

HEADQUARTERS
899TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 230 U.S. ARMY

20 March 1945.

SUBJECT: General Principles for TD Employment.

TO : Commanding General, 9th Inf. Div.

1. Employment of TD's in the attack.

a. General mission is to support the attack by fire from defilade positions on key terrain features in the vicinity of the line of departure. Upon seizure and consolidation of the objective, to move forward to previously reconnoitered defilade positions under cover of TD fire.

2. Employment of TD's in the defense.

a. General mission is to reinforce in depth the anti-tank defense of the Regiment by occupation of defilade positions with extended fields of fire on key terrain features. Reconnaissance for alternate flank positions and reinforcing positions of adjacent sectors to be executed.

3. TD positions in general.

a. A defilade position with cover and concealment and a minimum field of fire of 500 yards is required. Positions must have infantry protection and a covered route of approach.

4. TD reconnaissance. Routes of advance and firing positions must be reconnoitered prior to movement and occupation.

5. TD routes of advance. TD's must use defilade routes of advance providing cover and concealment, and which have been cleared of enemy infantry, mines and AT guns.

6. TD flank protection. Commanding flank positions must be cleared of enemy AT fire and infantry, or must be covered by smoke prior to movement.

7. TD night operations.

a. Targets must be illuminated. In event targets are not illuminated, gunners are limited to firing at enemy gun flashes or on prearranged targets.

8. TD movement.

a. During movement TD's are most vulnerable to enemy fire and furnish no fire support. It is essential that TD's move rapidly from one reconnoitered position to another. TD's must be in position to be of assistance to infantry and execute their mission.

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