

[REDACTED]

AFTER ACTION REPORT  
811TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
Period 23-30 November 1944

PART I

Section I - Introduction.

1. Campaign is the current campaign in western Europe.

2. The following are the maps and references used by this Battalion, minus Company A, 1st Reconnaissance Platoon, attached to CCB, 9th Armored Division: Northern France, Belgium, Holland 1944 GS, GS, 4414 index 46 - 1/25,000 sheets 6003, 6004, 6005, 6102, 6103, 6104, 6105, 6202, 6203, 6204, 6205, 6302, 6303, 6304, 6305. The following maps were used by Company A: 1/25,000 Germany 5502, 5503, 5504, 5505, 5602, 5603, 5604, 5605, 5702, 5703, 5704, 5705, 5802, 5803, 5804, 5805, 5902, 5903, 5904, 5905, GS, GS 4041, index No. 44, 81-NTS, 93-NTS, GS, GS 4416, AMS, M41, 1044, 1/200,000, T1, U1, V1, 107, (N&S, France and Belgium) 1/200,000 Mons-Luxembourg Sheet No. 4.

3. The Battalion Commander for this period was Lt Col A. R. BROWNFIELD, FA, and the Company Commanders were as follows:

CAPT HENRY J. CRONIN, TD, Company A,  
CAPT FRANCE B. McCONKIE, TD, Company B,  
CAPT DAVID G. COLLINS, TD, Company C,  
CAPT SAMUEL A. PARSONS, TD, Reconnaissance Company,  
CAPT HOWARD F. CLARKE, JR., TD, Hq & Hq Company.

Section II - Statistical Data.

The following is the statistical information regarding personnel:

1. Personnel losses 23-30 November - 2
2. Personnel Replacements 23-30 November - 5 AM and 2 Officers.
3. Prisoners of War taken - None.
4. Vehicular losses 23-30 November - None.
5. Vehicular Replacements 23-30 November - None.
6. Ammunition expenditures - 2,039 rounds of H&S, 9 rounds of smoke.

Section III

After a week's intensive preparation, this Battalion minus Company A and one reconnaissance platoon closed into prepared indirect fire positions and came under the control of Division artillery, 9th Armored Division. Company B was located as follows: 1st Platoon (500.288-332.957), 3d Platoon (500.559-333.452). The Company C positions were as follows: 1st Platoon (501.604-333.259), 2d Platoon (502.207-333.532) 3d Platoon (501.249-334.066). Companies B and C closed into positions by 1640, 23 November. Headquarters Company was located in Consdorf, and Reconnaissance Company at Christnach. Because of bad weather, which prevailed, no attempt to register was possible until 25 November. Both companies fired unsuccessfully, for all rounds were unobserved, and no positive results were possible. During this attempt it was cloudy, and visibility was only fair. Company B was able to register in the first attempt on the 20th, and the base point was a house, which was not visibly damaged. Company C attempted to register several times, but results were undetermined because of poor visibility. Later in the day, however, both companies fired on targets of opportunity including enemy troops. During the evening hours harassing fire was fired periodically, with results unknown.

On the 27th Company C fired on concentration K420, (town) and obtained good effect. Later in the day concentrations 5916, K414 were fired and were observed as direct hits in town.

After Action Report, 811th TD Bn, Period 23-30 Nov, cont'd.

The weather remained bad generally, and great difficulty was experienced in observing results of fire. Generally, fog and rain were common throughout the period, and because of the terrain the observers were hampered. The section fired into was generally hilly and many of the targets were concealed in deep draws and in heavily wooded areas. Because of extremely bad weather the 28th was completely unproductive. The 29th and 30th were devoted to harassing fires and numerous TOT's were fired.

Enemy actions were almost non-existent, with two exceptions. The 1st and 3d platoon of Company C were fired on briefly by an enemy patrol on the night of 27 November. This patrol was broken up and partially captured later the same night by other friendly troops. No evidence of any enemy counter-battery fire was noted.

Company A moved into indirect fire positions 28 November under the control of OCB, 9th Armored Division at the following locations: 1st Platoon (82.634-73545), 2d Platoon (82740-73570), 3d Platoon (82840-73596). They expended 263 rounds for the period, which was used for registration, and harassing fires which were unobserved.

The missions of this unit were harassing for the most part, with few opportunities for observed fire. The fires were unobserved almost without exception. Final results were necessarily unknown.

#### Section IV

No comments are desired for the period.

#### Section V

Overlay used is contained in Part II.