

10th armoured, made 20 mile advance and, we, with the 44th, are going along to help clear it up and hold it. We made 87 miles by 5 o'clock. Assembled and moved on at 10 o'clock, another 20 miles, where we assembled for an attack tomorrow.

We passed an airstrip at the edge of a wood. About a dozen Jerry planes had burned on the field. In the wood back of the field was beaucoup bombs that will not, now be dropped on us.

April 9, 1945 Up early. Destroyers moved out about 7 for attack. Just as they were moving out Jerry came over with 3 jet propelled jobs and dropped some small bombs, near the column. None of our men were hit, but some ACK,ACK boys had a few casualties. We moved out about noon. We are about a mile behind our destroyers. They are meeting small arm and machine gun fire. Jerry was over again about 2 p.m. with two jets, strafing and bombing and our planes up ahead doing the same thing. About 3 p.m. a bunch of heavies were over to give some city a pounding. Probably STUTTGART. Part of 10th armored is up ahead and Jerry has cut the road behind them. We are clearing a way into them. Our CP group moved in to HOLLENBACH and took over a couple of houses. Sent the civilians looking for another place. About a dozen transport flew supplies into the 10th Armored about 6 o'clock. They hold a large enough place for the planes to land and even though, they are cut off.

Just a little later, we got a road opened up to them, and they brought out several hundred prisoners. They had tried to send two truckloads of PWs out earlier, but they got way laid and freed, and then again recaptured.

The next town is a mass of rubble. After they had mostly gone through, the civilians and a few soldiers cut off the last three T Ds and took the men prisoner, tied a captain behind a truck and drug him down the street. Now, they have no houses, no town. They may learn better some day.

Jerry sent 6-8-10 planes over tonight about 10. Bombed and strafed at edge of town. Lights and heavy smoke coming up for several hours over STUTTGART way. The bombers did a good job, wherever it is.

Some popping and crackling still going on in town where Jerry hit a small arms dump of ours.

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

April 8, CO moved from LANZIRGEN to WERBECH. Started 0945 and arrived 1545. Left WERBACH 0220 hrs arrived ASSAMSTADT at 0100. Apr. 9, total 110 miles. Apr. 9, 1st Platoon moved cross to ASSAMSTADT to 1st Bn area, 324 Infantry. After leaving area the platoon was bombed by enemy jet propelled plane. Approx. 12 bombs landed within 50 yard of one destroyer. Bombs appeared to be anti-personnel. No damage to destroyer or personnel. Platoon moved with 1st Bn to clear side of road from

from 525-900 to 625-800. Last reported their position at 546-894.

2nd Platoon moved with 2nd Bn to clean out S. side of same road. Last reported at 552-874.

3rd Platoon moved with 3rd Bn, last position reported 510-930.

Latest report from the infantry are that they are starting to move along. Enemy is using mostly small arms and machine guns. Very little mortar or artillery.

April 10, 1945 Fairly quiet here. 10th armored sent out six more truckloads of prisoners this morning. They say they have 200 more up in the pocket to send out as soon as they can. The supply corridor has been widened and strengthened. Our company took two towns and with the infantry took 97 prisoners in one place and others here and there.

We are now attached to the 4th Division. Don't know where we will go. They are to our right and behind us. We will probably hold our position until they catch up with us. We collected a bunch of flags, swords and other Nazi junk.

Fahlgren and his stooge go around in every village we capture hollering Alles Civiles. Give all your eggs to Breezy and Leonard. They don't know how to say much more in German, but this has been enough to bring results. (and eggs)

Capt. Anderson, Toso Dickson & ---- are to leave in a few days from MARSEILLES to help guard a load of prisoners back to the States. Boy is that ever a break.

In several places lately our troops have captured ammo dumps and pillboxes containing gas shells. I sure hope they don't start using that infernal stuff. The civilians and PWs says that when we get nearer to BERLIN that they will use it.

CO report. 11 vehicles operational, 1 in repair. 15 rds H.E. expended, 3 rds APC. CP at HOLLENBACH. 1st Platoon at BLEUFELDEN, 2nd VIC BARTENSTEIN, 3rd, 2 guns at ERMESHAUSEN, 1 gun ADOLZHAUSEN.

1st Platoon. Entered BLEUFELDEN about 2300 hrs. Apr. 9, resistance mainly small arms although some heavy artillery did fall. Flat trajectory fire was limited. Fired 10 rds into buildings. 70-80 krauts were observed to come out and were taken care of by the infantry.

2nd Platoon supported attack on town of BARTENSTEIN last night but darkness halted the attack and it was then resumed this a.m. Very light opposition at this time. Considerable small arms ammo was used and 14 boxes of .50 and 12 boxes of .30 plus a little .45 and carbine were ordered to replenish the supply and give a bit extra on hand.

3rd Platoon. Fired 5 H.E. and 3 APC at concentrations of enemy infantry and inflicted casualties.

324 Regt. attached to 4th Inf. as of 1500 hrs today. Future uncertain. CO and Regt. CPs may move to

BARTENSTEIN if the Regiment remains in this area.

April 11, 1945 Moved our C.P. up this morning to BARTENSTEIN. This is a town where Jerry had pushed in and cut off our armor at GRAILSHEIM. The situation is clearer now. Jerry knocked out several tanks, jimmies and jeeps between HOLLENBACH and here.

Heavy bombers over about noon to give some place a shellacking.

I found another beer stein or several. Am going to keep the best for my collection.

1st Platoon captured a bunch of kegs of beer. It is better than what we have had.

A couple of days ago, broke into a liquor warehouse and got away with three truckloads of BERLIN'S finest cognac. We were issued a quart today for four men. Was talking to six Holland Dutchmen this afternoon. They have been slave labor for two and a half years.

About 5 o'clock, I looked out the window and saw three prisoners coming down the street with a white flag. Went out and brought them in. Park and I shook them down. They had one pair of field glasses. Hennessy grabbed them before either of us could get them.. I captured the Jerry and someone else gets the glasses. Sent them on down to Division PW cage. These had been here three days with Americans, in and out of town all the time.

Came across a big castle which the people say belongs to the Prince of Bayern or whatever province this is. We went through 20 or 30 of the possibly 60 or 70 rooms. A lot of them had antique furniture beautiful glass and chinaware. Has winding staircase, oil paintings,

We were in his recreation room, with mechanical horses, medicine ball, pool tables, table tennis, etc. Found his wardrobe of military uniforms and he had plenty. I took a few belt buckles and arm bands and a pair of black boots which fit me.

There were shelves of linens of all kinds.

Kujawski just got back from town where the 2nd Platoon is located. They captured some krauts who rode in to town on a bicycle to relieve an outpost. The outpost had been relieved some hours before and now these bicyclists are relieved. Three German officers came into town in a volkswagen loaded with dynamite. The Infantry started chasing them through town in a jeep with a 30 cal. machine gun spitting at them. Blew up the V.W. and killed them all.

Capt. Anderson went to rear today. Lt. Kujawski is taking over as CO C.O.

News: ESSEN fell today. 1st Army is less than a hundred miles from BERLIN.

April 12, 1945 Sent a package home today. Two beer steins, belt buckles, and arm bands.

General of 44th put out an order against hunting and fishing. Some of our A-CO boys, who are resting, were fishing when the General came by. He stopped, watching them and enjoying himself, until one of the

fellows pulled out a net and swung it around, hitting the General in the kisser and knocking his hat off. Now, no fishing.

CO report. 12 vehicles operational, 13 rds H.E. expended, 2 rds APC. CP at BARTENSTEIN.

1st Platoon in BLAUFELDEN. 2nd. 2 guns in KALBERBUCK. 3rd, 3 guns in woods 594-876, 1 gun at 572-906.

1st Platoon in BLAUFELDEN fired 12 rds H.E. at 2300 hrs, Apr. 11, to help repel counter attack, and infiltration of infantry into town of BLAUFELDEN. The rds were fired at overpass 627-791, which offered a covered route of approach for the enemy infantry and which the enemy was using to infiltrate into the town. 30 & 50 caliber guns were also used.

2nd Platoon. Fired 3 rds to destroy a 47mm AT Gun and an En Truck that was loaded with ammo. The Infantry captured this enemy equipment but we destroyed it so the enemy could not use it in case he came back in.

3rd Platoon. Supported 3rd Bn in attack on woods 59-87 with 30 and 50 caliber fire. One gun supported tanks and infantry as they attacked the town of NIEDERSTETTEN. 30 & 50 caliber guns were used to cover infantry advance.

No attack on the 12th because we are waiting for the 4th Division to start moving on the left. Lt. Holmes became Exec. officer, S. Sgt. De Corte took over 1st Platoon. Elmer, 2nd in command.

CO report. 12 vehicles operational. No ammo expended. CP at BARTENSTEIN.

1st Platoon, 2 guns in BLAUFELDEN. 2 in KALBERBUCK. 2nd Platoon, 2 guns in EICHWIESEN, 2 in KALBERBUCK.

3rd Platoon, 3 guns in VIC SICHERISHOUSEN, 1 gun VIC ADELSHAUSEN.

1st Platoon. Moved two guns this afternoon to KALBERBUCK because the tanks observed an enemy tank from that vicinity. Guns will return BLAUFELDEN tonight.

2nd Platoon. Moved two guns to EICHEWIESEN and were to move on later to KONBRONN, when 3rd Bn cleared the area.

3rd Platoon. Was to attack with 3rd Bn to clear assigned area of enemy and take town of SCHROZBURG. The start of the attack depended on the Bn. on their left (4th Div). At this time 1630, we have received no word if the attack started or not.

T-5 Metzdorff hit in rt leg by M.G. cartridge that exploded in chamber.

April 13, 1945 News Flash: Roosevelt is dead of cerebral hemorrhage.

Ninth Army has crossed the ELBE RIVER, and is officially only 68 miles from BERLIN. Unofficially they are 50 miles. Patton forces are blacked out, but are within 30 miles of the Czech border, and another column pushing toward LEIPZIG.

We went up to try to get another load of beer, but were chased out. News. VIENNA has fallen to Russians.

New order out, that 44th Division won't loot eggs out of the hen house. Too many men have been waiting in line for the hens to lay.

Simich and another Joe collected eggs here in this town this morning. One chicken house had a chart of how many eggs had been laid each day. He marked up eleven just to keep the records straight and a Danke Schein. (Thank you)

CO report. 12 vehicles operational. 14 rds H.E. expended, 12 rds APC. CP at BARTENSTEIN.

1st Platoon. In BLAUFELDEN. 2nd, 2 guns at 59-85, 2 guns at 59.5-85.5. 3rd, 1 gun in OBERSTATTEN, 3 guns moving toward SCHROZBERG.

1st Platoon. Fired 26 rds to clean out snipers out of three houses in vicinity of BLAUFELDEN. Houses were well wrecked and did not burn.

2nd Platoon. Moved two guns to 595-858, to support E-CO, 324 in taking ZELL and woods to the south. No opposition was encountered. Will now probably be in reserve with the 2nd Bn.

3rd Platoon. Now in process of moving from woods 59-87 SE towards SCHROZBERG. One gun with I-CO that was in NIEDERSTETTEN. Moved south and into OBERSTETTEN without opposition. One gun, third platoon, threw a track this morning, but we had it repaired in a few hours and gun moved to OBERSTETTEN. From all indications it seems that the enemy pulled back to another place. PW at 3rd Bn, this morning said new line would be 65.3-87.5 then SE to 66.8-85.0, then S to SCHMALFELDEN.

April 14, 1945 Moved this morning up to SCHROZBERG, where we set up CP. This town was taken yesterday, but some of the houses are still burning. We got a nice clean house with linoleum floors and nice furniture.

Lt. Bratland and Rickbiel were hurt today by mortar fire. This is four wounds for Bratland. Destroyers made slight gains. General Patton is only 15 miles from Czech border and 1st Army has made another crossing of the ELBE headed for BERLIN.

CO report. 12 vehicles operational. No ammo expended. CP at SCHROZBERG.

1st Platoon at 63-78, 2nd in Reserve at 60.5-82.5, 3rd, 3 guns at 64.9-82.5, 1 gun at 64.8-87.2.

1st Platoon. Supporting 1st Bn, 324 Inf., moved SE from BLAUFELDEN approx. 0930 hrs to high ground in vicinity 63.4-79.4, then to edge of woods at 64-79 at 1430 hrs reported position at 63-78.

2nd Platoon. Supporting the 2nd Bn, and is now in reserve with Bn at 60-82. If right flank of 1st Bn needed support they would be there.

3rd Platoon. Supporting 3rd Bn, 324 Inf., moved at approx 0930 hrs SE to LINDLEIN. At present are prepared to move into SCHMALFEDEN. The infantry was last reported on the outskirts of that town.

One gun of 3rd Platoon at 64.8-87.2, is temporarily held up by artillery fire. Infantry is held up for the

same reason. One destroyer of 3rd Platoon hit by mortar shell on turret. Lt. Bratland and PFC Rickbiel were slightly wounded. Destroyer is O.K. T-4, O'Brien eyes sore from dust and powder from the mortar shell.

April 15, 1945 One crossing of the ELBE has been pushed back with heavy losses, but the other is moving forward. The 3rd Army is still moving toward CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Our forces here held so that our flanks could catch up with us. Russians have pushed 35 miles past VIENNA.

CO report. 12 vehicles operational. 7 rds H.E. expended. CP at SCHROZBERG.

1st Platoon. Supporting 1st Bn, 324 Inf. A-CO, 1st Bn. tried to take BLAUBACH 634-775, but too strong, and CO moved back at approx. 1700 hrs. The tanks and 2 TDs came back to BLAUFELDEN and then moved to help B & C CO at EMMERTSBUHL 653-791. 1st Sec of platoon moved into EMMERTSBUHL approx 1600 hrs. Enemy defended very stubbornly. No prisoners were taken in vic BLAUBACH.

2nd Platoon. Moved with reserve to 623-826.

3rd Platoon. 2 guns moved into SCHMALFELDEN at 1915 hrs. Expended 7 rds H.E. on buildings in town and used the 30 & 50 cal to cover the town when the infantry moved in.

1st gun moved to 658-853, approx. 1300 hrs after the advance from 648-872, SE was held up by artillery and rocket fire. Then the infantry and tanks moved SW, along edge of wood, then moved E to 658-853. Enemy defense was strong. 2nd Bn furnished one CO for each open flank last night for flank protection because the other units on left & right had not moved up.

April 15, 1945 Late p.m. 1st Platoon supporting 1st Bn, 324 Inf. Two guns moved north from EMMERSTBUL 653-791 at 0730 hrs to SULBACK 656-804, arriving at 0930 hrs. Thirty to forty prisoners were taken.

Twp guns protecting EMMERSTBURG from an attack from the south. Much artillery and rocket fire came into town during the night.

2nd Platoon. In reserve with 2nd Bn, 324 Inf. at 623-827.

3rd Platoon. Supporting 3rd Bn. One gun moved from woods 657-853 southeast to SPEEKHEIM, 666-850, arriving at 0850 hrs. Encountering much small arms fire and some artillery fire. One gun left at SCHROZBERG, 680-853 at 0850 hrs, going east to join the destroyer in SPEEKHEIM. Two guns in SCHMALFELDEN, 63-832, are to move northeast to support attack on BARRENWELLER 675-835.

April 16, 1945 Prisoners coming in by 2s, 4s, 6s. Our destroyers moved up and took two more villages. Took 70 prisoners one place. Our CP moved to SCHMALFELDEN. Jerry threw in a bunch of rockets. A lot of smoke and concussion. My ears ring. Several fellows got decorated by the 44th General yesterday. Canadians and Poles made good gains and reached NORTH SEA in NETHERLANDS.

CO report. 12 vehicles operational. CP at SCHROZBERG. No ammo expended.

1st Platoon. Supporting 1st Bn, 324 Inf. The four guns being on high ground and watching over the advance of the sector. Two guns in SWALBACH are supporting attack on WISSENBACH.

3rd Platoon. Supporting 3rd Bn, 324 Inf. Two guns moved south from SPEEKHEIM at 1815 hrs to join the other two guns at SCHMALFELDEN. The first section moved east at 0635. The second section moved out at 0640 west and into woods and then east to HENFELSWIDEN, where flat fire was coming from the SE.

2nd Platoon. Moved from reserve position in SIGSWEILER east to NALCHA 1605 hrs. At 1710 hrs the first section moved to 675-814 to protect anything coming from the SE. The second section at 0900 hrs moved from 656-832 to 685-812, to help support an attack on WISCHENBACH 67-80. Encountering fire from the east and from WISSENBACH.

Much small arms ammo was used by both the second and third platoons in support of advance of the infantry.

April 17, 1945 Our battalion moved back yesterday about 20 miles north. Our company moved up slightly. Hit a little more resistance, but our dive bombers softened up a little town in front of us that was causing trouble, and we took it late this evening with hardly a house standing. Didn't get many prisoners today.

CO report. 12 vehicles operational. 86 rds H.E. expended, 4 APC. CP at SCHMALFELDEN.

1st Platoon. In ENGETHARDSHOUSEN & HERBERTSHAUSEN. 2nd, vicinity of HEGENAU. 3rd, vicinity of GAMMESFELD & BRETTHEIM.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved with sec. of tanks to edge of woods 673-784, to cover attack of Inf. on town of ENGETHARDSHOUSEN. Later supported the Inf. attack on woods at 67-76. Enemy counterattack in these woods, later forced the infantry out with heavy mortar and artillery fire. Fired 25 rds H.E. to help break up counterattack.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. Moved with section of tanks to take town of HERBERTSHAUSEN. Later move 691-781 and fired 21 rds into town of BRETTHEIM to cover for 3rd Bn that was moving in from the N.W.

2nd Platoon, 1st Sec. Covered infantry as they went into HEGENAU. Fired 14 rds at church steeple in GAMMESFELD, 11 hits, range 3000 yds. Gun was in position at 695-815. Steeple was suspected of being used as O.P. We hit it 7 times at 1200 hrs then hit it once every 15 minutes to keep the enemy from using it. I-CO attacked SE from 705-814, across open ground without running into any kind of trouble while we were shooting.

2nd Platoon, 2nd Sec. 0830 hrs moved with platoon of tanks from WIESENBACH to woods at 701-814 to support 3rd Bn, to clean out woods at 70-79 and later supported K-CO and I-CO when they went into BRETTHEIM. Expended

18 rds H.E. and also used the 30 & 50 cal. guns. Fired on buildings, infantry and all targets that could be seen.

3rd Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved at 1245 to 698-791 to support K-CO going into BRETTHEIM. Expended 11 rds H.E. on the building in the town. Moved into town about 2200 hrs.

3rd Platoon, 2nd Sec. Protected the left flank until about 1500 hrs, then supported tanks and infantry in attack on GAMMESFELD. Later supported attack on HERTERSHOFEN & HAUSER.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Received some AT fire approx. 77mm, coming from vicinity R.J. at 681-759. Also some approx. 47mm fire from vicinity of SE of BRETTHEIM.

One gun of 2nd Platoon, 2nd Sec. broke a track on the 16th at 1400 hrs, location 685-814. This gun was operating again at 1615 hrs.

April 18, 1945 Moved about noon, up about two miles to WEISENBACH. Bombers were over to hit some place not far away. We are being relieved tonight. MAGDEBURG fell today, and Patton is in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. The war is still progressing but it looks like we will see some rugged fighting in the BAVARIAN ALPS.

CO report. 11 vehicles operational, 1 repairable. Ammo expended, 20 H.E., 17 APC. CP at WIESENBACK.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Supported tanks and infantry in attack from HERBERTSHAUSEN to HIGARTSHAUSEN 69-76, this morning at approx. 0900 hrs. At 1145 hrs, shot up a group of buildings in vicinity CR 680-759. The Infantry saw a group of enemy troops enter the buildings. 37 rds were expended and the target well covered. Range, 2000 yds. Guns at 695-770.

2nd Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved at 0800 hrs from ENGETHARDSHAUSEN to woods at 66-77 in support of tanks and Infantry.

2nd Platoon in support of 2nd Bn, 324 Inf. Moved to BRETTHEIM at 0800 hrs. Later moved to woods at 71-77 to support Infantry to the SW. Could not cross stream so moved around and through HUFARTSHAUSEN then SE into woods.

3rd Platoon, 1st Sec. Moved from HAUSEN 73-80 to join the other Sec. in BRETTHEIM. Approx. 1500 hrs moved to woods at 70-76 to support the 3rd Bn. attack. BRETTHEIM received 2 rocket barrages today, between 1130 and 1300 hrs.

April 19, 1945 Moved out about 0900. A-CO went back on the line this morning at 0600. We are being rushed to help in a breakthrough made by the 10th Armored Div., east of STUTTGART. Moved to FICHTENBURG tonight. Got a little sleep in a hay barn. Roads are dusty.

April 20, 1945 Up early. Filled with gas and took out through the BAVARIAN ALPS to LORSCH. Beautiful, peaceful country through here with the towns undamaged. We took over a house from an old codger who could speak a little English. Of course, he was an avowed anti-Nazi. Still, I found a Nazi flag and an Iron Cross as soon as we moved

in. Shortly after, we moved in a jet propelled plane went over, but did nothing. A short while later, 8 or 10 Jerry planes came over and unloaded a basket full of anti-personnel bombs. One lit about 50 yards away, but didn't hit anything. ACK, ACK was busy, but they didn't hit anything either.

April 21, 1945 Moved out this morning across the REMO RIVER through the mountains and through GOTTLINGEN, and into -----. Got a nice big house for our C.P. This town is undamaged. We have electric lights, water, etc. This afternoon built up a big fire and put out a washing in their electric washer. Found some 1934 Champagne, some extra good schnapps and cognac. They have a bath tub and I had a nice hot bath.

There are a lot of Pole and Russian refugees around here. We liberated a French PW camp this morning, but didn't wait around to be kissed.

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

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Working with 1st Sec of the 3rd Platoon, 2nd Sec in reserve. Moved from FICHTENBERG to LORCH, 44-24. 2nd Platoon, 3 guns working with task force of the 1st Bn, 324 Inf. Moved to LORCH, 1 gun with Bn at rear for maintenance.

3rd Platoon, 2 guns 1st Sec. working task force of the 3rd Bn, 324 Inf., moved from FICHTENBERG 45-45 to PLUDERHAUSEN 370-236, to be used as road block. 2 guns with Bn rear for maintenance.

April 22, 1945 We moved again. Went to HAUSEN AD FILS where we set up CP in an old barracks. Wasn't pleased with that so we went down about a block to take over a beer joint.

Flushed out a couple of prisoners with rifles. They said they were Russians, but they are prisoners now because they were fighting on the wrong side. Took them to PW cage then came back to our beer joint CP. They have stored away here, box after box of shoes, silverware, linens, etc. 300 prisoners were taken out of this town and the hills surrounding. I saw 220 come out of the hills in one bunch with 6 or 8 G.I. guarding them. Our T.D.S have been slaughtering them. We were counter-attacked twice yesterday, by enemy infantry with small arms and bazookas. Three tanks were knocked out, but none of our T.D.s. They captured two enemy planes intact. One fighter and one transport. In tight spot so poured it to them and burnt them. The Germans have little artillery left, and now when they show resistance they are getting a dose of what we went through in Africa. Glover got hit in the leg by a sniper, but not hurt too bad. We've had no other casualties for a week. Russians are fighting in BERLIN and Americans are nearing a link-up south of BERLIN.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. 44 rds H.E expended, 2rds APC. (Operational summary

illegible.)

April 23, 1945 Left HAUSEN AD FILS about 1000 hrs. Went along a winding road. Saw a couple of dead Infantrymen, where a sniper had picked them off. Stopped at NELLINGEN about noon, at a GASTHAUS but left again about 1400 hrs. Went across super highway and around through the mountains to -----. About 5, had orders to move on. Stopped for a few minutes at OPFINGEN on the DANUBE, and then went on to DUNNARFELTEN. Part of our group moved to ERBACH.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. 9 rds H.E. expended, 6 rds APC. CP at HAUSEN.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. After 1200 hrs, kept firing 50 and 30 cal. mgs into a cave and draw in which the Germans were trying to hide. Total count to 1900 hrs, 38 dead, 29 wounded, 38 captured. At 1830 hrs the one gun of the 3rd Platoon, which was in reserve, replaced the two guns of this section in TURKHEIM, 2nd Sec moved from reserve position to support the tanks and Inf. of the 2nd Bn on their move to 625-005.

2nd Platoon. 3 guns working with the 1st Bn moved south to MACHTOLSHEIM, arriving at 2130 hrs. On this advance one transport and one fighter plane was captured, and destroyed in woods at 484-965. Small arms fire from the 30 & 50 cal MGs were used to support the advance of the infantry.

3rd Platoon. 1 gun of 1st Sec. in ordnance. The other relieved the 2 guns of the 1st Platoon in TURKHEIM, 2nd Sec. moved SE from 55-05 to take over the old positions of the 2 guns of the 1st Platoon. At 0800 hrs the 2 guns were moving south. 9 rds H.E. plus 6 A.P.C. besides the MGs were used against snipers, which had infiltrated into GEISLINGEN 55-05.

April 24, 1945 Stayed here until noon. Stopped at EISINGEN about 12 km outside of ULM. Tanks attacked into ULM this morning. We got a billet in another GASTHAUS, full of beer. Stayed long enough to eat supper and have a few beers. We are working with the French, and bringing in a lot of prisoners between us. About 6 o'clock moved up through GRUMMELFINGEN into ULM which is only part ours. We are shelling part of the town and Jerry's shelling the other part. Snipers are all over the city.

We moved into a big brewery in ULM for C.P. It is full of uniforms and kraut soldiers. 324th are using the place as a PW collection point. Took over 1500 today. Their packs are scattered all over the place.

There are thousands of refugees; Poles, Russians, Greeks, Italians. All going through the German prisoners kits bags and drinking beer.

All of our destroyer men have been taking prisoners and getting pistols. All the Poles are getting drunk, playing accordions and dancing. There is more drinking material here, than any army could drink. Some of our bunch are a little tipsy, but enough of us are available to run the radio and keep things going. All the time

there is intermittent small arms fire and some artillery fire.

I'm so tired I can hardly keep awake and Park doesn't relieve me until 2 o'clock. Craig and McCarthy on guard in front of the building. Just captured 17 krauts and two guards in the rear captured 15 or 20 more in a building back of us.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. No ammo expended. CO C.P. at DONA WEIDEN.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. 1200 hrs. Enroute from NELLINGEN to BUCH. Moved this morning with 2nd Platoon to attack ULM. Balance of report illigible.

April 25, 1945 Up early thinking we might move but we are still here tonight, with some more mopping up to be done in town. All our destroyer men got new P-38 pistols from a factory they helped capture.

News tonight: BERLIN is encircled. Maybe it won't be long now. Hope not.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. 13 rds H.E. expended. CO C.P. at ULM.

1st Platoon, 2nd Sec. In route from 64-77 attacking in support of the 2nd Bn to take ULM. Fired 13 rds H.E. into houses used by snipers on the outskirts of ULM. Moved into present location 671-801, overlooking bridge for any possible attack of the enemy. 1st Sec. in reserve.

2nd Platoon. Three guns following up as support of armor and infantry moving into northwest edge of ULM at 1500 hrs. Moving to present position awaiting further orders. One gun in ordnance.

3rd Platoon. Three guns scheduled to move in a sweeping movement around the north of ULM. Moved into ULM supporting the armor of the French Division. Moved into present location 677-813, at approx. 1400 hrs. One gun in ordnance.

All guns used 30 & 50 cal machine guns to route enemy infantry. Approximately 2000 prisoners taken so far.

April 26, 1945 ULM is completely in our hands now and the 324th Inf. crossed the DANUBE in assault boats. We moved back to EHINGEN, crossed the DANUBE (9 pontoons) and headed south and east. Crossed the ILLER CANAL (12 pontoons) past SCHWENDI and stopped at 10 p.m. in ILLERICHEN. The people didn't want to move out of their house. Said they were French. They moved. This morning before we left ULM, the Poles and Russian refugees had a bloody battle. The Ruskies accused the Poles of drinking all the schnapps and visa versa, when they all really had enough to paralyze themselves, and some left over. They threw bottles and hit each other in the head with bottles. No one was killed. If you are forced for years to live like animals, I guess it's difficult not to turn into a beast.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. No ammo expended. CO C.P. in ALTENSTADT.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. Working in support of the 2nd Bn, 324 Inf. moved at 1500 hrs with the 1st Bn to present location 768-800 at 1530 hrs to ALTERSTADT 765-543, arriving 2130 hrs.

2nd Platoon, 2 guns have been replaced by the 2 guns of the 1st Platoon moved to vicinity of 67-80 in order to be able to support the 2nd Bn at 1530 hrs to HEIMERTINGEN 805-405. 1 gun moved to NIEDERRIEDEN 824-426 to be used as security for that town. 1 gun in the rear with Bn maintenance.

3rd Platoon. 3 guns moved with the tanks and 3rd Bn Inf. at 1300 hrs to vicinity ALLMENDINGEN 47-72 to support Inf. in clearing out enemy infantry in woods to the west. This platoon is out of communication with CO C.P. 1 gun in ordnance.

April 27, 1945 The 7th Army is going as fast as gas will allow them to and the 3rd in the same condition is now in AUSTRIA. In ITALY, PADUA and GENOA have fallen. The Russians and Americans have joined forces and now there is no longer what could be considered to be any organized resistance.

Had a letter from home. Brother J is back in the States, but will be in the hospital two or three weeks to get some meat on his ribs.

A little after 12, Ed Carroll, who was on guard came running in with word that a big German patrol was coming up on us. I awoke everyone in the house, and it bristled with guns like a hedgehog. We fired a few rounds and scared them off without capturing any or being fired upon. Maybe they wanted to give up.

CO report. 9 guns operational, 3 in repair. CO C.P. at ALTENSTADT. No ammo expended.

1st Platoon, 1st Sec. In support of the tanks and the 1st Bn, 324 Inf. is waiting further orders to move. 2nd Sec. in reserve.

2nd Platoon. 3 guns in support of the tanks and the 2nd Bn, 324 Inf. is waiting further orders to move. 1 gun in NIEDERRIEDEN, 2 guns in HEIMERTINGEN, 1 gun with Bn maintenance.

3rd Platoon, 3rd Sec. 3 guns moved east from ALLMENDINGEN 47-72, to MEMMINGEN 823-352. 1 gun in ord. 1 of three guns has a broken track being fixed by CO maintenance. This platoon is out of communication with the CO.

April 28, 1945 Moved out at 0945, through MEMMINGEN and KEMPTEN some 50 miles to a point, 4 miles from the AUSTRIAN BORDER. A-CO is in AUSTRIA. As we started we could see a few Jerry prisoners coming in. Then the farther we went, the more we saw. At one place where we stopped, we saw over a thousand coming down the road in a bunch without any guard. Everyone was too busy to fool with them, and we waved them on to the rear. Maybe Ordnance, quartermaster or somebody can capture them, and get some medals. We are too busy. Tonight and this afternoon in this town of OY they have been streaming

in by ones, twos, fives, twenties and fifties. On foot, bicycles, horse carts, trucks and cars. Drunk and sober. We liberated a PW camp at MEMMINGEN and another just past OY, where there was a bunch of political prisoners.

Heading forward are tanks, T.D.s, long Toms, gas, ammo. Just as fast and furious forward as are the prisoners coming the other way.

In ITALY, too, the 5th and 8th Armies and Partisans are going hog wild and cleaning up the remainder of ITALY.

CO report. 10 vehicles operational, 2 in repair. No ammo expended. CO C.P. in OY.

Operational report: 1st Platoon is moving with 1st Bn, 324 Inf. from ALTENSTADT to KEMPEN. Arrived at destination at 1000 hrs.

2nd Platoon. 3 guns moved from MIEDERRIEDEN 824-426, and HEIMERTINGEN 805-405 at 1100 hrs. to SCHLECHTENBERG 990-015 arriving at 1500 hrs. 1 gun in Bn Maintenance.

3rd Platoon. 3 guns moved from ALLMENDINGEN 57-72 to HASLACH 50-960, started approx. 1600 hrs.

April 29, 1945 HIMMLER put out peace feelers to America and Britain accepting unconditional surrender, but it wasn't accepted unless it was offered to the Russians as well. Don't see how they can hold out more than a few days.

Still in OY. It snowed yesterday and last night, and again hard today. Prisoners keep coming in with big white flags flying. News today: Our troops are in MUNICH. MILAN has fallen to the 5th. Mussolini and several of his henchmen have been tried, shot and hung by Italian partisans. The front is moving along but no news of armistice. Supposedly there was a premature armistice in the States, for a while last night.

CO report. 11 vehicles operational, 1 in repair. CP in OY.

1st Platoon. In support of 1st Bn, 324 Inf. is waiting orders from Regiment.

2nd Platoon. 3 guns moving south with the 2nd Bn, 324 Inf. from 990-015 to 010-927. Ran into some small arms fire at 2130 hrs just before entering the town. The Platoon supported the Infantry by firing their MGs. Two bazookas were fired at our guns but both were misses. 1 gun joined the other 3 at 1530 hrs.

3rd Platoon. 3 guns in support of the 3rd Bn, 324th Inf. is expected to move in the near future.

## AUSTRIA

April 30, 1945 Moved up into AUSTRIA to a town PFLACH. We are relieved for a few days to service our vehicles, after the pounding they have taken. More snow.

CO report. 11 vehicles operational, 1 in repair. CO C.P. PFLACH, AUSTRIA.

1st Platoon which was in support of the 1st Bn, 324 Inf. was relieved to assemble at CO area for maintenance. Left KAMPEN and arriving at PFLACH at 1500 hrs.

2nd Platoon. Which was in support of the 2nd Bn, 324 Inf. was relieved to assemble at CO area for maintenance. At 1630 hrs left WERTACH and arriving at PFLACH at 1800 hrs.

3rd Platoon. 3 guns which was in support of the 3rd Bn was relieved to assemble at CO area for maintenance at 1100 hrs. Left HASLACK and arriving at PFLACH at 1400 hrs. 1 gun in ordnance.

May 1, 1945 The mountains are covered with snow. It is snowing hard here. Every front is collapsing and peace rumors are flying.

The other night in OY, I was still up on radio guard. Austin, who was on guard outside, brought in an English speaking German soldier wanting to find a place for them to sleep overnight. There was no place in town so we sent them on to the next town. They marched by, three or four abreast carrying their equipment and waving a white flag. We counted over 400 in the group.

Just before we left OY, a convoy of krauts came in, in a horsedrawn cart with their field kitchen and everything. Some Italian ex-prisoners of a concentration camp, we liberated near here, cut off the last two wagons, pulled the Jerries off and gave them a good beating, and took their horses, wagons, and personal belongings. I don't blame them a bit, after the treatment they had been given in the concentration camp. 300 Italians had been taken out and shot by SS Troops, just before we liberated the camp.

May 2, 1945 Snowed all night and today, but isn't very cold. All Germans in Italy have surrendered unconditionally.

May 3, 1945 Germans in the north are falling to pieces. ROSTOCK has fallen and there is only a small pocket left near BERLIN. BERLIN has fallen, HAMBURG has fallen. KIEL and several northern cities have given the come on sign to British troops. INNSBRUCK has said they won't fight when we come in. Patton is only seven miles from LINZ. I don't believe we will go on the line again.

May 4, 1945 Tried to print some pictures today but power went off.

May 5, 1945 Baker, Harold, Bartley and I went in a jeep up to IMST looking for Shuck. I found his battery, but he is in a hospital back in England. We went over

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the hump of the ALPS, and were on the downgrade toward ITALY. Beautiful country.

May 6, 1945 Baker Petersen, Bartley and I took a jeep and our cameras and took off. We went up to LERMOOS, then north to GRIESEN. Came back to UNTERDORF and LERMOOS and then south to NASSEREITH, HOLZLEITEN, and OBSTEIG. South down the INN R to INNSBRUCK.

INNSBRUCK is a nice city and not terribly damaged. Just outside the city is a captured airfield with a bunch of Jerry jet planes undamaged. We took a few pictures of them, though, there were guards all around and it was against the rules. Got back about 4 just as the company was pulling out. Thought we would catch hell, but we didn't. The CO moved up to BICHLBACH. This is to be our area to police for a while. The war is supposed to be over within the next two days, and we are taking over a few towns to police or as occupational troops. I don't know how long this is to last.

Tomorrow we turn in all gas masks and field glasses. So our war days in EUROPE are over. Thank the Lord.

May 7, 1945 Strung telephone wires all afternoon. Ike announced tonight that the war is over and that tomorrow it would be official. Peace terms were signed today in RHEIMS, FRANCE.

May 8, 1945 Today is official V-Day. We are occupation troops for the town of BICHLBACH. On guard about one day out of four, and policing up old wrecked field pieces, trucks, trailers, brass, small arms and anything else laying around.

May 9, 1945 Was on guard, riding up and down the road for about 5 km stretch. On duty from midnight till four, and then same hours this afternoon.

May 10, 1945 Printed a few pictures today. Lt. Kujawski, Hennessy, and Keller left for Great Britain today, on a seven day furlough.

May 11, 1945 War Dept. announced point system for demobilization. It stated that those with a total of 85 points would be discharged. We will get one point for each month in the army. One point for each month overseas, five points for each battle star and 12 points for each kid up to three. I have 103 points with 50 months in the army, 28 overseas and 5 battle stars. So, I'm at least counting highly on going home.

We at last got a little publicity with our battalion getting in the paper as having over 550 days of combat.

May 12, 1945 Feel like the very devil today. Had too rough a party last night.

May 14, 1945 Was on guard. Had to go to a movie on demobilization. Recon CO moved down someplace further toward INNSBRUCK & BRENNER PASS.

May 17, 18, 1945 On guard and printed a few pictures.

May 19, 1945 Sackman left for home and demob. He is the first and only one from the company so far. Fourteen left, from the battalion. He had 120 points.

May 20, 1945 Went to 7 o'clock Mass. Went fishing

for awhile with Tom. He caught three trout, but I didn't have any luck. We went riding on a railway motor car, down the tracks 8 or 10 miles to LERMOOS.

May 21, 1945 They are sending men home with the highest points. Sack had 120. Brunton is next with 115. He would have gone this time but he is in England on pass. They sent down to 107. Several more have 107, so they drew to see which 107s would go. It shouldn't take long to get down to the 98 which they say I have.

May 22, 1945 On guard.

May 23, 1945 Worked on telephones. Rumor 25 are going home June 4.

May 24, 1945 We were awarded another battle star today. One for France and Germany, west of the RHINE, and one for east of RHINE. Gives me 5 stars and 103 points.

May 25, 26, 1945 On guard. Turned in a few excess small items.

May 28, 1945 Went to a show put on by a bunch of Turkish entertainers. They had a good juggler, a slight of hand artist, a contortionist and two girl dancers. A good show, though, we could not understand the language of the MC.

May 29, 1945 Was on guard tonight at PW enclosure. We had two Eties, 4 Wehrmacht, and 3 Luftwaffe that we put up for the night. One of the Wehrmacht, a paratrooper gave me his Iron Cross and Wound Medal. Said they were no good to him any more.

May 30, 31, 1945 On guard. Went to BERWANG to Mass. Today is Corpus Christi and a holy day in AUSTRIA.

June 1, 1945 Rumor that we will be here until July 2, but that 40 men from the company will be started home this month. I hope this is so, because this should certainly include me.

June 2, 1945 Went to OBERMOOS, about 15 miles from here and then up in a cable car, up the tallest mountain in the TYROLLEAN ALPS. After getting out at the top of the car line in AUSTRIA. We walked down through a tunnel about a half mile into Germany. Here was a big resort hotel and place to ski. We had a good time taking pictures. Took another cable car almost to the peak, which is back in AUSTRIA. We climbed on up to the top in the snow and ice to a big brass cross. It was a slippery, scary trip. Got back to BICHLBACH for supper.

June 3, 1945 On guard at 4 p.m. went to REUTTE for Mass.

June 4, 1945 Did a little close order drill and turned in our combat clothes. The 44th is moving out of this territory within a few days and the 103rd is spreading out and taking over.

Saw list today of the points. In our company, there are 16 men with points above 98 and 8 including myself with 98. So, I'll be somewhere between the 18th and 24th to go home. Don't know when the next batch leaves.

June 5, 1945 44th moved out today. 103rd moved in.

We are still here.

June 6, 1945 Went mountain climbing today with Simpson.

June 7, 1945 On guard.

June 8, 1945 We have extended our police territory, B-CO has taken in LAHN, WENGLE, BICHLBACH & HEITERWANG.

June 9, 1945 Was out laying wire in rain all day.

June 10, 1945 Up to go to Mass and then repairing telephone lines.

June 11, 1945 No more PW guard detail. All we have is a two man moving patrol and eight men in HEITERWANG as occupation troops. With one on duty at all times.

June 12, 1945 Went to INNSBRUCK this morning with Pete and Harold Bartley in the ambulance.

June 13, 1945 Rained all day today.

June 14, 1945 Worked on telephone lines all morning and painted signs.

June 15, 1945 Was on guard from midnight until 4 o'clock. Then again this afternoon from 12 till 4. Went driving over to PLANSEE for a while.

June 16, 1945 Had a morning full of close order drill, calisthenics, training film and then a speech by Col. Barney. He says, we aren't going home until December. We were told yesterday that we would go home as a unit.

June 17, 1945 Went to 8:30 Mass. Went to a show at Hdqts. tonight. We are supposed to be in Category 2, now, to go to Pacific by way of the States. Don't think anyone knows what we are in.

June 18, 1945 Close order drill & various other junk to keep us busy.

June 19, 1945 Went to HEITERWANG to pull guard tonight.

June 20, 1945 On guard today at HEITERWANG. Still no mail today. It's been over ten days since we have had any mail.

June 21, 1945 Rained today. Did close order drill this morning.

June 22, 1945 Rained all morning. I'm almost sick with a cold. Painted signs and developed pictures. Had a couple of letters today.

June 23, 1945 Had a physical inspection.

June 24, 1945 Drew pictures for the company all morning and printed film all afternoon. We men with over 85 points are going to be sent to other outfits within a month. Thirteen of the new men who just came in and the officers will stay and get replacements from the outfits we go to.

June 26, 1945 Was on guard last night from 10-2 and again today from 10-2. Rained this afternoon. Printed pictures after I got off guard.

June 27, 1945 Went by Jimmy to BERCHTESGADEN. It was a long cold ride for 150 miles through the rain. All we saw when we got there was a heap of rubble where the bombers piled up the rocks of BERCHTESGADEN.

A large stone fireplace was still intact and a view out over the forested mountain, which Hitler and his henchmen had once looked out on.

June 28, 1945 Went to PLANSEE for a two day vacation. Went boat riding mountain climbing and fishing.

June 29, 1945 Raining. Couldn't fish. Huff and Phillips had to go back as they are leaving for 601 TD.

June 30, 1945 Went back to camp. Part of fellows are leaving tomorrow for 601 & 813. Baker and Dautremont are to go to 601st. The balance of us are leaving Thursday for SALZBURG and the 705th.

Had a parade today with a bunch of bronze stars given and a presidential citation for having broken the SIEGFRIED LINE.

July 1, 1945 Tom D. came over tonight for a last visit.

July 4, 1945 Loaded all our baggage and stuff on trucks tonight to leave in the a.m.

July 5, 1945 Left at 6. Nice day. Seventeen men in the 2nd Platoon, were in our truck. Went through INNSBRUCK and SALZBURG and into our new town MONDSEE. A nice town on a lake. We are in three beat up old hotel buildings in town and several smaller buildings scattered through town. All of old B-CO except the CP Group is in one building.

July 7, 1945 This afternoon went to SALZBURG to see Sutro. He was transferred out of 756 Tanks this week, and is in the 11th Armored Div. 22nd Tank Bn. Saw Huff, Arboit, Larsen and Baker in 601 TD.

July 8, 1945 We were asked if we had any objection to flying home. There is a small chance for plus 100s to fly home.

July 10, 1945 Went on guard at WEISSENBACH and ATTERSEE about 15 miles from here. We live in a house in town and have a cook and a housekeeper.

July 11, 1945 Was called back into camp. I leave Friday for 813th. Bible, Johnson, Campbell and Rickbiel are leaving on 13th by plane. I am short four points.

July 13, 1945 Left at noon for WELS, AUSTRIA, for C-CO, 813th. Rumor the whole battalion will leave for RHEIMS in 3 to 10 days.

July 14, 1945 I am on guard at the prison camp just short way from here. It is full of SS Troops and Nazi civilians. Stood from 6-10 in a tower at the corner of the enclosure.

July 15, 1945 On guard again this morning. Went to WELS to Mass. Ate late dinner and tried to hitch a ride to see Sutro. Got only about a third of the way.

About 3 pm. Lt. at the SS prison had me drive him to LINZ. It is a nice city, but is pretty well torn up. A bunch of 601st boys were here after chow to visit.

July 17, 1945 Went to LAMBACH to drink beer this evening.

July 19, 1945 Had a fire at an ammo dump, about 100 yards from our barracks. There were three cars of poison

gas only 20 yards from the fire. Fire put out. O.K.  
 July 20, 1945 On guard at PW Camp. Someone outside the camp and across the highway sent about 30 rds of rifle fire toward post #2 and my post. Could hear the bullets sing but neither of us got hit, Lieut. investigated but found nothing.

July 23, 1945 On guard everyday. Went to WELS to night to a show.

July 30, 1945 All of our 85 to 100 points are to leave Thursday Aug. 2, for 103 Div. Don't know when we old high number men are going.

July 31, 1945 Went to SALZBURG tonight to show.

August 3, 1945 Bunch of girls were here all afternoon. I took home a young fraulein from DUISBURG. Pretty little creature she was.

August 5, 1945 Went to Mass in WELS this morning.

August 6, 1945 Advance detail of a dozen of us moved this afternoon through SALZBURG and to OBERNDORF on the banks of the river, just across from LAUFEN in GERMANY. Stayed in GASTHAUS overnight.

August 7, 1945 Up early to hold houses artillery was vacating. ---- from old C-CO, 776th killed himself last night. Went nuts waiting for the redeployment to get him home. Had over a hundred points.

August 9, 1945 Twelve men left this morning from SALZBURG by box car to THIONVILLE, FRANCE, and then fly home. Seven of us came out to a little village PERWANG, to man a road block for a few days.

August 10, 1945 We are pulling guard 4 hrs on and 36 hrs off. This afternoon I hitched a ride into SALZBURG to see fellows in 601st. All their men over 91 points are going home 18th.

August 11, 1945 Stayed all night with Tom D., and hitched back to OBERNDORF with Major Martin. He says we are all to leave Sat. 18, for THIONVILLE and then fly home.

August 12, 1945 Went to 9 o'clock Mass in PERWANG. We turned in our steel helmets.

August 13, 1945 Acceptance of Japans plea for peace.

August 14, 1945 Still in PERWANG.

August 15, 1945 Came back to OBERNDORF this afternoon. Turned in our guns. Still plan to leave Saturday.

August 18, 1945 Went to SALZBURG about 10 and loaded on a 40 & 8. All the 601st, 705th, & 813th boys are on the same train. We have about 50 cars and are loaded 20 men to a car. Started moving about 11 o'clock. Moved slowly during the day but really ran at night. Had about a foot wide space to sleep. The cars were 23'9" long, and with our barracks bags in the end we had less than a foot wide space. We laid head to foot, but only 18 got to lay at one time.

August 19, 1945 Were in KARLSRUHE, GERMANY at day-break. Didn't cross the RHINE at STRASSBOURG until 7 p.m.

August 20, 1945 After another wonderful night we

were just in SARREBOURG at daybreak. Had a little cold breakfast here, then pulled out. Had to steal green apples and cabbage along the road to keep from getting hungry and that didn't help much. Got in Metz at 10:30 and sat in yards until 4. Pulled on out to this place near THIONVILLE about 6, and then got the startling news that we aren't flying but have to go by boat. Messed around till dark trying to get something to eat and a place to sleep. Tom Dautremont and I got a couple of cots together. We will both get out at Jefferson Barracks some day.

August 21, 1945 Had a meeting, filling out forms and were told we would go home by boat, but would be here a week or two. Had a physical and clothing check. Took away some clothes here, then gave you more at the next place. Such a damn, no good, incompetent, stinking set up this army has.

August 25, 1945 Were issued more clothing. Are supposed to be leaving in a few days.

August 26, 1945 Today is the day we had written orders to be home if we had gone by plane.

August 27, 1945 I went to office trying to get our flying plans revised. Paper today said 6000 men were flying home on the Greene plan. The plan we were told was cancelled.

One fellow just ahead of me, asked the "why" of a 2nd Lt. and told the shave tail ----- on you, I killed Jerries because I didn't like them and I don't like you. He is in the guard house with six months sentence and forfeit of all pay.

August 29, 1945 We are supposed to leave tomorrow for LEHAVRE. After supper tonight when we were supposed to pick up the souvenir guns we had turned in to register, we were told we weren't leaving for a few days and we couldn't have them. Almost had a riot, but we calmed down.

August 30, 1945 This morning we were told to turn in our clothing that we drew and go by plane, but we would first go by rail to MARSEILLES, Monday. Probably another big lie.

September 1, 1945 Got paid today.

September 3, 1945 Left here at 8 o'clock tonight. Got on Class 3 coaches and pulled out at 11 o'clock. Supposed to be 36 hour ride.

September 4, 1945 Ride a few miles, then stop. Got no sleep last night, as we have only wooden slat seats to sit on and no sleeping accommodations. Some fellows tried to sleep in the luggage racks.

September 5, 1945 Delays and more delays. Another night on the damn train.

September 6, 1945 Bones aching. Pulled into CALAS staging area about noon. Have had nothing to eat today, except one K-ration. Fed only twice a day on the train. Went by truck a few miles to Greene Plan area. It is

doubtful we will go by plane. The project is called off Sept. 10. Only 18 planes a day go with 30 men each. We have more men here than that.

September 7, 1945 540 men left at 2 this morning and 1000 more came in about 4 o'clock. Orders cancelling air movement for present.

September 8, 1945 Notice today Greene Plan cancelled and we will go by boats when they can get boats for us. Yet the paper says the Greene Plan is to continue until Sept. 30. We are being lied to and can do nothing about it.

September 12, 1945 We are still here.

September 16, 1945 We were told we would load tomorrow on SS Hawaiian shipper.

September 17, 1945 Called off again. So a committee went to inspector general. He couldn't find our records any place, so started an investigation. Found that our records had been hidden while the officer in charge of the Greene Plan collected a tidy sum to send newer outfits home. We have no right to prosecution against him.

September 20, 1945 More delays. Finally at 3 p.m. pulled out in trucks for MARSEILLES. Got aboard SS David Shanks about 6 and pulled out of port at 8 p.m.

September 21, 1945 We are overloaded and don't have near enough bunks. 2600 men on board and have bunks for 1500. I slept on deck last night. As is our everlasting luck this ship is a lemon. Has only one motor usable and we will take 14-16 days to make the trip.

September 22, 1945 Moving slowly, making 11 miles per hour. Slept on deck again last night.

September 23, 1945 Passed through STRAITS of GIBRALTAR. No chaplain aboard. Didn't go to Mass. About noon our one remaining motor stopped and we were stalled till 9 p.m.

September 24, 1945 Rough sea today. Half the fellows got sick. I grabbed a bunk of somebody's and stayed there.

September 25, 1945 Not as rough today. Ate a little but felt dizzy. We are making 10-11 miles per hour.

September 26, 1945 Still crippling along. Have been through storms for past five days and I've been sick all the while. We were headed for NEWPORT NEWS, today it was changed to NEW YORK.

END OF DIARY: I was too sick to add more.

Was somehow discharged from Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis October 14, 1945. PRAISE THE LORD!

I was asked along with others if I wanted to reenlist? I told them I would not consider it even if I were commissioned a five star General.



Harold Bartley  
Dragons Teeth, concrete emplacements  
in Siegfried to impede tank movement



Ulm Brewery captured and  
used as platoon headquarters overnight  
April 25, 1945



Ersweiler, Germany, March 1945  
Thoruald Nelson, Barney Brunton,  
Fred Eberle, Leonard  
Toso, Carl Franklin, Merlin Park,  
Ralph Veale



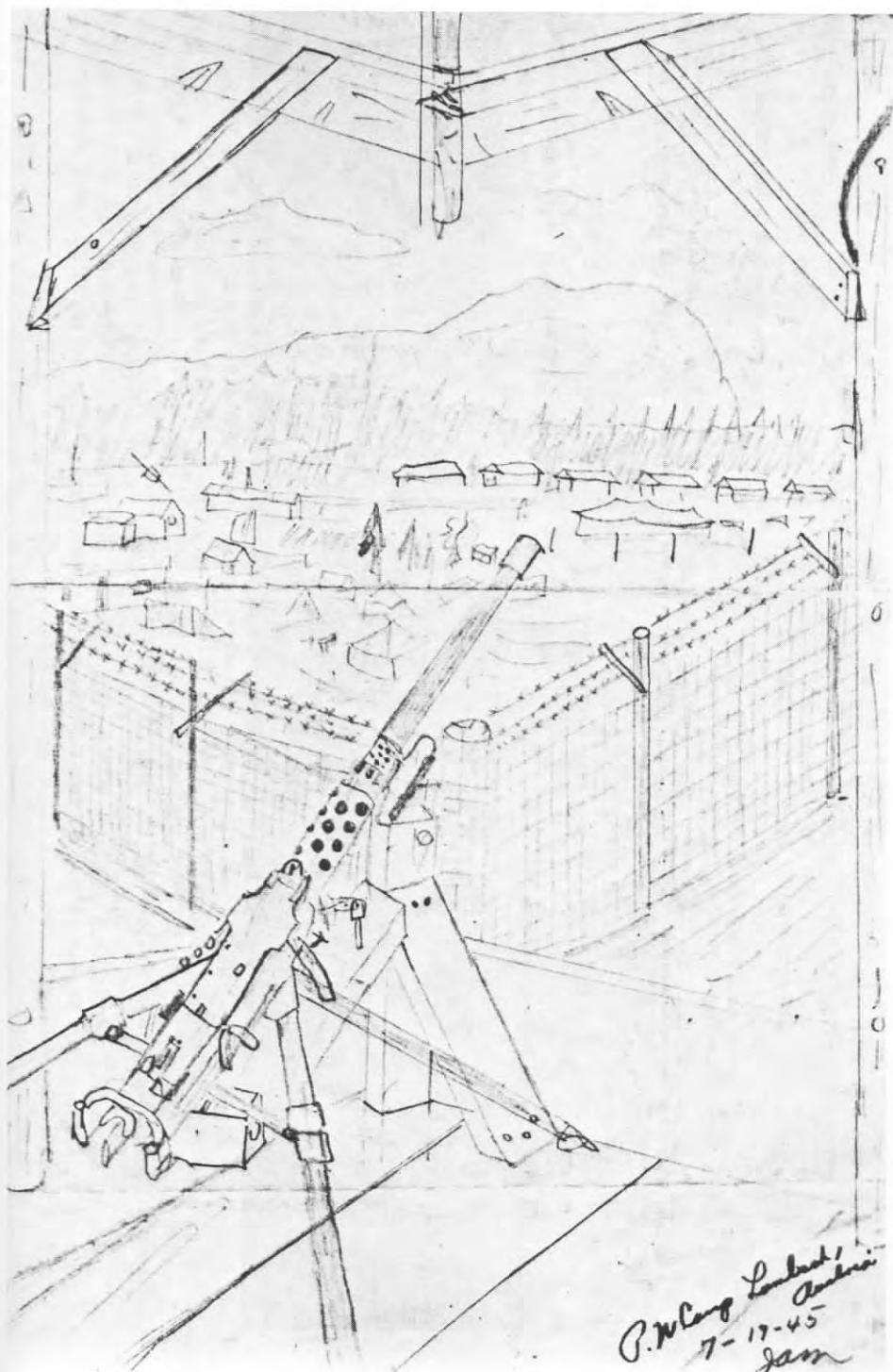
Oy, Germany  
1945



Bichlbach, Tirol m. Zugspitze 2964m



Our temporary headquarters  
Bichlbach, Tyrol, Austria  
May 3, 1945 to July 5, 1945



P.W.C. Lamberti  
7-19-45  
San



FIRST ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Rodney M. Brunton, Lisbon, N.D.; Kenneth D. Peterson, Douglas, N.D.; Orville J. Jacobson, Cogswell, N.D.; Edward S. Adolf, Lisbon, N.D.; Joseph O. Fadness, Lisbon, N.D.; Andrew J. Bertha, Lynch, Ky.; Edward J. Lukes, Lisbon, N.D.; Robert F. Gallap, Coldwater, Mich.; Sigval M. Carlson, Peever, S.D.; Francis N. Zerr, Lisbon, N.D.; John S. Wilson, Wyndmere, N.D.; Jacob E. Sackmann, Tuttle, N.D.; Robert W. Bartley, Lisbon, N.D.; Edward R. Peterson, Englevale, N.D.; Oliver P. Nelson, Ft. Ransom, N.D.; Bernie B. Simpson, Bryson, Tex.; Peter Leiss, Gladstone, N.D.; John H. Fahseler, Rockport, Mo.

SECOND ROW: Capt. Rowland R. Martin, Maud, Okla.; Anthony Arboit, 506 W. Fayette St., Baltimore, Md.; Edward L. Levine, 946 Bronx Park, So. Bronx, N.Y.; Raymond W. Perry, Lisbon, N.D.; Lloyd O. Hegle, Lisbon, N.D.; John D. Suter, Lisbon, N.D.; Lester I. Decker, Gwinner, N.D.; Harold L. Bartley, Lisbon, N.D.; Robert M. Campbell, Delamere, N.D.; Francis J. Carroll, Lisbon, N.D.; J. D. Owen, Midland, Ark.; John Truesdell, Lisbon, N.D.; Elmer O. Berg, Blair, Wisc.; Johnnie G. Sanders, Graceville, Fla.; Clarence E. Schaeffer, Oregon, Mo.; Lavall O. Thompson, Englevale, N.D.; Joseph W. Kubala, 3137 Arlington Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Lt. Clement P. Kujawski, 119 Spruce Place, South Bend, Ind.

THIRD ROW: Lt. J. R. Merritt, 2109 Grant Ave., El Paso, Tex.; Joseph B. Neilson, Glenolden, Pa.; George R. Newkirk, 1382 Hollywood Ave., Columbus, Oh.; Elmer M. Dickson, Pascola, Mo.; Dewett C. Barrus, Battle Creek, Mich.; Merlin R. Park, Rushville, Mo.; Ledrue A. Laffoon, Union Star, Mo.; Lexie A. Devasier, Newbern, Tenn.; Dan R. Laurila, Makinen, Minn.; Irvin C. Devitt, Milnor, N.D.; Edward M. Carroll, Lisbon, N.D.; Ralph H. Ljunggren, Lignite, N.D.; Andrew C. Andersen, Anaconda, Mont.; Raymond J. Grundhoefer, Buckman, Minn.; Emil J. Olwick, 1680 Belmont Ave., Toledo, Oh.; Ralph G. Faller, Lisbon, N.D.; Richard E. Eacret, Thornton, Wash.

FOURTH ROW: Lt. Adler H. Bratland, Nome, N.D.; Alfred M. Strand, Nome, N.D.; Reuben W. Jodsaas, Lisbon, N.D.; Howard A. Firth, 100 Ellis St., Gloucester, N.J.; Ralph P. Kuhnert, Rushville, Mo.; Martin Raan, White Earth, N.D.; Clifford I. Larson, Lisbon, N.D.; George J. Keller, Lisbon, N.D.; Leland K. Larson, Lisbon, N.D.; Elmer F. Thomason, Lisbon, N.D.; Burnett Norby, Alkabo, N.D.; Sigurd O. Johnson, McLeod, N.D.; Frederick W. Heise, Hempstead, Tex.; Orville R. Schjeldahl, Mayville, N.D.; Ethredge O. Ryan, Decatur, Ala.; Marion M. Toyne, Lisbon, N.D.; Myron W. Bell, Eskridge, Kans.

FIFTH ROW: Willis L. Wollin, Karlstad, Minn.; Harold W. Peihl, Hunter, N.D.; Herbert N. Stephens, 351 W. 4th St., Jasper, Ind.; Leon F. DeCorte, Jr., 5624 Fauntleroy Ave., Seattle, Wash.; Maurice G. Rochlitz, Big Springs, Nebr.; David Tarshis, 1611 S. Avers Ave., Chicago, Ill.; Edwin J. Heyne, Heil, N.D.; Eldon L. Haun, Dubuque, Ia.; Carl E. Franklin, Perryville, Mo.; Ross W. Baker, East Liverpool, Oh.; John M. Griffin, Ulmers, S.C.; Rhoben L. Glazebrooks, Morganton, N.C.; Howard S. Wilson, Wyndmere, N.D.; Arvid M. Forde, Landa, N.D.

SIXTH ROW: Lt. Edward W. Ira, Lisbon, N.D.; Willard A. Thompson, Lisbon, N.D.; Robert W. Sahlquist, 423 N. 84th Ave., W. Duluth, Minn.; Joseph F. Calvert, 613 N. Cheyenne, Tulsa, Okla.; Harry W. Gardner, Great Falls, Mont.; Maurice G. Lacourse, Lewiston, Me.; Raymond P. Bible, Brainerd, Minn.; Thorvald C. Nelson, Brayton, Ia.; Robert C. Elijah, Lisbon, N.D.; John J. Hennessy, Berthold, N.D.; John O. Bartelson, Plaza, N.D.; Vernon L. Anderson, 125½ Sixth St., SE, Minoi, N.D.; Tony V. Linneman, Reynolds, N.D.; Stanley L. Paluch, Jr., 5218 W. 30th St., Cicero, Ill.; Mervyn G. Rickbeil, Cavalier, N.D.; Joseph F. Randash, Mohall, N.D.; Leonard Toso, Esmond, N.D.; Ralph W. Voale, King City, Mo.; Capt. Donald N. Anderson, Detroit Lakes, Minn.:

SEVENTH ROW: Ralph O. Mikkelsen, Wolseth, N.D.; Elmo Huff, Ft. Gay, W.Va.; Arnold E. Freelander, Plaza, N.D.; Milan Simich, Los Angeles, Calif.; Eugene B. Bartlett, McHenry, N.D.; Charles A. Bullard, Hico, Tex.; Evard L. Montague, Norway, Ia.; John W. Love, Ft. Scott, Kans.; James E. Coleman, 113 E. 31st St., Terrace, Kansas City, Mo.; Leland K. Elliott, 964 Lyons, Kansas City, Kans.; James Fisher, Ravenna, Nebr.; Fletcher G. Wood, Athens, Tex.; Luther B. Thomas, Jr., Rosehill, N.C.; Joseph W. Hays, 2516 N.W. 28th St., Fort Worth, Tex.; Fredrick P. Eberle, Esmond, N.D.; Alvin E. Erickson, Coulee, N.D.; James A. Montgomery, Jr., Monroe City, Mo.

EIGHTH ROW: Tommy Peterson, Columbus, N.D.; Ralph Miles, Brainerd, Minn.; Chester M. Vosburg, Lisbon, N.D.; Keith J. Houser, 736 W. 75th St., Los Angeles, Calif.; Stephen C. Turk, McAdoo, Pa.; Morris W. Lehman, Chehalis, Wash.; Joseph M. O'Brien, Paynesville, Minn.; Daniel E. McCarthy, Gulfport, Miss.; Harold B. Gall, McIntosh, S.D.

NINTH ROW: Harvey L. Bradford, Jr., 102 Mikes Pike, Flagstaff, Az.; Olney V. Glover, Hamilton, Tex.; Ernest R. Hines, Delhi, Minn.; Leif G. Johnson, McLeod, N.D.; Omas T. Roberts, Sherman, Tex.; Erwin G. Baier, Minot, N.D.; Stewart J. Turner, Jr., 2022 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.; Lowell E. Hilton, Olney, Tex.; Richard W. Craig, Jr., 2216 20th St., Gulfport, Miss.; Leonard S. Fahlgren, Washburn, N.D.; Norman C. Dutoit, Washburn, N.D.; Stephen J. Owens, Bowbolls, N.D.; Anthony Shutto, 4257 Quivas St., Denver, Colo.

Men not on the picture

Lt. George H. Ritter, S. Rockwood, Mich.; Stanley L. Schillerstrom, Moorhead, Minn.; Roy E. Weisenhaus, Lisbon, N.D.; William D. Austin, Lewisburg, W. Va.; Clifton N. Phillips, Richland Springs, Tex.; Martin J. Bachman, Corvus, Minn.; Wayne M. Kiser, Valley City, N.D.; Francis M. Spanyard, 244 E. 9th St., St. Paul, Minn.

While attached to the 88th Inf. Div. the 776 TD Bn. was awarded the FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE WITH PALM under Decision No. 843, 21 June, 1945, by the President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic, with the following citation:

"A magnificent division, inspired by a wonderful spirit in combat. In the battle of Garigliano and during the greater part of the offensive which led the Allied Armies to the Tuscan Appenines, in spite of heavy losses, it maintained close contact with the units of the left flank of the French Expeditionary Corps. It contributed immeasurably to the brilliant series of success which will remain the common heritage of the American and French Armies."

HEADQUARTERS 776TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
A.P.O. 668

May 14, 1943

SUBJECT: Message from the Battalion Commander

TO : All Personnel, 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion

The Battalion has just finished a hard grueling campaign that has culminated in a glorious victory for the Allied arms and is one of the first real victories that the Allied arms have won over the Axis. The blow that you have helped to strike will probably have far reaching effects on the ultimate victory of the Allies and I am proud to be able to congratulate you all on the part that you have played in this show. You come in as new, green and untried troops and you have showed that you know your business and could take it, and better still that you could "dish it out" with the best of them. I have known it for a long time, but I am delighted that you could prove it to the older, more battle-wise units that you were associated with.

I congratulate you, every man, from the gas scotich that kept us rolling to the gunners that shot the hell out of the German guns. They wouldn't bring out many tanks for you to work on but you made up for that by smashing their guns that could have hurt our friends in the armored units.

You will now go into one of the most tiresome, nasty and disagreeable parts of soldiering, that time when you snap out of the battle-field let down and get back into real soldier harness before we start again. I expect and demand that every man in the Battalion take it as his own personal responsibility that you show the same spirit in rest camp as you did in battle and that your clothes, your equipment and your behavior maintain the same high level of achievement. When you leave the camp I demand that you be dressed as tho you were going to see your best girl at home and I expect that you will see to it that neither you or any other American soldier does anything that does not reflect credit upon the American arms.

You know of long standing that I do not prohibit your drinking, but as usual I desire that you do it moderately. The French people will probably be extremely generous with their vine. They appreciate your efforts in their liberation, but you must remember that we are not used to drinking that type of liquor and that it has weird effects on American men and I expect you to use it in moderation. I do not ask that you refrain from drinking, I only ask that you always remember that you belong to the 776th and that no matter where you are or what you are doing that you realize that there are 999 more men in the Battalion who have to take the grief that you may personally cause by your laxity.

Again, I thank you, for your work in this campaign and I congratulate you and am proud as Hell of you.

*J. P. Barney Jr.*  
JAMES P. BARNEY, JR.  
Lt. Colonel, F. A.  
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST ARMORED DIVISION  
A.P.O. 251, c/o Postmaster, N. Y., N. Y.

10 June 1943

AG 201.22

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Commanding Officer, 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion

1. I desire to commend Lt. Colonel Barney and the Officers and men of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion for the valuable service rendered this Division in the recent operation.

2. The 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion was attached to the First Armored Division during the Tunisian Campaign during the period 15 March 1943 to 19 May 1943 inclusive. It participated in all the major actions of the Division from the date of attachment, including the actions at Sene, Maknassy, Mateur and Ferryville.

3. The Infantry of the Division learned early to have confidence in the protection against tank attack afforded by this Battalion, while elements relied on supporting fire of this Tank Destroyer Battalion to assist their advance.

4. The cheerful willing cooperation and loyal support rendered by the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion aided materially in assisting the Division in bringing to a successful conclusion its part in the Tunisian Campaign.

/s/ E. N. HARMON

(typed) E. N. HARMON  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding

Reproduced at Headquarters 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion 29 June 1943

HEADQUARTERS 776TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
APO 464

29 April 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Men of the Command.

1. The War Department has decided that I must leave the Battalion and go back to take charge of the Tactical Training of the TD Battalions at Hocol.

2. We have been together for a long time and have had both fun and sorrow. As you know I have been raised in the Army and have been a Regular Officer for many years. As a result of these years of being with Soldiers I feel that I can confidently say what I am going to say and believe that I know what I am talking about.

3. In all my years of service I have never led Soldiers that could ever begin to compare with the men and Officers of this Battalion. Your health record, your battle record, and your disciplinary record are probably one of the best in the entire Army. Your cheerfulness, your energy and your abilities have been superb, and the two best and happiest years of my service have been here in command of this "Gang".

4. You are spoiled in many ways, but that is the direct result of your cooperation and behavior. I have perhaps given you some privileges that some other Units do not get, but that has been a direct result of your own appreciation and behavior. I have appreciated for a long time the pride that you evidence in your Battalion, and your efforts to keep the reputation of the Battalion at the very highest level.

5. No words can possibly express my thanks to all of you for your untiring efforts and perfect cooperation at all times.

6. I am leaving tomorrow for another assignment and I frankly hate the idea. All I can say is "God Bless You All" and please render to the next man who succeeds you the same magnificent loyalty that you have given to me. In addition don't forget to dive for a hole at the right time, and keep your caps on the side of your head so that every man that sees you will know at a glance that you are one of the 776.

ALOHA MEI LOA /s/ J. P. Barney, Jr.  
JAMES P. BARNEY, JR.  
Lt. Colonel, R. A.  
Commanding

Reproduced at HQ 776th TD Bn 2 May 44

HEADQUARTERS 85TH INFANTRY DIVISION ARTILLERY

APO #35, U. S. Army  
18 June 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion.  
(Thru Channels)

1. Now that we have a breathing spell from the battlefield, it is my desire to extend to you and the Officers and Men of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion our sincere appreciation for the outstanding work accomplished while in support of this Division.

2. We of the Artillery have acquired a great respect for the Tank Destroyers and especially those of your Battalion. The aggressiveness and fighting spirit of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion is superb and served as an inspiration to all who are associated with it.

3. It has been a great pleasure and a privilege for the officers and men of the 85th Division Artillery to have been associated so closely with your Battalion. We hope that in future operations that we will have our Comrades in Arms, the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion in our support.

/s/ Pierre Mallett,  
PIERRE MALLETT,  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,  
Commanding.

AG 201.22

1st Ind.

AG-18

(18 Jun 44)

HEADQUARTERS 85TH INFANTRY DIVISION, APO 35, U. S. Army, 20 June 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion, APO 464, U. S. Army.

1. It is a pleasure to forward this commendation and add my appreciation for the splendid work of your command.

2. The Commanding Officers of the Division's Infantry Regiments have also made commendatory comments regarding the excellent support rendered their commands by your organization.

3. Such performance of duty reflects the highest credits upon you and members of the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

/s/ John B. Coulter  
JOHN B. COULTER,  
Major General, U. S. Army,  
Commanding

REPRODUCED AT HEADQUARTERS 776TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION - 5 July 1944

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General  
A.P.O. 464 U. S. Army

12 September 1944

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion,  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army.

1. I desire to commend you on the occasion of your departure from Fifth Army for the superior combat job you have done.

2. I am particularly proud and appreciative of the role played by the tank destroyer battalions during the entire Italian campaign. Organized to smash German armor, you have faithfully fulfilled your motto, "Seek, Strike and Destroy". In addition, when the armor threat was not imminent you have performed your secondary role as reinforcing artillery with such efficiency that field artillerymen consider you one of their important elements. The flexibility of your organization, weapons, and training and the skill and boldness with which you have fought have solicited many commendations from corps and division commanders to which you have been attached.

3. I shall follow your future achievement with great pride, and wish you the best of good fortune in your new assignment.

(Signed) Mark W. Clark  
(Typed) MARK W. CLARK  
Lieutenant General, U.S.A.  
Commanding

(Reproduced at Hq 776th TD Bn., 19 Oct 1944)

Several Tank Destroyer Officers have been returned to Camp Hood on rotation, or after recovering from wounds, and are putting their practical experience to use in the army's training program.

The Officer with broadest experience in this field is Col. J. P. Barney, Jr., a New Yorker, who twice was awarded the Silver Star and once the Bronze Star for his gallantry under fire in Italy and North Africa.

Colonel Barney commanded the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion in both North Africa and Italy. His M-10s were the first to go into action in Africa when the Americans broke out of Kasserine valley in March, 1943.

His battalion was at Maknassy with the First armored division and first had its chance to revise the high command's estimates of the various uses to which TDs might be put. . . . other than seeking out and pot-shooting tanks.

Here many dangerous enemy installations were out of range of the "organic artillery" and Colonel Barney offered to prove to the division commander that his M-10s could do something about it. They had been practicing on indirect fire for weeks.

A six-gun battery high up in a pass was silenced by fire from one of his companies, and later a German column in a valley 14,000 yards distant was torn to pieces by TD fire. "Then," said Colonel Barney, "We started firing indirect fire on German positions until April, then marched north for the breakthrough at Mateur and 'covered' the First from then until the German surrender."

These experiences at Maknassy were the real birth of indirect fire for tank destroyers.

Besides more than 30 German tanks his battalion knocked out artillery and anti-tank guns in its vital supporting role.

"We were corps artillery in the landing at Salerno," Colonel Barney said. "We had polished off our indirect fire while on the desert and were used as artillery at the beginning. . . ."

"We were six months in the line. We were used for assault on pill-boxes, in supporting infantry, and in indirect fire missions."

Colonel Barney's battalion had been with the 34th division, the French Second Moroccan division and the New Zealand corps, before it went through Minturno with the 85th division in May, knocking out pill-boxes "and getting a lot of tanks." It went through Rome with the First Armored.

They all liked the TDs. The 776th received six commendations from six different commanders!

"All the tank destroyer battalions did marvellous work at the Anzio beach-head," he said. "They were splendid at Salerno, too. At Anzio they were fighting everything. Those European houses are really pillboxes. We saved losses to the infantry in knocking these houses out, and our own losses were not heavy, either.

In the Volturno river crossings, the TD battalion was used to destroy distant targets used as German observation posts, clearing the way for the advance. It was also used to cover the infantry in many instances, such as the advance on the town of Ispetta, and in the attack on Montecilla across the Volturno when no artillery had yet crossed the river.

At Cassino, Colonel Birney's battalion performed many tasks, none stranger than one instance which proved how much confidence the infantry had in the TDs.

There was a very prominent three-story house in the north west corner of the town," he tells. The lieutenant commanding the platoon received a message from the infantry that there was a German 50 mm anti-tank gun in the third floor firing through the west window. OUR INFANTRY WAS IN THE GROUND FLOOR! Would he please knock the gun off? As the tank destroyer commander recounted it, he crossed his fingers, said yes, put four rounds in the window, destroyed the gun, killed the crew and never scratched a doggobeep!"

176 TD Bn  
HEADQUARTERS, 324TH INFANTRY  
ATO 44 U.S. ARMY

Bining, France  
18 Feb 1945

SUBJECT: Appreciation

TO : Commanding Officer, Co B, 776th TD Bn  
(Through CO, 776th TD Bn)

1. I desire to express my appreciation for the close and continued support rendered by your company, in connection with the attack of this regiment February 15th.

2. The presence of your destroyers on the front line shortly after the arrival of the rifle units, added greatly to the morale and confidence of my troops, and your continued presence there has given everyone a feeling of greater security, incident to the many threatened enemy tank counter-attacks and the actual advance of tanks against our outposts on the mornings of February 16 and 17.

3. I would appreciate it if you would acquaint the officers and men of your command with our confidence in their ability to successfully overcome any tank effort that the enemy may initiate against us, and also to express our admiration for the experience and aggressiveness of your destroyer crews, who, regardless of mine hazards and direct weapon fire, so quickly placed themselves in position to cover our advanced units on the morning of the attack.

  
R. S. ANDERSON  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding

Distribution:

1 - CO, 44th Inf Div  
4 - CO, Co B, 776th TD Bn (Through: CO, 776th TD Bn)  
1 - Capt Anderson  
1 - FILE

Article from Temple Daily Telegram dated 17 September 1944, reproduced at  
HQ. 776th T. D. Bn., 7 November 1944.

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS 776TH TANK DESTROYER BN., APO 758, 19 Feb 1945.  
TO: Commanding Officer, Co. B, 776th TD Bn, APO 758, U. S. Army.

It is with a great deal of pleasure and pride that I am  
able to add my appreciation to that of Colonel ANDERSON for the  
support being given the Infantry Troops in his Sector.

  
D. S. MOORHEAD  
Lt. Col., C. A. C.  
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS XXI CORPS  
Office of the Corps Commander

20 April 1945

ZOO.6  
SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer 324 Regimental Combat Team, APO 44, U.S. Army  
THRU : Commanding General, 44th Infantry Division, APO 44, U.S. Army

1. I wish to commend you, the officers, and the enlisted men of  
the 324th Regimental Combat Team on the successful accomplishment of the  
objectives assigned your command while attached to the 4th Infantry Division  
and this headquarters.

2. In the mission of protecting the Division's right flank; in the  
occupation of HESPER-METTEN and repelling of two strong enemy counter-  
attacks; in assisting in the capture of ROTHEMBURG by an aggressive  
enveloping movement from the west; in the rapid advance against a relatively  
strong enemy in spite of many road obstacles and blown bridges; in the  
capture of a large number of prisoners your forces displayed soldierly  
aggressiveness and exemplary fighting spirit.

3. These accomplishments reflect credit on your leadership and on  
the courage of your men.

/s/ F.W. Milburn  
t/ F.W. MILBURN  
Major General, U.S. Army,  
Commanding

AG 201.22 (20Apr 45) 1st Ind.  
Hq 44th Inf Div, APO 44, US Army, 27 Apr 45  
TO: Commanding Officer, 324 Infantry

This report of the outstanding combat performance of the 324th  
Regimental Combat Team under your leadership is a source of great  
satisfaction to me and the entire Division.

/s/ William F. Dean  
t/ WILLIAM F. DEAN  
Major General, United States Army  
Commanding

2d Ind  
Hq, 324th Infantry, APO 44, U.S. Army, 30 April 1945

TO: The Officers and Men of the 324th Combat Team.

1. The commendation of the Commanding General of the XXI Corps  
for the successful accomplishment of our mission with the 4th Division,  
is praise which the officers and men of the 324th Combat Team have  
well merited.

2. The 324th Regiment of Infantry with its attached and support-  
ing units has never failed to reach its objective or to hold the ground  
assigned to it. The spirit and courage of its men have been demonstrated  
in many bloody conflicts: in the heroic drive of the XV Corps from  
EICHERN to DOSSENHEIM and from DURSTETZ to PETIT RIEDERCHING; in the  
gallant stand during long cold months at the Blies river and in front of  
the Maginot Line, during which time no enemy attack ever penetrated our  
lines; in the perfectly coordinated attack against the Buchen Busch Woods;  
in the advance into Germany and the crossing of the Neckar river; in the  
fierce clashing action that drove out the enemy penetration that threatened  
the flanks of the 10th Armored Division; in the spearheading of the attack  
of the XI Corps, as a part of the 4th Division; in the irresistible drive  
of the VI Corps into Bavaria; and finally in the surprise capture of ULM  
which sealed the fate of Germany on the upper Danube.

- 2 -

3. The Regiment and associated units have brought considerable honor to the Division, and every officer and man can be proud of the reputation that this Combat Team has gained during its many months of combat. Since October 21st we have seldom been out of direct contact with the enemy, and we can feel greatly honored that our services have been so valuable to the Division that the normal rest periods were denied us.

4. I desire to humbly express my deep and sincere appreciation to the officers and men who have made this Combat Team the outstanding battle unit that it is. I honestly believe that there is no better combination of fighting men in the entire United States Army, and I am very proud to be your Commanding Officer. I know that all future demands upon us will be met with the same spirit of loyalty, steadfastness, and courage, that you have always displayed in the past.

/s/ K. S. Anderson  
/t/ K. S. ANDERSON  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding

3rd Ind.

Hq 776th TD Bn., APO 758, U.S. Army, 4 May 1945

TO: C.O. Co "B" 776th TD Battalion.

It is with great pride that I am able to forward this commendation to you.

/s/ D.E. Moorhead  
/t/ D.E. MOORHEAD  
Lt. Col., F.A.  
Commanding

REPRODUCED AT HEADQUARTERS 776TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION -- 18 May 1945

HEADQUARTERS, 324TH INFANTRY  
APO 44  
U. S. ARMY

10 May 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Lt Clement P. Kujawski, O1030490, Comdg, Co B, 776th TD Bn.  
THRU : Commanding General, 44th Inf Div, and CO, 776th TD Bn.

1. I desire to express my appreciation for the support and cooperation obtained from you and your company during the trying days of the invasion of Germany. During the fighting following the initial crossing of the Rhine, all during our attachment to the 4th Infantry Division, and likewise, in connection with our attacks through the Austrian Tyrol, your unit has given our infantry and tanks the maximum support.

2. The officers and men of this regiment all appreciate the assistance you have rendered us, and hope that you will be back with us, if, and whenever, your services may be required.

3. I would greatly appreciate it if you would inform the officers and men of your unit of this expression of appreciation for the work they have performed as members of the 324th Combat Team.

/s/ K.S. Anderson  
/t/ K.S. ANDERSON  
Colonel Infantry  
Commanding

AG 201 Kujawski, Clement P. 1st Ind.

(off)  
Hq 44th Inf Div, APO 44, US Army, 13 May 45

THRU: Commanding Officer, 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion

TO : Lieutenant Clement P. Kujawski, Co "B" 776th Tank Destroyer Bn.

I am pleased to forward this commendation covering the fine support and cooperation your organization rendered this Division in its combat mission.

/s/ William F. Dean  
/t/ WILLIAM F. DEAN  
Major General, United States Army  
Commanding

201 Kujawski, Clement P (O) 2d Ind.

HEADQUARTERS 776TH TANK DESTROYER BN., A.P.O. 758, U. S. Army, 16 May 1945  
TO: Lieutenant Clement P. Kujawski, Company "B", 776th T. D. Bn.

It is with a great deal of pride and appreciation that I forward the inclosed Commendation from Headquarters 324th Infantry to you and the Company.

/s/ D. E. Moorhead  
/t/ D. E. MOORHEAD  
Lt. Colonel, F.A.  
Commanding  
1 Incl  
Commendation

REPRODUCED AT HEADQUARTERS 776TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION -- 18 May 1945