

Headquarters  
645 Tank Destroyer Battalion

June 1945

Subject: Initial Information Report

To: Commanding General, XX Corp.

1. Designation of Organization and T/O and E with all changes now organized.

645<sup>th</sup> T.D. Bn. Organized under T/O and E with all changes now organized under T/O 18-25 and T/E 18-25 on 15 March 1944 with changes C-1, 12 May 1944; C-2, August 1944; C-4, 10 March 1945.

2. Date and station of activation:

7 July 1941 Camp Barkley, Texas. Activated as 45<sup>th</sup> A.T. Battalion (Prov). Designated 645 T.D. Bn. 15 Dec. 1941 at Camp Barkley, Texas.

3. Name, rank and ASN of Commanding Officer:

Paul W. Prior, Major FA O-394217

4. Name, rank and ASN of Executive Officer:

Jerry B. Morgan, Major FA O-420941

5. Name, rank and ASN of S-3:

Richard B. Koos, Captain FA O-451638

6. Station at which organization served in U.S.  
and inclusive dates:

Camp Barkley, Texas 7 July 1941 To 25 April 1942

Fort Devens, Mass. 25 April 1942 To 11 Nov. 1942

Pine Camp, New York, 11 Nov. 1942 To 26 Dec. 1942

Indian Town Gap, Penn. 26 Dec. 1942 To 30 Jan. 1943

Camp Pickett, Va. 30 Jan. 1943 To 21 April 1943

Fort Dix, New Jersey 21 April 1943 To 27 April 1943

Sailed for E.T.O. 29 April 1943

7. Date of arrival in E.T.O.: 11 May 1943

8. Port of debarkation: Oran, Africa.

9. Units to which attached in ETO and inclusive dates

Fifth Army 5 May To 22 May 1943

I Armored Corps. 22 May 1943 To 10 July 1943

Seventh Army 10 July 1943 To 7 August 1943

13<sup>th</sup> F.A. Brigade 7 August 1943 To 18 August 1943

Fifth Army 18 August 1943 To 9 Sept. 1943

36<sup>th</sup> Division 9 Sept. 1943 To 10 Sept. 1943

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- 45<sup>th</sup> Division 10 Sept. 1943 to 10 Jan. 1944  
3<sup>rd</sup> Algerian Div. 10 Jan. 1944 to 14 Jan. 1944  
45<sup>th</sup> Division 14 Jan. 1944 to 1 Feb. 1944  
VI Corps 1 Feb. 1944 to 9 Feb. 1944  
(B Company attached to FSSF Troops 1 Feb.  
1944 to 16 Feb. 1944)  
45<sup>th</sup> Division 9 Feb. 1944 to 18 April 1944  
3<sup>rd</sup> Division 18 April 1944 to 27 April 1944  
45<sup>th</sup> Division 27 April 1944 to 18 Feb. 1945  
(B Co. and C Co. attached to FSSF Troops  
23 May 1944 to 26 May 1944.  
(B Co. Attached to (Prov) Airborne Division,  
Southern France 20 Aug. 1944 to 29 Nov. 1944  
(B Co. and C Co. attached to 44 Div. 24 Nov.  
1944 to 26 Nov. 1944).  
42<sup>nd</sup> Division 18 Feb. 1945 to 1 March 1945  
45<sup>th</sup> Division 1 March to date.  
(A Co. attached to 42<sup>nd</sup> Div. from 1 March  
1945 to 13 March 1945.

10. Campaigns for which credit is due:

Naples - Foggia Campaign  
Rome - Anno Campaign

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Southern France  
Rhineland  
Central Europe

11. Number of tanks, tank destroyers or armoured cars destroyed by enemy action:

44 - M-10's; 2 - M-36's; 6 Half-tracks; 8 M-8's;  
2 - M-20's.

12. Number of officers and enlisted men killed or wounded in action:

30 Officers and 237 Enlisted men.

13. Number of decorations and citations of each type which have been awarded:

Decorations and awards presented:

Bronze Star - 133; Bronze Star Cluster - 5;  
Silver Star - 31; Legion of Merit - 5;  
Distinguished Service Cross - 3; Croix de Guerre -  
2; Soldiers Medal - 1; Purple Hearts - 1,014

14. Number of decorations which have been recommended but not yet approved:

Bronze Star - 68; Bronze Star Cluster - 2;  
Silver Star - 10; Distinguished Service Cross - 1;  
Unit Plaque - 1.

15. Number of enlisted men in organization  
with 85 or more points: 391.

16. Number of officers in organization with  
85 or more points: 28.

17. Number of officers and enlisted men  
captured:

2 Officers; 7 Enlisted Men; 32 Men Missing  
in Action.

18. Number of non-fatal casualties of Officers  
and enlisted men since date unit was  
committed: 0 - Officers; 6 - Enlisted Men.

19. Names of Organization's commanders since  
activation:

Paul B. Bell - Lt. Col. FA

Robert L. Sulaney - Lt. Col. Inf.

John C. Nehaus - Major, FA

Edward L. Austin - Lt. Col. FA.

Paul W. Prior - Major, FA

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20. Names of officers on present staff:
- Vernon S. Smeltzer - 1st Lt, AUS S-1.
- John J. Snyder - Captain, FA, S-2.
- Richard B. Koos - Captain, FA, S-3.
- William M. Westfall - Captain, Inf., S-4.