

HEADQUARTERS 100TH AIRBORNE DIVISION BATTALION
APO 44, United States Army

BATTALION HISTORY

MARCH 1945

At the beginning of the month, the Battalion (Reconnaissance Company) was attached to the 1st Infantry Division (operations only) and further attached to the 1st Task Battalion. All gas companies, and reconnaissance company, were in the line, with reconnaissance company attached 1st reconnaissance squadron, active at Infantry vicinity Highway 64. B & C Companies occupied direct fire positions across the entire division sector (along river valley), with one platoon of B Company attached to the 1st Infantry Division on our right. Battalion maintenance of morale was maintained by rotating them from their firing positions to Battalion base. B & C Companies continued to operate observation posts at 2400 and 2450.

1 to 10 March 1945

During this period A Company fired 10 rounds direct fire, B rounds 10 on enemy installations. B Company fired 11 rounds direct and C Company fired 10 rounds direct, 8 rounds APC. Reconnaissance company moved their rear installations to vicinity of Ligars on Highway 64, A Base: 2450. Reconnaissance was relieved from its sector on the line and moved to a reserve position on March 8th. They returned to the line on the 10th.

Twelve replacements joined the Battalion 2 March. On 6 March Major Arrubare returned from temporary duty United States of America. Lieutenant Lavin (acting platoon leader) departed for Intelligence Officers' school, United States Headquarters. On 10 March approximately 200 captured men and officers obtained a promise on "what to say if captured and how to cooperate". Corporals Smith and Brown, Company A were promoted to sergeant. Technical Sergeant Durkowitz was assigned to C Company as a rotational replacement for Corporal Willows.

11 to 20 March 1945

During this period A Company fired 10 rounds direct and 9 APC, Company B fired 10 direct and 1 APC. The 1st platoon of Company B (attached 1st Infantry Division) returned to Battalion control. They reported to Battalion maintenance 10 March. Reconnaissance Company's 1st and 2nd platoons were attached to reconnaissance company, 1st Task Battalion, and 1st reconnaissance company. C Company had one 1/2 ton knocked out by mortar fire on the night of the 10th. On the 19th of March at 0400 the 2nd platoon of reconnaissance company was attacked by an unknown number of enemy. The attack was repulsed with reconnaissance suffering only one (1) casualty. 1st Task Battalion was hit. The Logistics Group (Italian) began the pull of elements of the 1st Division during the night of 18-19 March. On 20 March at approximately 2000, about 15 enemy assaulted the positions of 2nd platoon reconnaissance company. They were repulsed without cost to our troops. Enemy casualties were believed light.

The work ended with the installation still in the line. Company was in the vicinity of installation for maintenance and training. A list of completed work items follows under the 7th Division and 8th Division. Maintenance Company provided with 9th Maintenance Squadron during its training vicinity Highway 6.

17 items

Harry N. Caruthen
HARRY N. CARUTHERS
Major, Infantry
Company

- APPENDIX "A"
- Operating Report
- Log Journal
- Field Orders
- 1st Report - 2nd Div 1st Bn
- 2nd Report - 2nd Div 1st Bn
- 3rd Report - 2nd Div 1st Bn
- 4th Report - 2nd Div 1st Bn
- 5th Report - 2nd Div 1st Bn
- Operational Instructions
- Company Attack Plans
- Fire Field Logs
- Fire Plans
- Heavy Shelling Report

- APPENDIX "B"
- Log Journal
- Company History
- Company Report