

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS
801st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 230

1 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.
TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

1. In compliance with AR 345-105 the following report is submitted for the month of January:-

1 Jan - This battalion attached to 99th Infantry Division.

Co A occupied anti-tank positions via HOFEN, still attached to the 3rd Bn of the 395th Infantry Regt which in turn remained attached to the 9th Inf Div.

Co B, less one platoon, occupied positions of anti-tank defense in the vicinity of ELSENBORN, 99th Inf Div sector. The 3rd platoon occupied positions via BERG. Improvement of gun positions continued.

Co C occupied anti-tank positions via ELSENBORN. Guns were dug in and improvement of positions and cover continued.

Almost all of the positions occupied were well forward and a large proportion of these were located on the MLR where they were under direct observation by the enemy. The reason for these extremely forward siting positions was to break up any hostile armored attack before it could penetrate the MLR.

2 Jan - The Bn CO and S-3 met with the 2nd Inf Div and the 99th Inf Div anti-tank officers for the purpose of making arrangements to relieve Co C, 612th TD Bn in the BERG area with Co B of this unit. Co C would then be responsible for the anti-tank defense of the entire 99th Div sector.

3 Jan - The 612th TD Bn(SP) relieved Co B in the ELSENBORN sector. Co B moved to via SOURBRODT for the maintenance and inspection of material.

4 Jan - The company commander and platoon leaders of Co B reconnoitered for gun positions via BERG.

5 Jan - Co B occupied gun positions in the BERG area and was then attached to the 2nd Div.

6 Jan - No change in situation.

7 Jan - Forward CP established in the town of ELSENBORN. Four(4) guns were evacuated from Co B to Ordnance for maintenance and repair.

8 Jan - No change in situation.

[REDACTED]

February 1945-continued.

9 Jan - Major R. I. McKESSON, 0285974, FA(TD), assumed command of this Battalion, relieving Lt Col E. B. HORSFALL, 0332211, by order of FOCG, V Corps.

10 Jan - Co B established rotation plan for maintenance of guns. Four(4) guns were returned to the line and two(2) more were pulled out for repair.

11 Jan - Bn CO and the 99th Div anti-tank officer reconnoitered positions North of ELSENBOHN for anti-tank defenses.

Companies continued to improve overhead cover of gun positions. Sandbags were placed two(2) deep to establish a wall around the guns. Logs and sandbags were used in the construction of a roof for the guns.

12 and 13 Jan - No change in situation.

14 Jan - One(1) EM seriously wounded in Co B. It is believed a self-propelled weapon fired direct upon this gun crew although it could not be seen by any of the crew.

Reconnaissance for a rehabilitation center was made by the Executive Officer with the idea of giving rest to approximately thirty-six(36) EM. Billets were found in VERVIERS, messing arrangements were made with the 359th Replacement Center, and showers were arranged for.

15 Jan - No change in situation.

16 Jan - Permission was received to move a section of guns of Co C which were located in the immediate vic of a crossroads. The CO of Co C made a reconnaissance for new positions.

The first group consisting of thirty-six(36) EM and three(3) Officers left for twenty-four(24) hours of rehabilitation in VERVIERS.

17 Jan - The first group returned from VERVIERS, enthusiastic about the arrangements.

18 Jan - The second group left for VERVIERS.

19 Jan - No change in situation.

20 Jan - Two(2) guns of Co B were placed in mobile reserve vic of their Co CP. Positions had been selected but due to enemy observation the emplacements were being dug before placing the guns.

21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 Jan - Improvement of gun positions continued by all cos. One of the mobile reserve guns vic Co B CP placed in position.