

HEADQUARTERS  
801st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
APO 250, US ARMY

R-82

4 July 1944.

**SUBJECT:** Military Records.  
**THRU :** The Commanding General, 4th Infantry Division.  
**TO :** The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1. In compliance with Paragraph 10, Change No. 3, dated 9 March 1943, to AR 345-105, Military Records, dated 18 November 1929, the following is hereby submitted:

a. On 13 Jun 44 at 1430 the leading elements of the 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion landed on Utah Beach and were immediately directed to a de-waterproofing area. Immediately, contact was made with our Liaison Officer who brought information from Division that the companies upon arrival and organization would report to their respective combat teams: "A" Co to the 8th Inf., "B" Co to the 12th Inf., and "C" Co to the 22nd Inf. "A" Co assembled and de-waterproofed and was sent to an area approximately two (2) miles South of Montebourg with the mission of supporting fire for the 29th FA Battalion. The forward echelon with the reconnaissance platoons moved to an area laterally with the 4th Infantry Division Headquarters.

b. On 13 Jun 44 small elements of "B" and "C" companies started arriving at 2200. By 16 Jun 44 the battalion was present and in operation with its personnel less the residue; "B" company being attached to the 42nd FA Battalion and "C" company to the 44th FA Battalion.

c. From 16 Jun 44 to 25 Jun 44 "A", "B" and "C" companies were employed for the most part in their secondary missions, that is, supporting fires to the Field Artillery Battalions to which attached. One (1) platoon of "A" company relieved the 899th TD Bn of a direct fire mission on the main road South of Montebourg. They shelled constantly due to the straight road and observation from Montebourg.

d. The reconnaissance platoons during the period of 14 Jun 44 to 25 Jun 44 were given missions of contacting the front line elements and to report enemy locations and possible tank approaches. On 26 Jun 44 they took position on the right flank of Division to act as outpost and to give protection from enemy elements entering the area.

e. On 25 Jun 44 "A" company was attached to the 8th Inf. for direct fire mission to cover the assault of the 8th Inf. on Cherbourg. The following day they were assigned as part of Task Force "R" for occupancy of Cherbourg.

Military Records (continued)

f. On 27-28 Jun 44 "A", "B" and "C" companies, attached to organizations as shown in Annex #3, were located on the beaches adjacent to Cherbourg for primary missions. "B" company fired approximately 450 rounds on Ft. Central and on Ft. West. Their fire was directed at the windows and slits of the Forts. On 29 Jun 44 the positions of the companies were the same. "B" company covered the approach of our small boats bearing dignitaries to accept surrender from the enemy. Shortly after, the white flag was raised in Ft. De l'Est and Ft. l'Ouest.

g. Casualties in the campaign were very small. One (1) serious casualty in "A" company was received while the remaining companies suffered casualties which were light. Immediate treatment and first aid resulted in duty status.

h. On 30 Jun 44 the battalion received orders to move to an assembly area South of St. Sauveur de Viscompte, reorganize and perform maintenance on vehicles and equipment.

ANNEX I - S-1 Journal  
 ANNEX II - S-2 Journal  
 ANNEX III - S-3 Journal



E. B. HORSFALL, Lt. Colonel,  
 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion,  
 Commanding.