

UNITED STATES JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C.
170 164, United States Army

Intelligence History August 1944

The month opened with the Battalion less 3 attached to 1st, general vicinity of Sonobato.

C had established road blocks between the Reno and 1st, but was controlling roads in 1st's sector and controlling 1st AS on 1st. A tank 1st company, 1st in reserve vicinity Calle Salvati, attached to 1st AS.

2 August: 1st entered into line of fire position to support the 1st AS, which was in direct support.

02230 1st AS opened at 02230.

02250 A company with 2 6-gun platoons vicinity 02750. This will be 1st's first employment of 6-guns in direct fire.

6 August: Co. organized 2 years overseas.

7 August: In accordance with CG 1st, 1st Army, 2 August 1944, the Battalion hereby becomes officially self-sustained under 1st AS on 10-15, 15 March 1944. Accordingly, the reorganization was effected by the 91 necessary orders were issued transfering the men and officers to the 1st, 1st AS on Special Duty (SDD).

8 August: Soldier voting officers of higher headquarters are observing on 1st, and all units. The voting officer is active in encouraging and assisting in the vote. Interest is scattered. 1st ordered 1-92 men again to follow our own men 8 August.

9 August: 1st, 1st AS were attached to 1st AS of 1st AS. 1st AS was attached to 1st AS, the place as in support of 1st AS group with the 1st AS, and the 1st AS supporting 1st AS.

10 August: 1st and 1st AS were reorganized the 1st AS.

11 August: 1st AS was held in position.

12 August: 1st AS was relieved by 1st AS in his previous mission. 1st AS was attached to 1st AS, vicinity Calle Salvati.

13 August: 1st and 1st AS were relieved in position. In moved night 13-14 August.

14 August: 1st and 1st AS were attached operationally for indirect fire to 1st AS. In place has been acting as direct support artillery for 1st AS. During 1st AS supported via 02230 and 1st AS via 1st AS.

S E C R E T

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15 August: Bn was attached to 2nd Amored Group as of 1440 today and ordered to occupy a strong point in South Pica tonight. He occupied assembly area and an outpost line under heavy MG fire, some of it friendly.

16 August: Bn arranged with neighbors to call off their own fire, after dark he occupied his outpost in strength without mishap and resisted an enemy attempt to occupy. It appears the enemy had aimed there at night only.

17 August: F 45 attached Bn less Bn to 14th FA Group effective 171400, who ordered A fire position via a CBSE. A mine reconnaissance and occupied by 2140. Bn - Bn is now in direct support of the 39th Light Anti Aircraft Regt (British) who occupy the sector as infantry. During the early evening, while adjusting counterbattery on enemy gun flashes, our OP line manned by Sgt. Corano and party of 8 Co. received 14 rounds of direct fire of 150 mm, including 6 hits, and accompanied by mortar fire. They remained at their post, neutralized this gun, then completed the job on the first flashes.

18 August: A visit to 39 AA brought a fine compliment for B's accurate and prompt shooting.

1840: Bn. G. opened a (18055).

19 August: 2nd Amored Group borrowed a TD platoon from us to assist Bn in wiping out some nests in South Pica. Necessary contacts were made. Bn C 439 AA Bn noted that plan cancelled, thinking shells were too light. This was a surprising reaction, as supported infantry rarely make a distinction.

1940: F 45 relayed a message to send Madison to II Corps.

21 August: Bn C reported to II Corps, learned that Bn had never been relieved from II Corps, but had been attached to 91st Div and under operational control of IV Corps. Bn will be released from IV Corps 29/8/53 and will be attached to 34th Div for proposed "Area Plan"; will move as soon as practicable after release.

22 August: Bn C conferred with 34 Div, reconnoitered assembly area. 39th LAA received some shelling and mortar fire, reported a few locations which were fired. An SP firing from Pica could not be attached due to the restriction.

Bn was relieved after dark and assembled near trains. During this tour as Infantry the company nightly withstood heavy MG and mortar fire, suffering 9 casualties and 6 vehicles slightly damaged.

Ops withdrawn 1240 "through order" executed at 1640.

24 August: 4400 Bn moved to a 511,55, about 6 miles north west of Castel-Morentino. Chased an area 1640. Distance traveled 50.2 miles. Bn C and 80 Co reconnoitered above area in British tanks.

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26-31 reports: Reconnaissance is being continued. Conferences are being held by unit with Capt. 29 and all company. A few 2nd platoon - and problems have been seen. Infantry and tank personnel have been acquainted with the 2-18. The discipline is good. Morale is high. The Battalion is ready for combat.



GENERAL W. K. RUSSELL,
Lieut Colonel, USA,
Commanding.

ANNEX I

- 2, -3 Reports Received.
- 3 Reports Submitted.
- 3, -3 Reports Received.
- Field Orders, Movement Orders and Operation Instructions.
- 3 Journal.
- Logbooks.

ANNEX II

- 1 Journal.
- Communication Area Commanding, General IV Corps.
- Company's Report.
- Company Report.
- General Orders Reorganizing Battalion.

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