

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

THIRD ARMORED DIVISION

UNITED STATES ARMY



CAMP POLK, LOUISIANA

1942

HEADQUARTERS
703RD TANK DESTROYER BN. (H)

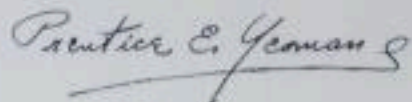
CAMP POLK, LOUISIANA



February 26, 1942.

Officers and men of the 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, it is with great pleasure and pride that I address you this day. We have gone far since our activation on December 15, 1941, and it is my hope and belief that the future will hold even more for us. We are a new organization with none of the traditions of the old outfits, so it is up to us to make our own, and by our courage and bravery become one of the better known outfits.

We must formulate new policies and solve new problems; we must prove that the organization is invaluable to the Armored Forces of our country. We must make the battalion one of the finest, and build up a spirit that will live on long after we as individuals have departed.



PRENTICE E. YEOMANS,
Lieutenant Colonel,
Commanding



PRENTICE E. YEOMANS

Lieutenant Colonel

Commanding



PRENTICE E. YEOMANS

Lieutenant Colonel

Commanding

Born in New York July 26, 1902. Served in Air Corps, Cavalry, Field Artillery and Infantry. Was commissioned in Air Corps in 1926 and transferred to Cavalry in 1927. Served with the Infantry School Detachment and then returned to Cavalry. Served with 10th Cavalry, Fort Hutchinson; 111th Cavalry, Fort Sheridan; Second Cavalry, Fort Riley; 11th Field Artillery in Hawaii; 14th

Cavalry at Fort Des Moines; 13th Cavalry at Fort Knox, and 11th Armored Regiment, Camp Polk.

Graduate of United States Military Academy, 1926. Commissioned June 12, 1926. Promoted, First Lieutenant, January 1, 1932; promoted Captain, June 12, 1936; promoted Major, January 1, 1941; promoted Lieutenant Colonel, February 23, 1942.



PRENTICE E. YEOMANS

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Graduate of United States Military Academy, 1926. Commissioned June 12, 1926. Promoted, First Lieutenant, January 1, 1932; promoted Captain, June 12, 1936; promoted Major, January 1, 1941; promoted Lieutenant Colonel, February 23, 1942.

[117]

14/09/2018 11:49



JOHN W. M. REED
Captain
Battalion Executive Officer



HOWARD M. THAYER
Captain
S-2



WALLACE A. MITCHELL
Captain
S-3



JAMES V. REARDON
Captain
S-4



BATTALION STAFF

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



WILLIAM COHEN
Captain
Battalion Medical Officer

GEORGE H. EBRETT
First Lieutenant
Assistant Medical Officer

PAUL J. ELLIS
Second Lieutenant
S-1





JOHN W. M. REED
Captain
Battalion Executive Officer



HOWARD M. THACKER
Captain
S-2



WALLACE A. MITCHELL
Captain
S-3



JAMES V. REARDON
Captain
S-4





WILLIAM COHEN
Captain
Battalion Medical Officer



GEORGE H. EBBETT
First Lieutenant
Assistant Medical Officer



PAUL J. ELLIS
Second Lieutenant
S-1



HISTORY OF THE 703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION (H)



With the effectiveness of a Tank Destroyer Battalion shown us by the Germans in their wars in Europe, Asia and Africa, and by our own maneuvers in Louisiana and Carolina, on the 15th day of December, 1941, the 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (H) was activated at Camp Polk, Louisiana. Major John Meade was placed in command and work began immediately in the clearing of trees and brush, setting up of tents, building a bath house, offices, and mess hall, under his immediate supervision.

The following named officers were assigned and along with 297 enlisted men joined in the work: Captains John J. Bauer, William Cohen, Wallace A. Mitchell; First Lieutenants Robert P. Ingram, Michael Christatos, George H. Ebbett, Sydney S. Smith, Jr., Dean B. Stone, James V. Reardon, Will C. Rowland, Truman Alford; and Second Lieutenants William Vockery, George H. Adams, Paul J. Ellis, Evan Regas, Henry C. Modisette. Within the next week this staff was enlarged by the assignment of Major Prentice E. Yeomans, who was appointed Battalion Executive Officer, Captain Howard M. Thacker, and Second Lieutenant Frederick R. Insley. The enlisted men were assigned from the 32nd Armored Regiment, 33rd

Armored Regiment, 40th Armored Regiment, and the 36th Infantry (Armored), with Battery D of the 54th Field Artillery serving as a nucleus for the Battalion.

Monday morning, January 5, 1942, all personnel moved into their new quarters. Major Meade gave a short talk in which he explained to the men the purpose of a tank destroyer battalion, and the immediate necessity for cooperation among the men and officers alike.

Most of the enlisted men who were non-commissioned officers in previous organizations were promoted to the next higher grade and new non-commissioned officers were appointed. The climax to this activity was reached when on January 17, 1942, in the first review given by the 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (H), Major General Alvin C. Gillem, Jr., personally congratulated each of the men, and presented them with their warrants. The 32nd Armored Regiment Band furnished the music and the entire battalion marched in review before General Gillem and Lieutenant Colonel Meade.

The Battalion received a new commander when on January 22, 1942, Lieutenant Colonel Meade was relieved and Major Prentice E. Yeomans assumed command.



JAMES MCLAUGHLIN
First Lieutenant
Battery Maintenance Officer



FRANCIS J. DOHERTY, JR.
Second Lieutenant
Commanding



ROBERT J. MILLER
Second Lieutenant
Communications Officer



GEORGE H. ADAMS
Second Lieutenant

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: Master Sergeant Abel, William A.; First Sergeant McNamara, Thomas O.; Technical Sergeants Bland, Summey F.; Lemell, Albert G.; Olson, Lewis B.

Second Row: Technical Sergeant Parker, Clark J.; Staff Sergeants Callaway, Joseph G.; Erwin, John T.; Sims, Lawrence K.; Smith, Johnson O.; Sergeant, Paul C.

Third Row: Sergeants Beckman, William W.; Gibson, Violet O. P.; Johnson, Edward L.; Newsa, Cassner; Sgt. Norman; Wray, John W.

Fourth Row: Corporals Bolton, Vaughn; Cardamon, Carl J.; Corrigan, William B.; Cooks, John P.; Day, George M.; Deaver, John W.

Fifth Row: Corporals Rimm, Michael M.; Washburn, Frank A.; Willoughby, Raleigh C.; Wilson, Charles H.





JOHN McLAUGHLIN
First Lieutenant
Battalion Maintenance Officer



FRANCIS J. SWEENEY, JR.
Second Lieutenant
Commanding



ROBERT L. MINER
Second Lieutenant
Communications Officer



GEORGE H. ADAMS
Second Lieutenant

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

703RD TANK DESTROYER
BATTALION

(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: Private First Class
Bass, George C.; Garrett, Oscar D.;
Dewartman, Albert J.; Fyan, William
L.; Gallus, Edward W.; Gasser,
Prosper.

Second Row: Private First Class
Gohert, Willford; Hefner, Palmer W.;
Hills, Frank J.; Jacobson, Norman
H.; Kitchin, Hubert J.; Kitchin,
Hugh F.

Third Row: Private First Class
Kimell, Jesse M.; Kudak, Ernie H.;
Laguna, G. Dennis; Larson, Chris
M.; Lewis, James C.; McAbee, John
B.

Fourth Row: Private First Class
McKinney, Harry L.; Mueller, Vin-
cent C.; O'Brien, Frank F.; Pull,
Thomas E.; Pittman, Herman G.;
Randel, Rubin P. H.

Fifth Row: Private First Class
Roper, James D.; Schuetzels, Lee C.;
Tasko, Marion E.; Wibel, Anthony
J.; West, Paul J.; Wolf, Floyd E.

Sixth Row: Private Anderson,
Maynard; Asia, Carl; Arns, Arthur
M.; Backe, Troy; Barham, Joe; Bell,
Earl F.

Seventh Row: Private Brown,
Hubert J.; Bryant, Herman G.; Bruns,
Merline E.; Bunn, Peter; Carrocia,
Anthony; Carlsde, Mitt.

Eighth Row: Private Cox, Charlie
B.; Chronister, Charles L.; Clark,
Clarence A.; Connally, James E.;
Datta, Frank F.; Davis, Herbert R.

Ninth Row: Private Dault, O'vall
E.; Dowden, James; Diggers, Lloyd
M.; Donald, Joseph S.; Farmer, Hil-
bert J.; Finley, Otto M.

Tenth Row: Private Gagas, John
J., Jr.; Green, James R.; Hellet, B.;
Hicks, A. J.



HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: Privates Hicks, Freeman N.,
Halalge, Carlos E.; Hilliard, Garland E.; Hol-
dell, Frederick H.; Holt, Edward E.

Second Row: Privates Moran, Carl J.; Hauer,
David; Hulson, Willie R.; Jacobs, Kenneth B.;
Kebot, Lewis V.

Third Row: Privates Lewis, Ben J.; Lewis,
James C.; Lewis, William S.; Lock, Albert L.;
Malone, Joe B.

Fourth Row: Privates Martin, Harold R.;
Martin, Lester H.; Miller, Albert; Minick, Erlow
V.; Munch, Wilbur J.

Fifth Row: Privates Nadler, Samuel; Nighten,
Ernest D.; Ollmeyer, Godfrey Z.; Onapa, Peter
S.; Panneer, Max.

Sixth Row: Privates Parks, Hubert E.; Paulko,
William W.; Peinonen, Peter M.; Power, Elmer
O.; Pitzer, Bert H.

Seventh Row: Privates Quick, John W.; Rack-
ley, Newton B.; Schiampert, Conrad; Seppanen,
George O.; Sexton, Thomas W.

Eighth Row: Privates Sherburn, Robert; Shaw,
Glenn P.; Sinn, Leo E.; Stafford, Mack; Steh-
wen, John J.

Ninth Row: Privates Stoll, Edward R.; Tapert,
Arthur F.; Todd, Thurmond R.; Turlington, Carl
C.; Uary, Doris R.

Tenth Row: Privates Vassers, Andrew; Welch,
Philip C.; Werner, Raphael J.; Yarbrough,
Lemuel F.; Zudeles, Allen.





SYDNEY S. SMITH
First Lieutenant
Commanding



ROY L. HERRIN
Second Lieutenant



C O M P A N Y A

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: First Sergeant Warrick, John J.; Staff Sergeants Barrell, Fred C.; Giangrosso, John R.; Schultz, Andrew R.; Sergeant Manno, Rocco F.

Second Row: Staff Sergeant Serahn, Otto F.; Sergeants Gann, Clarence H.; Green, Elmo H.; Hager, Almon A.; Kreeger, Merlin A.; Lehman, Muriel F.

Third Row: Sergeants Rugnoli, Victor J.; Tams, George; Corporals Bubbalmardo, Benjamin; Boswell, Delmar C.; Canton, Johnny J.; Clark, Paul K.

Fourth Row: Corporals Daniel, Stanley A.; Dangler, Clarence; Harrison, Robert W.; Kueger, Arthur A.; Piers, Walter W.; Price, Orie.

Fifth Row: Corporals Reibing, Rosiel S.; Ruz, Gilliam; Sepoch, Pierre P.; Trader, Lawrence C.

COMPANY A

703RD TANK DESTROYER
BATTALION



First Row: Privates First Class
Barris, Ralph T.; Bensfield, Ross L.;
Blacker, Royce; Covey, Henry D.

Second Row: Privates First Class
Egner, Robert E.; Lorennes, Herman
W.; Luczynski, Matt C.; Nisibly,
Adolph O.; Rading, John N.; Ratter,
Jesse W.

Third Row: Private First Class
Wasson, Bert A.; Privates Antic, Joseph
F.; Bodowski, P.; Bradford, Dudley
C.; Cameron, Edgar J.; Carter,
Emmet H.

Fourth Row: Privates Carnes, Paul
L.; Connell, J. B.; Dwyer, Nolan L.;
Doherty, John J.; Erickson, Daniel
M.; Fichter, William P.

Fifth Row: Privates Friedman,
Israel; Fritz, Edward R.; Gorta,
Charles; Gri, Giovanni; Hanlin, Lawrence
E.; Henry, Howard R.

Sixth Row: Privates Herzog, Marvin
A.; Hohenberger, Adolph; Jemison,
Israel; Kniskal, Joseph; Langbecker,
Elmer W.; Leach, Hilson.

Seventh Row: Privates LeMay,
Howard W.; Linnon, William E.;
Mangus, Henry E.; Mart, Claude L.;
Miller, Harrison S.; Olson, Vernon H.

Eighth Row: Privates Olson,
Russell W.; Oley, Donald W.;
Parker, Henry W.; Picha, Charles J.;
Pope, Claude V.; Ransquist, Oscar H.

Ninth Row: Privates Rutledge,
Shedrick P.; Saku, Eino M.; Sande-
lul, Line; Schroeder, Carl A.; Seng-
sing, Raymond V.; Skewer, Frank F.

Tenth Row: Privates Stewart,
Lavin; Thomas, Charles R.; Wright,
Ossile M.





TRUMAN ALFORD
First Lieutenant
Commanding



ALLISON B. ZANNIERE
Second Lieutenant



C O M P A N Y B

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: First Sergeant Davis, Robert L.; Staff Sergeants Clark, Thomas H.; Goer, R. C.; Hellman, Eugene H.; Sergeant Belland, Don C.

Second Row: Sergeants Boudreau, Joe T.; Carlson, Oscar M.; Demmon, Harry J.; Eastman, Leo; Eickwald, Eugene E.; Maliszewski, Clement C.

Third Row: Sergeants Petrowskovich, Fred J.; Shannon, Charles V.; Corporals Big Soldier, Fred K.; Currie, Loyde C.; Fieger, Manuel; Garcia, Herman S.

Fourth Row: Corporals Jaffee, Irving; McGuire, George W.; Perkins, Woodard M.; Schneider, John P.



TRUMAN ALFORD
First Lieutenant
Commanding



ALLISON D. ZAHNISER
Second Lieutenant

COMPANY B

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

FIRST ROW: Privates First Class Johnson, Orville B.; Lee, William; Nickel, Robert K.; Owens, Emil; Zacher, Stanley; Private Albee, George W.

SECOND ROW: Privates Anderson, George W.; Blankenship, Van E.; Bizzard, Paul; Buckler, Ralph W.; Burra, George L.; Carney, Charles P.

THIRD ROW: Privates Carter, Mamie, Jr.; Cleary, William D.; Dyon, Lloyd; French, William H.; Gallant, Michael R.; Green, Marvin D.

FOURTH ROW: Privates Gruber, Jake; Gurnee, Harold L.; Haggard, Clarence; Hanson, Kenneth M.; Harman, Eldon F.; Hickman, Suttell J.

FIFTH ROW: Privates Hualde, Rufine; Jannell, Michael W.; Jackson, Albert E.; Kilgard, Arthur P.; Kroy, Aubrey; Kinder, Fred A.

SIXTH ROW: Privates Lane, Lawrence A.; Largo, William H.; Lawson, Everett; Layman, Andrew J.; Lopez, Joseph; Manry, William D.

SEVENTH ROW: Privates McCulloch, George W.; Moss, Albert; Mutan, Thomas F.; Page, Everett A.; Palumbo, Salvatore A.; Parks, Frank W.

EIGHTH ROW: Privates Pomer, William E.; Posey, Frank W.; Reeves, Jimmie; Schwartz, Benjamin J.; Shields, Douglas L.; Sorrels, Judway.

NINTH ROW: Privates Surton, Elmo T.; Syako, Anthony; Turner, Robert, Jr.; Vlasak, Albert R.; Wagnon, Fred B.; Waters, Charles J.

TENTH ROW: Privates Wimmer, David W.; Wetzig, Bernard A.; Wilson, Max L.; Winkler, Julian; Winterson, Louis P.





ERNE REGAN
First Lieutenant
Commanding

MERRILL J. GOODRICH
Second Lieutenant

C O M P A N Y C

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

FIRST Row: Staff Sergeant Tyus, Joe M.; Furelle, Earl S.; Sergeants Ashrent, George R.; Bailey, Worth A.; Galante, Frank A.

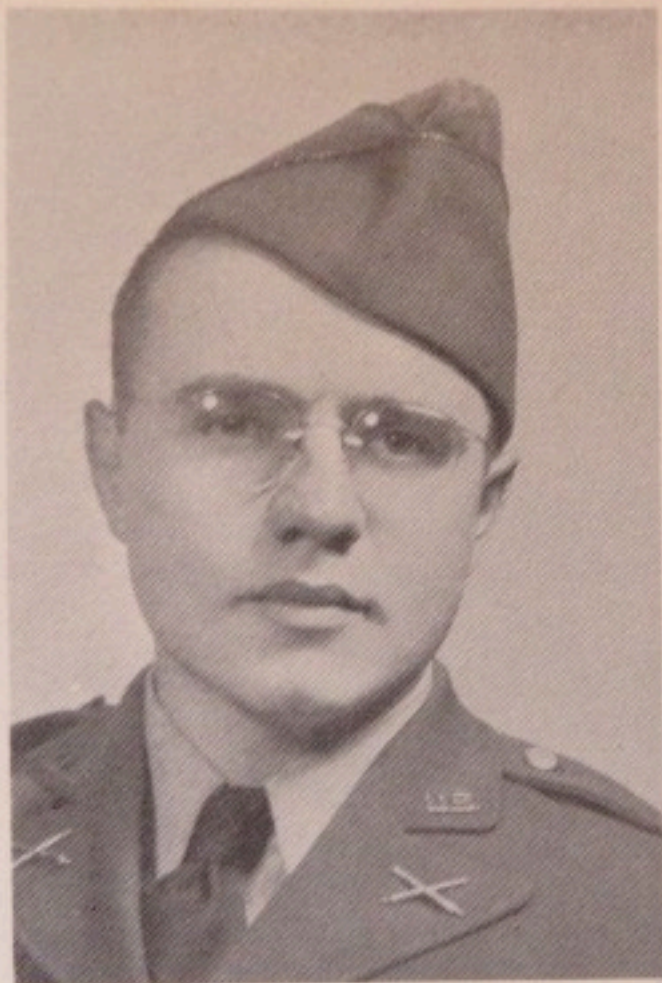
SECOND Row: Sergeants Junich, Joseph H.; Kozum, Lawrence C.; Leschuk, Frank; Manlin, Arnold C.; Moody, James R.; Smith, William L.

THIRD Row: Sergeant Tucker, Lenton L.; Corporals Andrews, Ralph C.; Barringer, Clifford O.; Betzold, Harold W.; Burgher, Frank T.; Bennett, Walter L.

FOURTH Row: Corporals Downey, James R.; Eberlin, Charles J.; Garrett, George J.; Gier, Ruter O.; Goula, Ray K.; Gonsie, Garfield M.

FIFTH Row: Corporals Hatcher, Raymond, Jr.; Herring, Therman V.; Johnson, Harvey E.; Logsdon, Thurman E.; Montgomery, Leonard; Powell, Ralph K.

SIXTH Row: Corporals Rhoades, Harold H.; Richards, Ernest E.; Schaefer, Joseph J.; Tazier, Raymond R.



EVAN REGAS
First Lieutenant
Commanding



MERLE L. GOODRICH
Second Lieutenant

C O M P A N Y C

103RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: Private First Class Nelson, William R.; Dimon, James G.; Kaplan, Jack; Simpson, William; Private Adams, Ignace W.

Second Row: Private Dain, Earl T.; Dean, Woodrow S.; Beck, Dale; Belmont, Walter R.; Smith, Floyd A.

Third Row: Private Rudman, Eric W.; Cowan, James L.; Dallen, Carl J.; Dimon, Robert R.; Dixon, Eric Q.

Fourth Row: Private Dixon, Jack; Freeman, Vernon T.; Frank, Andrew D.; Gerner, Arthur S.; Gonschowsky, Nathan.

Fifth Row: Private Grant, Martin J.; Harbo, Samuel; Harve, Richard S.; Hinchey, John J., Jr.; Hinton, Melvin E.

Sixth Row: Private Kinman, Freddie E.; Katsch, Paul J.; Kaldewitz, Lubek; Kunka, Sam R.; LaGalle, Joseph L., Jr.

Seventh Row: Private Mackey, Joe D.; Manuel, Eldridge L.; Ryster, Raymond R.; Rowell, George W.; Sanford, Lorenz E.

Eighth Row: Private Scallan, Aam P.; Wilkins, Wayne; Winick, R. J.; Womack, Joe L.; Wray, James M.





ROBERT F. INGRAM
First Lieutenant
Commanding



DUDLEY J. BRITTON
Second Lieutenant



RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: First Sergeant Bono, Lewis H.; Staff Sergeants Domey, Roy V.; Thomas, Fate; Sergeants McLaughlin, Walter L.; Munson, Clifford W.



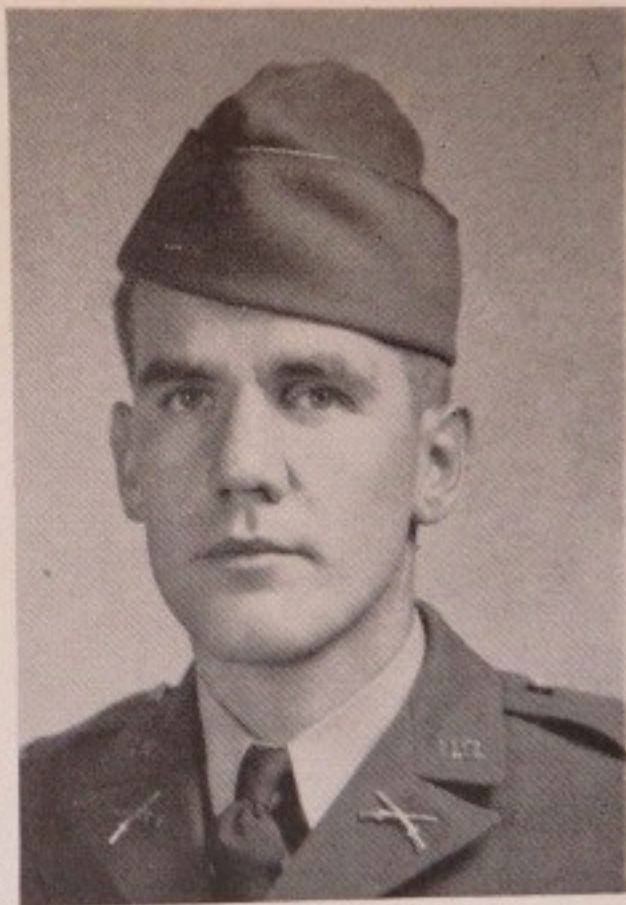
Second Row: Sergeants Pied, Leo N.; Warnke, Charles G.; Corporals Cowser, John N.; Feuerstein, Richard F.; Laurent, Robert N.; Private First Class Aulman, Arthur B.



Third Row: Privates First Class Brooks, William C.; Frederick, Emile C.; Leinaert, James W.; Queen, Carl W.; Tharpe, Walter T.; Willett, Charles W.



ROBERT P. INGRUM
First Lieutenant
Commanding



DUDLEY J. BRITTON
Second Lieutenant

RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

703RD TANK DESTROYER
BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

FIRST ROW: Privates Albert, Roy M.; Buggert, Martin R.; Bellew, Joseph E.; Blaine, Harold W.; Bondwell, Richard D.

SECOND ROW: Privates Bourdoin, Arnold R.; Christensen, Laurence H.; Clarke, Wilbur; Cummings, James L.; Custer, Nelson E.; Davis, Ben H.

THIRD ROW: Privates Deschman, Marshall M.; Donett, W. S.; Dunklan, Ray H.; Eddington, W. R.; Fiolok, Joseph F.; Gomez, Adolfo.

FOURTH ROW: Privates Goode, James D.; Gooding, Kenneth W.; Gould, Robert G.; Graves, Everett J.; Green, Russell W.; Hathcote, James C.

FIFTH ROW: Privates Hilgeman, Frederick O.; Johnson, Houston R.; King, Lawrence E.; Kotowicz, B. P.; Lawler, Jesse C.; Leggett, Virgil L.

SIXTH ROW: Privates Leventhal, J. L.; Lunday, Andrew S.; Major, Joseph E., Jr.; Mammis, Angelo J.; Meriman, Willard F.; Neider, Gordon J.

SEVENTH ROW: Privates Nowakowsky, Joseph E.; Ofurt, Clyde; Pharr, Quince N.; Fisher, Walter J.; Pinnok, John J.; Rolando, Ramon G.

EIGHTH ROW: Privates Rozie, Truman G.; Schae, S.; Smith, R. W.; Suez, Chester J.; Steele, Clarence A.; Sochter, Wesley R.

NINTH ROW: Privates Thomas, Louis J.; Thompson, Emmett A.; Thompson, Raymond L.; Trible, Joe B.; Tucker, James M.; Tucker, William H., Jr.

TENTH ROW: Privates Waters, Theo H.; Watson, Harry A.; Warren, Harold E.; Wrensen, Omer O.; Williams, Paul S.; Zielansky, Henry C.



RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

703RD TANK DESTROYER
BATTALION



(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: Privates Albert, Roy M.; Baggot, Martin R.; Belles, Joseph E.; Blum, Harold W.; Boardwell, Richard D.

Second Row: Privates Bourdston, Arnold R.; Christensen, Laurence H.; Clarke, Wilbur; Cummings, James L.; Custer, Nelson E.; Davis, Ben H.

Third Row: Privates Deutchman, Marshall M.; Dorsert, W. S.; Dunklau, Ray H.; Eddington, W. R.; Fielck, Joseph F.; Gomez, Adolfo.

Fourth Row: Privates Good, James D.; Gooding, Kenneth W.; Gould, Robert G.; Graves, Everett J.; Goss, Russell W.; Hutchins, James C.

Fifth Row: Privates Hilgeman, Frederick O.; Johnson, Houston R.; King, Lawrence E.; Kowicz, B. P.; Lawler, Jesse C.; Loggert, Virgil L.

Sixth Row: Privates Leventhal, J. L.; Lunday, Andrew S.; Major, Joseph E., Jr.; Marinino, Angelo J.; Meenan, Willard F.; Neider, Gordon J.

Seventh Row: Privates Nowicki, Joseph E.; Offutt, Clyde; Pfiay, Quince N.; Pithes, Walter J.; Prunk, John J.; Rolando, Ramon G.

Eighth Row: Privates Roze, Truman G.; Selius, S.; Smith, R. W.; Stoe, Chester J.; Steele, Clarence A.; Suber, Wesley R.

Ninth Row: Privates Thomas, Louis J.; Thompson, Emmett A.; Thompson, Raymond L.; Tridde, Joe E.; Tucker, James M.; Tucker, William H., Jr.

Tenth Row: Privates Waters, Theo H.; Watson, Harry A.; Warren, Harold E.; Weizen, Ose O.; Williams, Paul S.; Zalsky, Henry C.

