm getting tired of reading, but I'm so deaf, I can't do much conversing.

February 25, 1945 In bed all day again. Feel good but my ears are ringing. This is the damndest hospital I ever saw. Nurses dumb and ugly, and the ward boys seem like a bunch of plain dumb bunnies. Out of eighteen men here in the ward, seldom do any of them carry on a conversation.

February 26, 1945 Another day gone and another day nearer getting out of here. A couple of ugly Red Cross dames came in here tonight with a banjo to entertain us. They croaked like a couple of little old frogs in the Spring time. Such wonderful entertainment.

CO report. Ten guns operational. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

Guns moved in to relieve C-CO last night. Move was completed by 2200 hrs. 324 Inf. reported 1-88mm gun at 680-582 this morning. BUCHENBUSCH received some enemy fire today. Major Shirley, L.B. Tomas went home on furlough. Feb. 24, Kubala & Peterson came up to stay with C.P. Group. New men went into guns. Feb. 25, track extensions put on 5 destroyers yesterday and today.

February 27, 1945 CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 in repair. 5 rds H.E., 7 rds T-105 expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. Lt. Bratland directed fire of one gun from RIMLING into buildings in GUIDERKIRCH. This was at request of and in coop. with 2nd Bn, 71st Inf. The supporting artillery battalion was ready to lay fire on GUIDERKIRCH in case the direct fire flushed out some enemy personnel.

The buildings were being used as an O.P. & C.P., from observation reports and this was later verified by civilian and PW reports. Civilian claimed that one round penetrated to the basement floor, killing several and shaking up several more. A few enemy were seen to be moving boxes from a barn to the church and the combination of direct fire and mortar fire produced casualties.

February 28, 1945 CO report. 10 vehicles operational 1 generator trouble. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH. All reports indicate that the firing done into the buildings in GUIDERKIRCH yesterday, was very demoralizing and destructive.

March 1, 1945 Sixth day of taking quinine. Ears are ringing and I am almost deaf. Only have one more day of heavy dosage and then ten not so heavy.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 back for track extensions. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

March 2, 1945 CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 back for track extensions. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

March 3, 1945 Am only taking 10 grains of quinine, starting today. Head isn't buzzing as much and I've gotten over my deafness to some extent. Went out for a little walk this morning, then took a violet ray treatment. After dinner was moved over to a ward 4A for convalescents. We can stay up all day here, if we wish and will have calisthenics and hikes to build us up a bit before we go back to our outfits. I suppose I'll be here about ten days more as I'm supposed to take quinine that long. I weighed and am down to 140 pounds, and I look it. My cheeks are sunk in, and I'm as thin as a rail. Guess that 105 temperature didn't do me much good.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 back for track extensions. 5 rds APC expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

March 4, 1945 Went to Mass at 11 o'clock at the hospital chapel. Heard hymns sung by a G.I. choir for the first time in months.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 back for track extensions. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

March 5, 1945 Had another violet ray treatment this morning. Haven't done anything much except take a walk. Am feeling good now and feel like going back.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 back for track extensions. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

March 6, 1945 Another gloomy day. If the sun would shine I would go out and get some exercise, but it's been spitting snow for a couple of days, and I don't like to go out in it.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational 1 repairable. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

March 7, 1945 Cloudy again. Had another violet ray treatment this morning. This afternoon went for a hike for three or four miles, and was tired when I got back. Dr. says he thinks I can leave when I finish this bunch of quinine, which is over Monday night. Even though, I don't like the front, I don't like it here, either. Too slow and monotonous. I don't know what would please me.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 repairable. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

March 8, 1945 Went on pass downtown. Ran into Bible, Toso, and Rickbiel, who are here at rest camp for four days. They said battalion is still at same place as when I left.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 repairable. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

March 9, 1945 Asked Doctor if I could go home Sunday with the boys when they go. He said I had to go back through replacement depot, as per orders. Worked KP after breakfast today.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. at ROHRBACH.

March 10, 1945 Went out for calisthenics and a hike this morning. Got a pass to town this afternoon, but didn't stay long.

CO report. Vehicles operational, 1 in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

March 11, 1945 One fellow here in my ward got reclassified today, for limited service because of stomach ulcers. Another, who is already on limited service is getting a trip home for the same reason.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 1 in repair. No ammo expended. C.P. in ROHRBACH.

3rd Platoon. Moving back from RIMLING tonight to ROHRBACH, and going into artillery positions tomorrow morning.

March 13, 1945 Left NANCY by bus about 0900. Came about 35 miles to a replacement depot at VALCOULEUR, about ten miles from DOMREMY. Birthplace of Joan of Arc. We were issued blankets, rifles, and a bunch of other junk. Went to a special services show tonight.

CO report. Ten vehicles operational, 1 repairable.

No ammo expended. C.P. at Rohrbach.

3rd Platoon. Two guns at 653-505 with 220 F.A. One gun at 626-507 connected to 693 F.A. The 693 took over from the 156 F.A. today.

March 14, 1945 Had physical inspection this afternoon. We were issued a new set of clothing. I have more junk than I can get into my barracks bag. We were sleeping in an old unheated barn.

CO report. Eleven vehicles operational, 1 repairable. No ammo expended. CP in ROHRBACH.

Guns in artillery position have laid, but have not registered.

March 15, 1945 Went on hike this morning, laid around all afternoon.

CO report. 9 vehicles operational, 3 repairable. No ammo expended. CP at AUERSMACHER. Company assembled in this town after moving from ROHRBACH, early this morning. CO and Platoon leaders are making recon of general area to the front.

March 16, 1945 Worked at supply room all day.

CO report. 9 vehicles operational, 3 in repair. No ammo expended.

CP & guns assembled in ENSHEIM. C.O. & platoon leaders made recon to front and contacted the people from 253 Inf. Regt., and the 1st Bn 253. CO moved from AUERSMACHER to ENSHEIM at 1800 hrs on Mar. 17, Holmes left for DIJON, Mar. 18.

March 17, 1945 I left on 40 & 8 about 9 a.m. (40 & 8 is a box car that will hold 40 men and 8 horses, but packed pretty closely together.) Old, open doored box car with no heat. We almost froze. Went through NANCY and on to SARREBOURG where we unloaded about 5 p.m.

March 19, 1945 CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 repairable. No ammo exp.

Destroyers assembled in ENSHEIM. The attack that was planned for 1400 hrs was called off. The 253 Inf. said nothing would be doing until 1945 hrs. Nothing certain. 1st Bn on call from Division.

Was picked up by Kobel. Came back 3 miles past SARREGUEMINES, into GERMANY.

The companies are up several miles and gaining slowly. A-CO had three destroyers knocked out today and two men killed. As yet we've been lucky. Truesdell's destroyer was knocked out a couple of weeks ago. Olwick was hurt pretty badly and news is that he is going home.

March 20, 1945 The boys are going good today, and by night news was that our artillery was given a cease fire as Pattons troops were getting close enough we were endangering them. Only seven miles separates his troops and the 7th Army at noon.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. Ammo expended: 4 H.E., 10 APC, 6T-105 Fuse. CP at ENSHEIM. One platoon with 1st Bn 253. Inf. enroute to RENTRISCH. Remainder of Company joins task force tonight. Fired 20 rds at road block. Guns at 550-724. Road block on



road to N.W.

March 21, 1945 3rd and 7th Army joined up. WORMS, MAINZ, KAISERS-LAUTERN, and SAARBRUCKEN fell yesterday. Air force is raising hell with German convoys and today is another sunshiny day. We moved back through SARREGUIMINES to a place three or four miles back into France. We are relieved from the 63rd Div. and are back with the 44th who are resting for a few days.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. No ammo expended. CP at GRUNDVILLER.

3rd Platoon. In support of 1st battalion 253 Inf. Fired 20 rds to destroy and open up a road block at 54.5-73.2. Range approx. 100 yds H.E. Shells with quick fuse only took the bark off the trees. T-105 went straight through and burst approx. 100 yds beyond road block. APC burst broke trees into pieces. Platoon then moved N. to ST. INGBERT then went SW to RENTRISCH. Captured 20 PW at 526-745 without a fight. The rest of the CO went into task force. Harris, moved as far as ST. INGBERT then received orders to return.

March 22, 1945 Went to a show this afternoon. U.S.O show with Marlene Dietrich in person. Today is a pretty day. I'm still back with rear echelon.

March 23, 1945 Went to SAARALBE to take showers. Worked on vehicles.

March 24, 1945 Patton has made a crossing of the RHINE south of MAINZ. British 2nd and American 9th made a crossing of RHINE north of RUHR. Both bridgeheads are going good in addition to first one at REMAGEN. We are on three hour alert.

March 25, 1945 Went to Mass on Palm Sunday. Patton gained 27 miles today and set up another bridgehead. We moved out at 11 o'clock for GERMANY.

March 26, 1945 Moved up through ROHRBACH, PIRMASENS, LANDAU and got to outskirts of KAISERSLAUTERN about 0830. Our column of light vehicles got strafed. The dentist got cut a little but no other injuries. We set up here but destroyers moved up further at 4:30.

CO report. Eleven vehicles operational, 1 in repair. No ammo expended. CP at FISHBURG, E. of KAISERSLAUTERN. CO moved from GRUNDVILLER. (SW of SARREGUIMINES) to FISHBURG, E. of KAISERSLAUTERN. Wheeled vehicles leaving at 1145 hrs and track vehicles at 1245. The trip took seven hours arrived at approx. 9 o'clock. Wheeled vehicles were strafed in early morning by enemy plane. No one hurt.

March 27, 1945 We stayed at edge of KAISERSLAUTERN all night and at 0800 moved out for crossing the RHINE. So much traffic was trying to cross the few bridges we have, that we were going along by spurts, and it was dark before we got across. The people in all these towns don't have any smiles or waves for any of us. It isn't like France or Italy where we were showered with fruit, wine, and anything they had. There we were liberators. Here we are conquerers. Passed through WORMS,

just before dark. The factory area has been burned to a charcoal by incendiary bombs. We crossed the RHINE on pontoon treadway bridge and stopped for the night about a mile from the river. We are almost out of gas.

March 28, 1945 Can't get any gas for a while. Moved out further through a few towns and across a super highway into a wood for the night.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. 20 rds H.E., 1 rd APC expended. CP in HEDDESHEIM. 1st Platoon on Mar. 27, 1700 hrs moved to 1st Bn, 324 Inf. area at 61-06 at 2230 hrs. Moved into VIERNHEIM 60-04, 0700 March 28, moved SW to HEDDESHEIM, 62-01, 1200 hrs. today moved to present location LADENBURG 63-97. Fired 21 rds at MG nests and buildings in LADENBURG.

3rd Platoon. March 27, 1700 hrs moved to 3rd Bn, 324 Inf. area at 58-06 and 59-06. Mar. 28, 1200 hrs, moved to WALLSTADT 58-00. Still in WALLSTADT at present time. Took one PW last night.

Company moved across RHINE in VIC, WORMS, Mar. 27, 1042 hrs.

March 29, 1945 We were told the 44th is being relieved and moving to a new sector 63rd is taking their place.

CO report. 9 vehicles operational, 3 in repair. CP at HEDDESHEIM 62-01. Ammo expended, 122 rds H.E., 48 rds APC, 13 rds T-105 fuse.

1st Platoon. Fired 115 rds into NECKERHAUSEN 62-96 in support of the infantry. Firing was done on buildings in general because visibility was too poor to pick out any specific targets.

3rd Platoon. Fired 68 rounds into EDINGEN. Fire was requested by Inf., because tanks and AG and small arms were firing on our infantry. Firing was done on buildings in general because visibility was too poor to pick out specific targets.

All three platoons are in and around LADENBURG.

March 30, 1945 Moved at 4 o'clock, about 10 miles to outskirts of SCHWEINHEIM. Firth and I rode our captured motorcycle all the way. Its the first time I ever rode one but we made it o.k.

CO report. 9 vehicles operational, 3 repairable. No ammo expended. CP at HEDDESHEIM.

All three platoons moved back to HEDDESHEIM from LADENBURG last night. Company moves to new area approx. 1800 hrs tonight.

March 31, 1945 Hdqs. took our bike away from us this morning. Say that we can't keep any captured personal vehicles. We are to move at 6 p.m. Moved 35 miles north and east toward MAIN RIVER.

April 1, 1945 12 vehicles operational. No ammo exp. CP at KAHL-A-MAIN 90-65. 1st Platoon VIC ALZENAU. 2nd Platoon at vicinity BETTINGEN, 3rd vicinity SEMBORN.

Guns moved March 31, 2300 hrs from ZELLHAUSEN 90-58 to GROSS KRETZENBURG 89-65 and then moved Apr. 1, to battalion areas which they are supporting.

We were paid today in marks. Had a letter that brother J was liberated by the Russians.

April 2, 1945 Moved out at 0630 for new area, 10 miles away. We crossed the MAIN RIVER, about dusk and went several miles into a wood.

CO report. 12 guns operational. 28 rds H.E. expended, 6 APC. CP at KAHL-A-MAIN.

1st Platoon. At BRUCKENEUR. 2nd at HARSTEN. 3rd at HORBACH.

1st Platoon. Inf. support 1st Bn, 324. Cleaning up the town of enemy S & SE of BRUCKENEUR.

2nd Platoon. Moves with 2nd Bn, E. to r.j. 975-625, then S to clean out towns RUCKENSBURG & STERNBERG, then SW to MAIN A SCHAFF.

3rd Platoon In support 3rd Bn, moves from HORBACH E, through woods then cuts back South. Ammo expended yesterday by 1st Platoon on road block and enemy infantry in buildings.

April 3, 1945 Found a German warehouse with thousands of new bicycles, flashlights, telephone wire, cooking utensils, etc. We took what little we wanted. News is good on this front and Russians in Hungary and Austria are going good.

CO report. 12 vehicles operational. No ammo expended. CP at KAHL-A-MAIN.

1st Platoon. In MOMBRIS, 2nd at MAIN -A-SCHAFF, 3rd at HERSTEIN.

1st moved into MEMBRIS and MENSENGESASS with Able CO of 1st Bn, without opposition.

2nd Moved with 2nd Bn through RUCKERSBACH and STERNBERG to MAIN-A-SCHAFF encountering entrenchments at the latter place. The only firing done was with 50 & 30's. Between 45-50 prisoners were taken.

3rd Moved through HERBACH, GEISELBACH PASS with elements of the 3rd Bn, and established road blocks in the vicinity of the latter town last night. This noon they assembled in HORSTEIN with the 3rd Bn as Regimental reserve.

April 4, 1945 We are between AUSCHAFFENBURG and HANAU. Transport planes have been flying over all day to a field near us. Hauling gasoline and ammunition and rations. So, that we can keep up this offensive. As far as we are from our supply dumps and with the RHINE crossing so slow the supply job is stupendous.

April 5, 1945 Moved this afternoon. Went 22 miles past GELNHAUSEN and several small towns. Past an air-field, where 6 or more Jerry planes were knocked out. I was in a rail yard yesterday that Jerry's had built in a woods and was used as a heavy engineer dump. There were assault boats, pipe, divers suits, cranes, bulldozers and even heavy railroad gun shells. All was camouflaged and couldn't be seen from the air, I don't imagine. It was difficult to see from the road, though, it was only a short distance back in the woods.

All the people around here claim to be Polacks,

Russians, Czechs or something other than Deutch. There really are a mess of Polish slave laborers, for sure, as they wear a button with a large P on their coat or shirt.

Most all the houses are flying a white flag, though, today I even saw one with an American flag. Any that didn't have a flag when the troops came in usually got a shooting up.

We went through a little town today OBERNDORF, where the civilians and snipers tried to defend the town. Now they have another little Cassino to rebuild.. We threw bombs and shells into the town, so they might tell their neighbors how futile it is to try to hold us up. We are going through and if they want rubble instead of a town, it is up to them.

Stan went to hospital today, so I came up to the battalion. C.P. to work as operator, until he gets back. It is a pretty good job. They usually grab a house to sleep in, and all I have to do is listen to the radio three or four hours a night. Now we are in a beer joint in a little resort town. Unfortunately, there is no beer, but there is some apple schnapps, that mighty potent.

There is another Army warehouse full of cleaning and pressing machines, and boxes of cloth, suit material, and the like. These damn Nazis really had the world on a down hill grade, looting all the countries in their power. Now they will get a little of their own medicine. Except we aren't allowed to loot. Mainly, no place to put it and no need for it.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 repairable. No ammo expended. CP at LANAINGEN.

1st Platoon in BREILENBORN, 2nd in BREILENBORN. 3rd in LUTZEI.

Platoons occupying various towns, weapons were picked up in LUTZEI, and turned over to town mayor.

April 6, 1945 This sector is cleaned out and we are moving to another.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 repairable. No ammo expended. CP at LANAINGEN. No change in platoons operations, care and cleaning of equipment.

April 7, 1945 Harold, Frank and ----- went deer hunting in the woods just a few hundred yards from here and came back with three prisoners. One didn't want to give up, but Harold threw a fast round at him shooting from the hip. They gave up. All of them had pistols and one had a watch.

Lt. Holmes picked up a prisoner in his town, and then Simich saw three more about dark, going into a house at the edge of the woods. He got them without a struggle. We didn't move today.

CO report. 9 vehicles operational, 3 in repair. No ammo expended. CP in LANAINGEN. Cleaning and care of equipment. Captured 4 PW in the woods near by.

April 8, 1945 Left about 0930 for a long trek to the Southeast. Crossed MAIN RIVER, again through AU SCHEFFENBURG and down toward NUREMBURG. Gen. Patches,