

HEADQUARTERS
661st Tank Destroyer Battalion
APO 230, U S Army

3 March 1945
010054

AFTER ACTION REPORT
(S-2 Section)

I - Training and Orientation Phase:

- a. While this unit was stationed at Camp Lucky Strike, France, 24 January 1945 to 6 February 1945, the ETO orientation lecture was given by representatives of the camp S-3. Also, while at the location, instruction was given on enemy mines, booby traps and firing devices. This instruction was given by using the actual German equipment. Additional instruction was given in censorship. After arrival in Bullingen, Belgium, 11 February 1945, the S-2 and the S-2 sergeant contacted the G-2 at Division for instructions and orientation. Instructions and maps that were received were passed on to the companies. Prior and during the relief of the 99th by the 69th, this unit relieved the 814 TD Battalion. The S-2 section made frequent contacts with S-2 section of the 814th TD Battalion.

II - Holding and Defensive Phase:

- a. Enemy held a thinly manned pillbox line generally Hennigen, Dickerscheid, Geisheid and Kamberg when we arrived in this area. Reconnaissance Company was used for route, bridge and position reconnaissance.
- b. Weather was generally bad with numerous rainy days. Most roads in the Division area were muddy and mainly impassable.
- c. Numerous reports were received confirming our estimate that the enemy line was thinly held.

III.- Attack Phase:

- a. Division attack jumped up 0600 hours 27 January 1945. Numerous reports received from COs on enemy information. Eighteen inhabited areas were captured. These inhabited areas and the Division objectives were all taken with only a moderate amount of small arms, artillery and mortar fire. 3rd plt, "C" Co, captured 34 PWs. Tanks and SP guns were reported at various times but never materialized. Two machineguns were knocked out in Dickerscheid by "C" Co.

IV - Conclusions:

- a. It was found that information was not being reported quick enough to be acted upon. To correct this, direct telephone lines were laid from our own switchboard to the two infantry regiment CPs that our companies were supporting, and a company officer remained at the regiment CP to maintain liaison.

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- b. Our organic Pioneer Plt cleaned bivouac areas and gun position, mines and beehive traps. They also cleaned approximately 2 miles of roads and trails of mines.
- c. S-2 section prepared one terrain plot (8" x 14") representing on the map the area, coordinates 0910 to 1210 and 0905 to 1205. Several small terrain boards were made from cardboard using a scale of 1/10000.

/s/ WILLIAM F. MURRAY
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CLASSIFICATION
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
W. F. Murray
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE *2 July* 1945