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Initials: WZ
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HEADQUARTERS EIGHT HUNDRED FOURTH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
A.P.O. 464, U. S. ARMY

17 January 1945

SUBJECT: Battalion History for Month of December.

TO : Commanding General,
Fifth Army,
APO 464, U. S. Army.

At the beginning of December the Battalion was still attached to 91st Division and disposed as follows: Company A, vicinity of Casani; Company B, Vicinity of La Guardo; Company C, vicinity of La Fornace; Reconnaissance Company, Vicinity of Roncastaldo with platoons attached to each line company; Headquarters Company, vicinity of Roncastaldo and the Forward CP with Medical Detachment, vicinity of Livergnano, Italy. The main activity during the month consisted of artillery firing.

On 3 December 1944, Company C with 1 platoon of Reconnaissance Company was attached to 34th Infantry Division. Major Bernard P. Haley departed for the United States to attend Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on 5 December. Captain Walter B. Fowler joined the Battalion on 6 December and was assigned as S-1. On 7 December, 1st Lieutenant Mike J. Firtos was transferred from Company C to Headquarters Company as liaison officer.

On 11 December, Reconnaissance Company moved 3 M-8's into indirect fire positions and fired harassing missions till the 13 th December when 1 M-8 received a direct hit from enemy artillery. The remaining M-8's were then withdrawn from the line.

On 19 December, Captain Herbert F. Lowery was presented the Bronze Star Medal by Major General Keyes.

On 24 December, Company A, 805th Tank Destroyer Battalion and Company C, 775 Tank Battalion were attached to this Battalion. On 25 December, 1st Sergeant Alan D. King was given a Combat Appointment of 2nd Lieutenant and assigned to Company B.

On 28 December, the Forward CP and Battalion Aid Station received approximately 50 rounds of medium caliber enemy artillery shells with no casualties and some damage to equipment. The Battalion Aid Station was moved back to Headquarters Company area near Roncastaldo. The Forward CP was moved to the vicinity of Sabioni.

On 27 December, Company C was relieved of attachment to 24th Division and returned to Battalion Company. Company A, 24th Tank Destroyer Battalion was relieved of attachment to this Battalion. On 31 December, Company B moved to the vicinity of Linnane.

During the month of December Purple Hearts were awarded to:

1st Lieutenant RONALD E. FITCHES
Sergeant William L. Prohlett
Sergeant Wilbur D. Maddanall
Sergeant First Grade Mack A. Ferguson
Private Vincent E. Schickel

During the period ammunition expenditures were:

1591 rounds 3" M and AP
1726 rounds of Smoke
245 rounds of 37mm

1 M4 was lost.

WALLACE L. CLEMENT,
Major, Cavalry,
Commanding.