

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS CENTER TASK FORCE
APO 802

In the Field
31 December 1942

SUBJECT: Equipment of Company "A", 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

TO : Commanding General, 1st Armored Division.

1. The decision to turn over equipment of Company A, 701st T.D. Bn. to the French has been withdrawn and the equipment of this unit will be retained.

2. Another unit has been designated to furnish this equipment upon arrival in this theater.

By command of Major General FREDENDALL:

F. W. ZIES,
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,
Ass't. Adjutant General.

SECRET

19-1-1 *

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS
APO 302

5 April 1943.

SUBJECT: Attachment of French Personnel to 701 TD Bn.

TO : Commanding General 1st Infantry Division.

Colonel Van Hecke, Captain J. de Fredaigue, and Sergeant Mercklin, of the French Army, have reported into this headquarters, per letter from Allied Force Headquarters for the purpose of attachment to the United States Army unit.

It is the desire of Colonel Van Hecke, that he and his partner be attached to a forward Tank Destroyer unit. General Patton wishes that this party be attached to the 701st Tank Destroyer battalion.

Colonel Van Hecke and party are arriving by Corps pool transportation which will be returned after delivery of passengers to the 701st TD headquarters.

[Signature]
K. G. LAMBER
Colonel, G.S.C.,
A.C. of S., G-3.

1-Incl.

Ltr, AFHQ, AG 300.4-0, Subject: Travel Orders, 1 April, 1943.

1st Ind.

SBM/kcb

HEADQUARTERS 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, APO #1, U.S. Army, 6 April 1943. TO:
Commanding Officer, 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

In compliance with basic communication, the above individuals are attached to your command effective this date.

By Command of Major General ALLEN:

[Signature]
S. B. MASON,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL

701-1TDB-

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

BY

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL K. A. N. ANDERSON, C.B., M.C.,

G. O. C - IN - C., FIRST ARMY.

MESSAGE TO ALL RANKS OF FIRST ARMY FROM THE ARMY COMMANDER.

It is just five months since the small advanced detachments of First Army had their first clash with the enemy, and we only just failed then in our dash for TUNIS. Since those early days we have slowly increased in strength as reinforcements arrived, while our veterans have faced the enemy all the time without rest or respite. We have had a great deal of hard, dour fighting. Most of it has been unspectacular, but it has always demanded the highest soldierly qualities, and also a sense of humour.

You have clearly proved your superiority over a formidable enemy, and you have indeed played a big part in helping and speeding the northward advance of Eighth Army.

I can proudly say - well done.

And now we enter on the last phase of this campaign. We are going to annihilate finally the armies of von Arnim and Rommel - all of us together: British, French, Americans, Air Forces and Royal Navy. To First Army is entrusted the task of striking the main blow.

Each of you knows his part. Go to it with every ounce of skill, courage and determination that you possess. It will be a hard fight, and maybe a long one.

But this time you will reach TUNIS, and BIZERTA too, and put an end to the Axis power in Africa. Good luck and God speed.

April 20 1943.

Kenneth Anderson
LIEUT-GENERAL,
G. O. C - IN - C., FIRST ARMY.

7012 T.D.B.

C.O.
+ file

Special Order of the Day

HEADQUARTERS
18th ARMY GROUP

21st April, 1943

SOLDIERS OF THE ALLIES

1. Two months ago, when the Germans and Italians were attacking us, I told you that if you held firm, final victory was assured.
2. You did your duty and now you are about to reap its full reward.
3. We have reached the last phase of this campaign. We have grouped our victorious Armies and are going to drive the enemy into the sea.

We have got them just where we want them—with their backs to the wall.

4. This final battle will be fierce, bitter and long, and will demand all the skill, strength and endurance of each one of us.

But you have proved yourselves the masters of the battlefield, and therefore you will win this last great battle which will give us the whole of North Africa.

5. The eyes of the world are on you—and the hopes of all at home.

FORWARD THEN, TO VICTORY

H.R. Alexander

General,

Commander, 18th Army Group

70121
Cox file
SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

HEADQUARTERS

18TH ARMY GROUP

13th May, 1943

SOLDIERS OF THE 18TH ARMY GROUP

Today you stand as the conquerors and heroes of the North African shores. The world acknowledges your victory; history will acclaim your deeds. British, French and American arms have swept from these lands the last of the German and Italian invaders.

As your Commander in the Field, I add my admiration and gratitude to those of the United Nations for this great victory, which will go down to history as one of the decisive battles of all time.

You have captured a complete group of Armies and their modern equipment :-

150,000 prisoners,
Over 1,000 anti-tank and field guns,
250 German tanks,
Many serviceable aircraft,
and a vast quantity of stores, rations, and equipment of all descriptions, including a very large number of serviceable motor vehicles.

Our Air Forces, which have given throughout this struggle such magnificent support to our Armies, have shot down in combat since 21st April no less than 235 enemy aircraft.

H. R. Alexander

General,
Commander, 18th Army Group.

HEADQUARTERS
701ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 251, c/o Postmaster, N.Y.C., N.Y.

/qj

17 June 1943.

SUBJECT: Campaign Experience of 1st Lt. Marvin H. Smith, 0411280,
Infantry, 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

TO : The Commanding General, II Corps,
APO 302, U. S. Army.

1. Reference is made to your radiogram, 5008, 14 June 1943, in respect to subject officer's campaign experience.

2. First Lieutenant Marvin H. Smith, 0411280, is now and has been since prior to November 8, 1942, the platoon leader of the second reconnaissance platoon, Reconnaissance Company, 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

3. First Lieutenant Smith led his platoon most ably during the landing at Oran; during the occupation of Gafsa on November 22, 1942, and in the battle in the afternoon of that day when Company "B" accounted for four enemy tanks at El Guettar; in the battle at Sbeitla on the following day when Company "B" destroyed eight enemy tanks and took seventy Italian prisoners; in the battle on December 2nd and 3rd when American and French forces captured Faid Pass; in the American - French operations east of Medjeb el Aïoun between January 4 and January 14, 1943; in the defense of Gafsa between January 14 and January 30, 1943; in the operations around Sidi Bou Zid, Sbeitla, Kasserine and Thala from February 14 to February 26, 1943; in long range reconnaissance around Moularet between March 1 and March 10, 1943; and, finally, beginning with March 24th, in the fighting around el Guettar, Bou Hanran, Sakket, Beja and Mateur, when this Battalion was attached to the 1st U.S. Infantry Division.

4. Throughout the North African Campaign Lieutenant Smith has shown himself to be an excellent reconnaissance officer. He has had wide experience with all types of reconnaissance and has consistently turned in excellent reports. Prior to the North African Campaign, during our training period he proved himself to be an outstanding instructor.

HARRISON KING,
Lt. Col., 701st TD Bn.,
Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 534

.....
: S E C R E T :
:Auth: CG,NATOUA :
:Initials: *AK* :
: 24 July 1943 :
:.....

AG 370.5/011 C-0

24 July 1943

SUBJECT: Assignment of 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion

TO : Commanding Generals,
Fifth Army
Seventh Army
II Corps
VI Corps
Eastern Base Section .
Commanding Officer, 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

1. To clarify the status of the 701st Tank Destroyer Bn., all previous orders relating to the assignment and attachment of this unit are cancelled. The 701st Tank Destroyer Bn., upon arrival at SEBDOU, is assigned to Fifth Army.

2. Effective upon arrival, the 701st Tank Destroyer Bn. will be serviced by the 9th Machine Records Unit, APO 464. A unit Report of Change will be made in accordance with AR 345-800, and sent to the 9th MRU.

By command of General EISENHOWER:

A. B. King

A. B. KING,
Major, A.G.D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

5 - SOS NATO
2 - G-2 Nato
5 - G-3 Nato
5 - G-3 AF
2 - G-4
1 - 9th MRU
1 - 22d MRU
1 - AG Stat
1 - AG Postal
1 - AG Ops
2 - AG Records

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NCS
W.S.I.
G-3

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

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: **SECRET** :
: By authority of :
: CG, Fifth Army :
: Initials: *Jrc* :
: Date: 25 July 43 :
:.....

370.5
AG 322.1-Y

SUBJECT: Troop Assignments and Attachments.

25 July 1943

TO: See Distribution.

1. Paragraph 2 letter, Headquarters Fifth Army, 21 July 1943, file and subject as above, is hereby rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

"Pursuant to radio #1423, AFHQ, time date 162106B July 1943, the 34th Infantry Division (-2d Bn 133d Inf Regt) is relieved from present attachments, effective upon its arrival in the ARZEW area."

"34th Infantry Division is relieved from assignment to VI Corps and is assigned Fifth Army, effective upon its arrival in the ARZEW area."

2. Pursuant to radio #2996, AFHQ, time date 211902B July 1943, the 9th Infantry Division (-39th RCT and 9th Division Artillery) is relieved from attachment to Fifth Army for training and administration and reverts to control of Seventh Army, effective 220001B July 1943.

3. Pursuant to radio #2864, AFHQ, time date 211438B July 1943, the 476th Ordnance Company (Evac) is attached to Fifth Army for training and administration, effective 220001B July 1943. There is no change in present assignment to MBS. The company will be held available on call from Seventh Army.

4. a. Pursuant to radio #3746, AFHQ, time date 232207B July, 1943, the 112th Ordnance M Maintenance Company is detached MBS and reverts to Fifth Army control, effective upon its arrival in the SEBDOU area.

b. Effective upon its arrival in the SEBDOU area, the 112th Ordnance M Maintenance Co is attached to Fifth Army Tank Destroyer Training Center.

5. Pursuant to radio #2617, AFHQ, time date 201735B July 1943, Co C, 63d Signal Bn is detached LOC and reverts to control of its parent unit, effective upon its arrival in the TLEMCEN area.

6. 701st TD Bn is relieved from present attachment and attached Fifth Army Tank Destroyer Training Center, effective upon its arrival in the SEBDOU area.

7. 805th TD Bn is detached 34th Infantry Division and attached Fifth Army Tank Destroyer Training Center, effective upon its arrival in the SEBDOU area.

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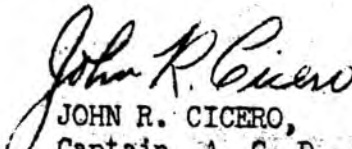
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8. The 36th Division Artillery Band is attached Special Troops, Fifth Army, effective 22 July 1943.

By command of Lieutenant General CLARK:


JOHN R. CICERO,
Captain, A. G. D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"

- 3 - C-in-C, AFHQ
- 3 - CG, NATOUSA
- 3 - CG, SOS, NATOUSA
- 3 - CG, Seventh Army
- 3 - CG, VI Corps
- 3 - CG, 9th Inf Div
- 3 - CG, 34th Inf Div
- 2 - CO, ABS
- 2 - CG, MBS
- 2 - CG, EBS
- 1 - 9th MRU
- 1 - 22d MRU
- 3 - G-3, Fifth Army
- 1 - G-4, Fifth Army
- 2 - FATDTC
- 1 - CO, 63d Sig Bn
- 1 - Each Unit Concerned

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464 U.S. Army

.....
: **SECRET** :

: By Auth of :

: CG, Fifth Army :

: Intls: *AK* :

: Date: 7 Aug 43 :

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AG 322.1-Y

7 August 1943

SUBJECT: Troop Assignments and Attachments.

TO : See Distribution.

1. The following units are detached 63d Signal Battalion and revert to control of their parent units, effective 1 August 1943.

Det Co B, 2623d Signal Service Regiment
Det Co C, 2624th Signal Service Regiment
Det Co D, 2624th Signal Service Regiment

2. The 2622d Ordnance Transporter Company (assigned MBS), having been detached EBS and attached Fifth Army by radio #5751, AFHQ time date 292049B July 1943, effective upon its arrival in the RABAT area, is hereby further attached to VI Corps.

3. The 90th CA Regiment (AA) (less Hq & Hq Btries of 1st and 3d Battalions, Btries A, C, D, F, G and I) is relieved from attachment to VI Corps, effective 012400A July 1943.

4. Confirming radio #4283, Headquarters Fifth Army, time date 041411B August 1943, 34th Infantry Division is assigned to VI Corps, effective 4 August 1943.

5. Pursuant to radio #6187, AFHQ, time date 311032B July 1943, 1st Battalion, 468th QM Truck Regiment is assigned Fifth Army and attached ABS, effective 31 July 1943.

6. a. Pursuant to radio #6371, AFHQ, time date 311703B July 1943, 74th Signal Company (Spec) is relieved from assignment to Seventh Army and is assigned Fifth Army, effective upon its arrival in the MOSTAGANEM area.

b. 74th Signal Company (Spec) is attached 63d Signal Battalion, effective upon its arrival in the MOSTAGANEM area.

7. Pursuant to radio #6876, AFHQ, time date 021037B August 1943, the following units are detached 45th AAA Brigade and revert to control of Fifth Army, effective 040001B August 1943.

24th Chemical Company (Decon)
25th Chemical Company (Decon)

8. Pursuant to radio #6878, AFHQ, time date 021040B August 1943, 6th Chemical Company (Depot) is relieved from assignment to MBS and is assigned Fifth Army, effective 040001B August 1943.

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9. a. Pursuant to radio #6887, AFHQ, time date 021009B August 1943, One (1) Repair Section and the Mobilka Shop of the 11th Chemical Company (Maint) is attached Fifth Army, effective 04000001B August 1943. Units remain assigned MBS.

b. Having been attached Fifth Army, One (1) Repair Section and the Mobilka Shop of the 11th Chemical Company (Maint) is further attached to 6th Chemical Company (Depot), effective 8 August 1943.

10. Pursuant to radio #6941, AFHQ, time date 021319B August 1943, 82d Airborne Division is relieved from assignment to Seventh Army and is assigned Fifth Army, effective upon its arrival in NORTH AFRICA.

11. Pursuant to radio #7270, AFHQ, time date 031307B August 1943, One (1) Platoon, 57th QM Sales Company is detached EBS, relieved from assignment Fifth Army and is assigned Seventh Army, effective 3 August 1943.

12. a. Pursuant to radio #7531, AFHQ, time date 040951B August 1943, 812th Signal Port Service Company is relieved from assignment to ABS and is assigned Fifth Army, effective upon its arrival in the ORAN area.

b. 812th Signal Port Service Company is attached MBS, effective upon its arrival in the ORAN area.

13. a. Pursuant to radio #7532, AFHQ, time date 040952B August 1943, 180th Signal Repair Company (- Det and 1 Sec) is detached ABS and reverts to control Fifth Army, effective upon its arrival in the ORAN area.

b. 180th Signal Repair Company (- 1 Sec) is attached MBS, effective upon its arrival in the ORAN area.

14. Pursuant to letter, Headquarters NATOUSSA, 25 July 1943, AG 322/117 C-0, subject "Assignment of Duty", One (1) Section, Advance Platoon, 2d Medical Supply Depot, is relieved from assignment to Seventh Army, reverts to its parent unit, and is attached Seventh Army.

15. Hq & Hq Detachment, 87th Ordnance M Maintenance Battalion (Q) is attached Fifth Army Tank Destroyer Training Center, effective 1 August 1943.

16. The following units are detached as shown and attached Hq & Hq Detachment, 87th Ordnance M Maintenance Battalion (Q), effective 5 August 1943.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Detached</u>
94th Ordnance M Maintenance Co	Special Troops, Fifth Army
112th Ordnance M Maintenance Co	Fifth Army Tank Destroyer Training Center

17. Pursuant to radio #7654, AFHQ, time date 041504B August 1943, one half (1/2) Pigeon Platoon Company C, 829th Signal Service Battalion (2 Offs and 38 EM) is relieved from assignment to Seventh Army and is assigned Fifth Army, effective 050001B August 1943. Present attachmer to EBS remains in effect.

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18. Paragraph 6, letter, Headquarters Fifth Army, 25 July 1943, file and subject as above, is hereby rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

"Having been assigned to Fifth Army by letter, Headquarters NATOUSA, 24 July 1943, AG 370.5/011 C-O, subject "Assignment of 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion, the 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion is hereby assigned to VI Corps and attached to Fifth Army Tank Destroyer Training Center, effective upon its arrival in the SEBDON area.

19. Having been activated 30 July 1943 by GO #68, Headquarters 1st Armored Division, 30 July 1943, the 6617th Mine Clearance Company (Armored) (Provisional) is hereby assigned VI Corps and attached 1st Armored Division.

20. Effective 8 August 1943, the following units are attached to the 25th Chemical Company (Decon) for training:
6th Chemical Co (Depot) w/Det 11th Chemical Co (Maint) Attached.
24th Chemical Co (Decon)

21. a. Pursuant to radio #8128, AFHQ, time date 052034B August 1943, the following units are relieved from assignment to Seventh Army and assigned Fifth Army, effective upon their arrival in the MOSTAGANEM area:

71st Signal Company (Spec)
72d Signal Company (Spec)

b. 71st Signal Company (Spec) (- Det) is attached 63d Signal Bn, effective upon its arrival in the MOSTAGANEM area.

(1) Det (1 Off & 48 EM) is relieved from present attachment and attached VI Corps effective upon its arrival in the PORT AUX POULES area.

c. 72d Signal Company (Spec) (- Dets) is attached 63d Signal Bn, effective upon its arrival in the MOSTAGANEM area.

(1) Det (3 Off & 96 EM) remains attached FAITC.

(2) Det (1 Off & 48 EM) is relieved from present attachment and attached VI Corps, effective upon its arrival in the PORT AUX POULES area.

By command of Lieutenant General CLARK:

John R. Cicero
JOHN R. CICERO,
Captain, A. G. D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"
3 - C-in-C AFHQ
3 - CG, NATOUSA
3 - CG, SOS NATOUSA
3 - CG, Seventh Army
3 - CG, VI Corps
3 - CG, 1st Arm'd Div
3 - CG, 34th Inf Div

3 - CG, 36th Inf Div
2 - CG, FAITC
2 - CO, FATDTC
2 - CO, FA L&B TC
5 - G-3, Fifth Army
1 - G-4, Fifth Army
2 - CO, ABS
2 - CG, MBS

2 - CG, EBS
1 - Ea Unit Con
3 - 82d A/B Div

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

370.5
AG 322.1-Y

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: SECRET :
: By Authority of :
: CG, Fifth Army :
: Initials: *JMC* :
: Date: 14 Aug 43 :
:.....

SUBJECT: Troop Assignments and Attachments.

14 August 1943

TO : See Distribution.

1. Pursuant to letter, Headquarters NATOUSA, 8 August 1943, AG 322.08/010 C-O, subject "Assignment Orders - $\frac{1}{2}$ Lab Unit, 163d Signal Photo Co," the following unit is detached MBS and reverts to control of its parent unit, effective 100001B August 1943:

Det, Lab Unit, 163d Sig Photo Co

2. The following is to clarify the status of the 33d Finance Disbursing Section; the present status of this unit is assigned to Fifth Army and attached to Sp Trs, Fifth Army.

3. Confirming radio #4627, Headquarters Fifth Army, time date 111636B August 1943, 543d APU is detached ABS and attached Sp Trs, Fifth Army, effective upon its arrival in the Mostaganem area.

4. Pursuant to radio #53, AFHQ, time date 111214B August 1943, 2d Bn 16th Med Regt, having been detached EBS and returned to Fifth Army control, is hereby attached VI Corps, effective upon its arrival in the Arzew Area.

5. a. Paragraphs 8 and 9, letter, Headquarters Fifth Army, 10 August 1943, file and subject as above, are hereby rescinded in view of the 84th Engr Bn (Cam)(-Co A) having been relieved from assignment to Fifth Army and assigned to MBS, effective 090001B August 1943, by letter, AFHQ, 8 August 1943, AG 370.5-60 GCT-AGM.

b. Status of Co A, 84th Engr Bn (Cam), assigned Fifth Army, and its present attachments remains unchanged.

6. a. 701st TD Bn and 804th TD Bn are relieved from assignment to VI Corps and are assigned to 1st TD Group, effective 13 August 1943.

b. 805th TD Bn, now assigned Fifth Army, is hereby further assigned to 1st TD Group, effective 13 August 1943.

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7. Pursuant to radio #571, AFHQ, time date 121738B August 1943, 30th Sig Cons Bn is relieved from assignment to AFHQ and assigned Fifth Army, effective 230001B August 1943. Present attachment to EBS will remain in effect, but unit will be made available to Fifth Army upon call any time after effective date of assignment.

By command of Lieutenant General CLARK:

John R. Cicero
JOHN R. CICERO,
Captain, A.G.D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

- "A"
- 3 - C-in-C, AFHQ
 - 3 - CG, NATOUSA
 - 3 - CG, SOS, NATOUSA
 - 3 - CG, VI Corps
 - 2 - CG, FAITC
 - 2 - CO, FATDTC
 - 3 - G-3, Fifth Army
 - 2 - G-4, Fifth Army
 - 2 - CO, ABS
 - 2 - CG, MBS
 - 2 - CG, EBS
 - 1 - CO, 16th Med Regt
 - 1 - Each Unit Concerned

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 306

File
SECRET

By Authority of
CG VI Corps
Initials *HSA*
Date: 29 Aug 43

AG 300.4

29 August 1943

SUBJECT: Attachment Orders.

TO : Commanders, all units and organizations concerned.

1. Effective this date Co B 337th Engr Gen Serv Regt is relieved from attachment to 344th Engr Gen Serv Regt and reverts to control parent unit.
2. Effective this date Det 6th Cml Dep Co (9EM) is atchd to the 531st Engr Shore Regt.
3. Effective this date the following organizations and detachments are atchd to 531st Engr Shore Regt:

Det 534th AAA AW Bn
Det 630th AAA AW Bn
74th Sig Co (Spec)
Det 812th Sig Port Serv Co
404th, 405th Med Coll Cos
1st, 2d Plat 602d Med Ctr Co
Det 4th Med Sup Dep
Det 28th Ord M Maint Co
Det 46th Ord M Maint Co
Det 3485th Ord M Maint Co (Q)
Det 3486th Ord M Maint Co (Q)
66th Ord Am Co
1st, 2d Plat 90th QM Rhd Co
1st Plat Co A 204th QM Gas Sup Bn
2 Secs 1st Plat 47th QM Gr Reg Co
Co A 101st MP Bn

4. Effective this date the following unit is atchd to 1st Armd Div:

701st TD Bn

By command of Major General DAWLEY:

H. S. Alcorn
H. S. ALCORN,
1st Lt, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

File Personal
Permanent file
forward
9 September 1943

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A. P. C. #464, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 66)

REORGANIZATION OF TANK DESTROYER BATTALIONS

1. Pursuant to authority contained in radio #2014, AFHQ, Time Date 082240, September 1943, the following units are reorganized, effective this date, without change of station, assignment or attachment, in accordance with T/O's 18-25, 18-25M, 18-26, 18-27, and 18-28, dated 27 January 1943:

701st TD Bn
804th TD Bn
894th TD Bn
899th TD Bn

2. No Enlisted Men will be reduced in grade as a result of this action. Personnel and equipment rendered surplus by these reorganizations will be absorbed in this theater.

3. Priorities previously assigned these units for issue of controlled items of equipment remain in effect.

By command of Lieutenant General CLARK:

OFFICIAL:

/s/ B. W. SAUREL,
B. W. SAUREL,
Major, A. G. D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

DISTRIBUTION:

"D"
10 - SOS, NATCUSA
1 - TAG, Attention Operations Branch.

/s/ A. M. GRUENTHER,
A. M. GRUENTHER,
Major General, G.S.C.
Chief of Staff.

John G. Erskine
JOHN G. ERSKINE,
1st Lt., 701st TD Bn.,
Personnel Officer.

Pers file

HEADQUARTERS
701ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 464, c/o Postmaster, N.Y., N.Y.

15-1 FILE
1-EACH CO + MED
1-BN HIST
1-BN S-3 BN HIST
3-S-3 JOURNAL
5-12FAD
3-ARTY SEC. S-A
5-CG-S-A
5-CG-IV CORPS
6-CG-NATOUSA
6-CG-AFHQ

31 July 1944

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO 8)

I. In compliance with Section II, Par 1, General Order Number 122, Headquarters Fifth Army, dated 19 July 1944, Subject: "Reorganization of 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion", the 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion is hereby reorganized in the vicinity of Bolgheri, Italy, effective 27 July 1944, under T/O & E 18-25, dated 15 March 1944, with Changes No. 1.

F. J. Redding
F. J. REDDING,
Major, 701st TD Bn.,
Commanding.

File
2 copies - 1st Sheet. *701 2 75*
Per
HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

16 December 1944

SUBJECT: Farewell Message.

TO : Officers and Men of the Fifth Army.

When I assumed command of the Fifth Army two years ago upon its activation in North Africa on 5 January 1943, it was with pride and confidence. I was proud of the organization I had been appointed to lead, and I had confidence in its ability to accomplish the great mission assigned to it. Subsequent events have fully justified my feelings. Much has been demanded of you in this difficult campaign. No commander could have received a more gratifying response.

In assuming command of the 15th Army Group in Italy, I do so with those same feelings. Side by side, through the bitterest fighting and against the most difficult obstacles in the history of warfare, the Fifth and Eighth Armies have driven a strong, resourceful and fanatical enemy from the extreme south of Italy to the Valley of the Po.

Your contribution to an Allied victory does not rest upon the mere liberation of an Axis-dominated land. Far more important has been your effect upon the enemy's forces and your destruction of thousands upon thousands of his troops and their equipment. It is our campaign that holds in this theater many of the enemy's best divisions which could otherwise be used against the Eastern or Western fronts. We shall continue to defeat them and eventually shall destroy them. Never underestimate the vital and continuing importance of your role in the Italian campaign.

I can wish my successor, General Truscott, no finer heritage than the loyalty, courage, determination, and combat skill you have always shown me. We shall continue to form a powerful Allied force of ground, sea, and air power, dedicated to the defeat of our enemies.

I am happy that I remain in Italy to continue the fight with you. My affection for the Fifth Army will never diminish, nor will my interest in your welfare and achievements. I could not have hoped to command finer men or better soldiers.

And now, I wish to thank each of you for what you have done - and for what you will do. A great and even more glorious future lies ahead for the Fifth Army.

Good luck and God bless you.

Mark W. Clark,
MARK W. CLARK,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS IV CORPS

THE COMMANDING GENERAL

*for info &
file
syg
historical
file*

13 March 1945

MEMORANDUM TO COMMANDING OFFICER, 701ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION:

SUBJECT: Role of Tank Destroyer.

1. The primary mission of Tank Destroyers is to destroy tanks and to protect our areas and troops from hostile armor. This primary mission should be kept foremost in the minds of tank destroyer personnel at all times.

2. Due to the very nature of our operations it is necessary that all supporting troops have a secondary, as well as a primary mission, and in the case of tank destroyers, this secondary mission should be to supplement our existing artillery.

3. However we must not lose sight of the fact that the employment of tank destroyers as artillery is only a temporary and secondary role. Therefore, reconnaissance and plans must continue to be made so that resumption of the primary role of engaging hostile armor can be accomplished immediately upon receipt of such orders.

WILLIS D. CRITTENBERGER
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

File

HEADQUARTERS
15TH ARMY GROUP
APO 777

7-11-45
Post

AG 201.22-AG

HLO/rsb
19 March 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation of Allied Troops in Italy.

TO: General Officer Commanding, Eighth Army, CMF.
Commanding General, Fifth Army, APO 464, U. S. Army.

It is desired that the following message be brought to the attention of all members of your command:

"GENERAL MARK CLARK, AT THE REQUEST OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNANIMOUSLY EXPRESSED, I SEND TO YOU, THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF ALL FORCES UNDER YOUR COMMAND, OUR GRATEFUL THANKS FOR THE SPLENDID COURAGE AND MAGNIFICENT VICTORIES ACHIEVED ON THE ITALIAN FRONT UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT PRESTIGE AND GLORY TO OUR COMBINED ARMS.

SIGNED: SAM RAYBURN, SPEAKER, UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES."

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL CLARK:

(Reproduced by Hq Fifth Army)
(23 Mar 45)

/s/ H. L. Ostler
/t/ H. L. OSTLER,
Colonel, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

AG 201.22-AD
HQ FIFTH ARMY, APO 464, US Army, 23 Mar 45

1st Ind

JDR/pbc

TO: See Distribution

J.D.R.

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All Troops

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HEADQUARTERS 15TH ARMY GROUP

3 May 1945

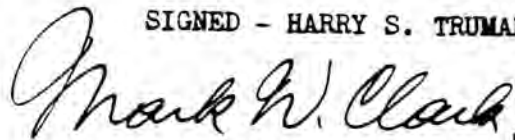
PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

I take great pleasure in conveying to each American officer and enlisted man in 15th Army Group the following message received by me from the President of the United States:

"ON THE OCCASION OF THE FINAL BRILLIANT VICTORY OF THE ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY IN IMPOSING UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER UPON THE ENEMY, I WISH TO CONVEY TO THE AMERICAN FORCES UNDER YOUR COMMAND AND TO YOU PERSONALLY THE APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE OF THE PRESIDENT AND OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. NO PRAISE IS ADEQUATE FOR THE HEROIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND MAGNIFICENT COURAGE OF EVERY INDIVIDUAL UNDER YOUR COMMAND DURING THIS LONG AND TRYING CAMPAIGN.

"AMERICA IS PROUD OF THE ESSENTIAL CONTRIBUTION MADE BY YOUR AMERICAN ARMIES TO THE FINAL ALLIED VICTORY IN ITALY. OUR THANKS FOR YOUR GALLANT LEADERSHIP AND THE DEATHLESS VALOR OF YOUR MEN.

SIGNED - HARRY S. TRUMAN."



MARK W. CLARK
General, USA
Commanding