

HEADJUARTERS 703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION APO 230

SECRET :AUTH: QO 703d TD Ba: :INIT: :INIT: March 1945 :DATE: 3 March 1945

- UNIT: 703RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION.
- CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:
 - 1. None Battalion remained attached to 3rd Armored Division.
- 31 Jan 45: 36 Offors 1 W.O. 584 RM 28 Feb 45: 35 Offors 1 W.O. 589 EM 5 RM IDURGAST: DOGREAGE: 1 Offors
- D. IN ATIONS: Does not apply (see narrative for locations).
- T. MARCHES: Does not apply (see narrative).
- 35.210M3:
 - 1. WESTERN GERMANY 25 February to 28 February 1945.
- BATTAMS: (see narrative).
- H. DOMENAUTING OFFICERS: Battalion Commander: Lt Col Wilbur E. SHOWARTER.
 "A" Company Commander: Captain John W. COLE.
 "B" Company Commander: Captain Henry F. COSCH.
 "J" Company Commander: Captain Bonald W. SEIBERT.
 Ron Company Commander: Captain Jack V. MURRAY.
 hq. Company Commander: Captain Sydney S. SMITH.
- I. LOSSYD IN ACTION: Battle Jasualties

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+B# CO.PANI one:

40 4 00 USAUL apinosu, Norbert ..., 11047852 210 apne, Barry M., 24078157 2vt 27 Feb 45 25 Feb 45 MIA 2vt #IA

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Mon-Battle Casualties

HEAD, HARTERS COMMANY onon

B-K-O-R-B-

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103-63.7

I. LOSSES IN ADTION (cont'd)

Varrick, John L., 6836475 Opl 25 Feb 45 Slight Injury Hon-battle

TORO COMPANY

"O" COMPANY
Moliteris, Daniel N., 53153535 Sgt 18 Feb 45 Disease, slight

RECOMMAISSANCE COMPANY
Calcaterra, Joseph G., 32000619 ##sgt 4 Feb 45 Non-bettle
injury

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

J. CITATIONS:

act Muriel Y. Lehman. 36041695 awarded the Bronse Star for heroic schievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 6 Jan 45. (Posthumous award)

Obl Albert A. Marrie. 31064262 awarded the Bronse Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 22 and 23 December 1944.

3/Sgt Ennet H. Caresa. 37010596 awarded the Pronze Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 20 December 1944.

act Vernon H. Olson 57032887 awarded the Bronse Star for heroic schievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 22 January 1945.

Bgt Robert D Schutt 33148870 awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 6 January 1945.

Teo 4 Walter O Iange Jr 38031661, awarded the Bronse Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 22 January 1945.

Teo 4 Henry E Manges 37110836, awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 15 January 1945.

Opl Bertice L Hennings 36234896 awarded the Bronse Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 15 January 1945.

Opl John J Moriarty 31064428, awarded the Bronze Star for heroic schievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 22 January 1945.

Tec 5 Thomas Ordile 33139526, awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 21 January 1945.

Pfo Frank 2 Altmoon 36240035, awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 6 January 1945.

Pvt Winferd P Weishapl 37204118, awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action against the enemy in Belgium on 22 January 1945.

Set William G Price 7040266 awarded the Soldiers Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on 9 November 1944 in Germany.

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J. CITATIONS (cont'd)

Sgt wilford w. Weller 36507601, awarded the Soldiers medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on 9 Mov-

ember 1944 in Germany.

Tec 5 Douglas C Teates 33629107, awarded the Soldiers medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on 9 hovember 1944 in Germany.

PHOTOGRAPHS: K. None.

For the Commanding Officer:

ATRET A. GOODNICH Major, 703d TD Br. 3-3

inols: two(2).

Summer, of Oper tions for worth of Pebricar, 1945.

True copy of Unit Journal.

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1 Johnson 1945 to 25 Potentary 1945. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS:

(Note: All coordinates listed are found in the Seri De Coordinates in the 500 Ellemeter aquains (V & V). All lett proceeding coordinates in this negrotive designate the 100 Ellemeter square within the above mentioned areas.)

On the \$2 James; 1945 the bettalies was disposed as follows; PACINITIE:

Third Armored Division.

-Combat Command "A", 3rd Armored Division -Combat Command "B", 3rd Armored Division -Combat Command "HOWER", 3rd Armored Division

LOCATIONS:

-P-364986 vicinity PALEMER, BRIGIUM.

Oo "A" OP--P-388987 vicinity WARRE, BELGIUM. Oo "B" OP--K-386027 vicinity OCQUIRE, BELGIUM.

Co "C" CP-K-586987 vicinity WARRE, BRIGIUM. Rom Co CP--P-546986vicinity PAIRWER, BRIGIUM.

1 Feb 45 This Buttalion was in assembly area in the vicinity of PALENGE (P-364986), COQUIER (M-386023), and WARRE (P-366987) MEL-GIUM, undergoing maintenance of vehicles and weapons, rehabilitation and training of personnel. The US Light Tank M24 was demonstrated to all personnel of this battalion, emphasis being placed on identification of this vehicle by T.D. personnel. "B" Gempany fired 134 rds of 90mm HB ammo for service practice.

The Battalion continued its maintenance, rehabilitation and training program. "A" Company fired their 90mm gums for training purposes. A total of 133 rds of 90mm HE ammo was expended during the period. Ron Company fired 80 rds of 37mm HE ammo for service practice.

3 Feb 45 No change in locations. "C" Company conducted service practice firing of the 90mm gun. 135 rds of 90mm HE ammo was copended. Ron Company expended 100 rds of 37mm HE ammo for service 34 - M36's operational in the battalion. practice.

4 Feb 45 Received F.O. No. 24, Hq 3rd Armd Div, dated 4 Feb 45, directing the following: This Div, reinforced, will move on order, to assembly positions in vicinity of STOLBERG, GERMANY (K-9442). "A" Company attached to C Comd "A", "B" Company attached to C Comd "R" (HOWAE) and 703d TD Bm (-A, B and C Co's) under Division control. 703d TD Bm (-), 23d Armd Engr Rn (-) and 486th AAA (AW) Rn (SP) (-) will coordinate the use of their assembly area, and upon assembling in new area units will be responsible for local security within assigned areas, and will submit a Defense clan to higher headquarters. submit a Defense Plan to higher headquarters.

Operations Instructions were issued to all Companies and Medical Detachment. The following attachments to Task Forces were 51.

directed:

"A" Co - 1st Plat - TF Y - 1st Bn, 32d Armd Regt (KANE).

2nd Plat - C Comd A Reserve - Company control.

3rd Plat - TF X - 2nd Bn, 32d Armd Regt (DOAN).
"B" Go - lat Plat - G Good & Baserse - Company control

2nd Plat - TF WELBORN - 1st Bn, 33d Armd Regt 3rd Plat - TF LOVELADY - 2nd Bn, 33rd Armd Regt. Peh 45 (cont'd)

PC" Co - 189-Plat - TP WICHARDSON, 3rd Rm, 324 Arms Regt 2nd Plat - C Cond "R" Reserve, Company control 3rd Plat - TP HOGAN, 3rd Rm, 33rd Arms Regt Ron Co - Normal attachments of one Rom Plateon to each company

will be available as needed, upon eall, to TF Companies. Ron Company will make march to now assembly area with Bn Headquarters.

5 Feb 45 Battalion Executive Officer carried advance detail to new assembly area in vicinity of STOLBERG, CERMANY (K-9442), in order to locate billets and coordinate positions with \$3d Armd Engr En (-)

and 486th AAA (AW) Bo (SP) (-).
"A", "B" end "C" Companies sent advance details with C Comds to

new areas.

Received Annex No. 1, to F.O. No. 24, Hq 3rd Armd Div - overlay showing routes and order of march to new assembly area. I.P. BARVAUX BRIGIUM (P-4097) - I.P. Time 070700A Feb 45.

"A", "B", "C" and Ron (Ammunition Expended: "O" and Ron Compenies conducted range firing of small

"A" Co:

1000 rds .30 Gal Rifle 1000 rds .30 Cal Carbine

"B" Co:

900 rds .30 Oal Carbine 350 rds .45 Cal Pistol

40 rds Launcher Rocket AT 2.36*

*0 * Co:

5000 rds .30 Cal Carbine 600 rds .30 Cal Rifle 300 rds .45 Cal Pistol 12 rds Rifle Grenade

Ron Co:

43 rds Launcher Rocket AT 2.36"

1344 rds .30 Cal Rifle 1500 rds .30 Cal Carbine 275 rds .45 Cal Pistol

<u>reb 45</u> No change - Period was spent in preparation for movement to new assembly area. (35 - M-36's operational in Battalion)

Peb 45 During period the battalion moved from PALTNGE, WARRE, and GHIER area in BELGIUM. to new assembly area vicinity STOLDERG, GER-OCQUIER area in BELGIUM, to new assembly area vicinity STOLBERG, GER-MANY (K9442). Bn OP and Hq Co, and Rom Co closed at K-949405 vicinity of STOLBERG, GERMANE at 1330 hours.

Locations:

Bn 0? (+ He and Ron Co's) K-949405 vicinity STOLBERG. "A" Do (attached C Cemu "A") - (alosed 080800 Feb 45)

CP - K-959397 vio VICHT

1A - K-970408 vio MAUSBACH, W/TF Y

2A - K-960396 vic VICHT under company control

3a - K-974409 vio Mausbach, w/TP X

"B" Co (attached C Comd "B") - (olosed 001515Feb 45)

CP - K-928412 vio BUSBACH

1B - K-928412 vio BUSBACH under Company control

2B - K-947423 vio STOLBERG, W/TF WELBORN 3B - K-883427 vio EILENDORF, w/TF LOVELADY

"C" Co (attached C Comd "R"-"HOWZE) - (closed 0\$2545 Feb 45)

CP - K-933382 vie BREINIG

1C - K-933382 vio BREINIG W/TF RICHARDSON

20 - K-933382 vio BREINIG under Company control

30 - K-933382 vie BREINIG w/ TF HOGAN
One TD of "A" Company dropped out of column due to mechanical trouble "C" Company had two (2) TD develop mechanical trouble, during march

BARNAET VAN BILLS i So, reported to

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at a. a. d. Go's) area in S to his

seased in maintor future operations.

Tob 45 Received Sections Flows of 6 Cont "A" and 6 Cont "9" for postly aroust "A" and "9" Companies were to form road blocks at signated positions when also bed. One training file 27 5 antitled "GRMANY", dealing with non-

Distornisation with formal divilians was shown to personnel of this

bettellen.

Bettelien rendered in accordly areas confusting maintenance of mt. 31-4-36's operational in In-

le Pab 45 Received P.O. So. 25, Eq 3rd A.D. deted 161000 Pob 45 with Anima No. 1 (everlay). This erder directed the following: - 3rd AD will attack on order from VII Corps with C dends abreast. C Cond "A" on the right, and C cond "B" on the left, to soise Div objective vio ELBEGR. Co "A", 703d TD Em attached C Cond "A", Co "B", 703d TD Em attached C Cond "R" (HOWAE) and the let Plat of "C" Co 703d TD Em attached to 83d Armd Rom Em which is under Division Control. The 83d Armd Rom Em reinforced, to nother bridgehood E.E. of Div Chicative. secure bridgehead H.R. of Div Objective.

In C.O. held a Company Commenders and Staff Officers meeting, (Available Flat Lirs also attended), to discuss Administrative Details, points on military courtesy, warnings about the VD rates and tips for

erienting new men.

Bettelion remained in assembly areas engaged in maintenance of equipment and the preparations for future operations.

<u>Yeb 45</u> The 2nd Plateem of Ron Company joined Co "C" at K-955582 vio BRRINIG. No other movements. In conducted maintenance of equipment and the preparation for future operations.

12 Feb 45 The 1st Plateon of "C" Company moved from vio BENDERIA R-955582 to join IF YEOMANS vio HASTENBATH K-976447. The 2nd Plateon of "C" Company was attached to IF RICHARDSON, but remained in their The 1st Plateon of "C" Company moved from vio BREINIG same location at K-933382 vie BREINIG.

13 Peb 45 Received F.O. No. 15, Hq C Comd "B", 3rd Armd Div, dated 121000 Feb 45. C Comd "B" ("B" Co 703d TD En attached) to move en Division order from present assembly area through bridgehead of 104th Infantry Division zone and move rapidly to secure western part of the Division Objective. Troops:- 2nd rlat "B" 703d TD Bn attached to TF WELBORN (Lt Roberts Plat Ldr), 3rd Plat "B" 703d TD Bm attached to TP ROVELADM (Lt Silva Plat Ldr), and "B" Co (less 2nd and 3rd Plats) attached to C cond "B" Reserve.

TF IOVELAIN: - to move rapidly by South Route to seize and secure BERNENDORF-GEISENDORF cook and assist TF WELBORN in selsing BISDORF by flanking movement to N.W.

TP VELBORN: - to move rapidly over North Route prepared to seize and seoure ELSDORF assisted by TF LOVELADY from the S.R. Be prepared to move N.W. to seize and secure ANGELSDORF and ESCH.

C COMD "B" RESERVE:- to move in South Column in rear of C Comd "B" Headquarters.

No movement. En remained in assembly area engaged in maintenance of equipment and the preparation for future operations.

14 Peb 45 No change - 34 - M-36's operational in Bn.

15 Feb 45 to 24 Feb 45 (incl.) During this period all companies and platoons remained in their assigned Task Force assembly areas, conducting maintenance of equipment.

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During the period 15 Feb to 24 Feb 45, inclusive, a training program covering the following subjects was conducted by all comp-

m100:

a. 90mm garmery

b. 37mm gurmery (Ron Co)

c. Physical training (Road March)

d. Driving Instructions

e. Radio: Operation and Procedure.

f. Combat First Aid

g. Prevention of "Trench Foot".

- h. Service practice firing of 37mm gun.
- 1. Test firing of individual weapons and machine guns.
- j. Supply discipline.
- k. Combat Experiences

1. Army Talks.

m. May reading and aerial photo study.

25 Feb 45 Bn OP moved from K-949405 vic STOLBERG to F-093343 vic MARIAWEILER closing at 1630 hours. Hq Co and Ron Co (- 3 Plats) moved from vic STOLBERG to vic WEISWEILER K-9847.

"B" Co OP w/lst Plat moved with C Comd "B" CP Group, by in-

filtration, from BUSBACH to vic MARIAWEILER F-086470.

lst Plut of "C" Co moved with TF YEOMANS from the vic of HAST-ENRATH to cross the ROER RIVER at 1400 hours and assembled in the DUREN area. One (1) EM (WIA) by enemy small arms in the vic of BIRKESDORF.

All other units of the Battalion remained in assembly positions preparing for movement into attack.

26: Feb 45 At 2400 hours "A" Go Jr w/2A and the 3rd Plat Ron Co attached moved from VICHT with GComd "A", east of the ROWR RIVER F-1145 to vic of DUREN F-125463.

la w/TF Kane moved east of the ROER KIVER to assembly area to attack at 0803 hours. Reached BUIR F-191516 by P.M. established road blocks there for the night.

3A W/TF DOAN moved east of the ROER RIVER during the hours of darkness to attack at 0600 hours. By 1800 hours had established road blocks vic GOLZHEIM F-185493.

"A" Co CP w/2nd Plat moved from vic DUREN to F-149481 vic of MRRAFNICH by 1700 hours.

"B" Co CP w/lst Plat moved from the vic of MARIAWEILER to vic

of ELIEN F-128515 during the period.

2B moved with TF WELBO: R from the vic of STOLBERG, east of the RORR RIVER during darkness to attack at 0600 hours. By 1800 hours had established road blocks vic ETZWEILER F-171569.

3B moved with TF LOVELADY during the hours of darkness east of the RO R RIVER to attack at 0600 hours. By 1800 hours road blocks had been established at HS ETAWEILER. One (1) round of APO, 90mm, was fired at a enemy half-track, results unknown. The Platoon captured two (2) enemy patrols during the night, of six (6) men each, a total of 12 prisoners.

"C" CO CP W/2C & 3C moved with C Comd "HOWZE" from vic of BREINIG K-933382, east of the ROWR RIVUR to an assembly area vic of BIRKESDORF. OP located 7-102478. 2C located F-106484 and 3C located F-100490.

10 W/TF YEOMANIS attacked at 0600 hours. By 1700 hours had est-

ablished road blocks vio of MANHEIM F-200545.

The Bn CP (less A.B and C and Ron Co's) moved from the vicinity of MARIAWEILER F-093473, east of the ROER RIVER to F-109469 via of DUREN. Closing at 0959 hours.

Ron Co (- 3 Plats) moved from vio WEISWEILER F-007483 to vio of DUREN F-109469.

· (ETA) 567 vio of PYSWETTE ed w/27 business to use of himself p-130 23 advi

leaving MINTELETT of 1430 Mouse, it was in position there, became of most 23 in position there, became of mochant and returned to action by the and of the returned to action by the end of the particulary fire was received in vie of REGIONS.

38 Continued to attack with 29 LOVELLE, advanced from RS REWKLIER to position in the vie of BERNELPER 7-195995.

"O" On GP moved from 3-102478 wie of BIREREDORF to 3-197-575 vie WillerAtt.

10 with TF TROMANS advanced from MANNETH F-200545 to pooition in the vio of BERRELORF where they received enoug artilless fire. This artillery fire killed one (1) M and injured one (1) M. By 1800 hours this plateon went into position in the vie of ALFVALID P-2262.

20 moved with TF RICHARDSON from vie of BIRINGSONF 3-105-484 into the attack to assist in obtaining the N.R. portion of the Division Objective. By 1800 hours this force had taken positions in vicinity of PAPFREDORF F-207633.

30 moved with TF HOGAN from P-100490 vie BIRKENDORF inte the attack to secure N.E. portion of the Division Objective. By 1500 hours, force had taken up positions in vic of GLESCH F-2064.

28 Feb 45T The Bm CP with Hq Co and Ron Co (-3 Plats) moved from F-144481 vio MERZENICH at 1245 hours to F-163525 via MORSCHEMICH. closing at 1415 hours.

"A" CO CP w/2A moved from the vie of MARKEIN F-197557 to F-195594 vio of BERRENDORF.

lA displaced forward from the vic of HEPPENDORF to take up position at F-196618 vic DESDORF.

3A continued with TF DOAR from the vie of GRILRATH to take up position at F-227605 via of THORR. Received enemy mortar and articlery fire. One (1) 1/4 ton truck demaged.

"B" Co CP w/lB remained at F-170567 via of ETZWEILER thre-

ughout the period.

2B moved from F-180605 vio of S. RISDORF to morth of RIS-DORF as the town was cleared by TF WEIBORK. One section established read block at F-180608 and the 2nd section at F-183607.

5B remained in position at F-195595 vie of BERENDORF thr-

oughout the period.

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"C" CO CP moved from F-197573 vio of WULLEBRATH to F-197-594 vic BERREN BORF.

10 remained in position in the vic of EIEPERICH F-2262 throughout the period. One (1) TD had run into a bomb crater on the 27th Feb 45. This TD was recovered and repaired during the period.
20 remained in position vic of PAFFENDORF P-207633 with

TF RICHARDSON. Received enemy artillery fire during the period. 30 remained in position in vio of GLESCH with TF HOGAN

throughout the period. Received some enemy mortar and artillary fire.

Bn CP F-163525 vie MORSCHENICH LOUATIONS: Hq Co & Tos-vic Bn CP Ron Co CP (-3 Plats) - vic Bn CP. "A" Co C. P-195594 vic BERRENDORF W/CC "A" 1A F-196618 vic DESDORF W/TF KANE 2A -with Co CP in CC "A" Reserve

LOCATIONS: (cont'd)

"A" Co (cont'd)

3A F-227605 vio THORR W/TF DOAD

"B" CO OF F-170567 vio ETZWEILER W/CC "B"

1B —with Co CP in CC "B" Reserve

2B —1 section F-180608,

1 section F-183607 vio ELSDORF W/TF WELBORN

3B F-195595 vio BERRENDORF W/TF LOVELADY

"C" CO OF F-197597 vio BERRENDORF W/TF YEOMANS

1C F-2262 vio ZIEPERICH W/TF YEOMANS

2C F-207633 vio PAFFENDORF W/TF YEOMANS

3C F-2064 vio GLESCH W/TF HOGAN

NOTE: -- During the period 8 Feb to 22 Feb inclusive, the Reconnaissance Platoons in contacting the Companies, using gasoline recovered from recovered Jerricans, recoved the following list of salvageable material which was turned in to G-4 Section, 3rd Armd Div.

Jerrioms	023	Reels, wire, empty	680
Raincoats	⁻ 66	Overcoats	14
Shirts, Wool OD	13	Trousers, Wool OD	17
dloves, ODpre	11	Blankets, Wool OD	ĩò
Jackets, field	-8	Trousers, fatigue	8
daps, wool, knit	Ă.	Jackets, fatigue	Ğ9
Patigues, 1 pc, HBT	15	Drawers, wool	6
Undershirts, Wool	2 5	Helmets, steel	3 4
Meggings,prs	49	Packs, Infantry	29
Bags, Musette	6	Bags, Mail	ii
mags, Duffle	2		
	37	Bags, Barracks	3
Bolts, Rifle	27'	Belts, Pistol	14
Pouches, First Aid		Stretcher, First Aid	2
denteens	43	Canteen, covers	29
Canteen Cups	40	Mest Cans	37
Covers, meat can	35	Bed Roll GI	1
Shelter halves	57	Straps, shoulder harness	12
Overshoes.,prs	14	Shoes, serviceprs	10
Hood, impregnated	1	Tarpaulins, Misc	25
Carrier, canvas, for Walk-	·	Carrier, canves, misc	9
ie/Talkie	1	Bay on the sea	2
Pouches, clip, carbins	2	Case, carbine	1
Case, cenvas, compass	1	Bucket, canvas, water	7
Barrel, 50 Cal MO	2	Gloves, leather, working.prs	9
Shovels, entrenching	14	Covers, shovel/entrench	14
Plokmattox	3	Pick, large	• 4
Oase, osnvas, ammo, Bas	2	Tripod, .30 Cal	ı
Sweater, weel, knit	2	Muffler, wool, knit	1
Mount, M33 for .30 Cal	1	Boots, hipprs	2
Mack, Gas, M	4	Cradles, .50 Cal	2
Wheel, MB or M20	1	Strap, carr, Mrs. Bag	3
Belt, safety, truck	5	Undershirts, ootton	3
Shorts, cotton	3	Pyramidal tent	í
Plag, set, w/carrier	ì	Tripod, .50 Cal	ī
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List of Salvageable material recovered by Ron Plats. (cont'd)

Note: The gasoline used to operate vehicles within assigned areas for retrieving government property was taken from revovered Jerricans, to date (22 Feb 45); 165 gallons.

for the Commending Officer:

Male & Foduil MERIE L. GOODRICH Major, 703d 2D BR