

HEADQUARTERS
302d TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #403
U. S. Army

6 Sept 1944.

UNIT JOURNAL FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

1 August 1944 (Vicinity Feugeres, France)

1. This Battalion attached to 83d Division Artillery.
2. The Battalion was put on six hour alert by order Commanding General, 83d Division Artillery for movement as a unit to area in vicinity Hambye (3645) Coutance Sheet 6 F/3.
3. Brief summary of operations for the period:
 - a. Operational strength of this Battalion at end of period: 31 officers, 2 warrant officers, 719 enlisted men.
 - b. Enemy was not engaged.
 - c. Entire Battalion in concentration area, in vicinity Feugeres.
 - d. Entire period was spent in preparation for move--care and cleaning of equipment, personal hygiene, close order drill, military courtesy, and correction of errors in past operations.

2 August 1944 (Vicinity Feugerés, France)

1. Effective 0500 this Battalion was on a three hour alert awaiting movement orders.
2. A letter of commendation was received from Brigadier General R. M. Montague, Commanding the 83d Division Artillery, extending his thanks to the officers and men of this Battalion for their cooperation and high sense of duty during operations for month of July 1944.
3. Operational strength of this Battalion at end of period: 31 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 718 enlisted men.
4. Brief summary of operations for the period:
 - a. This battalion attached to 83d Division Artillery.
 - b. Enemy was not engaged.
 - c. 1st Reconnaissance Platoon executed area and zone reconnaissance, remainder of Battalion continued with care and cleaning of equipment, and correction of mistakes during last operation.

3 August 1944 (Vicinity Pontorson, France)

Summary of operations for period: Entire Battalion moved from assembly area at 1940 in vicinity of Feugeres and proceeded in column consisting of 2d Reconnaissance Platoon, Battalion CP Group, Company A, Company B, Company C, Headquarters Company (rear eschelon), 1st Reconnaissance Platoon, and Medical Detachment. Entire Battalion closed in concentration area in vicinity of Pontorson, France (178027) Map of France at 0315, 4 August 1944.

DEC 1 1944

802d T. D. Bn., Unit Journal Cont'd

4 August 1944 (Vicinity La Claye, France)

1. Message received at 1236 from Commanding General, 83d Division Artillery, directing that all CP signs of units lower than division would show numerical designation of unit and that code would not be used.
2. At 1430 Battalion CP Group and both Reconnaissance Platoons moved from area located in vicinity Pontorson to a new area located in vicinity La Claye (070012) Map of France.
3. Brief summary of Battalion operations for period:
 - a. Operational strength: 31 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 717 enlisted men.
 - b. This Battalion attached to 83d Division Artillery.
 - c. Company A provided close support and anti-tank protection to 329th Infantry Regiment. Company B provided close support and anti-tank protection to 331st Infantry Regiment. Company C in support of 330th Infantry Regiment. Reconnaissance Platoons executed route security for movement from Pontorson to La Claye.

5 August 1944 (Vicinity Miniac, France)

1. Battalion CP Group moved from area located in vicinity La Claye at 1130 and arrived new area in vicinity Miniac (865994) at 1255.
2. Warning order sent out to all troops at 2023 hours that U. S. gliders towed by British Halifax planes would be over our sector during the hours of 2000 and 2200 hours, and not to fire at them under any circumstances.
- 3.a. Company A attached to 329th Infantry Regiment for close support fired direct at churches which were used as enemy OP's and pill boxes. Results were unknown.
b. Company B in direct support of 331st Infantry Regiment, and coordinated attack on right flank of 83d Division. Fired harrassing observed direct fire on enemy gun emplacements located in Caucais and Pordon La Condre, resulting in probable destruction of at least two gun emplacements.
c. Company C in support of 330th Infantry Regiment. No enemy engagements.

6 August 1944 (Vicinity La Toise, France)

1. An order issued at 0608 hours to companies A, B, and C directed that the last round fired from each direct support weapon would be red smoke, which would be the signal for the assault.
2. A message received at 0950 hours from our Reconnaissance stated that Germans had evacuated Lau Vally and Dinan, and that all bridges had been blown.
3. A message sent to our Reconnaissance at 1100 hours directed same to move through Dinan, and investigate and report any enemy activity. Reconnaissance was limited to vertical Grid 72.
4. Battalion CP Group moved from area located in vicinity of Miniac (070012) at 1315 arrived in area located in vicinity Les Landes (875079) at 1415.
5. Battalion CP Group moved from area located in vicinity of Les Landes (875079) at 1510 and arrived in area located in vicinity of La Toise (865145) at 1630.
6. S-2 reported enemy situation as of 0900 as follows:

No enemy armor was known or expected to be in St. Malo Peninsula. Fifteen tanks were reported moving in Dinan (7693) from the south on 4 August 1944. Our Reconnaissance reported that they saw two Mark IV tanks moving west on road at (7892)-(1900) Map of France on 5 August 1944 at 0300. Prisoners reported that the town of Chateauneuf had been reinforced 5 August 1944. The enemy destroyed bridges across the Biez Brilliant, and Biez Jean Canals in the zone of the 331st Infantry, thus delaying the advance. An extremely reliable source informed that

802d T. D. Bn., Unit Journal Cont'd

the commander of troops on the Brest Peninsula was Colonel von Aulock, who participated in the Battle of Stalingrad and as recently as two weeks ago announced that he would defend St. Malo to the last man even if the last man was himself. von Aulock had his headquarters in a Citadel on rock primintory extending from St. Servan into the Bay of St. Malo. This was said to be impregnable against land assault, ninety percent of the fortifications being below ground level. Informant claimed that only aerial bombardment would be effective at that point.

7. Summary of operations for the period:

- a. This Battalion attached to 83d Division Artillery.
- b. Company A, less one platoon, in close support of 329th Infantry Regiment, occupied position on high ground from which to deliver direct assault fire on St. Malo, resulting in the destruction of enemy CP, machine gun nest, anti-tank gun, and anti-aircraft guns. (five enlisted men were wounded in this engagement)
- c. Company B, less one platoon, in close support of 331st Infantry moved on toward St. Malo and occupied position on high ground from which to deliver direct assault fire on St. Malo, resulting in the destruction of enemy anti-aircraft guns, two artillery guns.
- d. Company C in close support of 330th Infantry Regiment moved on toward St. Malo and occupied position for direct assault fire on St. Malo. (one enlisted man was killed and seven enlisted men wounded during this engagement)
- e. 1st Reconnaissance Platoon plus 2d Platoon, Company A, plus 3d Platoon, Company B, assigned to special task force for the mission of protecting flanks and rear of 83d Division, and erection of a bridge spanning the river at Dinan. This special task force were the first American troops to occupy Lanhanay and Dinan. Battalion Reconnaissance attached to Combat Team Y0201 at 1530 by Division orders. Battalion CP displaced forward twice during this period.

7 August 1944 (Vicinity La Toise, France)

1. Message from this Headquarters sent to our Reconnaissance at 1250 hours stated that our Reconnaissance Platoons would remain attached to Combat Team until Combat Team passes through Dinan. One Reconnaissance Platoon would revert to Battalion control at Western Iron Gates of Dinan. One platoon of Tank Destroyers and one Reconnaissance Platoon would cover roads west and southwest of Dinan. Second platoon of Tank Destroyers would add depth to the defense.
2. Summary of operations for operations for period ending 2200 hours.
 - a. This Battalion attached to 83d Division Artillery.
 - b. (1) Company A, minus one platoon, in close support 329th Infantry Regiment, provided direct assault fire on town of St. Malo, resulting in the destruction of one enemy anti-tank gun, 1 88mm gun, 4 machine gun nests, 3 pill boxes, 3 OP's, and one anti-aircraft emplacement, all in the vicinity of La Beurelais. Also, killed an estimated number of 100 Germans, and took three prisoners.
 - (2) Company B, minus one platoon, in close support of 331st Infantry Regiment.
 - (3) Company C in close support of 330th Infantry Regiment.
 - (4) 2d Platoon, Company A, and 3d Platoon, Company B, protected left flank and rear of 83d Division at Dinan.
 - (5) 3d Platoon, Company C, attached to 3d Battalion, 331st Infantry Regiment per V0CG, 83d Division Artillery.
 - (6) 2d Reconnaissance Platoon attached to Task Force 121, established a Reconnaissance screen covering the flanks of the Combat Team.
 - (7) 1st Reconnaissance Platoon was reverted to Battalion control at 1200 hours.

established a reconnaissance screen to the south and west of the town of Dinan in conjunction with 2d Reconnaissance Platoon, one platoon Company A, and one platoon Company B, and protected the left flank and rear of 83d Division.

8 August 1944 (Vicinity La Toise, France)

1. Message received from our Reconnaissance at 1900 hours stated that our 1st Reconnaissance Platoon destroyed an enemy ammunition dump in vicinity of Florec which is southwest of Plancoet, also killed 8 Germans and took one prisoner in the same vicinity. Six others escaped. This action took place at 1730 hours.

2. Situation as given by our Reconnaissance as of 1820:

Reconnaissance platoon drawn in and one section would be used west of Dinan to vicinity of Corseaul. The other section would be used west of Dinan to vicinity of Ville Guingalan on patrol. Free French reported that two or three light German armored cars were using road south of Laven (St. Brieuc-Rennes Road) to Becherel on patrol. Also light machine guns and snipers were reported along the same road. Two injured German airmen were taken prisoner by the second platoon of Company A at 0530 hours. They stated that their plane crashed the night before while trying to bomb the bridge in Dinan. Free French were advised to put white stars on German vehicles which they had captured to avoid any mistakes, being made by reconnaissance elements and security patrols and gunners.

3. Summary of operations for the period ending 2200:

a. This Battalion attached to 83d Division Artillery.

b. At 0630 hours 1st Platoon of Company A was attacked by a strong enemy patrol. The enemy advanced singing and wearing overcoats, when they reached within approximately 30 yards from the gun positions, they dropped to the ground and opened fire with automatic weapons which had been concealed under their overcoats. 1st Platoon of Company A returned the fire and repulsed the attack. Subsequent examination of enemy casualties and questioning of prisoners showed that the patrol consisted of 50 hand picked German paratroopers, including one major, one captain, and two lieutenants, whose mission was the destruction of the platoon's guns because of the devastating effect of their fire during the preceding day. All the men were equipped with some type of automatic weapon. Thirty-nine Germans were killed, eleven wounded and captured. The platoon suffered four killed and fourteen wounded. Nine of the wounded men were serious--the others were treated and remained for duty.

c. Company B, minus one platoon, in direct support of 351st Infantry Regiment. No enemy engagements.

d. Company C, minus one platoon, in direct support of 330th Infantry fired harrassing fire on St. Malo--results unknown. Company suffered thirteen casualties during this engagement--eleven of which were evacuated and two remained for duty.

e. 2d Platoon, Company A, plus 3d Platoon Company B, plus 1st Reconnaissance Platoon protected west flank and rear of division.

f. 2d Reconnaissance Platoon attached to Combat Team 121 provided a reconnaissance screen for west flank of combat team.

802d T. D. Bn., Unit Journal Cont'd)

9 August 1944 (Vicinity La Toise, France)

1. Message received from our Reconnaissance at 0055 hours state that one section would be used to cover a cross road in Plonbalay. Balance of our Reconnaissance would be used to seek out information and protect guns if necessary.
2. 1st Platoon, Company C, was attached to Combat Team 121 by order of Combat Team Commander as of 6 August 1944, for patrolling area between Trigavon and Plonbalay.
3. A warning order received from 83d Division Artillery through our Liaison Officer at 2030 hours stated that Company B, less one platoon attached to 331st Infantry Regiment for move to new area sometime during the night. Commanding Officer, Company B to contact 331st Infantry Regiment for details of the march. Battalion Headquarters, Headquarters Company and Reconnaissance would move with 83d Division Artillery sometime early the following morning. Plan was to move 331st Infantry Regiment to new sector this evening. 350th Infantry Regiment would move the following day and 329th Infantry Regiment would stay in their sector. Company A, Company B, and Company C would move with 329th, 331st, and 330th Infantry Regiments respectively.
4. Message received at 2200 for 83d Division Artillery through our Liaison Officer stated that areas had not been assigned to our gun companies as yet. Battalion CP Group and rear echelon would occupy area in same location as 83d Division Artillery in vicinity La Jossaie.
5. Brief summary of operations for period ending 2200:
 - a. This Battalion minus attached to 83d Division Artillery.
 - b. Company A minus one platoon attached to 329th Infantry Regiment at 1530. Third platoon moved guns to within 70 yards of a blockhouse and opened fire with fifty rounds 3" A.P.C., and four rounds 3" HE penetrating the blockhouse. 206 enemy troops surrendered to the infantry after the blockhouse was destroyed by this platoon, also six Germans were killed while trying to escape. Company B minus platoon attached to 331st Infantry Regiment. No engagements.

Company C was detached from 3d Battalion, 330th Infantry Regiment, and returned to Battalion control. At 1000 hours the first platoon was attached to Combat Team 121.

2d Platoon Company A plus 3d platoon, Company B plus 1st Reconnaissance Platoon protected western flank and rear of 83d Division in vicinity of Dinan. 2d Reconnaissance Platoon and 1st Platoon, Company C, attached to Combat Team 121.

10 August 1944 (Vicinity La Jossaie)

1. Battalion CP Group departed area located in vicinity La Toise (865145) at 0920 hours arrived in new area located in vicinity La Jossaie (770969) at 1106 hours. Traveled approximately 25 miles.
2. Message sent from this Headquarters to Company B at 2040 reported 20 enemy tanks in depth from Pleurtuit north to Dinard. Three of these tanks were reported in town and low on gas.
3. Brief summary of Battalion operations for period:
 - a. This Battalion minus attached to 83d Division Artillery

Unit Journal 103d T. D. Bn (Cont'd)

Co A minus one platoon attached to 329th Infantry Regiment.

Company B minus one platoon in direct support of 331st Infantry Regiment.

Company C minus one platoon in close support of 330th Infantry Regiment.

3d Platoon in direct support of 330th Infantry Regiment, and fired direct assault fire and bazookas from close ranges on the town of St. Malo, destroyed two pill boxes and a three foot stone wall which enemy troops were using for defense. Also captured eight officers and 158 enlisted men.

1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached to Combat Team 121.

2d Reconnaissance Platoon attached to 83d Division Reconnaissance Troop.

4. Company C reporting events for 24 hour period ending 2359 as follows:

1st Platoon attached to Combat Force 12. 2d Platoon in vicinity of La Jossais with 329th Infantry Regiment and Free French on mopping up mission along line to Fro Bois, France and possible support in St. Vincent and St. Coulanb. 3d Platoon in St. Malo in direct support to 330th Infantry Regiment in street fighting in city limits of St. Malo. Company fired eight rounds APC, 19 HE and six bazooka rocket grenades, destroying two pill boxes, a three foot thick stone wall. Bazookas were fired at a range of 75 yards. Company accredited with the capture of 8 officers, 158 enlisted men, and an undetermined number of enemy killed. Throughout this phase of fighting enemy did not return fire on our troops although infantry to which this platoon was attached, was fired upon.

11. August 1944 (Vicinity La Jossais, France)

1. Brief summary of Battalion operations for period ending 2200:

a. This Battalion minus attached to 83d Division Artillery.

b. Company A minus one platoon attached to 329th Infantry Regiment fired on a Citadel located in St. Malo. This Citadel was constructed with a 12 foot thick concrete wall. 450 rounds of APC and HE were fired on this fortification. Fortification remained in enemy hands.

Company B minus one platoon attached to 331st Infantry Regiment. 2d Platoon fired 100 rounds of indirect harassing unobserved fire. Results of this firing unknown.

Company C minus two platoons attached to 330th Infantry Regiment. 3d Platoon assisted 330th Infantry Regiment in street fighting in St. Malo. Fired 10 rounds APC and 10 rounds HE at buildings designated by the infantry. This platoon was subjected to 20mm anti-aircraft fire. No casualties suffered. 1st Platoon attached to Combat Team 121. 2d Platoon attached to 329th Infantry Regiment in vicinity St. Columbe, fired direct against enemy strong points. Platoon received counter battery fire causing destruction to one 3" gun.

3d Reconnaissance Platoon attached to 83d Division Reconnaissance Troop.

1st Reconnaissance Platoon plus 2d Platoon, Company A plus 3d Platoon Company B protected west flank and rear of 83d Division in vicinity of Dinan.

12 August 1944 (Vicinity La Jossais, France)

1. Message sent from this Headquarters to our Reconnaissance stated that Free French patrols encountered small arms and machine gun fire in vicinity of Dinan (770940). 83d Division advises that Free French patrols be used to mop up this resistance.

2. Message received at 1000 from CG 83d Division Artillery stated that any unit having difficulty in obtaining any type ammunition or component will notify

802d T. D. In Unit Journal Cont'd)

this headquarters by the most expeditious means in order that action may be taken to obtain same from the beach if necessary by the use of quartermaster trucks.

3. Message received from our Reconnaissance at 1430 stated that reconnaissance was made north of bridge in Dinan. Free French patrols plus one section of Reconnaissance travelled north and south of River Valley. Reconnaissance was in progress since 0300 hours. No contact made with enemy patrols. Reconnaissance hid in vicinity of bridge during daytime and moved out during night. Ambush was planned for the night. Sixteen (16) prisoners taken. (two being women)

4. Brief summary of Battalion operations for period ending 2200:

a. This Battalion minus attached to 83d Division Artillery.

Company A in close support of 329th Infantry Regiment provided assault fire. 1st and 2d platoons operated in vicinity of St. Malo (785135) resulting in the destruction of an enemy fortification, four 20mm anti-aircraft guns, one 88mm gun, one machine gun nest, four pill boxes, three small boats, one light house. All firing was direct and observed.

Company B minus one platoon in close support of 331st Infantry Regiment. 2d Platoon fired unobserved harrassing fire.

Company C minus two platoons plus one platoon Company B in close support of Combat Team 121, 2d Platoon this company, attached to Combat Team per VCOG 329th Infantry Regiment for mopping up operations in vicinity St. Columbe. 3d Platoon fired direct fire against enemy strong points in the same area, resulting in the destruction of one 20mm anti-aircraft gun, two pill boxes, one fortified strong point.

13 August 1944 (Vicinity La Jossais, France)

1. Message from Battalion SX at 1605 to 1st Reconnaissance Platoon relieved the platoon of its present mission and to return to Battalion CP at once.

2. Message at 2130 from 1st Reconnaissance Platoon stated they had been fired on by enemy patrol, estimated fifteen strong, at coordinates 767073.

3. Attachments:

a. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery.

b. Company A in support of 329th Infantry Regiment. First platoon fired direct assault fire on St. Malo destroying a 16" railway gun. Third Platoon fired direct assault fire on St. Malo destroying two artillery guns in vicinity of 795135.

c. Company B minus one platoon in direct support of 331st Infantry Regiment. Second platoon fired 224 rounds 3" HE indirect unobserved harrassing fire on anti-aircraft batteries on known locations with result of silencing anti-aircraft fire during friendly bombing.

d. Company C minus two platoons and 3d platoon, Company B, in support of 330th Infantry Regiment fired direct assault fire against enemy assault fire in St. Malo. Destroyed two enemy anti-tank guns and enemy armor and weapons-- type unknown.

e. 1st Reconnaissance platoon executed zone reconnaissance in area north of Dinan.

2d Reconnaissance platoon attached to 83d Division Reconnaissance Troop.

4. Summary of operations for end of period:

a. Operational strength end of period: 31 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 699 enlisted men.

b. Two enemy anti-tank guns, two enemy artillery guns, one pill box and

802d T. D. Bn Unit Journal (Cont'd)

and one 10" railway gun were destroyed. 337 rounds APC and 541 rounds HE and two smoke were fired for the period.

14 August 1944 (Vicinity of La Jossaie, France)

1. Message from Battalion SX to 1st Reconnaissance Platoon at 2200 relieved the platoon from Combat Team 121 and to report back to Battalion CF at once.
2. This Battalion attached 85d Division Artillery. Company A in close support of 329th Infantry Regiment. 2d Platoon fired in Cidatel located in St. Malo, results unknown. Company B minus 3d Platoon in direct support of 331st Infantry Regiment. 3d Platoon, Company B, and 3d Platoon, Company C, fired 133 rounds APC and 104 rounds HE at Chateau vicinity of St. Malo which was used by the enemy as a fortification, the fortification was neutralized and the infantry stormed and took the chateau.

Company C in close support of 330th Infantry Regiment. 2d Platoon, Company C, was relieved assignment with the Free French Forces and took positions in St. Servan for firing into Dinard.

1st Reconnaissance Platoon executed area and zone reconnaissance in vicinity of Le Binibic. 2d Reconnaissance Platoon attached to 83d Reconnaissance troops.

15 August 1944 (Vicinity La Jossaie, France)

Brief summary of operations for this date:

1. Operational strength: 31 officers, 2 warrant officers, 668 enlisted men.
2. This Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery. Company A in support of 329th Infantry Regiment, and fired direct fire upon the Cidatel in St. Malo.

Company B moved in close support of 330th Infantry Regiment.

Company C held in reserve, 1st platoon relieved from 121 Task Force, returned to the company. 2d platoon relieved from 329th Infantry Regiment. Completed its mission with the Free French at St. Vincent and rejoined its company. 3d platoon fired seven rounds APC and eight rounds HE in vicinity St. Malo, results unknown.

3. The firing companies of this battalion destroyed three enemy pill boxes, one enemy observation post and expended 440 rounds APC and 278 rounds HE.

16 August 1944 (Vicinity La Jossaie, France)

1. Message at 2045 from Battalion S-3 to Company C to open fire on Cidatel at 0730 17 August 1944. Keep the fire low to avoid misses. Direct fire is permitted on any target you can see on the island to the north. (Island in St. Malo bay)

2. Brief summary of operations for this date:

- a. Operational strength: 31 officers, 2 warrant officers, 668 enlisted men.
- b. No enemy armor or vehicles were destroyed by this Battalion for this period.
- c. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery. Company A support of 329th Infantry Regiment. 1st and 2d platoon in position for direct assault fire on Cidatel in St. Malo. 3d platoon in reserve. Company B in close support of 331st Infantry Regiment. 1st and 3d platoon in direct support. No action. 2d platoon fired 150 rounds HE direct observed fire on enemy gun emplacements.

802d T. D. Bn. Unit Journal Cont'd

Company C under Battalion control. 1st platoon and 2d platoon in vicinity of Dinard in firing position to fire direct assault on Cidatel, no rounds fired. 3d platoon in reserve.

2d Reconnaissance platoon to 83d Division. Reconnaissance troop was relieved from attachment at 1600 and returned to Battalion control.

17 August 1944 (Vicinity of La Jossais, France)

1. Message at 2005 from Battalion S-3 to all companies of this Battalion ordered all companies to be released from present assignments and to move to concentration area in vicinity of Battalion CP. Companies will leave present areas at 0800 18 August 1944.

2. Brief operational report for this date:

a. Operational strength: 31 officers, 2 warrant officers, 666 enlisted men. (2 enlisted men LWA)

b. No enemy armor or vehicles destroyed by this Battalion.

c. 393 rounds APC and 323 rounds HE were fired during this period, fired on Cidatel prior to its surrender at 1600.

d. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery. Company A in close support of 329th Infantry Regiment. 1st and 2d platoons fired direct on Cidatel in St. Malo. Company B in close support of 331st Infantry Regiment. Company C in reserve. 1st platoon in St. Malo assigned direct fire mission by Division Artillery to fire upon Cidatel. They fired three rounds APC and 95 rounds HE. Results unknown. 2d platoon in Dinard. Fired two rounds APC and four rounds HE. Results unknown. 1st and 2d Recon platoons under Battalion control.

18 August 1944 (Vicinity La Jossais, France)

Brief operational summary for this date:

1. Operational strength: 31 officers, two warrant officers, and 706 enlisted men (forty enlisted men replacements received)

2. No enemy armor or vehicles destroyed by this Battalion for this date.

3. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery. Company A moved from St. Malo and arrived in concentration area in vicinity of La Jossais at 1030. No enemy engaged. Companies B and C arrived in concentration area vicinity of La Jossais. Battalion allotted to personnel for personal hygiene and care and cleaning of equipment.

19 August 1944 (Vicinity of La Jossais, France)

Summary for operations for this period:

1. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery,

2. Company A attached 329th Infantry Regiment combat team which moved to vicinity of Angers.

3. Company B in battalion concentration area spent this period for reorganization and care and cleaning of clothing and equipment.

4. Company C attached to 330th Infantry Regiment combat team which moved to vicinity Dinard and St. Malo for beach defense mission.

3032 T. D. L. (with Journal Cont'd)

1. 1st and 2d Ren platoons under Battalion control. Time spent on reorganization, care and cleaning of clothing and equipment and personal hygiene

20 August 1944 (Vicinity of La Jossaie, France)

1. At 10:15 the CP Group, Headquarters Company, and Company B departed from vicinity of La Jossaie, and arrived in vicinity of Cla Menouriaia (072517) arriving at 13:45 hours.

2. Summary of operations for this period:

a. Operational strength: 30 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 706 enlisted men (1 officer LIA)

b. No enemy armor or vehicles destroyed for this period. No ammunition expended.

c. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery. Company A attached to 329th Infantry Combat Team in vicinity of Angers. Company B under Battalion control in vicinity of Cla Menouriais. Company C attached to 330th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in Dinard-St. Malo beach defense.

d. 1st and 2d Ren platoons under Battalion control in vicinity of Battalion CP.

21 August 1944 (Vicinity of Cla Menouriais)

Summary of operations for this period:

1. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery.

2. Operational strength: 30 officers, 2 warrant officers, 706 enlisted men.

3. No enemy armor or vehicles destroyed during this period.

4. Three 3" inch guns not operational, one prime mover, one M20 and two one-quarter ton vehicles not operational.

5. Company A attached to 329th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Angers.

6. Company B attached to 331st Infantry Regiment Combat Team which moved to vicinity of Nantes.

7. Company C attached to 330th Infantry Regiment Combat Team on beach defense in vicinity of St. Malo-Dinard. One platoon fired harrassing fire on Island of Czenbie.

8. 1st and 2d Ren platoons under Battalion control. Time was spent in care and cleaning of personnel and equipment.

22 August 1944 (Vicinity of Cla Menouriais, France)

1. No change from previous date. Operational strength remains the same. Due to the great distances between companies and the Battalion CP it has become difficult to keep daily contact with them.

2. 1st and 2d Ren platoons attached to 83d Division Ren Troops.

23 August 1944 (Vicinity of Cla Menouriais, France)

Brief summary of operations for this period:

1. Operational strength: 30 officers, 2 warrant officers, 705 enlisted men (one enlisted man KIA)

2. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery.

3. Company A attached 329th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Angers.

4. Company B attached 331st Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Nantes.

302d T. D. Bn Unit Journal Cont'd)

5. Company C attached 330th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity Dinard-St. Malo beach defense. 2d Platoon fired 300 rounds HE on Island of Czembre and sunk one enemy patrol boat off the island.
6. 1st and 2d Rcn platoons attached 83d Division Rcn Troop.
7. Letter of commendation dated 23 August 1944 from Major General Robert C. Bacon, U. S. Army, Commanding 83d Infantry Division commending this Battalion for the vigorous and efficient manner in which we operated so successfully in the recently concluded St. Malo-Dinard operation.
8. Letter of commendation received from Brigadier General R. M. Montague, U. S. Army, Commanding 83d Division Artillery, dated 20 August 1944, in which he highly commended this Battalion for outstanding participation in direct fire on various fortified areas in both St. Malo and Dinard sectors, and pointed out that despite the difficulty and danger of enemy direct fire upon us we enthusiastically carried out our missions.
9. The 2d Rcn platoon while on road patrol mission in vicinity of Blain, France, one section of this platoon was ambushed by a German patrol armed with rocket launchers. The enemy waited for the 1/4 ton vehicle, the lead vehicle in the section to run right upon them along this road, at which time they arose from their concealed positions and at point blank range fired their rocket launchers directly into the side of the vehicle, killing one enlisted man and wounding two other enlisted men. The enemy then fired another round at the MB immediately in rear of the lead 1/4 ton vehicle which was a hit but no casualties to personnel in the vehicle. The MB crew fired eight rounds of 37mm HE at the enemy, but caused no known casualties. The enemy escaped. This action took place at a road junction south of Blain (coordinates 825875).

24 August 1944 (Vicinity of Bla Menouriais, France)

Brief summary of operations for this date:

1. Operational strength: 30 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 705 enlisted men.
2. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery.
3. Company A attached 329th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Angers.
4. Company B attached 331st Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Nantes.
5. Company C attached to 330th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Chateau fe Valerie.
6. 1st and 2d Rcn. Platoons attached 83d Division Rcn Troops.

25 August 1944 (Vicinity of Chateaubriant, France)

A. Summary of operations for this period.

1. Operational strength end of period: 30 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 695 enlisted men.
2. Battalion attached 83d Division Artillery.
3. Company A attached ~~329th~~ 329th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Angers.
4. Company B attached 331st Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Nantes.
5. Company C attached 330th Infantry Regiment Combat Team in vicinity of Chateau fe Valerie.

B. CP Group and Headquarters Company moved from present area to new area located near Chateaubriant (230065). Arrived new area at 1145.

302d T. D. Bn. Unit Journal Cont'd

26 August 1944 (Vicinity of Chateaubriant, France)

1. Operational strength for this period: 30 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 696 enlisted men. (one NDC and two replacements received) Two 3" guns not operational, one prime mover, two 1/4 tons not operational, one TB destroyed.
2. No change in attachments from previous date.

27 August 1944 (Vicinity of Chateaubriant, France)

1. Operational strength for this period: 30 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 716 enlisted men (twenty replacements received)
2. No change from previous date on company or Rcn platoons attachments.

28 August 1944 (Vicinity of Chateaubriant)

1. 302d T. D. Bn minus companies A, B, and C and two Rcn platoons attached to 83d Division Artillery.
2. Company A attached to 329th Infantry. Company A (minus 2d platoon) moved to vicinity Chateau Fe Vallerie. 2d platoon remained in Angers, and fired 76 rounds HE on crossroads south of the Loire River.
3. Company B attached to 331st Infantry Regiment in vicinity Herie.
4. Company C attached to 330th Infantry Regiment, relieved of attachment and moved in support of 330th Infantry Regiment to vicinity Dinard-St. Malo with the mission to fire on the island De Czembre.
5. The 1st and 2d Rcn platoons attached to 330th Infantry Regiment relieved of attachment and attached to 329th Infantry Regiment with mission of patrolling vicinity of Ouzouers.

29 August 1944 (Vicinity of Chateaubriant)

1. This Battalion minus companies A, B, and C and 2d Rcn platoon attached to 83d Division Artillery.
2. Company A attached 329th Infantry Regiment.
3. Company B attached to 331st Infantry Regiment. 1st platoon relieved of attachment to 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry and attached to 331st Infantry Headquarters for indirect fire missions, Fay-De-Bretagne to Herie. 2d platoon attached to 2d Battalion, 331st Infantry Regiment for indirect firing mission, no firing. 3d Platoon moved to Saturn in Mobile reserve controlling roads from Nantes to Temple-De-Bretagne, no action.
4. Company C in support of 330th Infantry Regiment. 1st and 2d platoons in Dinard and 3d platoon in St. Malo. All platoons with the mission of firing on Island De Czembre. Fired 49 rounds APC and 229 rounds HE.
5. 1st and 2d Rcn platoons attached to 329th Infantry Regiment.

30 August 1944 (Vicinity of Chateaubriant, France)

1. No change in any attachments from previous date.
2. Company C fired 229 rounds HE on Island of De Czembre.

302d T. D. Bn. Unit Journal Concl'd

31 August 1944 (Vicinity of Chateaubriant, France)

1. No change of any attachments from previous date.
 2. 3d platoon, Company A, fired 19 rounds APC and 20 rounds HE at enemy rail-road train in vicinity Ambrose. Hits were observed but train was not stopped.
 3. Company C fired 229 rounds HE on Island-De-Czembre.
-