

893d T D Bn.

SECRET

6 December 1944

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SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports
After/ After Action Reports.

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BY AUTHORITY OF A.O.

TO : Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (through channels).

Date _____ Initials _____

AFTER ACTION REPORT

1. The 893d Tank Destroyer Battalion was operational from 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944 inclusive. The Battalion was assigned to the First U.S. Army and attached to V Corps and 3rd Tank Destroyer Group throughout the entire period. The Battalion, less "A" Company and attached 1st Recon. platoon was attached to the 28th Infantry Division from 1 November to 19 November. From 19 November to 30 November inclusive the Battalion, less Co. "A" and attached Recon. platoon, was then attached to the 8th Infantry Division. Company "B" was attached to 28th Infantry Regiment of 8th Division on 24 November. At 1430 on 29 November Company "C" was attached to 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion for operations only.

"A" Company was attached to the 102nd Cavalry Group for the entire period. The platoons were attached by 102nd Cavalry Group to the 38th and 102nd Cavalry Squadron.

- 2. a. (1) Four guns of 3rd platoon of "A" Company were in indirect fire action from 1 November through 10 November.
- (2) Total number of concentrations was 518.
- (3) Total number of rounds fired was 1251.
- (4) All of the concentrations were harassing.
- b. (1) Company "B" was engaged in indirect fire action from 1 November through 4 November and again from 19 November through 24 November.
- (2) Total number of concentrations fired was 1699.
- (3) Total number of rounds fired was 5718.
- (4) Types of missions fired were:
 - Counter battery - 2 concentrations.
 - Harassing fire - 543 concentrations.
 - Infantry supporting fire - 105 concentrations.
 - Interdiction fire - 1044 concentrations.

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- c. (1) Company "C" was in indirect fire action from 1 November to 4 November and again from 21 November to 28 November inclusive.
- (2) Total number of concentrations fired was 307.
- (3) Total number of rounds fired was 6927.
- (4) Types of missions fired were:
 Counter battery, 3 concentrations.
 Interdiction fire, 9 concentrations.
 Harassing fire 294 concentrations.
- d. (1) Total number of concentrations fired by the battalion was 2524.
- (2) Total number of rounds fired was 13,896.
 (indirect)
- (3) All of the indirect fire was unobserved firing and the majority done at night. Losses and damage to enemy could not be determined definitely.

Throughout the month of November the line companies were supporting the infantry either from indirect firing positions or by close-in anti-tank support in direct fire positions. The entire month was spent in the Hurtgen forest in the vicinity of Vossenack, Germany. In the support of the 28th Infantry Division in its attack on Vossenack, Kommerscheidt and Schmidt, both "B" and "C" companies were committed in direct support. This action was not successful in holding all of the ground first gained in the attack due to an inadequate route for supplies and reinforcements and the inability to keep the route that was used open because of the enemies terrific reaction to our advance. The ground gained in vicinity of Schmidt and Kommerscheidt had to be given up. Much of the equipment was abandoned.

During the month the following vehicles were lost:

Company "B" lost 7 M-10's: 2 of these damaged by mines; 1 dropped into a basement when ground gave way; 2 mired down in enemy territory; 2 knocked out by enemy anti-tank fire.

Company "C" lost 11 M-10's: 1 to enemy mines; 1 threw track and is now in enemy territory; 8 destroyed by enemy anti-tank and artillery fire; 1 destroyed by crew when abandoned.

The following are casualties among our personnel for the month;

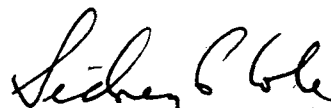
38 Lightly wounded in action
 12 Seriously wounded in action
 20 Missing in action
 9 Killed in action

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During the entire month a total of 569 rounds of HE, 39 rounds of APC and 3 rounds HVAP was fired in direct fire. These figures are not an entirely accurate total of ammunition expended during the month, as it was impossible to get such a figure on destroyers which had fired direct fire, and were later destroyed by enemy action and personnel were killed, wounded or are missing. The results of this direct fire are as follows:

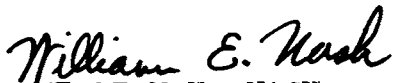
- 6 Mark VI tanks.
- 10 Mark V tanks.
- 3 Mark IV tanks.
- 1 SP gun - 88 MM
- 1 A.T. gun.
- 4 Pill boxes.
- 4 M.G. nests.
- 1 Enemy fuel dump.
- 1 Road block neutralized.
- 1 Building damaged and set on fire.
- 1 Supply dump destroyed.
- 363 Enemy personnel killed.
- 75 Enemy captured. (1 of these was a Captain who had a radio, and was observing for enemy artillery).

For the Battalion Commander:



SIDNEY C. COLE
Capt. 893d T.D. Bn.
S-2

OFFICIAL:



WILLIAM E. NASH
Major, 893d T.D. Bn.
S-3

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