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Authority *MOD 735017*

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS  
602ND TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
APO NO. 403, U. S. ARMY

*L29v*

3 December 1944.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Historical Records for Period of 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944.

TO : Commanding General, 26th Infantry Division, APO No. 26, U. S. Army.  
Attention: Historical Section.

Under the provisions of paragraph 10, ~~Ch~~ 3, AR 345-105, historical records of this unit for the period 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944 are transmitted herewith.

For the Battalion Commander:

*James M. Motley*  
JAMES M. MOTLEY,  
Captain, Cavalry,  
Adjutant.

3 Incls:

- 1 - Staff Summaries & Unit Journal
- 2 - S-3 Periodic Reports
- 3 - Incoming and Outgoing Messages

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:  
**CANCELLED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE *28 Apr 66*

S E C R E T

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Authority MOD 735017

SECRET

L 292  
602 TO AM  
hr

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Summary of Administrative Matters
- Summary of Operations
- Summary of Supply
- Summary of Evacuation
- Unit Journal
- S-3 Periodic Reports
- Incoming and Outgoing Messages.

SECRET

INCL # 1

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Authority MOD 735017

**S E C R E T**SUMMARY OF ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS. 602 T. D. Bn for period  
1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944

I. STRENGTH:

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
1 November 1944	34	1	600
30 November 1944	30	1	605

II. CASUALTIES DURING PERIOD:

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
a. Killed in action	0	0	1
b. Died of wounds	0	0	1
c. Wounded	2	0	11
d. Injured	1	0	0
e. Captured	0	0	0
f. Missing in action	0	0	0
g. Interned	0	0	0
h. Hospitalized (sick)	1	0	19
TOTAL	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>32</u>

III. REPLACEMENTS:

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
a. Requisitioned during period	8	0	5
b. Received during period	0	0	28

IV. CASUALTIES RETURNING TO DUTY:

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

V. AWARDS RECOMMENDED:

a. The following personnel received awards as indicated below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
Capt. Edmond S. Aldredge	Co "C", 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal
Capt. Ivan M. Curry	Co "A", 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal
1st Sgt Earnest Kaiser	Co "B", 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal
Tec 5 Carl A. Rice	Med Det, 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal
Tec 5 Alexander P. Pleva, Jr.	Co "A", 602nd T. D. Bn.	Soldier's Medal

b. Final action is pending on the following listed recommendations:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
Sgt Leo A. Vaughn	Co "B", 602nd T. D. Bn.	Silver Star Medal
Tec 4 Arturo F. Ramirez	Co "C", 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal
Sgt George E. Wasmund	Rcn Co, 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal
St. Sgt Lodi Valencich	Rcn Co, 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal
Lt. Col. Peter J. Kopcsak	Hqs, 602nd T. D. Bn.	Bronze Star Medal

c. Number of personnel authorized Purple Heart during period: 3 Off; 11 EM

VI. COMMENDATIONS:

Two commendations were received during the period, copies of which are attached hereto.

VII. PRISONERS CAPTURED AND EVACUATED DURING PERIOD:

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>EM</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>19</u>

**S E C R E T - 1 -**

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Authority MOD 735017

S E C R E T

(Summary of Administrative Matters continued).

VIII. REORGANIZATION:

The battalion reorganized 17 November 1944 under T/O and E 18-25, dated 15 March 1944 with two changes. New and additional equipment as authorized under new tables of organization was not available and present equipment was retained in lieu thereof.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS:

a. Personnel Section:

From 7 November 1944 to 29 November 1944 personnel section worked under the supervision of the 26th Infantry Division.

b. Mail:

No change from previous month.

c. Special Service:

1. Sufficient copies of Stars and Stripes were received daily to make distribution of approximately ten copies per company.

2. Religious services for all faiths were held weekly provided the tactical situation permitted.

3. Shower convoys were run as frequently as the tactical situation permitted.

d. Passes:

A quota of one officer and five enlisted men was received to visit Paris for a forty-eight hour period.

S E C R E T - 2 -

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C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS  
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY  
APO 403

24 November 1944

SUBJECT: Congratulations from General Marshall.

TO : Commanding General, XII Army Corps, APO-312, US Army.

Radiogram received from General Marshall which is in substance herewith quoted:

"Congratulations on the capture of Metz and the splendid advance your Corps are making in spite of floods and mud and bitter enemy resistance. My very personal congratulations to Eddy and Walker on the grand show their troops are putting on towards bringing this war to a triumphant conclusion."

I personally wish to add my commendation and congratulations for the splendid advance which you and your Corps have made. With such troops, the triumphant conclusion of the war is inevitably near.

s/G. S. Patton, Jr.  
t/G. S. PATTON, JR.,  
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army,  
Commanding.

Reproduced Hq XII Corps  
28 November 1944

AG 200.6 1st Ind.  
(24 Nov 44)  
HEADQUARTERS XII CORPS, APO 312, U.S. Army, 28 November 44

TO: Commanders, all units attached or assigned XII Corps,

I know you will share my pride and pleasure in General Marshall's and General Patton's generous expressions. Be sure they reflect my own feelings towards you, your troops, and the magnificent part they are playing in hastening our victory over Germany.

s/ M. S. Eddy  
t/ M. S. EDDY  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding.

DISTRIBUTION:  
A & B

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HEADQUARTERS 26TH INFANTRY DIVISION

AFO 26, U. S. Army  
26 November 1944

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

TO : All members of the 26th Infantry Division

The following letter is from our Corps Commander:

"My dear General Paul:

When I tell you that some of the bitterest fighting of our entire front during the last three weeks has taken place in your own zone, I tell you nothing that you and the 26th Infantry Division do not already know. Some of you may not know, however, that your skill and gallantry in your first major engagements have won the respect and admiration of the whole XII Corps -- and even, I feel sure, of the German troops facing you.

Some of Germany's finest fighting forces are on your front, including the tough and tested 11th Panzer Division. I can give no higher compliment to your division than to assure you that, if these battle-tried German troops expected to deal easily with a new and untried American division, they have received one of the great surprises of their careers. The remarkable speed with which your fighting troops have acquired the spirit of veterans deserves commendation second only to the high courage and constant aggressiveness with which you have battled across Lorraine".

/s/ M. S. Eddy  
/T/ M. S. EDDY

Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding

I desire to express to each and everyone of you my profound appreciation of your aggressiveness and overwilling spirit to close with the enemy face to face and destroy him. Our relatives and friends back home now may rest assured that the Yankee Division is living up to its glorious record of the last war. Comrades, God bless you.

*W. S. Paul*  
W. S. PAUL  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding

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Authority MOD 735017

S E C R E T

L-292

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 602 TD BN FOR PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 1944 TO 30 NOVEMBER 1944

During the period 1 November 1944 to 27 November 1944 the battalion was attached to the 26th Infantry Division. On 5 November 1944 Task Force A, 26th Infantry Division was formed and consisted of 602nd Tank Destroyer Battalion, 761st Tank Battalion, Company "K", 101st Infantry Regiment and one platoon Company "C", 101st Engineer Battalion. On 14 November 1944 the Task Force was broken up. During the remainder of the time this unit was attached to the 26th Infantry Division the gun companies were in direct support of the Infantry Regiments. The battalion, less Company "C", Company "B" and one platoon of Reconnaissance Company was attached to the 9th T. D. Group from 27 November 1944 to 30 November 1944. Further details of operations for the period are contained in the unit journal and incoming and outgoing messages.

S E C R E T

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MOD 735017

S E C R E T

SUMMARY OF SUPPLY, 602 TD BN FOR PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 1944 TO 30 NOVEMBER 1944

L-292

I. Class I Supplies:

a. No change from preceding month except supplies were drawn from 26th Infantry Division during period 1 November 1944 to 27 November 1944.

b. No change from preceding month.

II. Class II Supplies:

a. No change from preceding month.

III. CLASS III Supplies:

a. No change from preceding month.

b. No change from preceding month except supplies were drawn from 26th Infantry Division during period 1 November 1944 to 27 November 1944.

IV. Class IV Supplies:

No change from preceding month.

V. Class V Supplies:

a. No change from preceding month.

b. Requirements and re-supply were handled through 26th Infantry Division during period 1 November 1944 to 27 November 1944. No other changes from preceding month.

S E C R E T



DECLASSIFIED

Authority MOD 735017

S E C R E T

SUMMARY OF EVACUATION, 602 TD BN FOR PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 1944 TO 30 NOVEMBER 1944

I. General:

*L 29V*

a. A forward aid station was maintained near the battalion command post until 22 November 1944. On this date and for the remainder of the month the entire medical detachment remained with the battalion rear echelon. Two ambulances were attached to the detachment on 8 November 1944 and remained for the balance of the period under the control of the medical officer.

b. No change from preceding month.

c. No change from preceding month.

S E C R E T

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MOD 735017

~~SECRET~~

UNIT JOURNAL

L 292

1 Nov 44: No changes.

2 Nov 44: Co C relieved from indirect fire missions with 101 FA Battalion and is in support of 104 Infantry Regiment. One platoon of Co B supporting 104 Infantry Regiment relieved and reverted to company control.

All troops paid today for month of October 1944.

3 Nov 44: Co A remained under battalion control. One platoon Co B attached to 101 Infantry Regiment, remainder of company attached to 2nd Cavalry Group. Company C, less one section, attached to 104 Infantry Regiment. One section Co C attached to Hqs Co, 26th Infantry Division.

4 Nov 44: Plans made for future operations. Contact made with following attached units: 761 Tank Battalion, Co K, 101 Inf Regiment, and one platoon Co C, 101 Engineer Battalion. Reconnaissance Company, less one platoon attached to Co B, moved from vicinity of LANEUVELOTTE, FRANCE to vicinity of ATHIENVILLE, FRANCE.

5 Nov 44: No changes in disposition of companies. Continued in making plans for future operations.

6 Nov 44: No changes in disposition of companies. Unit attached to 26th Infantry Division for administration. Plans made to move personnel section to division rear echelon.

7 Nov 44: Continued making plans for future operations. All commanders briefed from 1330 to 1500 hours. Co C relieved from attachment to 26th Infantry Division and attached to 6th Cavalry Group. Personnel section moved to division rear echelon.

8 Nov 44: Commanders rebriefed on future operations. Company C relieved from attachment to 6th Cavalry Group and reverted to battalion control. One platoon of Co B and one platoon of Co A supporting 104 Infantry Regiment ~~at~~ 1700 hours.

9 Nov 44: Task Force A, commanded by Lt. Col. Kopcsak, and consisting of 602nd T. D. Bn., less Co B and one platoon of Co A, plus 761 Tank Battalion, less Co A, plus Co K, 101st Infantry Regiment and one platoon of Co C, 101 Engineer Battalion, moved from vicinity of ATHIENVILLE, FRANCE at 0630 hours and advanced to just west of MORVILLE, FRANCE, encountering heavy resistance particularly artillery and mortar fire. Lt. Col. Kopcsak wounded at about 1500 hours and Lt. Col. Hunt assumed command of Task Force. Major Conlin assumed command of 602nd TD Battalion. The Task Force withdrew to the vicinity of VIC SUR SEILLE, FRANCE at 1700 hours. Rcn Co captured seven prisoners and lost one 1/4 ton truck.

10 Nov 44: CCA, composed of 761 Tank Battalion (less) and Co A, 602nd TD Bn remained in division reserve. CCB, composed of Co C, 602nd TD Bn plus Co C, 761st Tank Bn attached to 101 Infantry Regiment. A Company knocked out two machine guns and captured eight prisoners.

11 Nov 44: No changes.

12 Nov 44: One platoon Co A attached to 328 Infantry Regiment. Remainder of Co A attached to CCB. Two platoons Co B remained attached to 2nd Cavalry Group. One platoon Co B remained attached to 104 Infantry Regiment. Two platoons Co C attached to CCA. One platoon Co C attached to 328 Infantry Regiment.

ALL INFORMATION CHANGED TO  
**CANCELLED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
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DECLASSIFIED

Authority MOD 735017

~~SECRET~~

13 Nov 44: Co A attached to 101 FA Battalion for indirect fire. Registered in and prepared to fire at 1630 hours. Knocked out one observation post. Co B knocked out one Mark V and one Mark VI tank, one 88mm gun, one personnel carrier and killed twenty-five personnel. Co B lost one M-18.

14 Nov 44: Task Force A, 26th Infantry Division, dissolved. Co B knocked out one armored car. Co C knocked out two pillboxes and killed twenty personnel.

15 Nov 44: Battalion CP, Rcn Co, less two platoons, and Co C moved to vicinity of OBRECK, FRANCE. Co A, less one platoon, remained in vicinity of VIC SUR SEILLE, FRANCE, attached to 101 FA Battalion.

16 Nov 44: No changes.

17 Nov 44: One platoon Co A attached to 2nd Cavalry Group, one section attached to 26th Infantry Division Headquarters, one section attached to 26th Infantry Division Rcn Troop, one platoon in reserve. Co B attached to 101 Infantry Regiment. Co C attached to 104 Infantry Regiment.

Battalion reorganized under T/O & E 18-25, dated 15 March 1944, with two changes.

18 Nov 44: Co B lost one half track by a mine. No other changes.

19 Nov 44: Co A knocked out two observation posts, one anti-tank gun and captured three prisoners. Co B fired at two tanks at range of 2500 yards. Results ineffective. Brigadier General Ernst visited Command Post at 1600 hours.

20 Nov 44: No changes. All companies continued supporting advancing infantry elements.

21 Nov 44: Co B relieved from attachment to 101 Infantry Regiment and attached to 328 Infantry Regiment.

Preliminary plans made to move battalion CP to MARIMONT, FRANCE.

22 Nov 44: Battalion CP, Rcn Co, less one platoon, and one platoon Co A moved from OBRECK, FRANCE to MARIMONT, FRANCE. One platoon Co A relieved from attachment to 2nd Cavalry Group and reverted to Battalion control.

23 Nov 44: No changes. Tentative plans made to assemble battalion under control of 9th TD Group upon release from attachment to 26th Infantry Division.

24 Nov 44: No changes.

25 Nov 44: Battalion CP plus Rcn Co, less two platoons, moved from MARIMONT, FRANCE to ZARBELING, FRANCE. Co C relieved from attachment to 101 Infantry Regiment and reverted to battalion control. Co A, less one platoon, attached to 104 Infantry Regiment.

26 Nov 44: Co A knocked out one anti-tank gun, one observation post, two machine guns and one half track, captured one prisoner and killed three personnel. Co C moved to LIDREZING, FRANCE.

27 Nov 44: Co C attached to 6th Cavalry Group and moved to vicinity of NANCY, FRANCE. Co B plus one platoon of Rcn Co attached to 2nd Cavalry Group. Remainder of battalion attached to 9th TD Group.

~~SECRET~~

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Authority MOD 735017

~~SECRET~~

28 Nov 44: Battalion CP plus Rcn Co, less one platoon, moved from ZARBELING, FRANCE to FRANCAITROFF, FRANCE. Co A moved to VIRMING, FRANCE. Instructions received from 9th TD Group to make reconnaissance of areas to the north, northeast, and northwest of FRANCAITROFF, FRANCE for possible TD defensive positions.

29 Nov 44: Reconnaissance made of gun positions for defense of Corps Sector and plans submitted to 9th TD Group.

30 Nov 44: Battalion, less Co C, Co B, and one platoon of Rcn Co relieved from attachment to 9th TD Group and attached to 26th Infantry Division.

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority MOD 735017

S E C R E T

ATTACHMENTS FOR PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 1944 TO 30 NOVEMBER 1944

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ATTACHMENT</u>	<u>DATES</u>
Bn (less)	26th Inf. Div.	1 November - 27 November 1944
Co C	6th Cav Group	27 November - 30 November 1944
Co B	2nd Cav Group	27 November - 30 November 1944
Bn (less)	9th TD Group	27 November - 29 November 1944
Bn (less)	26th Inf. Div.	29 November - 30 November 1944

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority MOD 735017

S E C R E T

LOSSES INFLECTED AGAINST THE ENEMY DURING THE PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 1944 TO 30 NOVEMBER 1944

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Tanks	2
88mm Guns	1
Anti-Tank Guns	2
Half-track	1
Armored Car	1
Personnel Carrier	1
Observation Posts	4
Pillboxes	2
Machine Guns	4

LOSSES SUSTAINED FROM THE ENEMY DURING THE PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 1944 TO 30 NOVEMBER 1944

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
M-18	1
Half-track	1
1/4 ton truck	1

S E C R E T