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HEADQUARTERS 807TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION (TOWED) JLB/ehg
APO 403, United States Army

2 December 1944

SUBJECT: After Action Reports.

TO : Commanding General, XX Corps, APO 340, United States Army.
"Attention: Historical Officer, XX Corps."

In compliance with letter Headquarters XX Corps, APO 340, U. S. Army, file 314.7, dated 25 September 1944, subject: Submission of After Action Reports, forwarded herewith brief summary of operations of this battalion from 1 - 30 November 1944 inclusive and original copies of unit journal and journal files.

For the Commanding Officer:

Joseph L. Burns
JOSEPH L. BURNS
1st Lt., AUS
Adjutant

920-632

3 Incls:

- Incl. 1: Summary of Operations for Period 1 Nov to 30 Nov 44 of 807 T. D. Bn, dtd 1 Dec 44 (in duplicate)
- Incl. 2: Unit Journal ~~807~~ 807 TD Bn, 1 - 30 Nov 44 inclusive.
- Incl. 3: Journal File 807 TD Bn, 1 - 30 Nov 44 inclusive.

CLASSIFICATION DELETED TO:
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
T.C. Mc Carthy 21 Feb 46
DOWNGRADING COMPLETED *Capt H.G.V.*

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**QUARTERS 807TH TANK DESTROY
Vicinity of VOLKFRANG**

1 December 1944

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER TO 30 NOVEMBER 1944

MAPS: Thionville, Uckange, Arley, Audun Le Roman, Mets, Boulay, St. Avold, Waldwisse

SCALE: 1/50000

1. Period 1 November to 5 November 1944 -

- (a) On 1st and 2nd November the Bn was still in support of T/F Polk with primary mission of establishing AT Defense and secondary mission of Arty Support.
- (b) Effective 2400 hrs 2 November reverted to control of 4TH TD Gp. Mission same as in par 1a above.
- (c) During entire period Battalion employed in Arty Support.
- (d) Bn Command Gp: Located in vic of WEYMERANGE. Normal duties carried on.
- (e) Hqs Co (-2 Rcn Platoons): Located vic of VOLKFRANGE. Normal duties of Adm and Supply carried on.
- (f) Companies A, B and C: Located vic of WEYMERANGE. Harassing fire missions continued. Observation of en along MOSELLE river in vic of THIONVILLE. Targets of opportunity fired on.
- (g) Rcn Platoons: Effective 2000 hrs 30 Oct 1944 Rcn Platoons relieved of attachment to 43 CAV Rcn SQD and reverted to control of this Hqs. Now employed in observation of the enemy.
- (h) Rounds of Ammo expended during period:
 - 40 rds of APC - direct fire
 - 2038 rds of HE - indirect fire

2. Period 5 November to 12 November 1944 -

- (a) Attached to 4th T D Gp with primary mission of establishing A T Def and secondary mission of Arty Support.
- (b) Bn employed in Arty Support during entire period.
- (c) Bn Command Gp: Location unchanged. Normal duties carried on.
- (d) Hqs Company (-2 Rcn Platoons): Location unchanged. Normal duties of Adm and Supply carried on.
- (e) Company "A": Location unchanged. Harassing Fire missions continued. Supported elements of 90th Inf Div in crossing of MOSELLE river in vic of MALLING. Due to NO FIRE ZONE established east of MOSELLE river were unable to fire during period 11-12 Nov.
- (f) Company "B": Location unchanged. Harassing Fire missions continued. Reinforced Fires of 920 FA Bn of 95th Div. Fired on targets of opportunity.
- (g) Company "C": Location unchanged. Harassing Fire missions continued. Supported 2nd bn of 378th Regt 95th Div in crossing MOSELLE river at THIONVILLE during period 11-12 November. Fired 1019 rds on Mt Yutz area. Brought harassing fire on RJ, RR, and CR in vic of THIONVILLE.
- (h) Rcn Platoons: Location - Hqs Company area. Employed in observation of the en and establishing Road Blocks to keep unnecessary traffic out of area.
- (i) Four Officers being used as forward observers in vic of THIONVILLE. Lt Thompson of "C" company highly commended by 378th Regimental Commander for his work as FO.

3. 13 November 1944

Bn supported the 90th and 95th Divisions in crossing of the MOSELLE river. "A" co supported the 90th Div crossing in the vic of MALLING with the 1st platoon in the vic of SENTZICH in direct fire positions and the 2nd and 3rd in indirect fire positions in vic of BOUST. 3rd platoon moved to vic of GARCHE to cover HAUTE YUTZ to support 2nd Bn 378th Inf.

Company "B" from indirect fire positions in vic of SEREMANGE was in support of the 920th FA Bn of the 95th Div. They fired harassing missions in support of crossing of 1st Bn 377th Inf at UCKANGE.

Company "C" was located in the following positions: 1st platoon vic of WEYMERANGE and 2nd platoon in vic of TERVILLE in indirect fire positions and 3rd platoon in direct fire positions on the north part of FORT GUENANGE supported the crossing of the MOSELLE river of the 2nd Bn 378th Inf by firing concentrations and harassing fire into Fort YUTZ, THIONVILLE.

4. 14 November 1944

1st and 2nd platoons of company "A" moved to vic of GARCHE to support 2nd Bn 378th Inf in crossing the MOSELLE river at THIONVILLE by fire into HAUTE YUTZ and ILLANGE. 2nd platoon was ordered to cross bridge at THIONVILLE and take up direct fire positions outside of FORT YUTZ and protect bridge head across the MOSELLE river. The vehicles of this platoon are believed to be the first vehicles to cross the bridge at THIONVILLE.

Company "B" - No Change.

Company "C" supported attack of 2nd Bn 378th Inf Regt on BASSE YUTZ, HILL at 875855 and FORT ILLANGE by fire of concentrations and targets located by forward observer.

5. 15 November 1944

Company "A" left positions in vic of GARCHE and crossed to East side of MOSELLE river and took up the following positions: 1st platoon covered roads entering ILLANGE from East & South. One section 3rd platoon took up positions guarding road junction vic of ILLANGE the remainder of the platoon in reserve at FORT YUTZ. Company CP located at FT. YUTZ.

Company "B" - No change.

Company "C" moved to FORT YUTZ to remain there until called.

6. 16 November 1944

Bn forward CP moved to ILLANGE. Bn now supporting Tank Force BACON.

Company "A" - No change.

Company "B" moved at 1000 hrs from SERMANGE across the MOSELLE to HAUTE GUENANGE. The company was placed in support of the 1st Bn 377th Inf to help that Bn move through BOUSSE to RURANGE to MONTREQUIENNE. At the end of the day the company was situated as follows: The 1st platoon was in HAUTE GUENANGE in reserve and in position to cover roads from East and West, 2nd platoon at MONTREQUIENNE and 3rd platoon at RURANGE covering approaches into these towns. Company took one prisoner this day.

Company "C" placed in support of 2nd Bn 378 Infantry. 3rd platoon advanced with leading elements of Inf captured 6 prisoners and covered approaches to AY-SUB-MOSELLE. 1st and 2nd platoons outposted BOUSSE. Company CP located at BOUSSE.

7. 17 November 1944

Bn forward CP moved to OLGY.

Bn Rear CP and Rear Ech moved to BOUSSE.

Company "A" as Bn reserve moved from positions at FORT YUTZ, FORT ILLANGE and ILLANGE to indirect fire positions in vic of RUGY to fire on those forts protecting approaches to METZ. The forts were FORT ST JULIAN, FORT CHAMPAGNE, and FORT BELLECROIX. These fires were to be harassing during the night.

Company "B" reorganized at MONTREQUIENNE to support attack of 1st Bn 377 Inf on TREMERY. 1st platoon from direct fire position fired at an mortar position south of MONTREQUIENNE, 2nd platoon took direct fire positions south of MONTREQUIENNE and fired on ridge held by enemy. 3rd platoon took direct fire positions along highway south and west of A NTILLY. 2nd platoon took direct fire positions south of RUPIGNY and fired in support of Inf advance to CHIEULLES. This fire destroyed one 88 MM and five AA guns at 898691, captured 72 prisoners and inflicted 6 casualties. Two more 88 MM guns were also destroyed just north of CHIEULLES as a result of this action. Company CP located at RUPIGNY. 1st platoon covered approaches to RUPIGNY, 2nd platoon CHIEULLES and 3rd platoon CHARLY.

Company "C" continued support of 2nd Bn 378th Infantry. 1st and 3rd platoons with Inf and 2nd in reserve. 1st and 3rd platoons covered approaches to MALROY and 2nd platoon covered approaches to OLGY. Company CP moved to OGLY.

8. 18 November 1944

Bn forward CP, Rear CP and Rear Ech remained in same location. ST.

Company "A" supported attack of 2nd Bn 378th Inf by fire on FORTAULIEN. These forts were covering approaches to METZ. Reports of the results say this fire was very effective. Company received march order and one gun of 3rd platoon was placed covering RJ south of FORT BELLECROIX. The remainder of the platoon covered approaches in BAS-CHONE. The 1st and 2nd platoons moved to OLGY, the company CP moved there also.

Company "B" reorganized at CHIEULLES. 2nd platoon took direct fire positions and destroyed two 88 MM guns and 9 AA guns. 1st platoon took up direct fire positions covering town of ST. JULIEN. 2nd and 3rd platoons and Company CP took position in BAS-CHONES.

Company commander had his h-20 damaged as result of explo. which damaged southeast part of FORT BELLECROIX. Company "C" 1st platoon moved up with Inf and took FORT ST. JULIEN under direct fire, moved back and outposted MALROY for the night. 3rd Platoon moved with the Inf and fired on FORT JULIEN and covered approaches to the fort for the night. 2nd platoon and Company CP remained at OLGY.

19 November 1944 (Paragraph Number 9)

Bn forward CP moved to BAS-CHONE.

Rear CP and Rear Ech remained at BOUSSE.

Company "A" placed in support of 377 Inf Regt and Company "B" to Bn reserve.

Company "A" CP and 1st and 2nd platoons moved to BAS-CHONE. 1st Platoon moved across bridge over SIELLE RIVER and into METZ to cover bridgehead and streets as the Inf moved in. This platoon destroyed two MG nests and killed crews, destroyed 3 German command cars and took prisoners of unknown number. 2nd platoon outposted vic of FT BELLECROIX. 3rd platoon remained in same position as day before.

Company B 1st platoon supported attack and river crossing of Inf by three guns in indirect fire positions and one in direct fire. Fire reported as very effective. 2nd platoon remained in position at BAS-CHONES. 3rd platoon occupied positions at bridge head over SIELLE river.

10. During the period 13-19 November the two Rcn platoons were disposed as follows: 1st platoon support of Company "A" while east of Moselle river. On the 16th of November 1st platoon was sent with Company "B" and the 2nd platoon with Company "C". These platoons remained with these companies until the 18th, then they were placed in reserve at BA S-CHONE. During the above action these platoons removed five road blocks between FORT ILLANGE and HERTRANGE, captured fifty prisoners and destroyed two MG nests.

11. 20 November 1944

Bn forward CP located in BAS-CHONE. Bn Rear Ech and Rear CP located in BOUSSE.

Company "A" CP located BAS-CHONE. Support of 1st Bn 377th Infantry. 1st platoon located in METZ with 2 guns in position covering critical streets. Gun on right flank of 1st Bn 377th Inf covered by fire into buildings on German side of canal. Other gun in position in area of 2nd Bn 378th Inf covering streets entering left flank of 1st Bn 377th Infantry. S/Sgt Ritterman commanding left section in center of town captured about 200 German prisoners. 2nd platoon sent to guard train load of captured German ammunition near town of FAILLY. 3rd platoon in BAS-CHONE.

Company "B" in Bn reserve at BAS-CHONE, covering bridge crossing of SIELLE river into METZ and approaches to BAS-CHONE.

Company "C" CP located at MALROY. 3rd platoon guarding FORT JULIEN. Remainder of company located at MALROY.

12. 21 November 1944

Bn forward CP, Rear CP and Rear Ech - No change.

Company "A" CP moved to METZ at 1600 hrs. No change in platoon dispositions.

Company "B" - No change.

Company "C" - No change.

Task force Bacon completed taking of objective in METZ.

13. 22 November 1944

Bn Rear CP and Rear Ech - No change.

Bn forward CP returned to BOUSSE at 1600 hrs.

Company "A" moved to BOUSSE at 1400, closed in at 1500 hrs. 2nd Platoon released to company at 1200 hrs.

Company "B" moved to HAUTE GUENANGE at 1400 hrs, closed in at 1500 hrs.

Company "C" - 3rd platoon rejoined company at MALROY.

METZ officially turned over to the Mayor of METZ by Commanding General of XX Corps at 1000 hrs.

Bn released from support of Task force BACON at 1200 hrs. Bn CO issued orders for movement of companies "A" and "B" to vic of BOUSSE to begin at 1400 hrs.

14. 23 November 1944

THANKSGIVING.

Day spent in cleaning of vehicles and equipment.

Bn placed in support of 377th Inf Regt 95 Div at 1200 hrs. Mission to support Regt in attack towards SAAR river.

At 2130 hrs the Bn CO 807th TD Bn gave the following as the mission of the 377 Inf Regt: To take the high ground and woods N & E of BOULAY(098657). The plan was as

follows: move the 2nd Bn by two columns on the right and the 1st Bn on the left. The 2nd Bn would move along the road HELSTROFF-MACKER-BOULAY. The left column VOLMERANGE-BOULAY. The 807 TD Bn will place two Rcn platoons and company "A" in support of 2nd Bn 377 th Inf Regt with the following mission: one platoon of Rcn to move with the right column of Inf with Inf cover. Other Rcn platoon to move with left column of Inf with Inf cover. Platoons to move to BOULAY and take that town, shake it down for Germans, locate any mine fields and outpost the town. One platoon of company "A" to follow as close behind the foot Inf of the left column as possible, prepared to fire into woods and high ground N & E of BOULAY by direct fire if the Inf meets any resistance from that area. After the Inf has accomplished its mission the platoon can close into BOULAY. The remaining two platoons of company "A" to stay at VOLKANGE until it is taken and then secure the town. CO of Company "A" and Rcn Co-ordinator to report to CO 2nd Bn 377th Inf at 0700 25 Nov in VOLKANGE to lay out plans for the attack. There will be no firing on BOULAY unless the Inf encounters resistance.

15. 24 November 1944

Bn forward CP moved from BOUSSE at 1700 hrs to MONTOY, arriving at 1845 hrs.

Bn Rear CP and Rear Ech remained at BOUSSE.

Company "A" moved from Bousse to RATONFEY, closed in at 1800 hrs.

Company "B" moved from HAUTE GUENANGE to NOISEVILLE, closed at 1800 hrs.

Company "C" remained at MALROY.

16. 25 November 1944

Bn forward CP moved from MONTOY at 0710 hrs to CONDE NORTHEN and arrived at 0830 hrs. Moved from CONDE NORTHEN at 1500 hrs and arrived at BOULAY at 1600 hrs.

Bn Rear CP and Rear Ech moved from BOUSSE and was ~~known~~ closed into RATONFEY by 1200 hrs.

Company "A" followed the plan as outlined above except that the entire company was taken into BOULAY and the company secured that town instead of VOLKANGE. Third platoon of Company "A" was used to support the attack and fired 27 rounds of ammunition on direct fire missions at Pill Boxes.

Company "B" remained in position at ~~HAUTE GUENANGE~~ NOISEVILLE.

Company "C" moved from MALROY to LES ETANGS, closed in at 0900 hrs.

17. 26 November 1944

Bn forward CP, Rear CP and Rear Ech remained in same position.

Company "A" Third platoon and First platoon Rcn placed in support of 1st Bn 377 Inf Regt in its attack to take ground in vic of VALMUNSTER. Platoon to support by direct fire from position at (092695) to fire on MAGINOT FORTS and Pill Boxes that could be seen from their positions. Platoon fired 102 rounds of ammunition. The platoon was covering the Regiment's left flank and continued to hold this position during the night. Remainder of company remained in BOULAY.

Companies "B" and "C" remained in positions.

18. 27 November 1944

Bn forward CP moved from BOULAY (011654) at 1530 to VELVING (125719), arrived new location at 1600 hrs. Route BOULAY - TETERCHEN - VELVING.

Bn Rear CP and Rear Ech remained in position.

Company "A" - Co CP and 1st platoon in BOULAY. 2nd platoon from position at (105678) supported attack of 1st Bn 377 th Inf by firing on Pill Boxes and forts of MAGINOT LINE. 3rd platoon from position at (092804) supported attack by firing at Pill Boxes and forts of MAGINOT LINE. 140 rds of HE and 30 rds of APC fired.

Company "B" - Company Commander received orders at 1400 hrs to pick up company ~~of~~ of 377th Inf in BOULAY and put the Inf on the vehicles and take them to HOLLING (098746). Movement started at 1530 hrs. Was completed at 1700 hrs. Route NOISEVILLE - LES ETANGS - CONDE - BOULAY - TETERCHEN - VELVING - VALMUNSTER - HOLLING. New company CP in HOLLING.

Company "C" - Captured one German prisoner. Company Commander received orders at 1200 hrs to pick up company ~~of~~ of 377th Inf in BOULAY, put the Inf on the vehicles and take them to VAUDRECHMIG, ALZING ~~and~~ DORF. Movement began at 1400 hrs and was completed at 1700 hrs. Company ~~of~~ CP located at ALZING (142762). Route - LES ETANGS - CONDE - BOULAY - TETERCHEN - VELVING - VALMUNSTER - HOLLING - REMELFANG - VAUDRECHMIG - ALZING.

Rcn Platoons - 1st platoon and Rcn Officer sent out at 0800 hrs to reconnoiter route, BOULAY - TETERCHEN - VELVING - BRETINACH - ALZING and report condition of bridges, mines and obstacles on those roads that would hinder advance of friendly Tanks and TD's carrying Inf personnel on them along that road. 1245 hrs Rcn Officer reported everything clear to BRETANGE. The Rcn Officer and 2nd platoon were the first American soldiers in to the town. 1st Rcn platoon left at 1000 hrs with same mission as the 2nd platoon to reconnoiter road TETERCHEN to BRETINACH. Platoon reported road clear at 1215 hrs.

19. 28 November 1944

Bn Forward CP moved from VELVING (125719) at 0930 to WOELFLING (181777), closed in new location at 1400 hrs. Route - VELVING - TETERCHEN - BRETINACH - ALZING - CHATEAU ROUGE - WOELFLING.

Bn Rear CP and Rear Ech moved from RATONFEY (959605) at 0800 hrs to VELVING (125719) closed in new location at 1400 hrs. Route - RATONFEY - LES ETANGS - CONDE - BOULAY - TETERCHEN * VELVING.

Company "A" - Moved from BOULAY at 1000 hrs to CHATEAU ROUGE (173762), closed at ~~1110~~ 1110 hrs.

Company "B" - No change.

Company "C" - No change in location. Captured two prisoners in ALZING.

Rcn Platoons - Lt Toole given mission to locate routes to an observation point overlooking the SAAR river at 1415 hrs. Rcn Officer reported the following as the results for that day: Inf had not been beyond line RAMMELFANGEN - KERLINGEN - DUREN. Bridges at following locations blown: (18757960), (18857980), (190800), (178810), 190782), (185805), (182807) and (190804). Sign with word WEINEN located on right (NE) side of road between (185805) and (182807).

20. 29 November 1944

Bn Forward CP - No change.

Bn Rear CP and Rear Ech - no change.

CP's of Companies A, B and C were not moved during period.

~~XXXX~~ Company commanders of A, B and C reported to CP and were assigned the following ~~XXXX~~ zones for Rcn for direct fire positions. "A" company - right boundary of 377th Inf Regt, left boundary a line through (220795) to (260817). "B" Company - right boundary would be "C" Company left boundary and their left boundary would be 377th Inf Regt left boundary. "C" Company - right boundary would be Company "A" left boundary and their left boundary would be road running NE from QUISINGEN to OBER LIMBERG, east to river.

Rcn Platoons - One section of Rcn platoons was placed in support of the company commanders to make the rcn.

At 1620 five Tanks were reported attacking elements of 1st Bn 377th Inf at ST. BARBARA. Company "A" and one platoon of Company "C" placed on the alert to meet any further Tank threats at 1623 hrs. Company "A" was relieved from alert at 1748 hrs. Company "C" platoons was relieved at 1820 hrs from alert. Because of Tank threats along 377th Inf front and right (South) boundary of Regt, position area overlay was sent to A, B and C companies ordering them to occupy positions shown by 2400 hrs. Positions were as follows: Company "A" vic of VILLING, Company "B" vic of WEINING and roads at (170806). Company "C" vic of LEIDINGEN and SCHRECKING. All companies reported occupying positions by 2340 hrs.

21. 30 November 1944

Bn Forward CP, Rear CP and Rear Ech - No change.

Company "A" - No change.

Company "B" - At 1500 hrs CP moved from vic of HOLLING to HERBRICH HEMMERSDORF, closed at 1600 hrs. 1st platoon moved with company CP. 2nd platoon moved from vic of IHN at 1630 hrs to HERBRICH HEMMERSDORF, arrived 1715 hrs. 3rd platoon moved from vic of IHN at 1615 hrs to OBER LIMBERG, arrived at new position at 1730 hrs.

Company "C" - CP moved from ALZING at 0730 to BOUZONVILLE, closed in at 0830 hrs.

Reconnaissance was continued by Company Commanders for routes to high ground overlooking the SAAR river. At 1515 hrs, because of Tank threats from direction of SAAR river and right flank of Regimental sector CO of the 377th Inf Regt asked 800th Bn CO for direct fire guns in towns now held by Inf, particularly in OBER LIMBERG. 800th Bn CO offered plan for relieving two guns of 607th Bn in OBER LIMBERG by one platoon from our Bn and the outposting of the following towns as soon as company CO's could make a reconnaissance and the tactical conditions permitted: ITTERSROFF, WEINING, ST BARBARA, VILLING, ITTERSROFF and WEINING.

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At 1545 hrs the CO of company "B" called by radio to send one platoon to OBER LIMBERG for static defense.

WOODSIDE

Major

S-3