

HEADQUARTERS
824th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
22 May 1945

SUBJECT: Organization History of 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion
for Period 01 April to 30 April 1945.

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, US Army
Attention: Historical Section

1. Enclosed herewith battalion history of this organization
for the period of 01 April to 30 April 1945.

For the Commanding Officer:

ROBERT D. MAYERS
1st Lt., F.A.
Adj.

6 Enclosures:

- 1 - Annex "A" - Narrative Account of Operations (4 copies)
- 2 - Annex "B" - Original Unit (4 copies)
- 3 - Annex "C" - Strength - Commissioned and Enlisted Men (4 copies)
- 4 - Annex "D" - Losses in Action - Officers and Men (4 copies)
- 5 - Annex "E" - Unit Journal and Attached Data (1 copy)
- 6 - Annex "F" - Company Operations Reports (1 copy)

AFO 758, US Army
22 May 1945NARRATIVE ACCOUNT OF BATTALION OPERATIONS
MONTH OF APRIL 1945

At the beginning of the month of April the Battalion was located west of the SAAR RIVER. The Battalion CP was set up in a former concentration camp (R587 913).

In writing the following history, the dates that precede the paragraphs indicate that the period written about ended at 1800 on that day and began at 1801 hours on the previous day.

01 April. "A" Company was in training on M18 Tank Destroyers in the vicinity of (R587 913). "B" Company was attached to Combat Team 398. The CP and the 3rd platoon were in march halt at SCHWITZINGEN (R687 879). The 1st platoon moved from BRÜHL to PLANDSTADT (R625 885) and the 2nd platoon moved from BRÜHL to OFFERSHEIM (R615 860). "C" Company was attached to Combat Team 397. The company CP was at ST ILGEN (R821 681). The company was given the mission to provide protection on the left flank of the 397th Infantry. The 1st platoon was held in mobile reserve and moved to HÄRTELHEIM. The 2nd platoon moved out on roads from SANDHAUSEN to WALLDORF. The 3rd platoon moved out on roads from RUSSBACH to BAIETHAL and took the town of WILGER. The 3rd platoon had fired 10 rounds of M8 and machine gun fire at enemy snipers located in buildings at WILSLOCH. Sniper fire ceased as a result of this action. Reconnaissance Company (minus) was at (R587 913). The 1st platoon was attached to "B" Company and maintained close liaison with leading elements of the 399th Infantry. The 2nd platoon was attached to "C" Company and reconnoitered for routes and positions in the sector of the 2nd Battalion of the 397th Infantry. They also contacted friendly armor in the same area. The 3rd platoon was attached to the Battalion CP and made route reconnaissance within the division sector and maintained liaison with leading elements of the 317th and 399th Infantries and reported the information to the Battalion CP.

02 April. During the day "A" Company continued training and by 1600 hours concluded training on M18 Tank Destroyers and moved to WILSLOCH (R775 700). "B" Company was attached to Combat Team 398 and was on the alert during the period. "C" Company's CP was at WILSLOCH (R773 709). The 3rd platoon supported the 2nd Battalion of the 397th Infantry in their move to WILSLOCH. The 2nd platoon supported the 1st Battalion of the 397th Infantry into WILSLOCH. The 1st platoon remained in reserve at WALLDORF. The Reconnaissance Company CP moved to RUSSLOCH (R698 813). The 1st platoon was attached to "B" Company and the 2nd platoon was attached to "C" Company and made reconnaissance of rears forward of "C" Company at HOFFELHEIM and WILSLOCH. Heavy enemy artillery fire was laid down on the road between the two towns while the platoon was enroute. There were no casualties from this action. The 3rd platoon made a road reconnaissance from WILSLOCH to WILSLOCH. The battalion CP moved to WILSLOCH (R698 813).

03 April. "A" Company was attached to Combat Team 399 for operations. The company CP and the 1st and 2nd platoons moved to WILSLOCH (R833 733). The 3rd platoon moved to WILSLOCH. "B" Company was advancing with Combat

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Team 398 during the day. "C" Company CP moved to SINGEL (R833 733). The 1st platoon had moved to RICHENSHILDE, the 2nd was on the move to WILDANGELLOCH and the 3rd platoon was moving to SINSHEIM. Reconnaissance Company continued their missions.

04 April. "A" Company CP moved to RICHEN (R881 642). The 1st platoon was attached to the 399th Infantry, the 2nd was in reserve and the 3rd platoon was attached to the 1st Battalion of the 399th Infantry. The 2nd platoon had assisted in moving Infantry troops to the vicinity of RICHEN. At the close of the period the company was aiding in the attack on SCHWAIHINGEN and was protecting the division's right flank. "B" Company's CP moved to RAPPENAU (R995 720). The 1st platoon was in march halt at BAD WIMPFEN, the 2nd was at HOLLNSTADT and the 3rd platoon moved from RAPPENAU to NECKARGARTACH and were awaiting orders to move to HILLBRONN. "C" Company's CP was at KIRCHAUSEN (8000 600). One platoon was attached to each Battalion of the 397th Infantry. The 1st platoon was at FRANKENBACH, the 2nd at NECKARGARTACH and the 3rd was in the woods at (303 65). Reconnaissance Company CP was moved to BIBRACH (3026 673). All of the platoons maintained liaison between the Infantry Battalions, Company CPs and the Battalion CP. The platoons made route reconnaissance in advance of the regiments in the division zone as far as the NECKAR RIVER. The platoons also made reconnaissance on both flanks of the division and contacted elements of the 10th Ayrshire at NECKARAN. The Battalion CP moved to BIBRACH (R206 673).

05 April. "A" Company CP moved to MASSENBACH (R968 637). The company was attached to Combat Team 399. The 1st platoon was at SCHWAIHINGEN. The number three gun fired 11 rounds of APC at an enemy CP located in a tower (R300 600). The 2nd platoon was at MASSENBACH and the 3rd was at GEMMINGEN. The company was alerted for movement across the NECKAR RIVER. In "B" Company the 1st platoon moved to OBREISSELIM under a heavy barrage of enemy artillery fire. The 2nd platoon moved to the bridge site at (R99 83), crossed the river and proceeded south to OFFENAU (3030 728) to support the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry in crossing the NECKAR RIVER. The 3rd platoon was at NECKARGARTACH received sniper and enemy artillery fire. "C" Company's 3rd platoon moved to BUCKINGEN. The company was alerted for movement over the river. Reconnaissance Company's 3rd platoon maintained a relay station between the 3rd platoon of "B" Company and the company CP. The platoon also reconnoitered roads in the vicinity of OBEREISELSHEIM. The 2nd platoon performed route reconnaissance in forward areas of the division zone. The 3rd platoon made road reconnaissance and assisted 2nd platoon of "B" Company in moving to MASSENBACH.

06 April. "A" Company moved forward in preparation for movement across the NECKAR RIVER. The platoons were in march halt, the 1st at SCHWAIHINGEN, the 2nd at FRANKENBACH. The 3rd platoon was at BUCKINGEN and was prepared to support further advances of the 399th Infantry. In "B" Company the 1st section of the 1st platoon was at EISELSHEIM, the 2nd section in OBEREISELSHEIM and provided direct fire support for the withdrawal of the 1st Battalion of the 398th Infantry Reconnaissance elements. The section fired 16 rounds of HE on the mission. In the 2nd platoon the 1st section was located at (3058 725), the 2nd section moved into a position at JAGSTELD and gave direct support to the 2nd Battalion of the

398th Infantry. In the 3rd platoon the 2nd section moved to the vicinity of (S067 657) for a direct fire mission at buildings on the East bank of the NECKAR RIVER in the vicinity of (S081 655). "C" Company's 3rd platoon moved to WICKARGANGACH and the 1st section moved into a position to fire at a probable enemy OP in a tower at (S093 633). They fired 112 rounds of HE and 19 rounds of APC into the tower. The 1st Reconnaissance platoon made a route reconnaissance East of the NECKAR RIVER in the vicinity of HOHENSTADT, OFFELAU, DUTTLERING. They established liaison between "B" Company's 2nd platoon that was East of the river and the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry. The platoon also maintained a relay station for the 3rd platoon of "B" Company. The 2nd Reconnaissance platoon was attached to "C" Company and maintained liaison with the platoons and made road reconnaissance and provisions for quartering the company at a new CP.

07 April. "A" Company's platoons remained in position. The 3rd platoon fired from a position at (S065 602) at probable enemy OP in houses located in the vicinity of (S073 598) and expended 31 rounds of HE and 8 rounds of APC on the mission. "B" Company's CP moved to RADWILFEN (S034 708). The 1st platoon moved across the NECKAR RIVER to a position of readiness at UNTERGRUBSHEIM (S083 754). The 1st section fired 10 rounds of HE at buildings in KOCHENDORF in support of the 1st Battalion of the 398th Infantry and also fired machine guns at enemy aircraft. The 2nd platoon moved to a position of readiness in HEUCHLINGEN (S077 735). The 1st section of the 2nd platoon fired 10 rounds of HE at the enemy occupying buildings at JAGTFELD and supported the operations of the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry Regiment. They also fired machine guns at enemy aircraft. There was no change in position for the 3rd platoon. The 1st platoon of "C" Company prepared to make a bridge crossing at HEILBRONN. The 1st platoon of Reconnaissance Company maintained liaison between the TD platoons of "B" Company and infantry units East of the NECKAR RIVER. The 2nd platoon maintained liaison with the 397th and the 399th Infantry for "C" Company and made regular reports on the progress of the bridge site at HEILBRONN. They also established liaison with French units on the South flank of the division sector. The 3rd platoon was attached to "A" Company and reconnoitered for routes from the platoons to the river.

08 April. "A" Company CP moved to FRANKENBACH (S049 629). The CP together with the 2nd platoon and the attached 3rd Reconnaissance platoon set up defenses at the South end of FRANKENBACH against a possible enemy counterattack. The 1st platoon moved from SCHEUCHTERN to BOCKINGEN carrying infantry personnel. The 3rd platoon prepared to cross the NECKAR RIVER and was to support the 1st Battalion of the 399th Infantry. They were unable to cross the river at the time because enemy artillery had laid in on the bridge site. The 1st and 2nd platoons of "B" Company were East of the NECKAR RIVER and were supporting operations of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 398th Infantry. The 1st platoon fired at four enemy machine gun emplacements, putting them out of action and killing a probable ten enemy. They expended 19 rounds of HE in this action. The 3rd platoon was unable to make a bridge crossing at HEILBRONN due to enemy artillery on the bridge site. The platoons of "C" Company were able to cross the bridge at HEILBRONN at 0815 hours on April 8th. The platoon rendered assistance to the 1286th Engineers by firing 8 rounds of HE into buildings occupied by enemy personnel who had been harassing the

engineers at bridge crossing. The firing accomplished the desired effect. The 1st platoon of Res Company maintained a relay station between "B" Company's platoons and the company CP and maintained liaison with the platoons. They were also prepared to assist the 3rd platoon "B" Company in crossing the river. The 2nd platoon maintained liaison with all platoons of "C" Company and set up CPs to observe enemy activity.

09 April. "A" Company's CP group and the attached reconnaissance platoon maintained a 24 hour guard in the South end of the FRANKENBACH defenses. The guns of the 1st platoon were at BOCKINGEN and covered the Southeast part of BOCKINGEN and SONTHEIM across the river. The 2nd platoon was in reserve at FRANKENBACH. One Tank Destroyer was moved into position at (8055 625) and fired 21 rounds of HE at buildings (8075 625) across the river and forced the enemy out under the infantry machine gun fire. The infantry was then able to move up and occupy the buildings. The 3rd platoon was at (8065 602) and covered the railroad bridge at (8078 618) during the hours of darkness. The platoon was alerted for enemy tank movement in SONTHEIM. One section took up positions at (8064 608). No tanks appeared but enemy troops were spotted in dugouts across the river. The platoon's section fired 7 rounds of HE, 1 round of APC and machine guns at the enemy scoring hits on the positions. Later in the period the section returned to its original position. The 1st section fired 4 rounds of HE into buildings containing enemy personnel in the North part of SONTHEIM. The 1st platoon of "B" Company was in a position of readiness at UNTER GRUSHEIM (8082 753) and at 0700 hours from a position at (8082 737) they fired 21 rounds of HE at enemy anti tank guns located at (8092 732). The results of this action was unascertained. The 2nd platoon moved three guns into AT defense positions at JAGSTFELD (8061 706) and the fourth gun remained in position at HEUCHLIZEN (8085 737). The 3rd platoon was unable to cross the river and remained in position at NECKARGARTACH. All platoons of "C" Company were East of the NECKAR RIVER and were chiefly occupied in knocking out sniper nests. The 1st platoon of Reconnaissance Company, attached to "B" Company, patrolled the river front in the vicinity of NECKARGARTACH and maintained the radio relay station. The 2nd platoon attached to "C" Company maintained CP at (8063 624) and reported enemy movement and personnel to Field Artillery observers. The 3rd platoon was relieved of attachment to "A" Company and operated a counter reconnaissance screen patrols along the NECKAR RIVER from (8087 697) to (8048 690).

10 April. "A" Company CP maintained 24 hour guard in the defenses on the South end of FRANKENBACH. The 3rd platoon was ferried across the NECKAR RIVER at 0730 and completed the crossing at 0900 hours. The 2nd platoon was in reserve. The 1st platoon/WG at BOCKINGEN (8063 608) and covered the Southeast part of BOCKINGEN and SONTHEIM (8062 576). At 1125 from a position at (8069 741), the 1st platoon fired 57 rounds of HE at enemy positions along a line from (8075 726) to (8086 735) and wiped out an enemy CP at (8083 722). The platoon returned to its original position at UNTER GRUSHEIM (8082 743). The 2nd platoon was in AT defense position, three of the guns were at JAGSTFELD (8061 706) and one gun was at HEUCHLIZEN (8085 737). The 3rd platoon was in position at (8073 699) West of NECKAR RIVER. The platoon was in direct support of the 3rd Battalion of

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the 398th Infantry and at 0500B the enemy counter attacked in the vicinity of (S083 653). The platoon fired 26 rounds of HE into the enemy's lines and the counter attack was repulsed. All platoons of "C" Company were in HELLBRONN (S080 608) in support of the 1st Battalion of the 397th Infantry. The 2nd and 3rd platoons were to operate in direct support of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 397th Infantry when a junction of forces on the West bank of the river was effected. The 1st Reconnaissance platoon maintained a relay station for "B" Company and established liaison with forward elements of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 398th Infantry. The 2nd Reconnaissance platoon was attached to "C" Company and made a reconnaissance of the friendly troops situation and maintained an OP (S063 624). The platoon OP spotted enemy personnel at (S1081 6195) and called for artillery fire on the target with excellent results. The 3rd platoon maintained a warning net and operated a counter reconnaissance screen on a 24 hour basis along the NECKAR RIVER from (S067 657) to (S068 630).

11 April. The 2nd platoon of "A" Company continued their maintenance of defenses in FRANKENBACH. The 3rd platoon, attached to the 1st Battalion of the 399th Infantry was in HELLBRONN. The 1st platoon moved to HIBERBACH with the 2nd Battalion of the 399th Infantry. The 1st platoon of "B" Company was attached to the 1st Battalion of the 398th Infantry moved one section to (S084 734). The 2nd section moved to (S102 746). The 2nd platoon was attached to the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry. The 1st section covered a road block and the 2nd section was at (S082 735) in support of the infantry elements. The 3rd platoon was in AT defense position at NECKARBAHACH, one section at (S068 688) and one section at (S066 643). All platoons of "C" Company were in HELLBRONN and were attached to the 397th Infantry. Two guns fired 32 rounds of HE at a steeple containing an enemy OP with effective results. The security section ferried supplies across the NECKAR RIVER. The 1st platoon of Reconnaissance Company relieved the 3rd platoon of road patrolling along the river. They maintained listening posts at (S071 639) and (S073 659) and manned a radio relay station for "B" Company. The 2nd platoon maintained liaison with the Infantry elements, manned two OPs on the East bank of the NECKAR RIVER and patrolled the road along the river. The 3rd platoon was relieved to perform necessary maintenance on the vehicles and equipment.

12 April. The 1st platoon of "A" Company crossed the NECKAR RIVER into HELLBRONN at 0925B. The 2nd platoon was in general support of the 399th Infantry which was in reserve at FRANKENBACH. The 3rd platoon was in HELLBRONN and continued to support the operations of the 1st Battalion of the 399th Infantry. The 1st platoon of "B" Company was attached to the 1st Battalion of the 398th Infantry and displaced westward across the NECKAR RIVER to a reserve position in BAD WILFELN. The 3rd platoon was enroute across the NECKAR RIVER to support the 398th Infantry in the advance towards NECKARBUHL (S085 670). The 2nd platoon supported the operations of the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry and fired 3 rounds of HE at houses containing enemy personnel in the vicinity of (S071 710). The platoons of "C" Company continued to support the 397th Infantry Regimental operations in the vicinity of HELLBRONN. The 2nd platoon fired 17 rounds of HE at enemy positions with effective results. The 1st platoon of Reconnaissance Company continued their patrolling the road on the West bank of the Neckar River and maintained the radio relay station for "B" Company. The 2nd platoon

teen maintained liaison with infantry elements and manned two OPs overlooking HEILBRONN. The 1st section of the 3rd platoon moved across the NECKAR RIVER with the 2nd platoon of "B" Company.

13 April. "A" Company CP moved to HEILBRONN. The 1st and 3rd platoons continued to support the operations of the 399th Infantry. The 2nd platoon crossed the NECKAR RIVER into HEILBRONN at 1529. "B" Company's CP moved to JAGSEFELD (S063 714) together with the 1st platoon. The platoons continued to support the offensive operations of the 398th Infantry. "C" Company's CP moved to HEILBRONN and the platoons supported the offensive operations of the 397th Infantry. The 1st platoon of Reconnaissance Company was relieved of their patrol duties along the river and were re-assigned to "B" Company. The 2nd platoon maintained liaison with the infantry and manned OPs for "C" Company until relieved at 1000 hours. The 3rd platoon relieved the 1st platoon of road patrol until the 100th Division relieved the platoon at 1700 and were put into battalion reserve.

14 April. "A" Company's CP moved to SÜTHHEIM (S064 587). The 1st platoon moved to TALHEIM (S065 548) with the 2nd Battalion of the 399th Infantry. They received enemy mortar fire which resulted in one casualty. The 2nd platoon remained in general support of the regiment. The 3rd platoon moved from HEILBRONN to FLEIN (S078 567) and fired 19 rounds of HE at enemy OPs in the vicinity of (S081 578). During the day they fired 6 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of APC at enemy personnel located in houses at (S070 562). They also fired 24 rounds of HE and 50 caliber machine gun fire at a road block at (S089 550). "B" Company's CP moved to WEINSBERG (S129 623). The 1st platoon was supporting the 1st Battalion of the 398th Infantry and moved from OFFENAU to NECKARISULM to a position of readiness in WILLSBACH (S177 608). The 2nd platoon moved to WEINSBERG (S130 625) and then moved out in direct support of "C" Company, 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry to AFFELBACH (S200 600) to DIEBACH and then to BLITZFELD (S244 668). The 3rd platoon moved to WILLSBACH (S143 609). The platoons of "C" Company continued to support the operations of the 397th Infantry. The 1st was at OHR HEIMLEIT (S161 565), the 2nd at UNT HEIMLEIT (S160 554) and supported infantry elements under enemy counter attack. The 3rd platoon was at OHR GRUPPENBACH. Reconnaissance company CP moved to HEILBRONN (S091 612). The 1st platoon was attached to "D" Company and maintained liaison with the 398th Infantry, the 2nd platoon attached to "C" Company made a road reconnaissance to SAUFFEN and maintained liaison with forward infantry elements. The 3rd platoon was re-assigned to "A" Company and established liaison with the 399th Infantry. The Battalion CP moved to HEILBRONN (S091 612).

15 April. One section of the 1st platoon of "A" Company supported a combat infantry patrol on a mission to LAUFEN am NECKAR (S040 540) and returned to TÄLHEIM not having encountered any enemy. At 1445, one section in support of a task force was given a mission to clear woods at (S080 540) to (S080 545). They proceeded to SCHÖZACH (S080 530) and then to ILDFELD (S104 518). The 2nd platoon was in SÜTHHEIM and the 3rd platoon in FLEIN fired 10 rounds of HE into an enemy position at (S084 543). One destroyer struck an enemy mine at (S083 558) which resulted in damage to the track idler and bogie. Repairs were made and the destroyer was back in operation at the end of the period. "B" Company CP moved to RAPPACH (S234 650) and received enemy artillery fire. The 1st platoon

moved to a position of readiness (S190 603) to support "C" Company of the 398th Infantry in their mission to BRKITEHAUERHOF (S195 590). They fired 32 rounds of HE into BECKERSHOF FIELDS (S200 582) then returned to WILLSBACH in preparation for a move to AFFALTRACH (S202 608). The 2nd platoon was in march halt position at VERGEBING (S260 667) and proceeded to WINDESCHENBACH (S274 660) in direct support of the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry. The 3rd platoon moved to AFFALTRACH, supporting the 3rd Battalion of the 398th Infantry, and fired 15 rounds of HE into the enemy lines then moved to BITZFIELD (S245 670). "C" Company opened the GP at LIEHRESTRIMSFELD (S160 600). The 2nd platoon at UNT HEINRICH (S160 554) supported the 2nd Battalion of the 397th Infantry with machine gun and direct fire at enemy counter attack which was repulsed. The platoon also fired 19 rounds of HE in this action. Two men were wounded and a destroyer was damaged when a building fell as a result of enemy artillery. The 3rd platoon was enroute to WILLSBACH and fired machine gun fire and 45 rounds of HE at enemy personnel and snipers. Reconnaissance Company's platoons maintained liaison with the infantry for the companies. On division order they were released from company attachment and returned to Reconnaissance Company control. Reconnaissance Company was attached to a provisional reconnaissance squadron and moved to SONTHEIM awaiting further orders.

16 April. "A" Company's platoons continued to support the regimental units. The 2nd platoon moved to TALHEIM and relieved the 1st platoon. The 3rd platoon fired 10 rounds of HE at a flak wagon and forced them out of position. In "B" Company the 1st platoon moved to (S208 592) to support "C" Company of the 398th Infantry in an attack on WEILER (S202 595). Fifty-one rounds of HE were fired at targets of opportunity consisting of enemy machine gun nests and automatic weapon positions along a line from (S219 590) to (S210 600). The platoon returned to AFFALTRACH at 1300H. The 2nd platoon moved to the vicinity of PFEELBACH (S290 655) to support the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry. The 1st platoon of "C" Company moved to LOWENSTEIN (S198 563). The 2nd platoon occupied AT defense positions on the regiment's right flank. The 3rd platoon was held in reserve at WILLSBACH. Reconnaissance Company was at SONTHEIM attached to a provisional reconnaissance squadron in the 399th sector and was prepared to move out on order.

17 April. The 1st platoon of "A" Company was at UNT GRIPPENBACH (S225 577) and was relieved from general support and was attached to the 3rd Battalion of the 399th Infantry. The 2nd platoon was at TALHEIM (S203 598), one section went on a reconnaissance mission with the infantry mounted on the tanks. They went to LAUFEN and established liaison with the French. Upon returning they encountered enemy infantry positions, estimated to be one company at (S237 530). The destroyers fired 50 caliber machine gun fire and 2 rounds of HE at enemy dugouts. The 3rd platoon moved to UNT HEINRICH (S160 554). They fired 30 rounds of HE and 26 rounds of APC at enemy positions located on the high ground South of UNT HEINRICH. The 2nd platoon of "B" Company moved in sections to GLEICHER (S205 623) with elements of the 2nd Battalion of the 398th Infantry. The 1st section then proceeded to GRISSELHARDT (S338 577). The 2nd section went to FROHNFALLS (S326 596) into a position of readiness. "C" Company's GP moved to WEIBACH (S215 577). The 1st platoon moved to BAMBACH (S255 567) and fired 16 rounds of HE and 50 caliber machine gun fire in support of the infantry at enemy machine gun nests and personnel in woods and buildings. The

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2nd platoon was enroute to BILLENBACH (S193 528). The 3rd platoon moved to SHELLENHOF (S243 555).

18 April. "A" Company GP moved to UNIT HEINRIET (S160 553). The 1st platoon was in march halt at (S168 555). The 2nd platoon moved from AT defense position at UNIT GRUPPENBACH to a march halt position at UNIT GEINRIET. The 3rd platoon fired 12 rounds of HE into a house on hill at (S175 522) containing enemy personnel. The platoon moved to GACKENBERG (S170 525). "B" Company's GP moved to MAIDHARDT (S330 555). The company continued to support the regimental operations. The 1st platoon was at FIECHBACH (S290 505), the 2nd platoon had one section at HORDTHOF (S344 480) and one section in the vicinity of S322 496). The 3rd platoon was in the vicinity of (S290 530). The 3rd platoon of "C" Company had cleared three road blocks and took five PWs during the day. The 1st and 3rd platoons were used to clear road blocks South of BARSBACH (S255 567) and SCHMILLHOF (S243 555), the 2nd platoon remained at BILLENBACH (S193 528). Reconnaissance Company was attached to the division provisional reconnaissance squadron. The platoons were attached to task forces and performed screening missions on the division right flank. They set up a warning system and a series of coordinated defense points, set up trip flares and conducted jeep and foot patrols. The Reconnaissance Company GP was at UNIT GRUPPENBACH (S125 597).

19 April. The 1st platoon of "A" Company was at BEILSTEIN (S152 504). The platoon was given a mission to fire at all possible OPs. They fired rounds of HE at castle (S137 495). Heavy artillery fire had ceased after GP was knocked out at 1300H. The 2nd platoon was in march halt at UNIT HEINRIET and was preparing to move into an assembly area in PREVORST (S215 515). The 3rd platoon was in an assembly area at GACKENBERG (S170 525). There were no changes in the status of the 1st and 3rd platoons of "B" Company. The 2nd platoon reverted to company control. "C" Company's GP moved to KIBENLAUTERN (S248 512). The platoons were supporting operations of the 397th Infantry. Reconnaissance continued their mission with the divisional provisional reconnaissance squadron. The Battalion GP closed BILLENBACH and opened at NIEHWILLER (S224 549).

20 April. "A" Company's GP moved to GR ASPACH (S226 423). The 1st platoon fired 5 rounds of HE and small arms fire at the enemy dug in at (S197 486). Six of the enemy were killed as a result of this action. The platoon moved out of BEILSTEIN on a reconnaissance mission with the infantry through the towns of GERNSTEINFIELD, HOF UND LEMBACH and OROS BOTTEN. The 2nd platoon was on the move Southwest toward UNDEAN. The 3rd platoon was moving Southwest towards KLEINRAPPACH. "B" Company's GP moved to ALTHUTTEN (S248 540) and the platoons continued to support the operations of the 397th Infantry. "C" Company's GP moved to BACHHEIM. Reconnaissance Company was relieved from the division provisional reconnaissance squadron and was attached to the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron. The Battalion GP closed NIEHWILLER and opened at OPPENWILLER (S260 440).

21 April. "A" Company's GP was in march halt at WINDENHOF enroute to GR NEFFACH (S213 555). The 1st platoon returned to assembly area in WINDENHOF from a reconnaissance mission and had not contacted the enemy. They left WINDENHOF in an attempt to contact the enemy in HOMB and WAILINGEN. They contacted a small group of enemy in WAILINGEN and was cleared by the

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accompanying infantry. The 2nd platoon was in WALDRENS and proceeded with the task force to clear elements of the retreating enemy in WINNENDEN, KORB and WAILLINGEN. The 3rd platoon went on a reconnaissance mission to GROS HOPPACH and crossed the RHEIN RIVER into ANDERSBACH. "B" Company's CP moved to WINNENDEN (S220 320). All platoons were in march halt at WILGARDEN. "C" Company's CP moved to HONIGBACH (S270 255). The platoons were supporting the advance of the 397th Infantry. The Battalion CP moved to BIRKENHOFWEILER (S244 310).

22 April. "A" Company's CP moved out of STETTEN (S177 225) and was enroute to ESZLINGEN (S134 164). One section of the 1st platoon was in ESZLINGEN and one section was in WALDRENS (S163 190), engaged the enemy killing four and capturing twenty. The 1st section of the 2nd platoon was at STRACH (S158 186) and the 2nd section was at STETTEN (S177 225). One of the crews captured 24 of the enemy in the vicinity of (S173 209). The 3rd platoon was at SCHNABACH (S205 192). The artillery mechanic captured one officer and nine men after a brief episode in the vicinity of STRUMPFELBACH (S198 217). There was no activity for "B" and "C" Companies for the day. Reconnaissance Company was attached to the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron and was performing reconnaissance missions.

23 April. "A" Company's CP moved to ESZLINGEN (S134 164). The CP group took 12 Hqs in ESZLINGEN. The 1st platoon was in an assembly position at ESZLINGEN. Two of the enemy were killed by a guard during the night while attempting to knock out a Tank Destroyer with a panzerfaust. One of the enemy was captured. The 2nd platoon and the 3rd platoon were in assembly position at ESZLINGEN. The 1st platoon of "B" Company moved out at 0700B on a mission to flush the woods in the vicinity of GRUMBACH (S235 255) in direct support of the 1st Battalion of the 398th Infantry. The mission was successful. The 2nd platoon was engaged in evacuating Hqs. The 3rd platoon and one section of the 2nd platoon moved to the vicinity of HEPFACH (S211 258) and supported elements of the 3rd Battalion of the 398th Infantry in flushing the woods. "C" Company CP moved to HESBACH (S260 240). Reconnaissance Company was relieved from assignment to the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron and was assigned to the 397th Infantry. They performed patrol duty with the 100th Division Reconnaissance. They were relieved from the 397th Infantry and assigned to the 398th Infantry at 0800B.

24 April. On order of the CG of the VI Corps the Battalion was relieved from attachment from the 100th Division on 240900B and reverted to Corps control. The Battalion was attached to the 103rd Division at 241800B on verbal order from the G-3 of the VI Corps.

During the day, the 1st platoon of "A" Company supported the 3rd Battalion of the 399th Task Force in mopping up operations West of the NEUNER RIVER in the vicinity of ESZLINGEN. The 3rd platoon supported the 1st Battalion of the 399th Infantry in the woods in the vicinity of LEMBAT and SCHNABACH. At the end of the period the platoons assembled in the vicinity of ESZLINGEN. "B" Company's CP moved to WAILLINGEN (S160 273). The 1st and 2nd platoons and one section of the 3rd platoon were in an assembly positions at WAILLINGEN. The 2nd section of the 3rd platoon was engaged in patrol activities for the 3rd Battalion of the 398th Infantry. "C" Company's CP moved to ALTBACH (S200 150). The 1st platoon was

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at FLOCHING H., the 2nd at BRICKENSON and the 3rd at ALTBACH and were conducting general maintenance. Reconnaissance Company CP moved to WÄHLENDEN (2140 273). The platoons conducted road patrols in the 390th Infantry sector. The Battalion CP closed HINDEBACHWILLER and opened at FELLBACH (2129 284).

25 April. The Battalion was attached to the 103rd Infantry Division 241000 on Operations Instructions Number 24, VI Corps, dated 25 April 1945. The Battalion started moving out to the 103rd Infantry Division section on 25 April at 0800 hours. The CP group, Reconnaissance Company, Headquarters Company and "F" Company crossed the IP at FELLBACH. "A" Company joined the column at GEM MÜLLEREN. "C" Company at ALTBACH. The Battalion went into a march halt position at TUNNEN (2124 088), the originally designated quartering area. The companies were attached to the regiments of the 103rd Infantry Division. "A" Company was attached to the 409th Infantry and moved the CP to MÜLLEREN (2120 915). The 1st platoon was attached to the regimental anti-tank company. The 2nd platoon was attached to the 1st Battalion and the 3rd Battalion had the 3rd platoon of TDC attached to it. "B" Company's CP moved to MÜLLEREN (2120 915). The company was attached to the 410th Infantry. "C" Company moved to the vicinity of ALBROCK (2120 090). The Company was attached to the 410th Infantry.

26 April. "A" Company CP moved to OTTENGEN then to RICHINGEN and prepared to move to BUCHLOE. The 1st platoon reverted to company control and moved to an assembly area at UNTER KLICHINGEN and prepared for movement to BUCHLOE with a tank force of the 1st Battalion of the 409th Infantry Regiment. The 2nd platoon reverted to company control and moved to an assembly area and were prepared to BUCHLOE with the tank force. The 1st section of the 3rd platoon was sent to the vicinity of South OBERRECHLINGEN on the DANUBE RIVER to support "L" Company of the 3rd Battalion of the 409th Infantry Regiment. The 2nd section moved to OBERRECHLINGEN. The platoon reverted to company control at 1000 hours to move to an assembly area and were prepared to move with the tank force. "B" Company closed their CP at JUNGINGEN and were enroute to PFÜLL. The company moved to BIEBERSTETTEN and closed in a march halt position. The company proceeded to the vicinity of REIBHAUSEN to support the 1st Battalion of the 410th Infantry. "C" Company's CP was at ALBROCK (2120 090). The company was attached to the 410th Infantry and was in division reserve supporting mopping up operations. Reconnaissance company CP moved to LINDENFELD (214 77). The platoons performed a mopping up mission on the division right flank up to a line REUTH (213 74), HÖLZELIN (213 78), REIBLSHOFFEN (214 79) until they were relieved by the 10th Cavalry Reconnaissance. They proceeded to the west flank performing a contact mission between the 410th Division and the 410th Infantry. The Battalion CP opened at BERNSTADT (216 91) at 2000 and closed at 2300 hours enroute to ROEN.

27 April. "A" Company CP moved to SCHENLAU (217 17). The company left the assembly area at UNTER KLICHINGEN and went to BUCHLOE. Company met enemy resistance along the way. The company arrived in the assembly position in BUCHLOE at 1500 and was split up into two task forces. The company CP and the 2nd platoon were Task Force No. 1 and the 1st and 3rd platoons were Task Force No. 2. The objective was SCHENLAU. The task forces left BUCHLOE at 1700 and arrived at SCHENLAU at 2000. From the assembly position to SCHENLAU, the 1st platoon fired 5 rounds of APC and 20 rounds of HE, the 2nd platoon fired 7 rounds of HE and the 3rd platoon fired 14 rounds of HE at enemy camps and houses occupied by enemy personnel. All platoons fired small arms fire at enemy camps and outposts. At the end of the period the company was in the assembly position at SCHENLAU. In "B" Company the CP group crossed the DAN-

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UNSE RIV R and arrived at WEINHEIM and then moved out to WENDELHEIM (X05 42) and closed in a march halt position. The platoons moved to WENDELHEIM in direct support of the 1st Battalion of the 410th Infantry. The platoons fired small arms fire and 76mm at enemy personnel, convoys and houses occupied by the enemy. The 1st platoon fired 22 rounds of HE, the 2nd platoon fired 6 rounds of HE and the 3rd platoon fired 25 rounds of HE. "C" Company was in division reserve with the 411th Infantry and was supporting mopping up operations. The CP was at LANDSBERG (X33 42). The Reconnaissance Company CP moved to WINTERLEIDEN (X853 493) and continued their mission of maintaining contact between the 410th Infantry on the division right flank and the 324th Infantry of the 44th Division. The Battalion CP opened at BOTT (X788 770) at 2130B.

28 April. "A" Company continued their advance and supported operations of the 409th Infantry. "B" Company CP opened at STATEN (X15 24). The platoons moved to KAUFFBÄREREN and assisted the task force in town patrolling and cleaning up prisoners. The 3rd platoon moved to KARSBERG and assisted in town patrol and cleaning up prisoners. The 1st and 2nd platoons moved to LÄSHBRUCK and assisted in cleaning up of prisoners and cutting German lines of communication. Over 1200 prisoners were taken during this operation. The 1st and 2nd platoons attempted crossing the LECH RIVER but the water was too deep. "C" Company CP was at LANDSBERG (X33 42) and continued their support of the 411th Infantry. Reconnaissance Company CP moved to BERTHOLDSHOFEN (X19 13) and continued their previous mission. The Battalion CP opened at BAD WÖRISHOFEN (X13 38). The CP group established a PW cage, maintained patrols and set up check points in the town.

29 April. "A" Company CP moved to PARTEN KIRCHEN (Y54 82) and the company continued to support the advance of the 409th Infantry. The platoons were enroute to GÄRILSCH (Y52 82). "B" Company opened at PIEM (X30 08). The 1st platoon crossed the LECH RIVER moving to a march halt position in the vicinity of REITERSAN (X33 05). Together with infantry elements they assisted in clearing neighboring towns and upon completion of operations they returned to REITERSAN (X33 05). The 3rd platoon supported infantry elements and moved to SCHÖBER (X33 08). The 2nd platoon moved to REITERSAN and had assisted in mopping up operations. They proceeded to OBERAMBERGAU on a special mission and assisted the 410th Infantry in capturing more than 800 prisoners. "C" Company remained in division reserve. Reconnaissance Company CP moved to BUCHING (X91 95) and platoons continued their mission. The 2nd platoon was attached to the 410th Infantry for operations. The Battalion CP closed in MANNY OBERDORF (X32 05) at 202200.

30 April. "A" Company moved out as part of the task force of the 1st Battalion of the 409th Infantry and arrived at PARTEN KIRCHEN meeting no resistance enroute. The company was in march halt and on a 30 minute alert for movement to REISENBUCK, Austria. "B" Company CP moved to TRACHINGAU (X33 98). The 1st and 3rd platoons remained with the Battalions of the 410th Infantry. The 2nd platoon was at OBERAMBERGAU. One section made a road reconnaissance with elements of the infantry up to FORSTRAIS (B43 90). The 2nd section made a reconnaissance to OBERAU (D56 90). Reconnaissance CP opened at GÄRILSCH (D52 82). The 3rd platoon maintained contact between elements of the 41th Division and the 410th Infantry. The 2nd platoon was attached to the 410th Infantry and made a reconnaissance of road nets, road block, bridges, and mined areas. They attempted establishment of out-

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tact with elements of the 44th Division but road blocks prevented the contact. They located a trainload of enemy radio equipment and reported the information to division. The company turned in 350 enemy prisoners during the day. The Battalion CP was at URSPRING and was enroute to GARLESCH (D92 82) at 1700 hours.

For the month of April the battalion had taken 879 prisoners. This figure is exclusive of prisoners taken in conjunction with other units.

**HEADQUARTERS
824th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION**

**AFO 798, US Army
22 May 1945**

ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation - 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Towed)**
- (2) Date of organization - 20 August 1942.**
- (3) Place of organization - Camp Greber, Oklahoma**
- (4) Authority for organization - Headquarters, Third Army
General Order Number 81
dated 27 July 1942.**
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained -
Draftees and transfers from other organizations.**

ATTN: "D"

**HEADQUARTERS
824th TANK ENGINEER BATTALION**

**22 May 1945
APO 758, US Army**

STRENGTH - Commissioned and Enlisted

- (1) At beginning of period - 30 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers
614 Enlisted Men
- (2) Net increase during period - 2 Officers 0 Warrant Officers
19 Enlisted Men
(1 OCF 8 EM from RTF)
(1 OCF from 827th TD Bn)
(1 EM from 698 AAA Bn)
(10 EM from 100th Inf Div)
- (3) Net decrease during period - 1 Officer, 0 Warrant Officers
29 Enlisted Men
(1 Officer transferred to 8th
Military Labor Supervision
Area)
(1 EM transf to 100th Inf Div)
(2 EM transf to DCP)
(4 EM transf to 3rd Reinf)
- (4) At end of period - 31 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers,
624 Enlisted Men

ASSTG "C"

HEADQUARTERS
824th TANK DESIGNER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
22 May 1945

LOSS IN ACTION FOR APRIL - Officers and Enlisted Men

KILLED

None

WOUNDED

Dente, August F	T/5	32698637	A Co	LIA
Foley, John S	Cgt	32698924	A Co	IWA
Harte, Joseph V	Cgt	32698951	C Co	IWA
Mallison, Walter L	T/4	32696640	C Co	IWA
McLain, Alexander	Cgt	32698127	A Co	IWA
Sanders, Edward	Pfc	34886904	B Co	IWA
Sowers, Leo H	S/Cgt	35253587	A Co	IWA

APPENDIX "D"