

HEADQUARTERS ALAMO FORCE  
A.P.O. 712

AG 314.7 - C

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: S-E-C-R-E-T :  
:Auth: OG ALAMO FORCE :  
:Unit: :  
:Date: 16 Feb 44 :  
:.....:

16 February 1944

SUBJECT: Conclusion of Desterity Operation.

TO : Commanding General, Backhander Task Force APO 320  
Commanding General, Michaelmas Task Force, APO 321  
Commanding General, Director Task Force, APO 323



1. Attention is directed to the attached letter, this headquarters, subject: "Historical Reports", dated 16 February 1944.

2. The Desterity Operation in which your command participated was officially closed 10 February 1944.

3. Expedite the historical report of your task force operations per instructions in letter referred to in paragraph 1, above.

By command of Lieutenant General KNEUGER:

ALAN W. HALL,  
Lt Col, A.G.D.,  
Asst. Adj. Gen.

1 Incl - Historical Reports, dated 16 February 1944.

REPRODUCED: Hq U S Force, APO 321, 22 Feb 44  
REPRODUCED: Hq 632d T.D. BN, APO 32, 12 Mar 44.

RDA/rtn

314.7 1st Incl.  
HEADQUARTERS U S FORCES, APO 321, 22 February 1944.  
TO: See Distribution.

RDA/rtn

1. For compliance with basic communication.
2. Report will be submitted so as to reach this headquarters not later than 28 February 1944.

By command of Major General GILL:

/s/ R. B. Angell  
/t/ R. D. ANGELL,  
Capt, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

1 Incl: n/c  
DISTRIBUTION:  
1 - Ea Gen and Spec Staff Sect.  
1 - Ea CO of Regts, BN's, Sep  
Bn's, Sep Co's and Sep Det's.

REPRODUCED: Hq 632d T.D. BN, APO 32, 12 MAR 44.

HEADQUARTERS ALAMO FORCE  
A.P.O. 712

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: S-E-C-R-E-T :  
:Auth: CG ALAMO FORCE :  
:Init: :  
:Date: :  
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AG 314. 7 C

16 February 1944

SUBJECT: Historical Reports.

TO : See Distribution.

1. Attention is invited to Change 3, paragraph 10, AR 345-105, 9 March 1943, which for reference is quoted below:

"ACTION AGAINST ENEMY, REPORTS AFTER. - After every battle or engagement with the enemy, or when prescribed by higher authority, written reports thereof will be made by commanders of regiments, separate battalions or squadrons, companies or detachments, and by all commanders of a higher grade, each in what concerns his own command. Such reports will have annexed thereto the unit and staff journals, together with their supporting documents, which reports will be forwarded through the proper channels, as early as practicable, to The Adjutant General, except in the case of Army Air Force Units when they will be marked "Historical Data" and forwarded to the Commanding General of the Army Air Forces for subsequent transmittal to The Adjutant General.

It will be the special duty of all general staff officers attached to commands in the fields to keep careful journals of the operations (See FM 101-5), from which they will compile reports of said operations for their immediate commanders. Commanding officers may require preparation of reports described above during maneuvers or other exercises for training purposes, but such reports will not be forwarded to the Adjutant General unless specifically directed."

2. An engagement between ground units and either enemy air forces or naval forces will be classed as a battle and come within the provisions of AR 345-105.

3. Division and/or task force commanders will take the necessary action to insure rendition of subject reports. In this connection the following will govern:

a. Reports will be written in a narrative style listing events chronologically as they occurred.

- 1 -

SECRET



b. Reports will be kept up to date and submitted in duplicate to Headquarters Alamo Force, A.P.O. 712 on call.

c. The following should be covered in the body of the report:

- (1) Nature and name of operation including code names, if used.
- (2) Mission.
- (3) Identity or composition of force(s) involved.
- (4) Character of hostile opposition.
- (5) Summary of lessons learned.
- (6) Special or noteworthy data of value.

d. Supporting documents as referred to in Paragraph 10, AR 345-105 will include those listed below. The more important ones, particularly orders, maps and overlays should be furnished in duplicate.

(1) General Routine Records:

- (a) Orders of Battle and Station Lists with maps.
- (b) General Orders, Bulletins and Circulars.
- (c) Rosters of Officers.



(2) Troop Movements:

- (a) Troop movement orders with supporting administrative orders and annexes (entraining, detraining, embarkation, debarkation, entrucking (detrucking)).
- (b) Troop movement reports, including progress of overseas movements.

(3) Operations:

(a) Staff Sections:

G-1 Casualty reports, inspections reports, journals.

G-2a. Intelligence summaries and reports, maps, journals.

b. Codes, code names and ciphers in use.

G-3 a. Periodic Operations Reports and Journals w/maps and sketches.

b. Special Operations Reports.

c. Summaries of Operations.

G-4

a. Supply, Salvage and Evacuation Records.

b. Technical Reports of Services.

c. Journals.

(b) Combat Orders:

1. Letters of Instruction Field Orders with Administrative Orders and Annexes pertaining thereto (including amendments and maps).

2. Field Messages "sent" and "received" (by telephone, telegraph, courier, etc.), filed chronologically with the appropriate operations report.

(4) Photographs.

a. Reports of subordinate units will not be compiled or incorporated into the report of the next higher headquarters but will be forwarded by appropriate indorsement through channels to this headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant General KRUEGER:

DISTRIBUTION:

Comdr Gloucester Task Force (1)  
Comdr Sador Task Force (1)  
Comdr Arawe Task Force (1)  
CG 32d Inf DIV (1)

ALAN W. HALL,  
Lt. COL., A.G.D.,  
Asst, Adj. Gen.



REPRODUCED: Hq W S Forces, APO 321, 22 Feb 44

/s/ RDA  
/t/ RDA/rdm

REPRODUCED: Hq 632d T.D. BN., APO 32, 12 Mar 44.

FEL/ceb.

Dexterity Operation  
Saidor, New Guinea



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY  
632nd TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
A.P.O. 705

FCW/els

14 September 1944

Subject: Historical Report, (Michalmas) Salder Operation

To : Commanding Officer 632nd Tank Destroyer Battalion

1. In compliance with V.O.U.O. herewith inclosed is chronological historical report of this organization for period 11 February 1944 to 29 April 1944.

Incl:  
Historical Report

*Fred C. Welsh*  
FRED C. WELSH,  
Captain, F.A.,  
Commanding.



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY  
632nd TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
A.P.O. 706

FCW/els

Report after Action: 11 February 1944 to 29 April 1944

1. Nature of Operation: (Michalmas) Saider Operation.
2. Nature of Operation: Reinforcement of Michalmas Force.
3. Mission:

1. Shore Party
2. Beach Defense

4. Composition: Headquarters Company 632nd Tank Destroyer Battalion:  
4 - Officers  
92 - Enlisted Men

Roster of Officers

Captain	FRED C. WELSH	0413757
1st Lt	STEPHEN F. ST CLAIR	0414703
1st Lt	JOHN M. THOMPSON	0914087
2nd Lt	ALBERT C. EMMES	02034672



5. Character of Hostile Operation: This organization did not engage the enemy on the ground. Enemy opposition was characterized by sporadic air attacks.

*Fred C. Welsh*  
FRED C. WELSH,  
Captain, P.A.,  
Commanding.

# Historical Report, (Michalmas) Saidor Operation.

- 11 February 1944 - On 11 February 1944, this company, less a rear echelon detachment at Goodenough Island, was located at Cape Cretin, New Guinea. Our strength consisted of 4 Officers and 92 Enlisted Men present for duty with 3 Officers and 59 Enlisted Men on Special Duty with the line companies of this Battalion. Five air alerts were sounded on this day but no enemy planes were observed.
- 12 February 1944 - An advance detachment of 1 Officer and 5 Enlisted Men left by boat for Saidor, New Guinea to prepare a new camp site for this Battalion.
- 13 February 1944 - Four air alerts, one in the early morning and one in the afternoon and two late at night. No enemy action.
- 15 February 1944 - 16 February 1944 - Four air alerts on these two days, all in the early morning no enemy action. Usual camp duties during the past week. Kitchen was messing 117 men.
- 17 February 1944 - 24 February 1944 - 1 Officer and 47 Enlisted Men placed on Special Duty with Bom Company to assist as an extra platoon in Cargodere duties, leading out the 127th R.C.T. Balance of week ending 24 February 1944 showed no unusual occurrences and usual camp duties were performed. No air alerts for this period. On 24 February 1944, preliminary breaking camp prior to movement to Saidor, New Guinea.
- 25 February 1944 - Broke camp and loaded an LST #68, leaving the slip for Saidor at 1510L. "C" rations given to men for trip.
- 26 February 1944 - Arrived at Saidor, New Guinea and made camp at 0830L.
- 27 February 1944 - 28 February 1944 - Rehabilitation in new camp site.
- 1 March 1944 - 7 March 1944 - First week of March ended with no unusual occurrences. An average of 137 rations were served each meal and our strength was 100 present for duty on 7 March 1944.
- 8 March 1944 - - - One Officer returned to us from Detached Service and we had one air alert at 2300L. Bombs were dropped but no casualties usual camp duties to the 11th March 1944.
- 11 March 1944 - - - Moved to a new company area along the Wankina River. There were a total of nine air alerts during the past week no enemy action except as noted on 8 March 1944.
- 14 March 1944 - 21 March 1944 - We had 12 air raids alerts but no enemy action. Usual camp duties.
- 22 March 1944 - 31 March 1944 - Five air alerts for this period but no enemy action observed. Usual camp duties closed the month of March.
- 3 April 1944 - - - All Officers and Enlisted Men on Special Duty and Detached Service with the letter companies returned to this company for duty. Our company strength showed 9 Officers and 163 Enlisted Men present, for duty. Usual camp duties.
- 6 April 1944 - 7 April 1944 - One air alert, no enemy action observed. Usual camp duties and preparation for move to new camp site.
- 8 April 1944 - 14 April 1944 - The company moved by truck to Yamai and established a new camp there on 8 April 1944. No unusual occurrences during this period. 14 Air alerts were sounded but no enemy action observed. Usual camp duties and kitchen was messing an average of 180 men.





- 14 April 1944 - 21 April 1944 - Usual camp duties were performed. One negative air alert on 21st April 1944.
- 22 April 1944 - One Enlisted Man died of sickness in the hospital and was buried at Saidor, New Guinea the following day.
- 23 April 1944 - 29 April 1944 - Usual camp duties with no unusual occurrences during this period.
- 30 April 1944 - The month closed with our company strength of 9 Officers and 181 Enlisted Men with 3 Officers and 144 Enlisted Men present for duty on this date. Mess reports show 163 serving on this date.

During the entire period of 11 February 1944 to 29 April 1944. Air raid sentinels were employed and the functional efficiently. At Yamai, New Guinea an air defense was set up, consisting of 3 - 50 cal Machine Guns on A.A. mounts, in coordination with Battalion defense plan. Guns were manned but were not needed. Usual air raid and ground alert precautions employed.

