

Oct. 13, 1983

Glad you received the info on the 894th. I've been looking up other material on their history and thought that you could add this to their file.

After driving from Oran to Tebessa, we saw our first action at Kasserine Pass, and which continued on thru Sbeitla, Feriana, Thelepte, El Guettar, Sedjenane, and Bizerta. That took care of the African campaign. Driving back to the Oran area, actually Tlemcen. We trained, received our first M-10s. We missed Sicily. It was only a thirty day campaign anyway. On to Italy to be our home for the next twenty one months. Landing in Naples our first actio was in the Mignano sector near Cassino. Early in Jan. 44 we pulled back to Naples to waterproof for the Anzio Invasion. Thats when Recon received its first M-8s, and M-20s. Anzio was a long one but we finally got to Rome and heard some news over the radio that mentioned " D "Day. We still still had about a year to go before it ended in Italy. Recon even used a couple of 88s during the next winter in the mountains for counter fire. It was one mountain after another until the end racing up the PO valley to the Swiss border. Even then it wasn't over. Recon had to double time over to the Yugoslave border where their partisons were making moves toward some Italian territory they claimed was theirs. So we stood there glaring at each hoping nobody would get trigger-happy as the war was supposed to be over. Guess we were all tired of fighting so things worked out OK. Thats our war in a nutshell. Of course there are many stories of individual engagements that have to be added and I'm sure you'll get them in time.

Lots of luck on the history of all the TDs. If I think of anything else I'll let you know. IT is surprising how many M-8s are still listed in other countries inventory. I think Turkey still has some M-36s.

Sincerely

Larry Fitzgerald

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894th TD

*Applied when
Met at Reunion*