

(2) Battalion(-) Co. A, departed from Camp Pickett, Virginia, 21 April 1943, arrived at Fort Dix, New Jersey, 22 April 1943. (Permanent change of station.) See authority cited for Company A.

(3) Company A departed from Camp Patrick Henry for Hampton Roads, Port of Embarkation, boarded American LST #345 at Hampton Roads, Port of Embarkation, 24 April 1943. Set sail for overseas at 25 April 1943. Arrived at Bermuda 5 May 1943. Departed 9 May 1943. Troops granted shore leave for four days. Arrived at Arzew, Algeria on 27 May 1943. Disembarked and moved to staging area, Mediterranean Base Section, 12 kilometers southeast of Oran, Algeria. Authority: (unknown)

(4) Battalion(-) Company A, departed from Fort Dix, New Jersey, 27 April 1943, arrived at Staten Island, New York on 28 April 1943. Boarded USAT John Ericsson. Sailed from New York, Port of Embarkation, 30 April 1943. Arrived at Oran, Algeria, 11 May 1943. Moved to Mediterranean Base Section, Staging Area, 22 kilometers southeast of Oran, Algeria. Authority: Letter, Headquarters, Fort Dix, New Jersey, 25 April 1943. Subject: "Movement Orders", File 370.5 (OSA)

(5) Departed from Assi Ben Okba, Algeria, 15 June 1943 for Fifth Army Invasion Training Center, 5 kilometers, southwest of Ain El Turck, Algeria. Arrived 15 June 1943. Distance traveled 30 kilometers. Authority: VCCG, Fifth Army.

(6) Moved from Ain El Turck, Algeria to Bizerte, Tunisia. Authority: Letter, Headquarters, Mediterranean Base Section, 17 July 1943, AGO, 370.5-BEOME. Subject: "Movement Orders."

- (a) Departed from Oran, Algeria, arrived Bivouac Area 7 kilometers, south of Orleansville, Algeria, 23 July 1943. Distance traveled: 170 kilometers.
- (b) Departed from Orleansville, Algeria, arrived Bivouac Area, 4 kilometer east of L'Arba, Algeria, 24 July 1943. Distance traveled: 160 kilometers.
- (c) Departed from L'Arba, Algeria, arrived Bivouac Area, 6 kilometers east of Setif, Algeria, 25 July 1943. Distance traveled: 300 kilometers.
- (d) Departed from Setif, Algeria, arrived Bivouac Area, 1 kilometer east of Guelma, Algeria, 26 July 1943. Distance traveled: 160 kilometers.
- (e) Departed from Guelma, Algeria, arrived Bivouac Area, 5 kilometers east of Beja, Tunisia, 27 July 1943. Distance traveled: 180 kilometers.
- (f) Departed from Beja, Tunisia, arrived Bivouac Area 10 kilometers northwest of Bizerte, Tunisia, 28 July 1943. Distance traveled: 130 kilometers.

(7) Departed from Bizerte, Tunisia to Porto Farina. Authority: "Movement Order #19.", Headquarters, 13th Field Artillery Brigade, 9 August 1943.

(8) Moved from Porto Farina, Tunisia to Staging Area, Bizerte, Tunisia, VCCG, Fifth Army, 23 August 1943.

Bivouaced 10 kilometers northwest of Bizerte, Tunisia, 100 yards from the beach. Battalion received first bombing on night of 6 August 1943, when German planes dropped nine bombs within 500 yards of bivouac area. Training consisted of hardening exercises with long marches.

Battalion moved to staging area, Bizerte, Tunisia, on 23 August 1943 in preparation for overseas movement. Waterproofing of vehicles completed on 3 September 1943. Troops reviewed by Lieutenant General, Mark W. Clark, Commanding General, Fifth Army, on this date.

On 4 September 1943, a letter of commendation was received from the Commanding General, Fifth Army by the Battalion Commanding Officer on appearance of units at review.

Loading of vehicles and enlisted men on five (5) American LST's completed on 5 September 1943. 495 Enlisted Men and 32 Officers, and 93 combat vehicles. Destination unknown.

Departed from Bizerte, Tunisia, 6 September 1943. Briefing of personnel included destination and battle plans for ensuing invasion. This unit to land at Paestum, Italy on 9 September 1943.

EDWARD L. AUSTIN,
Major, F. A.,
Commanding