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HEADQUARTERS 82ND TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #758, U. S. ARMY

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE

February 1945



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HEADQUARTERS
822D TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #758, U. S. ARMY

9 March 1945

SUBJECT: Letter of Transmittal.

TO : Commanding General, 63d Infantry Division, APO 410, U. S. Army.

1. Transmitted herewith is Unit History (After Action Reports) of this organization.

For the Commanding Officer:

PIERCE D. BISHOP
Major, Inf.
S-3

5 Incl -

- Incl 1 - After Action Report
- Incl 2 - Casualty Report
- Incl 3 - Awards and Decorations
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HEADQUARTERS
822ND TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
A.P.O. 758, U. S. ARMY



AFTER ACTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY

1 February 1945 - Battalion bivouaced in vicinity of Buchy, France. Staff Section: Captain Copeland, Battalion S-2, left Buchy with 9 Officers and 15 Enlisted Men for Battalion front line destination as the Advance Party. Weather cold and cloudy.

2 February----- Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains, Battalion CO, departed for Seventh Army Headquarters. Captain Copeland visited Chief of Armored Section, at Seventh Army Headquarters. Major Bishop, Battalion S-3, contacted Block "G" Headquarters in Forges for movement orders. H, A, B, and C Companies cleaned weapons and performed maintenance on vehicles in preparation for road march to Battalion front line destination. Weather cold and clear.

3 February - Battalion moved from vicinity of Buchy to front line destination. The Reconnaissance platoons as the first element of the march crossed the I.P. at 0930 hours. The remaining elements in the following order: A, B, H, & C Companies cleared the I.P. (Forges) at 1015. Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains visited the G-3 and Chief of the Armored Section, Seventh Army Headquarters. Captain Copeland reported to G-3, XV Corps and received verbal assignment to 63rd Infantry Division. Later reported to 63rd Division G-3. Advance party moved to Hambach to secure billets for the Battalion. Battalion closed into Bivouac area at 1700 hours at Soissons. Weather cold and rainy.

4 February - Battalion moved from bivouac at Soissons at 0730 hours. March to Verdun completed at 1800 hours, where Battalion was billeted for the night. Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains reported to G-3, XV Corps Headquarters. Later visited 5th TD Group and 63rd Division Headquarters. Weather cold and clear.

5 February - Battalion cleared Verdun at 0800 and closed in Hambach at 1530 hours. The Battalion completed the 312 mile march very successfully under the command of Major Kemp, Battalion Executive. Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains joined the Battalion at Hambach. Major Bishop contacted the 63rd Division for information of the situation. The Command Post was set up for operation and the CP group billeted in vicinity. Headquarters Company - located at Hambach, billeted personnel and established a guard for the area. 1st Reconnaissance platoon was given the duty of placing the guard around the CP. "A" Company located at Roth, billeted all personnel and placed guards on the area. "B" Company located at Woustviller, billeted all personnel and placed guards around area. "C" Company located at Hambach, billeted all personnel and placed guard on area.

6 February - Battalion located at Hambach. Lt. Colonel Mains and his staff met with Company commanders at 0830 hours. The Battalion Commander issued verbal orders placing "A" Company in direct support of the 253rd Infantry Regiment, "C" Company in direct support of the 255th Infantry Regiment and "B" Company in support of 63rd Division Artillery. Staff Section: Major Kemp to 253rd Infantry Regiment CP and to sector assigned Company "A". Major Bishop to CP 255 Infantry Regiment

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and to sector assigned to Company "C". H. Company performed maintenance on vehicles and weapons throughout the day. "A" Company Commander accompanied Battalion Executive to CP 253rd Infantry Regiment and later reconnoitered sector assigned for gun positions. "A" Company performed maintenance on weapons and vehicles. "B" Company located at Woustviller. Company commander to Siltzheim to reconnoiter for indirect firing positions. Company cleaned weapons and performed maintenance on vehicles. "C" Company located at Hambach. Company commander accompanied Battalion S-3 to CP 253rd Infantry Regiment and thence to assigned sector for reconnaissance.



7 February - Staff Section: Major Kemp to 253rd Infantry Regiment's CP at 0800 hours. Later visited "A" Company gun positions and returned at 1430. Major Bishop to 253rd Infantry Regiment's CP and "C" company gun positions at 0800 hours. Returned 1330 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 70th Division CP at 0900 hours. Visited CG 70th Division, returned 1715. At 1530 hours Colonel Jacoby, CO 5th TD Group visited Battalion CP. Captain LaBrode, Battalion S-4, contacted 63rd Division S-4 and 5th TD Group S-4. H. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon continued to guard Battalion CP. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon operating OP's and listening posts in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. Company "A" - CO and platoon leaders complete reconnaissance for primary mission positions. Gun crews started digging gun positions. Company "B" - Closed in indirect fire positions near Siltzheim at 0500 hours. At 2030 hours 1st Platoon, 2nd Squad fired the first round into enemy territory (Platoon Sergeant Raymond Wrigley, Gun Commander Sgt. Ned Rose, Gunner Cpl. Ellis Cole). Company fired 32 indirect harrassing missions from 072030 February 45 to 080600 February 45. 63 rounds expended. Company "C" - Gun positions being dug. Further reconnaissance continued in sector to strengthen anti-tank defenses of the Division and coordinate the fires of "A" and "C" Companies.

8 February - Staff Section: Major Bishop to Company "C" CP at 0830, returned at 1000 hours. Captain Copeland to 70th Division CP at 0830, returned 1000. Captain Wadle of 776 TD Battalion and Captain Merrill, 5th TD Group visited Battalion CP at 1000 hours. Three CIC officers from the 63rd Division visited CP to instruct S-2 on handling of civilians. Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" & "C" Company gun positions at 1350 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Major Bishop to 63rd Division CP at 1726 hours, returned at 1830 hours. H. Company - 2nd Reconnaissance platoon continued to operate OP's and listening posts in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. OP hit by mortar fire wounding Tec. 5 Gilman. Company "A" - Company, less three guns of 3rd platoon, closed into prepared positions at 2400 hours. 3 guns unable to occupy prepared positions due to weather and terrain difficulties. Three alternate positions were prepared and will be occupied after darkness 9 February 45. Company "B" - Departed 63rd Infantry Division sector at 1630 hours and bivouaced at Tentelingen enroute to join 70th Infantry Division. Captain Frantz continued reconnaissance for gun positions in 70th Division sector. Company "C" - Improved positions and made further reconnaissance of sector. Company started moving into prepared positions at 1830 hours. Weather cold and rainy.

9 February - Staff Section: Major Kemp to Company "A" positions at 0845 hours, returned 1500 hours. Captain Copeland to 70th Division CP at 1040 hours, returned at 1155 hours. Major Bishop to 63rd Division CP at 1330 hours, returned 1440 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 70th Division Head quarters, returned at 1730 hours. Lt. Sanford, 776th TD Battalion, visited CP at 0945 hours. Major Stiver, 5th TD Group, visited CP at 1440 hours. Company "A" CP at Sarreguemines (521-575). Completed occupying prepared positions in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector at 2200 hours. Company "B" - CP located at Thedingen. Started movement to new positions in 70th Division sector. Company "C" - Remained in position in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather cold and rainy.

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10 February - Staff Section: Captain Copeland to 63rd Division CP at 1000 hours. Returned 1130 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to A & C Company gun positions at 0930, returned 1140 hours. Lt. Ittner, Liaison #1, to Redding at 1530 hours, returned 1730 hours. Major Bishop to 776th TD Battalion at 1400 hours, returned 1730 hours. 1st Lt. Junkins, Liaison #2, to 63rd Division CP at 1430 hours, returned 1530 hours. Major Kemp to Company "B" gun positions at 1530 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Captain Merrill, 5th TD Group, visited CP at 1400 hours. Hq. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon established liaison with each front line Battalion in 70th Infantry Division's sector. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon guarding Battalion CP. Company "A" remained in position in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. Company "B" closed in 70th Division sector with 10 guns in firing positions and 2 guns in mobile reserve at 0200 hours. Company "C" remained in position in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather cold and rainy.

11 February - Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains met with CO, "A" Company at 0900 hours and "C" Company CO at 1000 hours. Plans made for future operations for both companies. Captain Copeland to "B" Company gun positions at 1300 hours, returned at 1600 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" and "C" Company gun positions at 1325 hours, returned at 1830 hours. Lt. Ittner to Sarralbe at 1340 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Major Kemp to "B" Company gun positions at 1300 hours, returned at 1500 hours. Lt. DeWitt to Sarralbe at 1300 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Colonel Jacoby and Captain Merrill, 5th TD Group, visited CP at 1500 hours. Lt. Colonel Brooks, G-1, 63rd Division, visited CP at 1500 hours. Hq. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon continued to maintain liaison with each front line Battalion in the 70th Infantry Division sector for Company "B". 2nd Reconnaissance platoon guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. Company "A" continued to improve their positions in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. Company "B" in support of 70th Infantry Division, remained in previously occupied positions with 10 guns. 2 guns held in mobile reserve. Company "C" remained in and continued to improve their prepared positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather cloudy and cold.

12 February - Lt. Ittner to 63rd Division CP at 0900 hours, returned at 1000 hours. Lt. Ittner to A, B, C, Companies at 1000 hours, returned at 1200 hours. Major Bishop to "C" Company CP and gun positions at 1200 hours, returned 1630 hours. Major Kemp to "A" and "C" Companies with Captain Moses from 63rd Division I.G. Office. Visited CP's and gun positions. Captain Moses and Warrant Officer Nangold of the 63rd Division I.G. Office conducted an inspection of Hq., A, and C Company kitchens, quarters, and supply sections. Major Bush, XV Corps G-3 visited CP at 1600 hours. Captain Merrill visited CP at 1530 hours. Hq. Company - Reconnaissance platoons continued to operate on assignments at Battalion CP and in 70th Division sector. "A" Company remained in support of 253rd Infantry Regiment. "B" Company continued to improve positions in 70th Division sector. 1st Platoon moved one gun to an improved position. Company "C" remained in position in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. CO and Battalion S-3 went forward to reconnoiter gun positions. Weather cool and cloudy.

13 February - Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains instructed Company "A" platoon leaders on the use of the illuminating shell. Lt. Ittner & Lt. Worrell to 63rd Division Rear echelon at 0935 hours, returned at 1130 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" Company, 63rd Division, and 70th Division CP's at 1035 hours, returned 1200 hours. Major Bishop to "A" Company CP at 1035 hours, returned at 1200 hours.

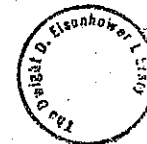


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Lt. Ittner to 117th Evacuation Hospital at 1320 hours, returned 1730 hours. Lt. DeWitt to 63rd Division rear echelon at 1410, returned at 1610 hours. Captain Copeland to "B" Company sector and forward in the 255th Infantry Regiment's sector to reconnoiter for possible gun positions at 1410 hours, returned at 1630 hours. Colonel Mains to 63rd Division Artillery and the 253rd Infantry Regiment to observe firing of the illuminating shell by "A" Company. Time out 1630 hours, returned at 0400 hours 14 February 1945. Major Bishop to "C" Company CP and to OP to observe illuminating shell firing at 1800 hours, returned at 0845 hours 14 February 45. Captain Kirby to observe firing of illuminating shell at 1800 hours, returned at 0400 hours 14 February 45. Major Kemp to OP's in the 253rd and 255th sectors to observe firing. Out at 1900 hours, returned at 0355 hours 14 February 45. "A" Company moved first gun of first platoon to indirect fire position near Siltzheim. At 2100 hours gun fired five rounds illuminating shell in 253rd sector. At 2100 hours fired 5 rounds illuminating shell in 255th Regiment's sector. CO Company "B" and platoon leaders continued reconnaissance for better positions. Company "C" remained in support of the 255th Infantry Regiment. Enemy mortar shell landed within 75 yards of first gun, first platoon. No casualties. Weather cloudy and rainy.

14 February - CP Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains discussed future plans with staff officers and Company commanders of "A" and "B" Companies. Lt. Ittner to "A" Company CP and gun positions at 0824 hours, returned 1130 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 63rd Division CP at 0825 hours, returned 0945 hours. Captain Copeland to 70th Division CP at 0924 hours, returned 1345 hours. While returning from 70th Division CP Captain Copeland reconnoitered for possible gun positions in the woods northwest of Woelferdingen. At approximately 1310 hours he set off an enemy booby trap receiving a slight wound in the left arm. Major Bishop visited the 255th Infantry Regiment at 1335 hours, returned 1605 hours. 1st Lt. Hewis from Division G-1 office visited CP checking on available billets in Hambach at 1130 hours. Captain Merrill visited CP at 1530 hours. 1st Lt. Borland, 253rd Liaison Officer, visited CP at 1530 hours. Hq. Company performed vehicle and weapons maintenance. The 1st Reconnaissance platoon maintained liaison with each front line Battalion in the 70th Division sector for Company "B". 2nd Reconnaissance platoon continued to guard the Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. "A" Company continued to improve their positions in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. "B" Company remained in support of 70th Division. Company Commander reconnoitered forward areas for future direct fire positions. "C" Company continued to improve their positions in the 255 Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather clear and cool.

15 February - Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains to the amphibious proving ground to supervise experiment of transporting and firing the gun, 3", M5 from an amphibious dukw. 1st Lt. Ittner to 63rd Division and 5th TD Group CP's at 0905 hours, returned at 1410 hours. Major Bishop to 63rd Division CP at 1335 hours, returned 1455 hours. Lt. Junkins to 63rd Division CP at 1430 hours, returned 160905 Feb. 45. Lt. Colonel Mains to "B" Company gun positions at 1630 hours, returned 1755 hours. Major Bishop to 255th Infantry Regiment's CP and Company "C" gun positions at 1530 hours, returned 1830 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 253rd Infantry Regimental CP and Company "A" CP at 1830 hours, returned 2130 hours. Hq. Co - Performed vehicle and weapons maintenance. 1st Reconnaissance platoon maintained liaison with each front line Battalion in 70th Division sector for Co. "B". 2nd Reconnaissance platoon guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. Company "A" remained in and continued to improve their positions in 253rd



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Infantry Regiment's sector. Sergeant Acrey and crew successfully conducted experiment of firing 2 rounds APC from the gun, 3", M5 mounted on 2½ ton amphibious dukw after being transported across the river. At 1600 hours the 1st Platoon CP was hit by what was believed to be 120 mm mortar. No casualties reported. Company "B" remained in support of the 70th Division. CO reconnoitered forward areas for future direct fire positions. Company "C" remained in and continued to improve prepared positions in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather clear and cool.

16 February - Staff Section: Major Bishop to 63rd Division CP at 0900 hours, returned 1000 hours. Lt. Ittner to "A" Company CP at 1230, returned at 1700 hours. Major Bishop to "C" Company at 1530, returned 1800 hours. Colonel Mains visited the 63rd and 70th Division CP's at 1530 hours. Major Kemp to "A" Company at 1600 hours returned 1730 hours. Captain Merrill visited CP at 1530. Hq. Company - 1st Rcn. platoon maintained liaison with each front line Battalion in 70th Division sector for Company "B". 2nd Reconnaissance platoon: 1st section guarding Battalion CP, 2nd Section in support of Company "A". Company "A" remained in and continued to improve their positions in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. Company "B" in support of 70th Infantry Division remained in previously occupied positions with 10 guns. 2 guns held in mobile reserve. Company Commander reconnoitered forward areas for future primary mission direct fire positions. Company "C" remained in and continued to improve positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Company Commander reconnoitered forward areas for future gun positions. Weather clear and cold.

17 February - Staff Section: Major Kemp to Company "A" at 0600 hours, returned at 1045 hours. Major Bishop to "C" Company at 0800 hours, returned at 1045 hours. 1st Lt. Ittner to Paris to attend I & E school at 1115 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to Company "A" and 253rd Infantry Regiment at 1000 hours. Returned at 1105 hours. Captains Copeland and Kirby to Remelfing to reconnoiter area for CP location. Major Kemp to "A" Company at 1330 hours, returned at 1430 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" Company CP at 1350 hours, returned 1605 hours. 1st Lt. Junkins to 63rd Division CP at 1505 hours, returned at 1630 hours. Captain Copeland to 63rd Division at 1520 hours, returned at 1630 hours. Major Kemp to Company "A" at 1820 hours, returned at 180600 Feb. 45. Lt. Colonel Mains to Company "A" at 1900 hours, returned at 180600 February 45. Lt. Colonel Mains and Major Kemp supervised river crossing of 6 guns by Company "A". Major Stiver visited CP at 1500 hours. Captain Weir, S-2, 776 TD Battalion visited CP at 1430 hours. Hq. Co - 1st Reconnaissance platoon maintained liaison with each front line Battalion in 70th Division sector. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon: 1st section in support of Company "A" to assist in road clearance of mines, 2nd section guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. Company "A" - 2 guns of 1st Platoon fired on enemy strongpoint and OP's and received credit for the destruction of 2 MG nests. 2 guns crossed the Sarre river, closing into position at 2400 hours. 25 rounds of HE, 19 rounds of APC expended during the day. Company "B" in support of 70th Infantry Division in attack. Company "C" remained in prepared positions and reconnoitered for new positions over ground in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather cold and clear.

18 February - Staff Section: Major Bishop to "C" Company at 1030 hours, returned at 1530 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" Company at 1500 hours, returned at 1730 hours. Major Erkkila, S-3, 648 TD Battalion, visited CP at 1300 hours. Major Stiver, Executive Officer, 5th TD Group, visited CP at 1500 hours. Hq. Co - 1st Rcn. Platoon continued to maintain liaison with each front line Battalion in

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70th Division sector for Company "B". 2nd Reconnaissance platoon: 1 section in support of Company "A" to assist in road clearance of mines, 1 section guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. Company "A" - 3 guns in position across the Sarre river at 0600 hours, making a total of 5 guns in position north of the river. 1 gun out of action due to enemy mines at 0500 hours. Company "B" moved 2 guns of 2nd Platoon and 2 guns of 3rd Platoon to positions north of Buschback in 70th Infantry Division sector. Company "C" moved 2 guns to new positions to strengthen anti-tank defense of 255th Infantry Regiment.

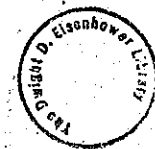
19 February - Major Kemp to Company "A" at 0915 hours, returned at 1000 hours. Captain Copeland to Company "B" at 0930 hours, returned at 1200 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 63rd Division CP at 1100 hours, returned at 1200 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 63rd Division CP at 1300 hours, returned at 1530 hours. Major Bishop to 776 TD Battalion CP at 1530 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Major Kemp to Company "A" 3rd platoon gun positions at 1600 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 63rd Division CP at 1600 hours, returned at 1900 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to Co "A" forward CP at 1930 hours, returned at 2300 hours. Major Bishop to Woustviller to meet 2 platoons of "B" Company that were released by 70th Infantry Division. Billeted the 2 platoons in "A" Company CP area. Company "A" - Supporting 253rd Infantry Regiment remained in 8 prepared positions, prepared and occupied 3 new positions. Company CP moved to Auersmacher. Company "B" - 2 platoons released from 70th Infantry Division moved to Woustviller to meet Battalion S-3, thence to Sarreguemines. Closed in bivouac at "A" Company's former CP area at 0700 hours. One section of 2nd and one section 3rd platoons remained in support of 70th Infantry Division. Company "C" remained in and continued to improve their positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Hq- 1st Reconnaissance platoon continued to maintain liaison with each front line Battalion in 70th Division sector. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon: 1st section in support of Company "A" to assist in road clearance of mines, and 2nd section guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. Weather cloudy and cool.

20 February - Staff Section: Captains Copeland and Kirby to Sarreguemines to reconnoiter for billets and possible CP location at 0830 hours, returned at 1130 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 63rd Division at 1000 hours, returned at 1300 hours. Captain Copeland to a billet area in Sarreguemines at 1330 hours, returned at 1530 hours. Major Bishop to "B" Company at 1600 hours, returned at 1800 hours. Captain Weir from 776 TD Battalion visited CP at 1030 hours. Major Stiver visited CP at 1530 hours. Hq Company - Established forward CP at Sarreguemines at 1800 hours. 1st Reconnaissance platoon guarding forward CP, 2nd Reconnaissance platoon guarding CP in Hambach. Company "A" - Prepared and occupied positions in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector north of the Sarre river. Company "B" - Located at Sarreguemines (521-575). CO and platoon leaders reconnoitered for gun positions in area previously occupied by Company "A". 8 guns occupied positions before mid-night. The remaining 4 guns released by the 70th Infantry Division and closed in CP area at 1000 hours. Company "C" remained in prepared positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather cold and clear.

21 February - CP and Headquarters Company moved to Sarreguemines, closed in 1000 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 253rd Infantry Regiment's CP at 1300 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Lt. Colonel Giles and Major Stiver, 5th TD Group visited CP at 1500 hours. Hq Co located at Sarreguemines (506-563). 1st & 2nd Reconnaissance platoons guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges.

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Company "A" - Supporting 253rd Infantry Regiment continued to improve positions north of the Sarre river. Company "B" - 4 guns occupied prepared positions prior to darkness in the center of 63rd Division sector. Company "C" - Moved 4 guns to new positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Cloudy and Cold.

22 February - Staff Section: Major Bishop to "C" Company at 0850 hours, returned at 1330 hours. Major Kemp to "A" Company gun positions, returned at 1330 hours. Captain Copeland to Company "B" at 1000 hours, returned at 1130 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 63rd Division to talk with Commanding General, returned 1630 hours. Colonel Jacoby, 5th TD Group, visited CP at 1400 hours. Major Stiver, 5th TD Group visited CP at 1510 hours. Lt. Colonel to discuss future plans with Captains Pollard and Harle at 1700 hours. Company "A" supporting 253rd Infantry Regiment continued to occupy prepared positions north of Sarre river. Company "B" remained in prepared positions in center of Division sector. CO reconnoitered for new positions north of present positions. Company "C" remained in prepared positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather clear and cold.

23 February - Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains to Auersmacher and "A" Company CP at 1000 hours, returned at 1300 hours. Captain Copeland to 100th Division at 1300 hours, returned at 1800 hours. Major Bishop to "C" Company at 1000 hours, returned at 1300 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to Company "B" at 1400 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 253rd Infantry Regimental Headquarters at 1700 hours, returned at 1800 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" Company's new gun positions at 1800 hours, returned at 2300 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains discussed future plans with Company Commanders and staff officers. Hq. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon assisting "A" Company in operations and security of gun positions. Company "A" attached to and supporting 253rd Infantry Regiment in attack in sector north of the Sarre river. Moved 4 guns to positions in range of enemy strongpoints. Company "B" remained in position in the center of the 63rd Division sector. Moved two guns within range of Enemy strong points. Company "C" remained in positions in the 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. CO made reconnaissance for advance positions. Weather cloudy and cold.

24 February - Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" Company gun positions at 0830, returned at 1100 hours. Major Bishop to Company "A" at 1000 hours, returned at 1130 hours. Captain Copeland to Paris to attend the I & E school at 1230 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to 253rd and 255th Infantry Regimental CP's to discuss plans with Regimental commanders at 1400 hours. Returned at 1830 hours. Major Bishop to 253rd and 255th Regimental CP's with Colonel Mains. Captain Merrill from 5th TD Group visited CP at 1630 hours. Hq. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon engaged in mine sweeping operations in Company "A" sector. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon assisting Company "A" in operations and security of gun positions. Co. "A" attached to and supporting 253rd Infantry Regiment in attack in sector north of Sarre river. One gun of the 2nd platoon fired on 2 houses and one strong point. One gun of the first platoon fired on one pill box, 2 strong points, and one house which was holding up the advance of the infantry. Company credited with knocking out one pill box, 3 houses, 3 strongpoints, and clearing the way for the 253rd Infantry Regiment. Cpl. Dawson injured by an anti-personnel mine. 22 rounds APC and 18 rounds HE expended. Company "B" supporting the 253rd and 254th Infantry Regiments in attack. Occupying positions in the center of 63rd Division sector. Assisted in attacking enemy strong points. Knocked out one machine gun nest, one pill box, and one house. Company "C" occupying prepared positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather clear and cold.

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25 February - Lt. Colonel Mains to "A" and "B" Company gun positions and to 253rd Infantry Regiment at 0930 hours. Returned at 1545 hours. Major Bishop to "A" and "B" Company CP's, returned at 1230 hours. Colonel Wheaton, CO, 16th TD Group with staff, visited CP at 1230 hours. Lt. Colonel Corkern, Executive Officer, Major Lowe, S-2, Major Armstrong, S-3, Captain Knowles, Ass't. S-3, and Lt. Hitt accompanied Colonel Wheaton to Company "A" gun positions at 1330 hours. Lt. Colonel Giles visited CP at 1630 hours. Hq. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon guarding CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon - rest and maintenance. Company "A" - Supporting 253rd Infantry Regiment in attack in sector north of Sarre river. Occupied 8 new positions for closer support. 2 prisoners captured during period. Company "B" - Supporting 254th and 255th Infantry Regiments in attack. CO continued reconnaissance for new firing positions. Company "C" - Continued to occupy and improve present defensive positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather cloudy and cold.

26 February - Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains, Major Bishop and Major Kemp to "A", "B", & "C" Company CP's at 1015 hours. Returned 1210 hours. Lt. Ittner to 63rd Division rear echelon at 1300 hours, returned at 1520 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains to "A", B, C Companies at 1400 hours, returned at 1700 hours. Lt. Colonel Mains and Major Kemp to "A" Company CP at 1835 hours, returned at 2400 hours. Hq. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon providing close in protection for "A" Company's gun positions. Company "A" - Remained in prepared positions, prepared and occupied 1 new position. Company "B" - Remained in 11 prepared positions, occupied 1 new position north of Sarre river. CO and platoon leaders made reconnaissance for advanced positions. Company "C" - Continued to occupy and improve defensive positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. 1st Platoon security section, aided by men from Company Headquarters, started to build a corduroy road to newly reconnoitered gun positions. Weather cold and cloudy.

27 February - Staff Section: Lt. DeWitt to 63rd Division CP at 0835, returned at 1130 hours. Lt. Ittner to "B" and "C" at 0905 hours, returned at 1600 hours. Major Bishop to 776th TD Battalion at 1330 hours, returned at 1600 hours. Captain Thomas, 16th TD Group, visited CP at 1005 hours. Colonel Wheaton and staff visited CP at 1515 hours. Lt. Colonel Giles, 5th TD Group, visited CP at 1530 hours. Hq. Co. - 1st Reconnaissance platoon guarding CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon providing close in protection for Company "A" gun positions. Positions subjected to mortar fire at 0530 hours. No casualties. Company "A" - Continued to occupy positions north of Sarre river in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. 3 rounds of HE expended on enemy infantry and pillboxes. Pillbox knocked out and two enemy killed. Sgt. Allbright, Pfc. Overcash, Pvt. McGuire each killed one enemy near 3rd platoon gun positions. Company "B" - Continued to improve gun positions in center of 63rd Division sector. Company "C" - Remained in and continued to improve their positions in 255th Infantry Regiment's sector. Weather clear and cool.

28 February - Staff Section: Lt. Colonel Mains to 16th TD Group at 0800 hours to discuss plans for moving one company to 101st Cavalry Group sector. Returned at 1230 hours. Major Bishop to Paris at 1200 hours. Lt. Ittner to Co. "A" at 0920 hours. Returned 1045 hours. Battalion received verbal orders attaching one Company to 101st Cavalry Group. Hq. Company - 1st Reconnaissance platoon replaced 2nd Reconnaissance platoon of duty of providing close in protection for "A" Company gun positions. 2nd Reconnaissance platoon returned to duty of guarding Battalion CP, rear echelon, and assigned bridges. Company "A" - Continued to

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to occupy 12 prepared positions in 253rd Infantry Regiment's sector. Company "B" Reconnaissance made for gun positions in sector now occupied by Company "C". 4 guns closed into new positions at 2130 hours. Company "C" moved all guns into assembly positions near Woolfing. Weapons and vehicle maintenance performed in preparation for move to 101st Cavalry Group sector. Weather clear and cold.



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822D TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #758, U. S. ARMY

BATTLE CASUALTY REGISTER
Month of February 1945

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Type of Casualty</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Harry E. Gilman	Tec 5	29 174 095	Hq.	Lacerated Wound Slight, left cheek.	8 Feb 45
2. Alfred Copeland	Captain	01 287 308	Hq.	Lightly wounded left arm from grenade fragment.	15 Feb 45
3. Frederick W. Lains	Pfc	39 119 821	"A"	Light wound right hand, by enemy mortar shrapnel.	22 Feb 45
4. Davy J. Dawson	Cpl	38 425 354	"A"	Multiple wound both legs due to enemy personnel mine.	24 Feb 45



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HEADQUARTERS
822D TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #758, U. S. ARMY

AWARD AND DECORATIONS
Month of February 1945

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>General Order No.</u>
Alfred Copeland	Captain	01 287 308	Purple Heart	GO No. 20 Hq. 63d Inf. Div.



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**HEADQUARTERS
822D TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #758, U. S. ARMY**

ROSTER OF KEY PERSONNEL
Month of February 1945

Mains, Jr., Seward L.	Lt Col	011 723	Battalion Commander
Kemp, Arthur D.	Major	0 368 716	Bn Executive Officer
Bishop, Pierce D.	Major	0 265 609	S-3
Copeland, Alfred	Captain	01 287 308	S-2
DeWitt, Abel F.	1st Lt.	01 287 318	S-1
LaBrode, Melvin F.	Captain	0 407 817	S-4
Cummings, Damon W.	Captain	01 700 679	Battalion Surgeon
Demeranville, Marshall I.	1st Lt.	01 287 316	Reconnaissance Officer
Kirby, John W.	Captain	0 401 652	CO Hq. Co.
Pollard, Howard W.	Captain	0 386 196	CO Co. "A"
Frantz, Robert S.	Captain	0 449 207	CO Co. "B"
Earle, Samuel M.	Captain	01 287 326	CO Co. "C"



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HEADQUARTERS
822D TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #758, U. S. ARMY

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS
Month of February 1945

SECOND LIEUTENANT TO FIRST LIEUTENANT

Edwin E. Glenn	01 824 852 INF	16 February 1945
John D. Taylor	01 823 669 FA	16 February 1945
Dallas G. Worrell	01 825 074 FA	16 February 1945



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