

Auth: CO, 804 TD Bn
Initials: JK
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HEADQUARTERS EIGHT HUNDRED FOURTH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
A.P.O. 464, U. S. ARMY

18 November 1944

SUBJECT: Battalion History for Month of September.

TO : Commanding General,
Fifth Army,
APO 464, U. S. Army.

During the month of September the Battalion has experienced heavier fighting and more casualties than during any other similar period. The Battalion has been more widely separated having units in support of elements of two Infantry Divisions.

The first few days of the month brought about many changes in attachment in preparation for the assault on the Gothic Line. On 3 September 1944, the Battalion, less Company A and one platoon of Reconnaissance Company, was relieved from attachment with 34th Infantry Division and attached to 88th Infantry Division. Company B plus one platoon of Reconnaissance Company moved into position north of the Arno River under control of 91st Reconnaissance Squadron. On 4 September the first casualties were sustained. One officer and one enlisted man killed and one enlisted man wounded in Company B by enemy artillery fire. On 7 September the Battalion less Company A and one platoon of Reconnaissance Company was relieved from attachment with 88th Infantry Division and attached to 34th Infantry Division and subattached to 91st Reconnaissance Squadron. On 11 September the Battalion less Company C and one platoon of Reconnaissance Company was attached to 91st Infantry Division, Company C and one platoon of Reconnaissance Company remaining attached to 34th Infantry Division. All units were employed to support Infantry Regiments of two divisions.

On 12 September Captain James T. Webster, Commanding Officer, Company A, was on a reconnaissance mission with the Commanding Officer of Company A, 755th Tank Battalion, when they supposedly encountered a pocket of enemy at Gabbiano, Italy, that had been by-passed by our advancing infantry. All members of the party have been reported as missing as attempts to locate them the following day were fruitless. One of the searching parties led by Major Wallace L. Clement, Battalion Executive Officer, narrowly escaped being trapped by the enemy at Gabbiano on the 13 September.

At the close of the month the three Tank Destroyer Companies with one Reconnaissance Platoon attached to each company of Tank Destroyers were in support of the Infantry Regiments. Companies A and B in support of 91st Infantry Division troops and Company C with one platoon attached to each of the three Infantry Regiments, 34th Infantry Division.

[REDACTED]

During the month of September the Battalion passed through its sixth month in combat. The following statistical totals have been recorded for the six months of combat:

Total ammunition expended: 46,721 Rounds 3"
5,418 Rounds 81mm Mortar
99 Rounds 37mm

Casualties: 18 Killed in Action
66 Wounded in Action
2 Missing in Action

Six combat appointments of enlisted men to Second Lieutenants.

Announcement of the following Combat Awards:

1 Legion of Merit
1 Silver Star (posthumously)
8 Bronze Star Medals
2 Division Citations

FRED G. ROWELL,
Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry,
Commanding.