

HQ 814 TD Bn (SP)
 SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS • 1 Oct. 1944 to 7 Oct 1944



CCA (Co. A, 814 TD Bn.)

- 1 and 2 Oct 44 - No change
- 3 Oct. - 1st Plt. employed as flank guard w/40th Tank Bn. in attack on OVERLOON. 2nd and 3rd Plts. no change.
- 4 Oct. - 1st Plt. no change. 2nd and 3rd Plts. employed as flank guard Reserve with 48th Ing. One EM LWA.
- 5 Oct. - No change One EM LWA.
- 6 Oct. - Moved as Company to Assembly area. vicinity OPL00.
- 7 Oct. - Moved as Co. to Assembly area vicinity MAARHEEZE.

CCB (Co. B, 814 TD Bn)

- 1 Oct. - Remained in position near ST ANTHOMIS. 1st and 2nd Plt. employed as CCB reserve; 3rd Plt. attached to 23 AIB.
- 2 Oct. - 2nd Plt. employed with Co. B, 87 Rcn; 3rd Plt. employed as left flank guard for Task Force #1; 1st Plt. in reserve. 2 EM LWA in
- 3 Oct. - CCB relieved by CCR; moved to assembly area 5 miles NW of St. Anthomis.
- 4 Oct. - Remained in reserve position. No mission.
- 5 Oct. - Moved from position NW of St. Anthomis to position 2 1/2 miles SE of St. Anthomis. Capt McKinley given task force consisting of B Co, 014th TD Bn; Co D, 31st Tk Bn and 1 Plat Engineers.
- 6 Oct. - 1st Plat relieved 1st plat Co A, 814th TD Bn 2 miles W of Overloon, balance of Task Force in reserve 2 miles south of Opl00. Task Force dissolved. 1st Plat flank guard for CCB; balance Company in reserve. 1st Plat under arty fire. 2nd plat knocked out enemy OP with 34 rds HE; 16 rds AP.
- 7 Oct. -- No change. 1st plat under enemy arty. barrages. 1st Plat fired on windmill suspected as OP and Gun position. Fired 10 rds HE and 12 rds AP with undetermined results.

Task Force JONES (814 (-)) (See Overlay #1)

- 1 Oct. - Road Block Force at Deurne given additional mission of patrolling NE from Wasberg; effecting crossing of canal at 694230, establishing bridgehead; putting Treadway Bridge across, and eventually contacting CCA if their attack to VENRAY succeeded. For plan of attack at 1900 hours, see overlay #2. Leading elements reached to about 200 yds west of canal where all troops were pinned down by heavy small arms and MG fire at 2030 hours. Belgian volunteers were difficult to control, and attack suspended with 7 AD permission at 2300 hours to allow time to bring up rubber boats and reorganize Belgians. Withdrew to original outpost line. Enemy patrols active at night and intermittent artillery fire received in vicinity of Deurne and Liesel throughout day. 50 Germans reported by British and Dutch in Heusden at 2130 hours 20 Sept 1944.
- 2 Oct. - Second attack on canal at 694230 scheduled for 0930 (See annex #1, Plan of Attack) but no Belgians would volunteer and all planned to return to Belgium. All Belgians had been transferred from Weert and Liesel to act as infantry in the attack. Div authorized suspension of attack to permit reorganization of forces without Belgians. 100 Germans reported by Dutch to have entered Zeilberg during preceding night when outposts there withdrew to support canal attack.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS * 1 Oct to 7 Oct 1944)
 Cont'd Task Force Jones



- Reported to have taken 80 Dutch with them. 80 Germans also raided farm buildings vic. 6917 along RR running E. from ZEILBERG. Large enemy force estimated at 300 reported moving west from 745245 at 1100 hours, brought under fire by British Arty. Attack cancelled; Road Block #1 resumed former positions. Road Block Force at WEERT relieved by British and closed in reserve position 1/2 mile N. of OMMEL at 1800. Intermittent mortar and artillery fire received at DEURNE AND LIESEL throughout day. Dutch reported 1500 German soldiers detained at AMERIKA 1500 hours, 1 Oct 1944.
- 3 Oct. - No change. Patrol of 2 Light Tanks and Armored car tried to reach crossing site at 694230 to obtain bridge information. At 1300 hours leading tank hit mine at 691228 which blew off track. Enemy small arms fire received from houses along road. Ditches along road believed booby-trapped. Attempts to tow tank back with M-10 abandoned because of enemy arty. fire. One Officer, one EM wounded. Light tank destroyed by 3" fire at 1630 hrs to prevent enemy from taking radio and other equipment. Enemy mortar fire received while performing this mission. Enemy patrols active vic. DEURNE and LIESEL during hours of darkness.
- 4 Oct. - LIESEL roadblock engaged enemy patrol without casualty. Two enemy believed injured. Two prisoners taken at Road Block #1. Both road blocks used booby traps as part of defense system. Enemy patrols active during hours of darkness, and mined road South of LIESEL. TD's fired 128 rounds (60 rounds for adjustment-observation difficult) in vic 7117. Dutch underground reported that fires were caused in German Barracks and that wounded could be heard calling for help.
- 5 Oct. - Majority of Belgians returned to MAESEYCK at 0600 hours. Attempted to register 1st and 2nd Plts. of Co. C on RR track vic. 6719. 1st plt. registered by FO. Communication failure and direct fire by enemy in vicinity of base point made it impossible to register. 2nd Plt. conducted harassing fire in known enemy territory during afternoon and night. Enemy shelled DEURNE causing two civilians killed, three British wounded. Believed to be counterbattery fire. Enemy patrolling continued at night.
- 6 Oct. - Enemy patrol of 13 walked into reserve road block position north of OMMEL at 0530 hours. Sentry on duty wounded one who was captured and drove off others. Registered 1st Plt., C Co. with air observer on RR crossing at Canal (705181); could not register 2nd plt. because of poor visibility. Enemy patrols active vicinity LIESEL and HEUSDEN during night. Additional road blocks established vic. 6313 and 6413 at request of Trains Cndr. Light Arty. fire received at LIESEL during day.
- 7 Oct. - Two prisoners captured at Liesel during night; three prisoners taken at DEURNE. All road blocks alerted for relief by CCB and movement to Div. Reserve (CCR) assembly area south of ZOMEREN. Road Block at 6413 moved to 6616 and Engr. Plt. and Tank Plt. detached from Road Block #3 Force and attached to Road Block #2. 2nd Plt. C Co. established road blocks at 6213 and 615135. Enemy arty. and night patrolling continued active.

ANNEX #1 TO SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS 1 OCT - 7 Oct 1944

PLAN FOR ATTACK TO SECURE CANAL CROSSING SITE AT 694230

ROAD BLOCK #1 FORCE, 0930 HOURS, 2 Oct 1944

Belgian Infantry to move on 1200 yard front astride WASBERG-VIENRAY Road, automatic weapons in center, riflemen on flanks, Task Force #1 on left flank, Task Force #2 on right flank. Objective secure and outpost canal crossing and establish 800 yard bridgehead. Three light tanks to move along road providing covering fire, two tanks remain in reserve at school house (678219). Engineers to follow infantry with assault boats, two each task force; boats to be used to effect crossing 300 yards North and 300 yards south of bridge on canal. Main force of Engineers with bridging supplies remain at school house until bridgehead is secured, then move forward to construct bridge. TD Plt. to go into indirect fire position and register. To support attack if previously registered British artillery is not available for fire mission. Fire to be observed from church steeple in DEURNE. TD Rcn Plt. maintain roadblock SE of DEURNE AND E of WASBERG, AND TO PROVIDE FO for TD indirect fire. British Arty. to lay normal barrage (1 rd. per 40 sec.) from 8 guns on enemy installations at 710170 at 0930 hours. 8 Guns normal barrage on enemy positions at 694231 at 0925 hours (5 mins. of fire then remain on call). British Rcn provide diversion along RR trak from ZEILBERG to E and along road one kilometer S of and parallel to route of advance. Also maintain mobile reserve in ZEILBERG.

TIME OF ATTACK: 0930 hours

LINE OF DEPARTURE: 681231 - 690220

FWD CP Road Block #1: Schoolhouse (678219)

COMMUNICATIONS: Radio, Telephone and Messenger



/s/ JOHN P REED
 Capt FA
 Cmdg., Road Block #1

HEADQUARTERS
614 TD BN (SP)

12 Oct 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF TANK DESTROYER OPERATIONS FROM 1 Oct to 7 Oct 1944

REPORT NO. 9



	<u>D</u>	<u>YO</u>	<u>EM</u>
1. PERSONNEL			
a. Casualties			
(1) Killed	-	-	0
(2) Wounded	-	-	5
(3) Captured	-	-	-
(4) Missing	-	-	-
(5) Total	0	0	5
b. Replacements			
(1) Requisitioned	-	-	6
(2) Received	-	-	9
c. Prisoners			
(1) Captured	0	0	5

2. INTELLIGENCE	
a. Vehicles destroyed	
(1) MK VI	0
(2) MK V	0
(3) MK IV	0
(4) SP	0
(5) Others	0
b. Miscellaneous	
(1) Guns AT	0
(2) Guns, Arty	0
(3) MG	0
(4) Pillboxes	0
(5) OP	2
(6) Misc.-German Barracks	1

3. Operations			
a. Rounds Fired	<u>APC</u>	<u>HE</u>	<u>SMK</u>
(1) Direct	31	44	0
(2) Indirect	0	253	0
b. Short summary of operations - (See attached sheets)			

	<u>On Hand</u>		<u>evac.</u>
	<u>Serv.</u>	<u>unserv.</u>	
a. M-10	31	5	5
b. M-20	14	0	0
c. M-0	6	0	0
d. M-T	21	0	0
e. I-T	30	2	2
f. others	37	5	0

5. Comments
a. None

For the commanding officer:

ROBERT O LARIMER
Capt S-3