

JOURNAL

ORGANIZATION 803rd Tank Destroyer Battalion
 FROM: _____
 TO : _____
 PLACE: _____

TIME		SERIAL NO.	TIME DATED	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, ETC.	ACTION TAKEN
IN	OUT				
				1 August, 1944	
2020		1.		One (1) Mark V at 459438 at 2000 hrs.	
				2 August, 1944	
0935	0935	2.		One (1) tank Mark V near 459438.	"B" Company
1438	1438			One (1) tank at 455338 moving NW at 1250 (630th T D)	All companies
1600	1610	3.		Two (2) 88's reported at vicinity 450394 at 1200 hrs. One (1) tank and group of trucks at 454385 at 1440 hrs.	L.O. #2 630 T D
1650		4.		Air OP reports tanks moving east at 455338 and 460388 at 1650 hrs.	L.O.#2
1740		5.		Enemy tanks and guns at 423364 reported by Inf. (630 T D)	All companies
1900				Lt. Mattas reports that he saw a dead German that was wearing G.I. clothes (Trousers, Jacket). He had a German weapon helmet and boots.	
		6.		First Army reports at 2200 tanks of 11th, 9th Pz Div as of our front. May appear against us tomorrow. Some tanks of 116th Pz have been identified moving towards Vire from the south. Master reports that tanks of the 9th, 11th, 116th Pz Div are south of us and can attack at dawn. "B" company took One (1) prisoner.	
2250				3 August, 1944	
0920	0920	7.		Mines reported on slopes north of St. Martin 4738 by PW	All companies
1310	1310	8.		Roads to south heavily mined.. Use caution. Specific road at 471396.	All companies & Div
1400		9.		CCB reconnaissance elements meeting resistance one (1) mile northwest San Salvados Calvados.	
	1410	10.		Enemy resistance One (1) mile northwest St. Sever Calvados.	All companies & 630 T D Bn.
	1430	11.		CCA no resistance since leaving Percy. First Div reported in Mortain. Strong resistance in woods south of Mortain (Div).	
1500	1500	12.		Enemy mines laid heavy on trails in areas 4236 - 4336- 4437 and La Calombe	All companies
1600		13.		Tanks reported 610385 by an unknown radio.	L.O.#2 at Div
1610	1610	14.		Mines reported at 432440 - 449425 - 475383 and from 469364 to 456375 (reported by Ren Co.).	All companies L.O.#2 at 28th Div.
				Bridges blown at Caursen. Minefield at 398350 and on roads heading north from St. Sever Calvados.	

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4 August, 1944				
1000		15.	110th reported moving south and at 0730 hrs wat at approximately 517299 - 530307. Elements of 9th Div reported at 0730 hrs at 502280 - 516290. Little or no resistance reported.	
	1715	16.	112th 532326 - 545338 1400 hrs only light. 110th 521309 - 532317 at 1320 hrs reported no resistance. On left flank 115th 550344 - 564357 1055 hrs. On right flank 60th 295300 - 516310 1550 hrs reported that S/P's are firing from woods south of 30 line.	All companies
1818	1823	17.	Tanks reported at 546328.	
	1825	18.	Tanks reported at 546328 unconfirmed.	All companies
		19.	Can you give info concerning reported tanks?	"B" Co.
	2030	20.	Inf. strong point at 564325. Arty. at 552317 and 560331. Abattee a 507319 and mined on both approaches. Mines on roads leading south from Calvados, between town and wood vicinity 314320.	All companies 630 T D L.O.#2
	2117	21.	Reported that dual purpose AA guns (Approx. 50mm) and a few M/G's are at coor. 524309. Seems to be an organized strong point.	
5 August, 1944				
1313		22.	Only small patrols are being encountered. Heavy mortar fire from 458337. Artillery battery at 555314 reported neutralized. Sniper and M/G fire from 532320. Progress along entire front slow due to hasty minefields layed by enemy (from L.O.#2)	All companies
	1320	23.	Only small patrols being encountered. Sniper and M/G fire from 532320. Hastily laid mine fields. Heavy mortar fire from 548337.	
6 August, 1944				
1630	1700		Heavy enemy traffic at Gathema. 12 tanks reported travelling east towards Gathema. Mines along roads vicinity 5427. Guns and mines along road from Gathema east to Vengeans (Reported by Rcn Co. 28th Div)	Sent out to "A" "B" and "C" Co. by overlay.
2000			9 tanks reported being seen at 5631. Reconnaissance being made of this area by reconnaissance 803.	All companies
2145	2145	24.	1 S/P located at 604316 time 2010 (Major Browne in AGL plane)	All companies.
2155	2155	25.	4 Mark IV at 619326 moving up and down road time 2000 hrs.	All companies.

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IN	OUT				
7 August, 1944					
1530	1540	26.		Bridge out at 553262 - 1400 hours. Road from 555277 to 574297 believed mined. Crossing at 597299 unsuitable for heavy vehicles (Hcn. Co.)	All companies and 2nd T D Group
	1953	27.		60 tanks reported at coor. 5815 - 1600 hours.	All companies.
2127	2127	28.		Two (2) enemy tanks sighted by Air OP at coor. 600281 (XIX Arty).	All companies.
2358		29.		To 803rd T. D. Bn: 30 tanks reported by Holliday Infantry at 568250 at 2350 hours. Source 2nd T D Group.	
	2359	30.		Message to all companies and 2nd T D Group: Reported 25 enemy tanks assembling at 576276. Time 2350. Intercepted from 630th T.D. Bn.	
8 August, 1944					
		31.		Reported 30 tanks assembled at 568250 - 2350 hrs. (2nd TD Gp) Axel called - Axel reports that division took care of tanks - Time 0315 "C" Co. fired 600 rounds on secondary mission. Effect unknown. Enemy tanks dug in at 565238, Type unknown (Hcn).	
1615		32.		Overlay of roads cleared of mines. (Sent in by Hcn).	
1800		33.		Engineer overprint of roads cleared of mines by XIX Corps.	
1809		34.		Overlay of roads cleared of mines by XIX Engineers and roads reported clear by Hcn.	All companies.
	1815	35.		Intercepted on 630th Frequency. 100 tanks moving from NW to Sour de Val. 47 Tiger tanks moving east to Sour de Val. 40 tanks moving NW at 670111. 32 tanks at 613186. (This message intercepted by Hcn) 2nd TD Gp can not confirm.	"A" Co. alerted All companies
2155	2200	36.			
9 August, 1944					
2132		37.		0201 to 0600 "C" Co. fired secondary mission. 600 rounds at roads, road junctions. Effect unknown.	
2132	2132	38.		Reported that possibly new enemy division is taking over at Gathemo, with tanks. Could mean counter-attack. (L.O.#1)	All companies

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			10 August, 1944	
2015	39.		0001 to 0600 "C" Co. fired indirect mission on cross roads. Effect unknown.	
	40.		Undisclosed number of tanks at 669224. Under artillery fire now. (Ben Co)	All companies
			11 August, 1944	
0800	41.		"C" Co. fired 700 rounds, secondary mission. effect unknown.	
	42.		Overlay of blown bridge and impassable road.	
	43.	0830	Bridge blown at 600275. Road impassable at 548244 due to shell and bomb holes.	All companies & 2nd TD Gp
	44.	1145	50 M.M. mines on roads and in hedges at 582245. Should be cleared by 1400H.	All companies.
1400	45.	1330	Minefield reported to be along road from 620223 to 623223 (reported by Ben)	All companies.
	46.	1550	Civilians report enemy dug-in on line 553205 - 570205. (Lt. Thiazien from a French Captain). "C" Co. fired secondary mission from 1300 to 1700. Effect unknown.	All companies.
			12 August, 1944	
	47.	1100	"C" Co. fired secondary mission on Sour de Val. effect unknown.	
2035	48.	2035	Enemy pockets vicinity 6323 and 6523. One (1) 88 at 6523. Moving S/P on road just west Sour de Val. Last seen at coor. 591190. May have been taken care of by Air Corps.	All companies & 2nd T D Gp.
2212	49.	2206	Snellrep.	Axel.
	50.	2212	Tank battle vicinity area grid line 56 between 16 and 18.	All companies & 2nd TD Gp.
			13 August, 1944	
1945	51.	1100	"B" Co. fired 352 rounds secondary mission. effect unknown.	
	52.	1445	Mines at 583167. (picked up on an unknown net). Civilian reports 7 A.T. mines at 539191. Engineers report no particular pattern to minefields. (Ben report)	All companies.
2000	53.	2330	Road net cleared and believed mined from 590165 - 597164 - 600180 (reported by Ben).	All companies.

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IN	OUT				
				14 August, 1944 No entry.	
2030	2030	54.		15 August, 1944 Interception from Cassack. Reports 2 unidentified tanks at 780150.	
		55. 56.		16 August, 1944 XIX G-2 Periodic Report. No Incidents.	
		57. 58.		17 August, 1944 Moved to VII Corps. 1st T D Group. No Incidents.	
		59. 60.		18 August, 1944 1st T D Group G-2 Periodic Report. No incidents.	
		61.		19 August, 1944 Reported 3 U.X.B.'s to VII Corps Ordnance Officer. Coord. 166095 - 141911 - 149911.	
		62. 63. 64.		2nd T D Group S-2 Periodic Report. XIX G-2 Periodic Report. No incidents.	
		65.		20 August, 1944 XIX and 2nd T D Gp. G-2 Periodic Report.	
1120	1120 1655	66. 67.		Enemy supposed to be in Laigle. 2 bridges out at coord. 7635 and 806-372. M/G's and snipers between two wrecked bridges. (Report by Ren)	All companies. All companies & 2 TD Gp.
	1700	68. 69.		Frenchmen reported that 50 tanks were in Laigle, to Ren platoon. Ren captured one PW. Turned in to Powerhouse.	All companies & 2 TD Gp.
2235	2235	70. 71.		"C" Co. captured one PW. Turned in to Powerhouse.	
2310	2310	72.		Enemy Ren (Armd) concentrating on road between Laigle and Crulai. R.R. Crossing mined at 650352.	All companies & 2 TD Gp. All companies.

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21 August, 1944				
0800	73.		"C" Co. captured 2 PW's. Turned into Powerhouse.	
1110	74.		2nd TD Group Periodic Report. Enemy Machine gun at Chandai. Enemy patrols at Crulia. (Civilian report to Rcn Co.)	
	1140	75.	Civilians report machine gun at Chandai	2 TD Group & All companies.
1155	1155	76.	866410 and patrols at Crulia 8137. Message intercepted by radio (source unknown) states that PW reports that company of enemy desiree to surrender but their officer won't let them. They have mortars.	2 TD Group & All companies.
22 August, 1944				
0113	77.		Negative Report from Rcn Co.	
0205	78.		Negative Report from Rcn. Co.	
1150	1150	79.	Small enemy Inf force in cemetary at 006485.	All companies
1940	2000	80.	20 Tiger Tanks reported at 926495 (from 630th TD Bn). Road block at 866409. It is unguarded. (Rcn Co) French report German Headquarters at Chateau vicinity 9E5567 owned by Madme Olly. Same Frenchman reports small AA units vicinity 931545.	All Companies & 2 TD Group. 2 TD Group and XIX Corps, G-2.
23 August, 1944				
1145	1150	81.	Lt. Therrian with 3rd platoon Rcn Co 1st U.S. Unit in Conches, captured 32 PW's in woods, just north of town. Recon. party "C" Co. took 8 PW's at Conches at 1130 hours.	2 TD Group.
1220	1230	82.	One PW taken by Headquarters Company, at coor. 0247.	2 TD Group.
1330	1340	83.	From L.O.#2 - 119th Field Artillery reports large column of enemy tanks vicinity 1276 approaching Bacquenpuis.	2 TD Group.
1405	1410	84.	"C" company took 3 PW's at Conches, Turned over to 125th Cavalry.	2 TD Group.
1530	1545	85.	Tanks at Q9875. 2 light tanks at Q844398. 800 men and 50 tanks at Q845445 between 1200 and 1400 hours.	All companies.
1607	1607	86.	2 Nebelwerfers located in vicinity of Berville 013699 (reported by Officer of 228th F.A.). He stated that Air O/P checking and probably located by this time.	2 TD Group.
1810	1820	87.	Co. "B" captured 12 PW's at 945497 with no resistance. Turned over to Powerhouse.	2 TD Group.
1840	1855	88.	Rcn Co. 1st Platoon captured 52 PW's. German recon. units running across river at and north of Le Neubourg.	2 TD Group.
1950	1950	89.		

1155, 1300, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1405, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1460, 1470, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560, 1570, 1580, 1590, 1600, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650, 1660, 1670, 1680, 1690, 1700, 1710, 1720, 1730, 1740, 1750, 1760, 1770, 1780, 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950

1155, 1300, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1405, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1460, 1470, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560, 1570, 1580, 1590, 1600, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650, 1660, 1670, 1680, 1690, 1700, 1710, 1720, 1730, 1740, 1750, 1760, 1770, 1780, 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950

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IN	OUT				
				24 August, 1944	
1000	1005	90.		1 plat. enemy at 016825. 25 tanks reported at 0085 by civilians.	2 TD Group & All companies.
	1105	91.		"A" Co. took 6 PW's at 013760 at 0930B. Turned over to PW Cage	
	1130	92.		Small arms fire vic. 0214 & 0178 (Ren Co)	All companies & 2nd TD Group.
	1320	93.		Co. "A" picked up two PW's. Turned into Horseshoe.	2 TD Group.
	1415	94.		Co. "A" picked up 2 Pw's making total 12 PW's for day. Turned into Horseshoe.	2nd TD Group.
	1430	95.		1st Plat. Co. "A" fired 12 rounds 3" H.E., 100 rounds M/G at pocket coor. 977768. Results not known, but no more firing from pocket.	2nd TD Group.
	1600	96.		Col. Elm turned in one PW to "C" Co. who turned same into Holiday.	
	1900	97.		1 PW turned into 28th Div.	
				25 August, 1944	
	1100	98.		Headquarters Co. turned in one PW into Horseshoe.	
				26 August, 1944	
	1300	99.		French Civilians reported to the 28th CIC that 50 Germans were in a Chateau at 012635. Victim 3 sent two M8's & two M10's to see if this is true. French report proved in error. No Germans in area.	
				27 August, 1944	
				No entry.	
				28 August, 1944	
				No entry.	
				29 August, 1944	
				No entry.	
				30 August, 1944	
				No entry.	

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IN	OUT				
31 August, 1944					
1400		100.		314th located large enemy ammunition dump underground at vicinity 8583. also located an underground aircraft assembly plant with several hundred new engines in quarry at 958654.	
1500		101.		47th Pz Corps C.P. at 007913 St. Loop. Bridges at 100808 - 090793 - 092751 are out.	All companies
1500		102.		Elements of 3 Pz divs are facing U.S. vic. Troyes they are the 3rd, 15th and 90th. 30th Div captured enemy Ordnance Depot with tools and supplies in Ablieges 804705. This is Tac/R report as of 1305 hours - Concentrations of enemy armor firing on our troops vic. 420900. Pilot made urgent call for dive bombers. N9610 - 100 to 150 enemy vehicles & armor. N7833 3 large supply dumps between Chainz and La Fere 6 to 8 trains in good condition.	
	1525	103.		Bridges out at 100808 - 090773 - 092751.	All companies
	1900	104.		Quartermaster party picked up 2 PW's vicinity Meru. Turned over to French Police in Meru.	