Division Artillery ordered a Reconnaissance Platoon of Troop A, 89th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, to retake the town of Mullerthal. Company B went into direct fire positions to repel a possible armored attack. At 1100 hours the Battalion (-) came under control of CCA, 9th Armored Division. Troop B, 89th Reconnaissance Squadron, was ordered to take control of Mullerthal, and to contain the German advance. Before this could be accomplished, Troop A, 89th Reconnaissance Squadron, was compelled to withdraw from the Mullerthal draw. A coordinated attack was then planned in conjunction with Troop A and B of the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron by Colonel A. R. Brownfield, Battalion Commander, 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion. At 1330 hours Lt. Torgerson’s Platoon of Company B flanked by dismounted personnel of the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron began an attack on Mullerthal. Lt. Torgerson’s destroyer was struck by bazooka fire in the narrow defile of the Mullerthal draw and several of the 89th Reconnaissance men were killed, and the attack bogged down. A second attack was mounted in view of recovering the disabled destroyer with the M32 recovery vehicle. The remainder of Lt. Torgerson’s platoon, led by Sgt. DeJorine, moved up across a small open field to the left of the defile supported by dismounted men from the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron and Reconnaissance Company, 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion, firing point-blank into the woods. The M32 was moved down to the vicinity of the destroyer, but went over a steep embankment to the right, and was unable to perform its mission. The attack was then abandoned due to darkness. Sgt. DeJorine was later promoted to 2nd Lt. as a result of his leadership and heroism shown in this action. Estimated enemy losses were four machine guns destroyed, 13 dead, and innumerable wounded. Estimated strength of the enemy in the draw was one Battalion of infantry. Major Earl G. Peacock, Battalion Executive Officer, was wounded in this action. Lt. Torgerson and his crew were missing. Troops A and B, 89th Reconnaissance Squadron, were placed under Battalion control and outposts were set up for the night. During the next few days artillery fire on the positions continued to be very heavy, and inflicted considerable personnel loss and equipment. Our own artillery supported us throughout the entire period. On 18 December Sergeant Schnell was sent to elements of the 4th Infantry Division on our right (south) flank as liaison. A task force composed of elements of the 482d AAA Bn. was on our left. On 19 December Lt. Hornung, then in Company B, took his platoon to support an attack on the left, and fired upon a farm house enabling that unit to capture 61 prisoners of the 276th VG Division. They reported 40 dead in the house on which the platoon had fired. The PW’s reported that they had received no support since crossing the Our River due to our artillery fire. On the morning of 20 December prisoners taken by Troop B, 89th Reconnaissance Squadron from the Mullerthal draw, reported that our direct fire had killed about one-half their company and that the Division and Regimental Commanders had been killed. At 1430 hours on 20 December 1944, enemy infantry estimated to be one company supported by tanks attacked from the north from the direction of Haller and were repulsed. They attacked again at 1530 hours with two companies and 3 more tanks. Two of these tanks were destroyed and 50 enemy killed, and the attack was repulsed just as darkness fell. During this action the rear echelon, then at Waldbillig, moved to Christnach, and then to Heffingen, and combat elements took up positions on the high ground between Waldbillig and Christnach. This was necessary due to insufficient dismounted personnel to protect Waldbillig against a determined infantry attack. Strong 24 hour patrols were now SOP. At 1000 hours on 21 December Task Force Chamberlain, which was composed of two armored infantry companies, one tank company, and one Field Artillery Battalion, all of the 10th Armored Division, was ordered to attack Waldbillig, and secure the high ground to the north. Task Force Brownfield, which now consisted of Company B, 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Reconnaissance Company, 811th TD Bn. (less 2 Platoons), Hq. & Hq. Co., 811th TD Bn., and Troops A and B, 89th Reconnaissance Squadron, was to support the attack by fire. The attack jumped off and the town of Waldbillig was occupied at a cost of two tanks and over 100 infantrymen killed, wounded, or missing. Because of the casualties suffered in the attack, Colonel Chamberlain decided to withdraw his troops from Waldbillig into Christnach. At 0400 hours one company of the 61st Armored Infantry Battalion, 10th Armored Division, which then consisted of about 60 men, moved up to outpost our positions, relieved what few dismounted personnel had been gathered up for this purpose. These troops as well as Task Force Chamberlain, came under control of Task Force Brownfield. During the next few days the situation was static, with continuous enemy fire from mortars, direct fire weapons and nebelwefer falling on the positions. One round of mortar fell in one of Company B’s destroyers mortally wounding Lt. Dalle Tezze. The enemy continued to strengthen their positions around Waldbillig until the 24th of December, when 11th Regiment, 5th Infantry Division, attacked through our positions. Company B’s tank destroyers supported this attack with direct fire. Thus ended the “Battle of Waldbillig”. At 2030 hours on the night of 25 December the billeting party left for Etalle, Belgium. All units of the task force, including the attached units of 10th Armored Division, were relieved and moved to the vicinity of Arlon, Belgium, then received orders to move to vicinity of Troonay, Belgium, to support the attack of the 4th Armored Division in an effort to relieve the besieged 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne, Belgium. All attached units reverted back to CCA. On arrival at Troonay, Belgium, at about 2400 hours, 25 December 1944, and after a march of nearly 200 miles, CCA, 9th Armored Division, was reorganized for combat. Three task forces
were set up Task Forces Karsteder, Collins, and Brownfield. One Platoon, Company B, 811th TD Bn., with a Reconnaissance Section attached, was attached to each of the first two named. Task Force Brownfield consisted of Companies B and Rcn. (minus), 811th TD Bn., Hq. & Hq. Co., 811th TD Bn., Troops A, B and E, 89th Reconnaissance Squadron, and Company B, 81st Armored Engineers. Company C and Collins attacked up the Neufchateau-Bastogne Road at 0800 hours, 26 December 1945. Task Force Brownfield followed, with a mission of protecting the road once it was opened, and clearing it of obstructions. Its CP was opened at Vaux Les Rosiers, Belgium, on 27 December 1944. Thus CCA, 9th Armored Division, launched a successful attack at daylight, 26 December 1944, in bitter cold weather, following a 200 mile march, and 10 extremely difficult days of combat. Few Troops could have done it. Company B went into action having lost 3 of its platoon leaders, Lt. Norton, KIA, Lt. Adams, WIA, Lt. Torgerson, MIA, and Lt. Dalle Tezze, the Executive, mortally wounded. Lts. Turrell and Horning were transferred to the Company from Hq. & Hq. Co. as Platoon Leaders. The following enlisted men had been KIA: S/Sgt. Evanchuk, T/4 Delaney, Sgt. Walker, Pvt. Burris, Pfc. Leaman had been mortally wounded. Sgt. Glasser, Cpl. Gosselin, S/Sgt. Thomas, T/4 Bowen, S/Sgt. Supenis, Pfc. Shelly, Cpl. Meuse, Sgt. Pauley and Cpl. Alderman had been wounded in action.

Lt. Horning in command of the 1st Platoon of Company B with the 2d Section of the 2d Rcn. Platoon moved out at 0730 hours on 26 December 1944 with Task Force Collins to take Sibret, Belgium. The enemy withdrew into the woods near Chenogne, and the Platoon spent that night and the next day at Sibret. Lt. Turrell and the 2d Platoon of Company B with the 1st Section of the 2d Rcn. Platoon moved out to take Villeroux, and cover the left flank of Task Force Karsteder. Their positions suffered from heavy mortar fire for several days. On 29 December Task Force Collins mounted an attack on Chenogne. The mission of the 1st Platoon of Company B was to protect the right flank of the attack. Sgt. Morgan and Lt. Horning took a patrol into a woods through which the Platoon had to proceed in order to perform its mission. One tank was forced out of the woods by fire from the tank destroyers, and a German half-track was destroyed by Sgt. Morgan's M8. Upon moving the platoon into the woods, dismounted Germans began to run out from the rear. The platoon opened fire, wounding one and capturing 12 Germans. Cover positions were taken up to the north of the woods overlooking Chenogne.

Just before daylight on 30 December, the enemy made a surprise attack with tanks and infantry on these positions. Sgt. Stacy's gunner, Hatcher, put 3 successive rounds into a German tank, which had fired on and knocked out two tanks of Task Force Collins to his left. The German tank was destroyed. During the fire fight the preceeding day just outside of Sibret Sgt. Apodaca's destroyer was hit, wounding him and his gunner, Cpl. Winchester. Pvt. Pasela was killed. In the new position Sgt. Stacy and Sgt. Kucinski pulled their tank destroyers to an exposed position, and immediately drew fire from a Mark V or VI. Sgt. Kucinski immediately moved his destroyer to flank position, and knocked out the tank with his first round. Sgt. Stacy shortly thereafter spotted another tank and knocked it out. This action so encouraged the infantry that they moved up, and supported by the extremely accurate fire of these two destroyers, stopped the attack, which would have again cut the Neufchateau-Bastogne Road had it carried another 1,000 yards. The 11th Armored Division made an attack on the left flank that afternoon, thereby easing the situation. The 3d Platoon under Lt. Brenner, relieved the 2d Platoon and it moved into Vaux Les Rosiers. The reserve of Task Force Brownfield at Vaux Les Rosiers was alerted during this attack and moved out, arriving at Jodenville at 1230 hours. The 11th Armored Division moved through their positions in the afternoon, and Task Force Brownfield returned to Vaux Les Rosiers. On 31 December the 3d Platoon under Lt. Brenner supported an attack to the north, and took up positions in support of Task Force Collins. They remained there until relieved on 3 January 1945.

On 3 January 1945 the Battalion less Companies A and C, and the 1st and 3d Platoons of Rcn. Co. were ordered to a marshalling area, in preparation for moving to a rest area. Just before IP time Company B was ordered to stand fast. Company B with the 2d Rcn. Platoon then received orders to move to Bastogne and report to General Taylor, CG, 101st Airborne Division. The remainder of the Battalion moved to Touteron, France, and remained there until 8 January 1945. This portion of the Battalion had been relieved of attached to CCA and reverted to Division control, 9th Armored Division, on 6 January 1945. Company C and the 3d Platoon, Rcn. Company, were relieved of attachment to CCR, and came under Battalion control at this time. They were located at Les Louches, France. On 7 January 1945 Company A and the 1st Rcn. Platoon reverted to Battalion control from CCB.

Company B with the 2d Rcn. Platoon reported to General Taylor 3 January, and Capt. McConkie was ordered to proceed with his Company to Savy, Belgium, to the northwest of Bastogne. They took up positions northwest of and next to the town of Longchamps, and supported the 101st Airborne Division until 7 January. On or about 7 January, Company B moved south to Savy to perform two days maintenance, then moved up the Houffalize-Bastogne Road to a position just south of Foy. On 14 January 1945 at this position Capt. McConkie was wounded, and Lt. Horning took command of the Company. The Company then supported the 101st Airborne Division attack on Foy, Noville and then Rachamps.
On 8 January 1945 the Battalion had been relieved from attachment to the 9th Armored Division, and was attached to 7th TD Group, VIII Corps, and ordered to move to the vicinity of Belfountain, Belgium. Ren. Company less the 2d Platoon closed in at Belfountain; Hq. & Hq. Co. and Co. C closed in at St. Marie, Belgium, and Co. A at Fratin, Belgium.

So much for CCA, 9th Armored Division, and that part of the 811th TD Bn. Attached to it. What of Companies A and C? How had they fared in the "Battle of the Bulge", and what had their experiences been?

On 23 November 1944 Company A was attached to CCB, 9th Armored Division, and moved to an assembly area at Hachiville, Luxembourg. After several days of maintenance and refitting, the Company was ordered to take up indirect firing positions in support of the 16th Armored FA Bn., 9th Armored Division, near Leithum, Luxembourg. Almost all firing was done at night and consisted of harassing and interdictory fires on towns, crossroads, suspected enemy billeting areas, and truck parks. Because of the excessive ranges, few results were observed.

On 13 December 1944 Company A, as part of CCB, was alerted, and moved to vicinity of Faymonville, Belgium. CCB was to support an attack of the 2d Infantry Division which was to take and prevent the enemy from blowing three dams in the Our River north of Dreiborn, Germany. Company A's mission was to move through the leading combat team, and to take and hold the high ground in the vicinity of Dreiborn and repel any tank attacks in that area.

Before this plan could be carried out the 1st Platoon under command of Lt. Albert Kawecki was ordered to 106th Div. Hq. at St. Vith, Belgium, with the mission of moving to Schonberg to stem a general attack along the whole Division front. The fate of this platoon was unknown until April, when part of the Platoon was liberated from a PW camp near Kassel, Germany, by their own Company. Pfc. Wahl was killed in this action, and Sgt. Hill, T/5 Mercier and Pvt. West were wounded, but not evacuated. Sgt. Hill and T/5 Mercier later made their way back to friendly lines, and since that date all men and officers of the 1st Platoon have been accounted for as POW.

On 20 December 1944 the Company moved to the crossroads (852-842), and went into previously reconnoitered positions to repel any and all armored attacks in the sector of the 27th Armored Infantry Bn., 9th Armored Division. With the 3d Platoon occupying the high ground just to the east of the north-south road, the second platoon took positions on the flank in the woods just east and south of the east-west road approximately one mile from Neidingen.

Early in the afternoon Pfc. Greene, Ren. Company, observed five enemy tanks east of Galhausen, but their attack was broken up by friendly artillery fire. Later in the day Sgt. Dailey, Pfc. Andrews and Pfc. Williams maintained contact until they were cut off by the advancing Germans, and then returned cross-country through the enemy lines to the Company's positions. During the day friendly artillery fell on the 2d Platoon's position killing Cpl. Nabors and mortally wounding Sgt. Carter and Pfc. Figg. Pfc. Gialouisis' 37 mm gun was damaged also by the same fire. No armor being sighted the platoon withdrew to a position of readiness NE of St. Vith. One jeep was forced to be abandoned after it became mired down, and accurate mortar fire denied all attempts to recover it. At 1730 hours, in conjunction with the 3d Platoon which had remained in St. Vith, and at that time under sniper fire, the 2d Platoon and attached reconnaissance Platoon was ordered to bivouac area one mile southwest of St. Vith where it spent the night. Pfc. Locke, driver of attached gas truck from Hq. & Hq. Co., was wounded by enemy sniper fire just before the withdrawal.

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Early in the afternoon Pfc. Greene, Ren. Company, observed five enemy tanks east of Galhausen, but their attack was broken up by friendly artillery fire. Later in the day Sgt. Dailey, Pfc. Andrews and Sgt. Gonyo were driven from their OP's by strong enemy infantry attacks moving west from Neidingen. These attacks were met by the security section of the 3d Platoon and driven back. The guns of this Platoon moved into cover of the woods bordering the north-south road from Galhausen. Cpl. Gonyo was killed while leading his section against the infantry in this attack. At 1600 hours the same afternoon enemy infantry again appeared in the woods to the NE at (856-850). 76mm HE direct fire and heavy mortar fire from the M32 were placed on this position and the...
enemy withdrew. At this time considerable artillery and mortar fire fell in the Company position and continued intermittently throughout the night, wounding Pvt. Seibel, the only remaining aid man, Sgt. Johnson, Rcn. Sgt., and Pfc. Dagleish and Pvt. Primeaux of the Rcn. Platoon. At 2000 hours, because of enemy snipers and strong enemy patrols infiltrating near the Company's position, and because of the depleted condition of all infantry Companies on their flanks, Capt. Cronin, Company Commander, ordered the Rcn. Platoon to displace from their OP's and to dig in on a line connecting the two gun platoons. Three machine guns were dug-in to cover the east-west road leading from Neidengen. At midnight with the platoon only partially dug in, a strong enemy infantry force was observed only 20 yards away. Sgt. Rinning threw a grenade at the patrol leader, and Pfc. Dries and Lt. MacNemar opened fire with machine guns followed by the rest of the Company. In the ensuing fire fight it is estimated that two-thirds of the force was either killed or wounded and were dragged off to be picked up later by a German horse-drawn ambulance. Shortly after, extremely heavy enemy artillery fire fell on the entire position. At light they found turning a great number of bazookas were discovered abandoned, and it became apparent that the enemy was intent on knocking out our destroyers. An estimated 50 Germans were killed or wounded in this action. At 0300 hours a strong patrol in force succeeded in overrun two destroyer positions of the 2d Platoon, but withdrew without causing any damage due to the determined efforts of the personnel who continued to defend although overrun. Pfc. Bratcher was killed in this action.

At 1000 hours on 21 December heavy artillery and mortar fire again began to fall on the company's positions and continued all day. Because of the infantry withdrawal from our flanks to attack to the northeast Capt. Cronin ordered the 2d Platoon to fall back to the cover of the woods bordering the north-south road from Galhausen, had the previous positions of the Platoon mined and boby-trapped, and strung trip flares along the entire company front. He then ordered the Rcn. Platoon to dig in along the south of the gun positions to secure the Company's open flank. A platoon of Engineers reported and they dug in to the north of the Company's positions, securing that open flank. During the night the enemy again infiltrated into the position, wearing American uniforms, and succeeding in capturing Cpl. Jackson and Pvt. Muranko, who were later reported MIA. It has been established that during the night direct fire from anti-tank weapons brought up under cover of darkness was directed into the Company's positions with long and short bursts from a Schmeisser gun. Heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire fell all night, and the Engineer casualties were numerous. It was during this action that Capt. Cronin, while assaulting an enemy observer's position on the forward slope of the wooded hill to the northeast of the Company's position, was reported MIA. Lt. Harry B. Tanner, Liaison Officer, between Co. A and CCB was killed later this night by enemy artillery fire. Lt. Sawyer, Company Executive, immediately assumed command of the Company.

At 1330 hours the following day enemy infantry approaching from Galhausen in groups of 10 were killed or dispersed by concentrated MC and 76mm HE fire. At 1400 hours that day the Company was ordered to withdraw to Gruflingen, if possible, and to reorganize for an attack on Neubruck to the north. This withdrawal was made with the loss of one jeep. The order to attack Neubruck was rescinded however, because the enemy was making a determined attack on Gruflingen with tanks and infantry. The Company was working with the 14th Tank Bn. of CCB, whose headquarters were at Gruflingen. The town was raked with direct fire from the tanks, and with observed artillery fire, until darkness. The enemy infantry moved in under cover of darkness supported by tanks. The 3d Platoon received the mission of holding the main crossroads until the 14th Tank Bn. had moved out of Gruflingen. The ammunition truck, which had a broken axle and was being towed by the M32 wrecker, had to be abandoned and Lt. Sawyer ordered it to be blown up. Lt. Whiting was evacuated the following day because of exhaustion, and S/Sgt. Lemmonds took charge of the 2d Platoon. On the 24th of December CCB was ordered into Corps reserve. CCB with Company A moved out with destination as Les Baty, Belgium. At 2300 hours on Christmas Eve the Column was ambushed, and cut in two parts, with the Medical unit receiving the brunt of the fire. Company A was acting as rear guard and was ordered to turn around and use another route to the destination. Early the 25th the Company arrived at Les Baty, and for the next several days the Company set up roadblocks and outposts in the vicinity of the town. Platoons were ordered out nightly to repel tank attacks in nearby towns none of which ever developed. On 29 December 1944 the Company moved to Bnomal, Belgium, still in reserve. After several days of maintenance the Company moved to Chessor Woods, approximately 10,000 yards west of Stavelot, with the mission of holding the high ground and blocking the roads south of Stevelot. By this time the ground was covered with three feet of snow and the roads were covered with ice. Six days later the Company was ordered to report back to Bn. control at Touteron, France. After an extremely difficult two day trip the Company arrived at Touteron, with many destroyers still struggling on the icy roads. The Bn. moved from Touteron to St. Marie, Belgium, that day. Company A moved the following day and billeted in Fratin, Belgium.

On 14 December 1944 Company C, 811th TD Bn., plus 3d Platoon of Rcn. Company, was attached to CCR, 9th Armored Division, and ordered to move to vicinity of Troix Vierges, Belgium. On the march an accident occurred near the town of Troix Vierges, and Sgt. Fisher and Pfc. Squillante were removed to the hospital at Troix.
Vierges. The company continued the road march and bivouacked at Thommen, Belgium. It remained at Thommen until 17 December 1944, at which time the first platoon was ordered by CCR to move to vicinity of Ouren, Germany, and take up defensive positions. This platoon commanded by Lt. Dan S. Orr arrived at Ouren, Germany, a few minutes before dawn, and were led into position by an officer of the 112th Infantry Regiment. Capt. Collins accompanied this platoon on their mission. In the vicinity of Ouren Capt. Collins halted the platoon and with Lt. Sundstrom proceeded on foot to make a last minute reconnaissance. While on this reconnaissance mission the enemy made an attack in force and a fire fight developed. Capt. Collins ordered the platoon to disperse and take the enemy under fire. The fight continued through the day until 2100 hours.

17 December 1944. Losses in this action were two M18's, one M20 and 5 jeeps. Personnel losses were one MIA, Joseph M. Hauser. Capt. Murphy, Pfc. Bill Mitchell and Pfc. Wilson were slightly wounded. Fourteen German tanks were destroyed, as well as an unknown number of infantry.

Due to enemy numerical superiority (estimated 25 tanks) Lt. Orr ordered his platoon to withdraw to Weiswampach, Belgium, and the platoon remained there until 0800 hours, 18 December 1944. At this time they made a tactical road march to vicinity of Longvilley, Belgium. At 1000 hours, 17 December 1944, Capt. Collins returned from Ouren, Germany, and ordered the 2d and 3d Platoons to prepare to move to Ouren, Germany, to aid the 1st Platoon. At 1015 hours a road march was made by these two platoons, led by Capt. Collins, to vicinity of Wilwerdang, Belgium, and placed in a position of readiness. The company rear echelon was left in vicinity of Thommen, Belgium, under command of Lt. Harold G. Bain. At 1100 hours Capt. Collins was ordered forward to reconnoiter in the vicinity of Ouren, Germany, and found the roads blocked and impassable due to heavy enemy fire. At 1400 hours, 17 December the second platoon was ordered by CCR to move to vicinity of Clerveaux, Luxembourg. The 2d Platoon under command of Lt. Dodge reported to Colonel Fuller of the 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, for the mission of destroying tanks. Immediately upon going into position the 2d Platoon entered a fire fight with 27 enemy tanks and half-tracks. After several hours of fighting the Platoon was ordered by Lt. Dodge to retire to the vicinity of Oberwampach, Belgium. In this action the 2d Platoon was credited with one Mark IV and an enemy personnel carrier. The Platoon lost one M18, which turned over in the withdrawal action, also one ammunition trailer. St. Gorman and T/5 Oberhausen were slightly injured in this withdrawal action. At 1800 hours, 17 December 1944, the Company less 1st and 2d Platoons were ordered by CCR to move to a bivouac in the vicinity of Oberwampach, Belgium, where it remained until 1000 hours 18 December 1944. At this time the Company was ordered by CCR to make a road march to the vicinity of Longvilley, Belgium. Gun Positions were established south of Longvilley. At 1200 hours, 18 December, the 3d Platoon commanded by Lt. Bong was ordered by CCR to take up positions in the vicinity of Wincarage, Belgium. At 1500 hours, 18 December 1944, the 3d Platoon encountered heavy enemy fire of 11 tanks plus an estimated number of enemy infantry. Six tanks and a considerable number of infantry were destroyed. At 1700 hours, 18 December 1944, enemy artillery shelled the 3d Platoon's position at Wincarage, and the Platoon was forced to move one mile south and take up position in support of the 2d Tank Bn. At this point the 2d tank Bn. abandoned their vehicles and the 3d Platoon was forced to move again to Longvilley, Belgium. Lt. Bong reported to CCR hq. and was ordered to defend the town of Longvilley, supporting the fire of the 73d FA Bn. At 1730 hours, 18 December 1944, the command echelon made a march from Longvilley, Belgium, to a wooded area one mile west of Longvilley. The command echelon remained in bivouac until 2300 hours and at that time the unit was alerted due to heavy shelling, and was ordered by CCR to move to vicinity of Bastogne, Belgium. At Bastogne the unit was ordered to move to vicinity of Tintigny, Belgium. At this point the unit was billeted and ordered to reorganize. At 0600 hours, 19 December 1944, the 2d Platoon still in position vicinity of Oberwampach, Belgium, made an effort to retire to Bastogne, but was surrounded by enemy infantry and tanks. At this point Lt. Dodge ordered his men to destroy their vehicles and disperse with the idea in mind to reach Bastogne on foot. Lt. Dodge and his men were in rear of enemy lines for 4 days, reaching Bastogne on 23 December 1944. At 0200 hours, 19 December 1944, the 3d Platoon in position at Longvilley was attacked by enemy infantry. In this engagement the 3d Platoon destroyed an enemy personnel carrier loaded with infantry, and an unestimated but considerable number of foot troops. All Reconnaissance Company vehicles were lost in this engagement. At 0530 hours, 19 December 1944, Lt. Bong was ordered to send one destroyer to investigate a number of enemy tanks that were opposing the 10th Armored Division, who were in column northwest of Longvilley. This destroyer commanded by St. Shipulski found four M-4 American tanks in column, but was ordered not to fire, but return and protect the rear of 10th Armored Division. At 1200 hours, 19 December 1944, enemy armor and infantry attacked Longvilley in force. At 1230 hours, 19 December 1944, CCR, 9th Armored Division, moved out of Longvilley and the 3d Platoon was ordered to cover the withdrawal action. In this action the 3d Platoon lost three M18's. They were credited with destroying one enemy tank plus an estimated number of foot troops. At this point Lt. Bong considered the situation hopeless. He then loaded all his men on his one remaining destroyer and fought his way into Bastogne. There he reported to Commanding Officer, Company C, 609th TD
Bn., of CCB, 10th Armored Division. At 0630 hours, 20 December 1944, the 3d Platoon then attached to 10th Armored Division established road blocks. One crew of 3d Platoon found an abandoned M10 and manned it to reinforce one of the positions of the 609th TD Bn. At 1000 hours, 21 December 1944, this crew knocked out one Mark V Tank. At 1435 hours, 21 December, the M10 crew was ordered to return to Bastogne due to lack of fuel. They established a roadblock at Bastogne. At 0530 hours, 22 December 1944 they were relieved from 10th Armored Division and sent to Champs, Belgium, where in the company of two destroyers of the 705th TD Bn. and infantry of the 101st Airborne Division, they seized the town of Chamos and all high ground around the town. Their mission in this engagement was direct support of the infantry. This position was held for 3 days and nights. On 25 December 1944 the last M18 of the 3d Platoon was knocked out by enemy mortar fire, after having knocked out two enemy tanks in a night action. After their vehicle was knocked out the crew of this vehicle was used by the 609th TD bn. in relief roles at Bastogne. Sgt. Ewing discovered and aided in the capture of one enemy CW set that was directing artillery fire on the town of Bastogne. Lt. Bong and 19 of his men returned to Company control in the town of Villers Sur Semois, Belgium, at 1500 hours, 26 December 1944. On 20 December 1944 at 1000 hours the command echelon of Company C was ordered by CCR to make a road march to Joeuf, France. The unit was ordered by CCR to reorganize. At 1000 hours 21 December 1944 Lt. R. F. Sawyer and Lt. Dan S. Orr went to Bastogne, Belgium, to look for men of the 2d and 3d Platoons. Lt. Sawyer remained in Bastogne until 28 December 1944. While there he commanded a tank-infantry task force for the 101st Airborne Division, whose mission it was to capture the towns of Sibret and Villeroux. This mission he carried out with courage, enthusiasm, and energy.

On 23 December 1944 at 0900 hours the organization was ordered by CCR to make road march to vicinity of Tintigny, Belgium, Capt. Collins reported to CCR in Tintigny and was ordered to report to 2d Tank Battalion. On reporting to Capt. Gould of the 2d Tank Battalion, the unit was ordered to move to Villers Sur Semois, Belgium, and prepare to defend the town. At this time the Company had one M18, two medium tanks, and about 70 men. At Villers Sur Semois the organization established a 24 hour patrol until ordered by CCR to move to Les Loches, France, for a short rest period and maintenance. There they remained until 8 January, at which time they were relieved and ordered to return to Battalion control at St. Marie, Belgium. They returned to Battalion control at 1930 hours, 8 January 1945.

Company C's experience had been an exceedingly bitter one, particularly for a unit in its first engagement. However, they had lived up to all hopes and expectations, fighting with élan, courage, and distinction, even though faced with bitter cold and an overwhelming enemy. They destroyed 25 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, and an estimated 300 to 400 infantry. The cost had been high—10 destroyers lost, and about 50 men killed, wounded, or missing (mostly missing, and subsequently liberated). For this action the Company was awarded the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation.

Known Enemy Equipment and Positions Destroyed by 811th TD Bn:

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Total number of prisoners taken 5,350
Belgium, with gun positions 1/2 mile to the east in support of the 193d Glider Regt. of action. Mines were found laid in profusion, but laid hastily and covered only with across country, since the engineers were unable to clear the snow covered and mined but the only damage to the vehicle or its personnel was a demolished wheel. On 25 January Co. C moved to Steinbach, Belgium, in accordance with the general plan of the 17th AB Div. The Forward CP closed in at Steinbach, Belgium, arriving at 1830 hours. The Co. was attached to the 602d TD BN., which was attached to the 11th Armd. Div. on the 12th. The Platoon from Co. A joined Co. C on the 12th at Jusseret. At 2030 hours on 12 January the composite Co. moved to Longchamps, one of Co. B's old stands. Although it was due to be in position by 1115 hours, it did not arrive until 1300 hours due to heavy traffic and extremely icy and deep snow banks which now prevailed over the entire front. At this position Sgt. Narjes, T/4 Mattle, Sgt. Weber, Pfc. Joyner and Pfc. Casper were wounded by shrapnel. German artillery fire and mortar fire was extremely accurate at this phase of the battle. The enemy had built hasty obstacles and mine fields which were well covered with mortar and artillery. The German time fire appeared to be more effective than usual. General Holbrook, CG, CCA, 11th AD, ordered this Co. to Monaville, 1/2 mile east of Longchamps where it remained until the 15th. Co. B was now supporting the 101st AB Div. on the Houffalize-Bastogne Road east of Co. C, and became attached to the 17th AB Div. on 17 January when the entire Bn. was attached to that Division. Co. C was relieved of attachment to 11th AD, and came under Bn. control at the same time. The Co. moved to Monaville and Lt. Bong's 3d Platoon was attached to Task Force Stubbs. By the 17th the 1st and 2d Platoons were on the southern outskirts of Houffalize, Co. B was on their right flank. Co. A was in reserve.

Replacements had been received at St. Marie, Belgium, and were now assigned to their companies. Their equipment was almost complete by this time. The Bn. CP and trains have been moved to Bertogne, Belgium, and the forward CP set up in Comogne, Belgium. Rcn. Co., less the 1st and 2d Platoons was at Engereux. Co. A moved first to Longchamps and then to Givet, Belgium.

During this period, and the few days before the attachment to the 17th AB Div., per TP Asgmt, Order #2, Hq. VIII Corps, the Germans were resisting fiercely, and the firing companies especially were suffering from having to reorganize while participating in a hot battle, as well as having to operate with many different organizations. It was a period of constant movement over extremely icy roads and snow-banked terrain. It was apparent that the enemy was pulling out of the "Bulge" and fighting for his life. The Air Corps, in spite of snowy and overcast weather, was daily destroying great masses of German motorized equipment streaming out of Belgium into the Siegfried Line. In spite of the fact that the Bn. was badly in need of a break it was absolutely necessary for the American forces to pursue the retreating Germans. Consequently, the Bn., which had been about 40% depleted by the opening assault in the German Ardennes offensive, was reorganized and re-equipped while engaged in the pursuit of the enemy. No tanks or armor appeared and action was mostly with the enemy rear guard. On 19 January Co. C supporting the attack of the 17th AB Div. fired on the village of Vissoule to the east. Capt. Collins lost a $5.00 bet here to one of his gunners, who knocked a German OP out of a church steeple, with one round at about 2500 yds. On the 20th Co. B moved to Steinbach, Belgium, in accordance with the general plan of the 17th AB Div. to push the Germans to the East. During this period the movement of Co. B was across country, since the engineers were unable to clear the snow covered and mined roads fast enough. Although one of the destroyers struck two mines, its damage was never out of action. Mines were found laid in profusion, but laid hastily and covered only with snow. They were of the Wooden Holz mine type. On 21 January Co. C moved to Limerle, Belgium, with gun positions 1/2 mile to the east in support of the 193d Glider Regt. Lt. MacNemar's M8 struck a mine in this position killing a doughboy standing nearby, but the only damage to the vehicle or its personnel was a demolished wheel. On 25 January Co. C and B continued their movements to the east in support of the 17th AB Div. Co. C closed in at Hauhellen, Luxembourg, and Co. B closed in at Wattenmael, Belgium, in support of the 513th Glider Regt. The Forward CP closed in at Steinbach, Belgium. The rear echelon was at Tavigny, Belgium. On 26 January Co. C moved its CP to Huldange, and the Bn. Foreward CP and Rcn. Co. closed in at the same location. During this march from Tavigny to Huldange the Pioneer Platoon assisted in mine removal on the roads. During this entire period movements were characterized by cross-country marches through deep snow and mine fields. Engineer units were generally too slow, and much terrain was traversed without the benefit of mine sweepers. Three mines were struck but no personnel in the Bn. was injured.
On 26 January the 87th Inf. Div. relieved the 17th AB Div. in the line, and the Bn. became attached to that Div. The 1st and 2d Platoons of Rcn. Co. reverted to Co. control and Cos. C and B were placed in direct support of two of the 87th Div. combat teams. On the following day Rcn. Co. moved out on reconnaissance in direct support of Co. B and C. Two platoons of Co. C advanced to Langler and Duler on the south-eastern flank of the Div. The 3d Platoon was in reserve at Huldange. Co. B moved to Eppeldorf to the north. Several tanks were sighted by Rcn. Platoon just east of Grufflange, Belgium, and Co. B received fire from them, as well as mortar fire; but the mission of the 87th Div. was to move as rapidly as possible to the north, in order to reach St. Vith and contact the 7th Armd. Div. there. These tanks were bypassed. Lt. Sundstrom with the 3d Rcn. Platoon at Duler picked up two PW's there. By 2000 hours on the night of 29 January elements of Co. B and the 1st Rcn. Platoon were in St. Vith and had contacted the 7th Armd. Div. The main body of Co. B was unable to reach St. Vith due to the bombed out condition of the roads. Later that evening the Bn. was detached from the 87th Div. and attached to the 11th Armd. Div. which was in VIII Corps reserve. The 602d TD Bn. relieved Co. B and C in the line on 30 January. During this advance with the 17th AB Div. and 87th Div. much of the knocked out equipment of Co. C and A was recovered, and the Bn. recovered some of its dead, who had been lost just one month prior in the opening German assault. Being in Corps reserve, the Bn. now gathered itself up, performed some much needed maintenance, and relaxed, anticipating that long delayed but sorely needed rest. However, it was again denied them, for, on 2 February 45, orders were received relieving the unit of attachment to the VIII Corps, and attaching it to the XII Corps. On 3 February 45 the battalion marched to the vicinity of Mersch, Luxembourg, by way of Bastogne, Belgium, and Ettelbruck, Luxembourg, where it became attached to the 80th Inf. Div. At Mersch the Bn. was ordered to relieve the 802d TD Bn. and take up their anti-tank positions. It was deployed for combat, the CP and Hq. Co. moving into Stegen, Luxembourg. Rcn. Co. moved to Medernach, where the 802d CP had been set up, Co. A moved to Eppeldorf, Co. B to Medernach, and Co. C to Stegen. These positions were occupied at 1630 hours 3 February 45. The following day was spent in establishing proper liaison and looking over the new battlefield. The terrain consisted of high rolling hills sloping abruptly into the Our and Sauer Rivers, which met at Bettendorf, forming the Sarre River. The 2d Rcn. Platoon had the advantage of a previous reconnaissance of part of this area just before the battle of the Ardennes. The 80th Div. sector ran from Roth, Germany, on the northwest to Bolenden, Germany, to the southeast. The eastern bank of the Sarre River was held by the Germans' 352d and 212th Volksgrenadier Divisions. These troops occupied and established 38 concrete pillboxes overlooking the river, and extensive field fortifications.

For the next few days Rcn. Co. and the firing Companies reconnoitered for direct fire positions into the Siegfried Line. Co. C was attached to the 319th Inf. Regt., and occupied previously reconnoitered positions near Bettendorf, Luxembourg. Co. B was attached to the 318th Inf. Regt., and went into direct fire positions in the vicinity of Beaufort. These positions were not particularly effective since their field of fire was limited, and ranges for concrete "busting" excessive. Co. A was placed in support of the 314th FA Bn., and went into indirect fire positions along a tree line east of Eppeldorf. Ren. Co. under Bn. control continued for direct fire positions for the purpose of firing into the concrete pillboxes across the Sarre River. On 7 February the 1st Platoon of Co. A, and the 1st Platoon of Rcn. Co., was attached to Btry. A of the 558th FA Bn., a self-propelled 155mm Btry. This unit formed direct fire assault teams with the mission of firing on enemy pillboxes. On 8 February Lt. Bong, Platoon Leader, of the 1st Platoon, Co. A, on an OP north of Beaufort was killed by enemy artillery fire. Stg. Buchanan of Rcn. Co. was injured by the same round. On the 9th Co. B was placed under control of the 313th FA Bn., and went into indirect fire positions, except for one platoon still in positions firing upon pillboxes. Co. C likewise reinforced the fires of the 905th FA Bn. with two Platoons in indirect fire positions, and one platoon in direct fire positions. For the next two days the Bn. placed both direct and indirect fires on the enemy positions. On 10 February Co. A forced 15 men to surrender from a pillbox due to its accurate fire. During this period large quantities of HE ammunition was consumed both in indirect and direct fire, using the T105 (block busting) fuse. The effect of the direct fire was revealed to have been much better than was first expected, when the pillboxes were inspected after they had been captured. On 11 February the gun companies were attached to Inf. Regts. Co. A to the 317th; Co. B to the 318th; and Co. C to the 319th, Rcn. Co. was under Bn. control. With few exceptions this attachment became SOP for the duration of the war. On 12 February the 3d Platoon of Co. C crossed the Our River over a hard-earned bridgehead. The following day Co. B crossed on another bridge at Dillingen to the southeast, and the remainder of Co. C followed their 3d Platoon and set up at Wallendorf, Germany. During the next 4 days Co. C supported the attack of the 319th by assaulting pillboxes at pointblank range using both its 76mm guns and 50 caliber. Co. B advanced with the 318th through the woods on Co. C's right (east) flank. On 19 February the Bn., CP and Rcn. Co. moved into Bettendorf on the south bank of the Our River.
On 14 February Co. B's 2d Platoon under Lt. Richard Sawyer had moved into Biesdorf, Germany and remained there several days, coming under heavy Nebelweber fire. During the period from 14 to 19 February the balance of Co. B was engaged in making a futile attack on the right (east) flank of the Div. One of Lt. DeJovine's destroyers became bogged down, and had to be abandoned. The Germans succeeded in burning this destroyer along with a tank of the 702d Tk. Bn. during the night. On 20 February Co. C, with the 319th Inf. Regt., began its advance up the left flank of the Div., and the first Platoon during this attack knocked out two 88mm guns, towed, and a pillbox. The 3d Platoon supported the attack of the 319th Inf. Regt. with HE and 50 caliber. During this action Sgt. Fisher, Platoon Sgt. of the 1st Platoon, was seriously wounded. The following day Co. C again supported the attack by fire, the 2d Platoon reaching Lahr by 1600 hours. Co. B moved out to support an attack from Cruchten to Hommerringen, but the attack was repulsed and one of Lt. Sawyer's destroyers was knocked out, killing an infantryman who was supplementing the crew as their assistant driver. In this action, Lt. Sawyer boldly moved his destroyers into exposed positions, and by the volume of his fire was able to pin the enemy down in Hommerringen allowing the infantrymen from the 318th Inf. Regt. to withdraw safely. This bold and courageous action undoubtedly saved one Infantry Co. , and knocked out one towed and one SP gun. On 22 February Co. C supported the attack of the 319th Regt., on the town of Niedersgeckler. The Co. captured 13 prisoners. Co. A had now moved up to the vicinity of Jusbaum on the right (east) flank of Co. B. Co. A's M32 tank recovery vehicle was struck by a round from a German SP gun, and was completely demolished by its own mortar ammunition. No personnel were injured. On 23 February Co. C, still in support of the 319th, continued its attack to the northeast. Lt. Towber, who had joined the Co. two days before, knocked out a tank with a bazooka. The 2d Platoon knocked out a Mark VI tank in a hot duel. Co. B continued its move during the night, 23 February, to Lahr, previously taken by the 319th Inf. and Co. C, and during the cross-country move Sgt. Newman's destroyer was stuck. At daylight this destroyer received direct fire from the woods to the north. Upon receiving the fire Cpl. Eugene Jones and Lt. DeJovine fired the destroyer at the sound, and continued doing this, attempting between rounds to move the destroyer. The destroyer had to be abandoned when a round of AP struck Cpl. Eugene Jones, killing him instantly. Later reconnaissance on the results of this fire showed that two Mark V tanks had been knocked out. On that same morning Sgt. L. D. Jones' destroyer observed two tanks, which had knocked out a tank of the 702d Tank Bn. Opening fire, his destroyer knocked out this tank, a Mark V, at a range of 1600 yards. Co. B spent the next several days at Lahr, and Co. C took up positions covering about 2000 yards from Nusbaum to Mettendorf. Rcn. Co. during this period was making reconnaissance, and maintaining OP's in the entire Div. zone.

On the morning of the 24th the 4th AD attacked through Co. B's position at Lahr and moved through Sinspelt to the east. The 4th AD forced six half-tracks and about 150 Germans from the town of Berg into which Co. A had been firing. Co. A knocked one out of these half-tracks at a range of 4500 yards and killed about 50 of the foot troops. On 26 February the 319th Regt. and Co. C began to turn east; the Co. CP closing in at 1300 hours. On 27 February the 3d Platoon supported the attack of the 3d Bn., 319th Regt., and knocked out two anti-tank guns in the vicinity of Weidengen. On 28 February the entire Co. was assembled at Weidengen, where 1st Sgt. Carter, commanding the 3d Platoon, received his promotion to 2d Lt. By 24 February the Bn. CP had crossed the Our River and moved into Crouchten, Germany. Hq. Co. rear had moved from Stegen to Bettendorf, and on 26 February Rcn. Co. had moved into Mettendorf. Co. A moved their CP on 26 February to Hutterstheid, Their 1st Platoon was in the vicinity of Biesdorf, the 2d Platoon was near Mulbach, and the 3d Platoon was in Hermendorf, on the Kyll River. Co. C moved to Altscheid, and on 12 February Hq. Co. moved to Mettendorf. Rcn. Co. moved to Biersdorf on the Kyll. At the end of the month it was clear that a clean break through the Siegfried Line, and the 4th AD in its emploitation had prevented the Germans from making a stand at the Nims River or the Prim River.

On the 1st of March Co. B plus the 2d Rcn. Platoon attached to Combat Team 318 of the 80th Inf. Div., moved from the 80th Div. sector and occupied positions in the vicinity of Idesheim near Trier in the 76th Div. sector. The Co. returned to Bn. Control on the 3d, and occupied positions just north of Bitburg. On that same day the Bn. was attached to the 4th AD. Lt. Towber's platoon of Co. C was attached to the 25th Cav., 3d AD. The Bn. moved into an assembly area 1/2 mile west of Rittersdorf on the 4th, but were relieved of this attachment at 2200 hours on that day and were reattached to the 80th Div. Lt. Towber's Platoon of Co. C remained attached to the 25th Cav., Sq., and assisted in clearing the towns of Oberweiler, Enlenz, Enschaid, Malburg and Berdenbach in the zone of the 4th AD advance. This platoon destroyed 18 tanks, several AT guns and Arty pieces, and captured over two hundred prisoners on this mission. On 2d March the Bn. was preparing to attack the east across the Kyll River in the vicinity of Bitburg. The Cos. were disposed as follows: Bn. CP and Hq. Co. at Rittersdorf; Rcn. Co. at Biersdorf; Co. A at Bitburg; Co. B just north of Bitburg, and Co. C at Eckendorf. On 7 March Co. C with the 319th Combat team 80th Div., moved to the vicinity of Trier, and occupied positions at Idesheim, but was relieved of this assignment on the 9th and returned to Eckendorf. On the 10th
the Bn., less the 2d Platoon of Co. C, which was still with the 25th Cav. Sq., was relieved from attachment to the 80th Div. and attached to the 89th Div. On the following day, the Bn. deployed for battle with the Bn., CP, Rcn., and B Cos., moving to Ginsdorf, Co. C to Oberkail, and Co. A to Orsfeld. Hq. rear remained at Rittersdorf. That night the 2d Platoon of Co. C returned to Co. Control at Oberkail. At 1445 on the 11th the Bn. was again relieved of attachment to the 89th Div., XII Corps, and re-attached to the 80th Div., XX Corps. On the morning of the 12th, the Bn. moved from their position in the vicinity of Remich, Lux., on the Moselle River, Hq. Co., Rcn. and Co. B close to Ellange, and Co. A and Co. C into Welfrange. On 13 March the SOP attached them to the CP of Co. A to the 317th Regt., Co. B to the 318th Regt., and Co. C to the 319th Regt. went into effect. Co. A moved into positions 5000 yards east of Sarrebourg, across the Sarre River, Co. B to Beurig, and Co. C to positions just north of A Co. On the 13th the Bn., CP and Rcn. Co. moved to Sarrebourg. Enemy units opposing the Div. consisted of mountain infantry and artillery regiments, and the 6th SS Mountain Div. plus miscellaneous mountain troops. On 13th March the Div. attacked east over a wide front with the 96th Div. on the north and the 26th Div. on the south. The terrain was heavily wooded and rolling. The firing companies supported their respective Regts., with one Platoon assigned to each Inf. Bn. The fighting for the most part consisted of infantry action in the woods, where the destroyers were at a disadvantage. However, Co. A fired on pillboxes and enemy tanks on the north flank of the Div. The enemy made many small fanatical stands and infiltration attacks through the heavy woods. The supporting heavy concentrations of Nebelwefer and artillery fire. The firing companies chief contribution to the support of their Infantry Battalions was direct fire into the small towns in the zone of advance. Enemy artillery fire was especially heavy on the town of Zerf and vicinity, in the center of the Div. zone. Pfc. Gauthier of the 1st Rcn. Platoon was killed there by shrapnel on the 13th. Lt. Wheeler of Co. A was killed by artillery fire on the 14th while leading his platoon in support of an attack on a hill. Cpl. Bush of Co. A was killed and T/5 Grove of the Med. Det. was wounded that same afternoon. Lt. Lewis then Sgt., with elements of the 2d Bn., 318th Inf., fought his way into the town of Wieskirchen, where he and his 2d Platoon of Co. B were surrounded by the enemy for two days. His leadership demonstrated in this action won him a promotion to 2d Lt. The Div. advanced slowly, with the attack carrying to the southeast to the somewhat more open ground. On the 15th the 10th AD broke through on the north flank, passing through the 80th Inf. Div.'s zone. Rcn. Co. was attached to the 319th Regt. at 2130, and Capt. Parsons moved his Co. to the vicinity of Britten, which had been taken by the 319th that afternoon. The following day one Bn., of the 319th was motorized and moved out to the east with Rcn. Co. as advance guard. The combat team moved rapidly to the southeast through Losheim and Niederlosheim to the Prim River, where Lt. MacNemar with the 1st Rcn. Platoon contacted a defended roadblock. A small fire fight ensued, and heavy explosions indicated that the enemy had blown the bridge across the Prim.

The Div. front was then Wieskirchen, Rappweiler and Nunkirchen. The 319th Regt. with Co. C and Rcn. Co. remained in Nunkirchen for the night, during which a ford was found across the Prim River. Early on the morning of the 17th the 319th CT moved out with Rcn. Co. again as advance guard. The advance continued east, and Rcn. Co. contacted the 10th AD near Theley. Rcn. Co. and Lt. Carter's Platoon of Co. C had a fire fight with approximately 100 dismounted enemy troops and a SP gun in the woods just north of Theley. Lt. Carter's platoon succeeded in knocking out a truck, and driving the tank into a column of the 10th AD to the north, which promptly destroyed it. The combat team then assisted the 10th AD in the capture of Bliessen. Co. C less Lt. Carter's Platoon remained at Theley and Rcn. Co. with Lt. Carter's Platoon remained at Bliessen for the night. Lt. Sundstrom's 3d Platoon, Rcn. Co. continued reconnaissance to the outskirts of St. Wendel but was halted by direct fire and small arms. Co. B with the 318th combat team advanced as far as Lockweiler, crossing the Prim River on the 16th. One Bn. of the 318th, with Lt. Brenner's Platoon of Co. B, was attached to the 10th AD. The attack continued to the east, the 318th combat team with Co. B attached following a column of the 10th AD on the north, and the 319th combat team with Rcn. Co. and Co. C attacked following a column of the 10th AD on the south, Co. A with the 317th followed the route of the 319th. On the 18th all units reached the vicinity of Kaiserslautern, Germany. PW's were beginning to march to the rear in large numbers without escort. Co. B with the 318th continued to Hochspeyer. The following morning Rcn. Co. moved out toward Bad Durkheim. A column of fleeing enemy had been struck by air and then from the flank and rear by the 10th AD on this road. By 1000 hours the debris with the assistance of the Pioneer Platoon of Rcn. Co. was cleared enough for vehicles to pass. Co. C with the 319th then moved out. It was estimated that at least 2,000 vehicles had been destroyed in this defile. The column consisted of carts, artillery, half-tracks, trucks and sp guns.

The Div. continued to the east rapidly and by the 20th the 6th AD, 10thAD, 4th AD and 80th Div. were converging in the vicinity of Ludwigshafen on the Rhine River. Rcn. Co. and Co. C reached Maxdorf with the Rcn. Platoons making a reconnaissance to the south and east. Cos. A and B were on the south and to the rear. On the 21st Rcn. Co. was released to Bn. control, and on the 22nd the 3 firing companies returned to Bn. control in the vicinity of Friedelsheim, Germany. On the 24th the Bn. assembled at Walgrehweiler and Gangloff and went into Corps Reserve.
During this operation, which was characterized by long sweeping advances over excellent roads with but little resistance, the Bn. was split up with the firing platoons out of Co. control and attached to the Inf. Bns. Rcn. Co. was attached to an Inf. Regt. The Div. shuttled its troops by truck, and the combat elements of the Bn. became widely separated. Communications were difficult, but supplies were maintained by Hq. & Hq. Co. so that the Bn. was never halted or hungry for lack of gasoline or food.

On the 26th of March the Bn. was alerted for movement to the north in preparation for a crossing of the Rhine River, and on the 27th the Bn. moved from Gangloff Walgrehweller to the following locations: Bn. CP and Rcn. Co. at Gau Algesheim, where they received artillery fire from the far bank of the Rhine; Co. A at Niedr Saulheim; Co. B at Niedr Ingelheim, and Co. C in the vicinity of Mains. On the 27th Co. C moved to the south and crossed the Rhine with the 319th on a bridge previously built by another Corps. Co. A and B supported the 317th and 318th while they established a bridgehead at Mainz. Co. B was killed by a sniper on the 27th. During this action Mains was heavily shelled and the enemy resisted with 20mm fire from an island in the Rhine and from the far bank. Co. A sank two barges while supporting the 318th.

Part of A Co. was ferried across and as soon as the bridge was completed the balance of Co. A and B moved across, and by the 30th the entire Bn. had crossed the Rhine. Rcn. Co. and Bn. CP were ferried across on LCT's due to heavy traffic over the single pontoon bridge. The Bn. then made a rapid march up the autobahn to the vicinity of Kassel, Germany, bypassing Frankfurt. Only scattered resistance was encountered, and the firing companies continued their support with their platoons attached to the infantry battalions. Rcn. Co. continued working in the Div. zone under Bn. control. On approaching Kassel the 2d Rcn. Platoon was attached to the 318th Inf., and maintained a left flank guard and contact with the First Army. On the 1st of April Lt. De Jovine of Co. B was hit by sniper fire and evacuated. During this drive Company A released 16 of its NCO's from a POW Camp near Ziegenhain. These men had been captured on December 17 at St. Vith. Members of the company gathered up a quantity of chickens, and the Mess Sgt. prepared a large meal which they promptly lost due to their emaciated condition. These men were turned over to the medics, and were eventually evacuated to the States. On the morning of the 2nd, one Platoon of Co. B with a Bn. of the 318th moved to the west of Kassel and was to seize a bridge in Kassel across the Fulda River and the 317th with Co. A was to the south of Kassel. At dawn on the morning of the 2nd two Platoons of Co. B in a night bivouac position were attacked by tanks in the vicinity of Oberzwehren, approximately 3 miles south of Kassel. Six guns were destroyed, Cpl. Farkas, Sgt. Tyler, Pfc. Logue and Pfc. Schaper were killed. T/4 Harpole, Cpl. Kopec, Pfc. Bowen and S/Sgt. Mitros were injured. Four men of the crews of the knocked out destroyers were captured when the town was overrun by German infantry. However, they were recaptured about 4 hours later.

Co. A moved up with the 317th and engaged in a fire fight with approximately 12 tanks near Rengershausen about 3 kilometers southeast of Co. B, and knocked out 4 Mark VI Tanks. Co. C at Crumbach, east of the Fulda River, engaged a group of 15 Tanks and knocked out one. Later that evening Lt. MacNemar in an attempt to move some bogged down 1/4 tons of the 319th, came under fire from 20mm guns and was forced to abandon his M8. T/5 Andrews was killed in this action. By the 5th Kassel was cleared. Resistance had been fanatical. A Mark VI tank factory was captured there, having remained in operation until it was overrun. This plant furnished the tanks and the NCO Panzer school at Eisenach had furnished the personnel to man the tanks used in the defense of Kassel. Kassel was also well defended with AA weapons. At the end of this action the CP's were located as follows: Bn. CP at Hertinshausen, Hq. & Hq. Co. at Holshausen, Rcn. Co. at Volmarhausen, Co. B at Kassel, and Co. C at Crumbach. Due to the loss of the six destroyers Co. B was re-enforced by Co. B of the 603d TD Bn. on the 5th, but they were relieved on the 8th without being committed.

On the 7th the Bn. moved to Gotha by way of Hersfeld and Eisenach. At Eisenach one of Co. C's destroyers lost in the Ardennes Offensive was found, apparently having been used by the NCO Panzer school located there. The Pioneer Platoon later went back and destroyed 23 German Tanks in perfect condition in the vicinity of this school. The Bn. closed in with the Bn. CP, Hq. Co., Rcn. Co., and Co. C at Gotha; Co. A at Warza, Co. B at Suhlbein. Co. C during the march was attacked by 3 ME 109's and one man was slightly injured by fragmentation bombs; otherwise the march was unopposed. One plane was knocked down. By the 7th the Bn. had reached the outskirts of Erfurt, which was defended. There was a large airport still in operation to the east of the City. On the 9th Sgt. Bartley, of 3d Rcn. Platoon, while on a patrol on the north flank of the Div., was forced to fight his way out of an ambush set up by one Co. of SS Troops. The following day the 318th captured 175 SS Troops in this area. The enemy resisted fanatically in small groups in front of the small towns forming a semi-circle to the west of Erfurt. The Bn. continued supporting the 80th Div. with the firing platoons attached directly to the Inf. Bns. Rcn. Co. continued under Bn. control and operated over the Div. front. On the 12th Erfurt fell, and 5,000 prisoners were taken. While at Gotha many men in the organization visited the Ohrdorf Concentration Camp and viewed the horrors there. With the fall of Erfurt the attack continued, and Lt. MacNemar with the first Rcn. Platoon moved into Wiemar followed by the 319th on the other
afternoon of the 12th. Jena was captured by the 318th supported by Co. B on the same day. The following day the attack continued east using the Autobahn as an axis. Rcn. Co. in an unofficial attachment to the 319th, cleared towns on both sides of the Autobahn taking many prisoners. On the 15th Lt. Sunstrom, with the mission of clearing towns on the right of the Autobahn, encountered sniper fire from the town of Crimmitschau, and engaged in a fire fight with the dug-in defenses of the town. The 2nd Bn. of the 319th took the town and Rcn. Co. with the 319th continued to the east until they reached the outskirts of Chemitz. At Glauchau, Co. C was engaged in support of the 319th in a two day battle with a group of fanatical Germans who chose to defend a barracks in the southern edge of the town. On the 18th the firing Cos. were released from the Regts. and returned to Bn. control. They moved to an assembly area just east of Merrane where Rcn. Co., Hq. Co., and Bn. CP had been set up on the 17th. On the 19th the 80th Div. with its attached units, including the 811th TD Bn., moved 150 miles to the south, by way of Erfurt, to the vicinity of Bamberg. Capt. Cronin MIA since December, joined the Bn. on the road. The Bn. went into bivouac in a field near Schwaesdorf.

On the 21st Cos. A and C were attached to the 3d Cav. Cp., and moved to the vicinity of Schonberg, just east of Nuremberg. With the 3d Cav. Cp. they made an advance southeast toward the Danube River in the vicinity of Regensburg. Hq. Co., and Co. C were released from the Regts. and returned to Bn. control on 27th April with Co. A at Pettendorf, east of Regensburg, and Co. C at Nuremberg. On the 27th the Bn. moved southeast from Nuremberg in support of the 80th, and crossed the Danube in the vicinity of Regensburg. Bn., Hq., Co. A and Co. B closed in at Hemau 12 miles east of Regensburg, and Rcn. Co. at Dasswangen. On the 28th after Co. A and C moved to Hemau, the SOP attachment was Dasswangen. On the 28th after Co. A and C moved to Hemau, the SOP attachment was made with Co. A attached to the 317th, Co. B to 318th, and Co. C to 319th. In addition, Rcn. Co. was attached to the 319th. The Bn. crossed the Danube on the 28th and Bn. CP was set up at Regensburg. The following morning all units moved out to the southeast and encountered no resistance until reaching the Isar River where light resistance was met by Rcn. Co. and units of the 319th. The Div. had passed through the 65th Div. The 13th Arm. Div. was on the right flank. On the 30th the Bn. CP was at Mirkofen, Hq. Co., at Regensburg. Rcn. Co. at Postau, and Co. A at Kirchlehen, Co. B at Weichschofen, and Co. C at Griesbach. On the 2d of May the 811th TD Bn., in support of the 80th Div. crossed the Isar and moved south over secondary roads. Rcn. Co. continued in support of the 319th, and acted as advance guard until the Inn River was reached at a point approximately 30 miles west of Braunau, Hitler's birthplace. On the morning of the 5th, Rcn. Co. was relieved from the 319th, and attached to the 317th, supported by Co. A, and moved out across the Inn River into Austria. The entire Bn. crossed that day. The advance continued south to Strasswalchen, and then east to Vocklabruck. During this advance large numbers of prisoners surrendered, and clogged the roads while moving to the rear area. Rcn. Co. acted as advance guard while moving to the rear areas resistance just west of Vocklabruck and held up the advance momentarily but the guns of the 3d Platoon A reduced the village. The advance continued east with Rcn. Co. performing reconnaissance in front of the 317th, until they reached the Steyrer River in the vicinity of Steyr on the 4th of May. The balance of the Bn. was strung out on the route, with the Bn. CP at Vocklabruck. Hq. Co. at Buch, Co. A at Waldneukirchen, Co. B at Braunau, and Co. C at Steyr.

On the 7th of May Rcn. Co. and Co. A were attached to Task Force Smythe, made up of the 317th Inf., part of the 702d Tank Bn., 80th Rcn. Troop, and part of the 305th Engrs. This Task Force was divided into 3 smaller groups, and began to advance to the south from the vicinity of Kirchdorf, about 20 miles south of Wels. The advance continued south and Rcn. Co. overtook elements of the German 6th SS Panzer Army on the morning of the 8th. A representative of the German Gen. Maj. General South, contacted Capt. Parson, Rcn. Co., and gave him a note offering the surrender of all troops in the area. This note was given to Maj. Gen. McBride, Commanding General, 80th Div Rcn. Co. then escorted Gen. McBride to Liezen, Austria, goulbing 30 miles of German equipment, bumper to bumper, and loaded with armed German troops. At Liezen, the German General was given instructions for the disarmament and surrender of his troops. Rcn. Co. returned to Spital Am Pyhrn, and was attached to the 2d Bn. of the 318th Inf., which was guarding the Hungarian Gold reserve and art treasures stored there. On the 9th the Supreme Allied Command announced the Unconditional surrender of the German Armies to the Allies. During this period, until Rcn. Co. was returned to Bn. control, it was engaged in controlling and collecting German troops throughout the area. On the 10th the Pioneer Platoon blew a bridge 25 miles south of Steyr, and across the Steyrer River, to prevent further infiltration of Germans coming out of the Russian Zone into the American zone. On the 11th and 12th the firing Cos. assembled with Hq. & Hq. Co. at Laakirchen, Austria. Rcn. Co. was relieved and moved to Laakirchen on the 13th. The war was over we thought, but not quite.

On the 20th of May 1945 Cos. A and C were attached to 3d Cav. Cp., and moved out on the 21st with that organization for Judensburg, in the Tyrolian Alps. It was a show of force, object being to discourage Marshal Tito in Trieste. However, upon reaching the vicinity of Mauterndorf, it was found that British 8th Army occupied the zone, Co. C remained at Mauterndorf and Co. A at Radstadt. The two Cos. were re-
lieved on the 30th, and returned to Laakirchen. On the 10th of June, the Bn. left Laa-
kirchen to occupy a portion of the 36th Inf. Div. zone, which was being taken over by
the 80th Div. The Bn. closed in the vicinity of Bobingen, Germany on the night of the
10th. On the 12th the Bn. assumed the occupational duties of the 2d Bn. of the 143d
Regt., 36th Div. On the 29th of June, verbal orders were received from the XX Corps
to report to Camp Herbert Tareyton in the Le Havre Port Area by 1 July, for indirect
redeployment to the CBI. This order was modified to require the advance detail only,
inasmuch as it was impossible to comply in the time allowed. The Bn's equipment
was turned in through the 80th Div., except for minimum essential equipment and
wheeled vehicles. All personnel and officers who had more than 85 points on their
Adjusted Service Rating were transferred, and replacements received for them. On
the 3d of July approximately 1/2 of the Bn. moved out by rail for Camp Twenty-Grand
in the Le Havre Port Area. The balance of the Bn. moved out the morning of July 4th
by motor for the same destination. The motor convoy bivouaced at Kaiserslautern the
night of 4-5 July and at Metz the 5-6 July. The armored cars were turned in there. On
the night of 6-7 July the Bn. bivouaced at Soissons. The motor convoy arrived at
Camp Twenty-Grand at 1220 hours on the 7th. The rail contingent arrived, and detrained
at Ducor on the 6th. On arrival at Camp Twenty-Grand the remaining equipment was
packed and preparations for redeployment to the CBI via the United States were com-
pleted. However the Bn. was placed in a new category, that of a strategic reserve to
be held in the United States. Consequently the sailing date was delayed. The advance
detail of 3 officers and 7 enlisted men commanded by Major Blaine C. Taylor sailed
from Le Havre, France on 12 August 1945 on the Onieda Victory, a victory ship. The
detail arrived at New York on 22 August and was processed through Camp Shanks. The
main body of the Bn. sailed on 15 August, the official Japanese surrender day, from
Le Havre and as the last troops to be moved from Europe as redeployed troops. The
Bn. disembarked from the John S. Pillsbury, a liberty ship in New York Harbor 27
August 1945 having completed 357 days in the European Theatre of Operations.
DECORATIONS

SOLDIERS MEDAL

2. Captain France B. McConkie  For heroism at Laakirchen, Austria on 12 May 1945.
3. 1st Lt. Paul W. Jones  For heroism at Laakirchen, Austria on 12 May 1945.
4. T/4 Harry J. Puckett  For heroism at Laakirchen, Austria on 12 May 1945.
5. T/4 Virgil S. Wise  For heroism at Laakirchen, Austria on 12 May 1945.
8. T/5 Orville B. Harrelson  For heroism at Laakirchen, Austria on 12 May 1945.
9. T/5 Vincent J. Kane  For heroism at Laakirchen, Austria on 12 May 1945.
10. T/5 Anthony V. Manfredo  For heroism at Nusbaum, Germany on 20 February 1945.
Lt. Col. Albert R. Brownfield
For gallantry in action at Mullerthal, Luxembourg on 17 Dec. 1944.

1st Lt. Harold O. Bain
For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 19 Dec. 1944.

1st Lt. Charles R. Hutchinson
For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 21 Dec. 1944.

1st Lt. Dan S. Orr
For gallantry in action in Germany on 17 Dec. 1944.

1st Lt. Richard F. Sawyer
For gallantry in action in Belgium and Germany on 17, 19-28 Dec. 1944.

1st Lt. Paul Z. Towber
For gallantry in action in Germany on 21 Feb. 1945.

2nd Lt. Eugene H. Carter
For gallantry in action at Wallendorf, Germany on 21 Feb. 1945.

2nd Lt. Richard E. Jorgensen
For gallantry in action in Germany on 10 April 1945.

2nd Lt. Jack W. Wheeler
For gallantry in action at Waldoholzbach, Germany on 15 March 1945.
(Posthumous)

T/Sgt. Morris F. Dilks
For gallantry in action at Crensits, Germany on 20 Dec. 1944.

T/Sgt. Jesse B. Johnson
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17-25 Dec. 1944.

S/Sgt. Herbert M. Fruits
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17-19 Dec. 1944.

Sgt. Frank T. Asaro
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17 Dec. 1944.

Sgt. Howard C. Daily
For gallantry in action at St. Vith, Belgium on 17 Dec. 1944.

Sgt. Frederick E. Newman
For gallantry in action at Birendorf, Germany on 22 Feb. 1945.

Sgt. Charles W. Pauley
For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 17 Dec. 1944.

Sgt. Carl V. Rody
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17-19 Dec. 1944.

Sgt. Warren E. Zickafoose
For gallantry in action at Vollmarshausen, Germany on 4 April 1945.
(Posthumous)

T/4 Sidney R. Brunson
For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 17 Dec. 1944.

T/4 Jeff Calcote
For gallantry in action in Germany on 21 Feb. 1945.

T/4 Jack Conley
For gallantry in action at Hengershausen, Germany on 2 April 1945.

T/4 Lyle W. Spinks
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17-19 Dec. 1944.

T/4 Robert W. Weeber
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 19 Dec. 1944.

T/4 Troy W. Williams
For gallantry in action at Weiskirchen, Germany on 16 March 1945.

Cpl. Frederick E. Grogan
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17 Dec. 1944.

Cpl. Eugene Jones
For gallantry in action at Birendorf, Germany on 22 Feb. 1945.
(Posthumous)
Anthony A. Scaletta
Pvt. Charles G. Grove
Pvt. Bill Mitchell
Pvt. Ezra J. Seibel
Cpl. John C. King
Cpl. Karol C. Michalik
T/5 John E. De Priest
T/5 Brownie P. Sikora
Pfc. John F. Brondell
Lloyd E. Fry
Walter Pavlicki

For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17-19 Dec. 1944.
For gallantry in action at Rechamps, Belgium on 26 Dec. 1944.
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17 Dec. 1944.
For gallantry in action at St. Vith, Belgium on 17-21 Dec. 1944.
For gallantry in action in Germany on 21 Feb. 1945.
For gallantry in action at Vollmarshausen, Germany on 4 April 1945.
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17-23 Dec. 1944.
For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 17 Dec. 1944.
For gallantry in action in Germany on 10 April 1945.
For gallantry in action in Germany on 10 April 1945.
For gallantry in action in Belgium on 17-19 Dec. 1944.

OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO SILVER STAR

Sgt. Frank T Asaro
Pvt. Charles G. Grove

For gallantry in action in Germany on 21 Feb. 1945.
For gallantry in action in Germany on 15 March 1945.
BRONZE STAR

Major Earl G. Peacock for heroic service in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
Major Blaine C. Taylor for heroic service in Luxembourg.
Captain Howard A. Clark, Jr. for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 18 December 1944.
Captain David C. Collins for meritorious achievement in Germany and Belgium from 17 to 20 December 1944.
Captain Henry J. Cronin for heroic achievement in Belgium on 17 December 1944.
Captain France B. McConkie for heroic achievement in Luxembourg and Belgium from 17 December 1944 to 12 January 1945.
Captain Samuel W. Parsons for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
Captain Burton C. Sawyer for heroic service in Belgium and Germany from 20 December 1944 to 19 April 1945.
Captain John Zakel, Jr. for meritorious service in Luxembourg and Belgium from 20 December 1944 to 6 January 1945.
1st Lt. Joseph F. Cipriano for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
1st Lt. Gordon R. Harris for heroic achievement in Germany on 30 March 1945.
1st Lt. Willis E. Horning for meritorious achievement in Belgium from 17 December 1944 to 22 February 1945.
1st Lt. Charles R. Hutchinson for meritorious service in Luxembourg from 22 November 1944 to 16 December 1944.
1st Lt. Paul W. Jones for heroic action in Luxembourg on 19 December 1944.
1st Lt. Dunbar D. MacNemar for heroic action in Belgium on 21 December 1944.
1st Lt. Edward P. O'Connor for heroic service in Belgium during period 17-20 December 1944.
1st Lt. Harry B. Tanner (posthumous) for meritorious and heroic action on 16 December 1944.
1st Lt. Donald B. Turrel for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
2nd Lt. Charles G. Bong (posthumous) for meritorious achievement in Belgium from 18 to 26 December 1944.
2nd Lt. Martin L. DeJovine for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
2nd Lt. Clem J. Hox for meritorious service in Luxembourg and Belgium from 20 December 1944 to 6 January 1945.
2nd Lt. William H. Lewis for heroic achievement in Germany on 13 March 1945.
2nd Lt. Lennart O. Sundstrom for meritorious achievement in Belgium on 17 December 1944. Cluster for heroic achievement in Germany on 17 December 1944.
WOJG Dennis S. Corkery, Jr. for meritorious service in Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, and Austria from 17 December 1944 to 7 May 1945.
1st Sgt. Earl Binning, Jr. for heroic achievement on 14 February 1945 in Germany.
T/Sgt. Coe E. Williamson for meritorious service in Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, and Austria for period 16 December 1944 to 8 May 1945.
S/Sgt. Earl Binning, Jr. for heroic action on 21 December 1944 in Belgium.
S/Sgt. Watson C. Busbee for heroic achievement in Germany on 15 March 1945.
S/Sgt. Walter J. Ganz for heroic achievement in Germany on 10 April 1945.
S/Sgt. William A. Gardner for heroic achievement in Germany on 15 April 1945.
S/Sgt. Frank A. Mitros for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
S/Sgt. Vexter A. Stacy for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
T/3 Clifton H. Kittelson for heroic achievement in Germany on 2 April 1945.
Sgt. Forrest E. Allen for heroic achievement in Germany on 22 February 1945.
Sgt. Chester A. Bartley for heroic achievement in Germany on 8 April 1945.
Sgt. James F. B wyjątkowy for meritorious action in Germany on 17-18 December 1944.
Sgt. Allen W. Grant for heroic achievement in Germany on 2 April 1945.
Sgt. John J. Farkas for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Sgt. Roy L. Hatcher for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
Sgt. Ira Hill for heroic achievement in Germany on 17 March 1945.
Sgt. Wilcox A. Judge for heroic achievement in Germany on 10 April 1945.
Sgt. George H. Keller for heroic achievement in Germany on 16 April 1945.
Sgt. Joseph F. Kucinski for heroic achievement on 30 December 1944 in Belgium.
Sgt. Charles W. Manwaring for heroic achievement in Germany on 2 April 1945.
Sgt. Charles E. Mitchell for heroic achievement in Belgium on 18 December 1944.
Sgt. Walter W. Murphy for meritorious action on 17-18 December 1944 in Germany.
Sgt. Frederick E. Newman for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Sgt. Everett C. Perdue for heroic achievement in Germany on 20 February 1945.
Sgt. Roy M. Phillips for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 22 December 1944.
Sgt. James L. Rector for heroic achievement in Germany on 6 April 1945.
Sgt. Paul E. Rush for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
Sgt. Charles G. Smith for heroic and meritorious action in Germany on 17-18 December 1944.
Sgt. Deroy L. Tandy for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
Sgt. Charles L. Tyler for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Sgt. Asa C. Warren, Jr. for heroic achievement in Germany on 17 March 1945.
Sgt. Donald A. Zacharias (cluster) for heroic achievement in Germany on 6 April 1945.
T/4 Howard L. Lilly for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
T/4 William M. Anderson for heroic action in Germany on 17 December 1944.
T/4 Jack Conley for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
T/4 Earl J. Delo for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
T/4 Nelson A. Dreby for heroic achievement in Germany on 10 April 1945.
T/4 Jack Gause for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
T/4 Edward W. Igras for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
T/4 Percy R. Mathews for heroic achievement in Germany on 2 April 1945.
T/4 Benjamin L. Pickering for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
T/4 Leo Oberhausen for heroic achievement in Germany on 20 February 1945.
T/4 Robert R. Schnier for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
T/4 Robert S. Skinner for heroic achievement in Germany on 10 April 1945.
Cpl. Howard F. Adams for meritorious achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
T/4 James Tucker for heroic achievement in Germany on 6 April 1945.
Cpl. William N. Cassell for heroic achievement in Germany on 6 April 1945.
Cpl. Ernest A. Carrado for heroic achievement in Germany on 20 February 1945.
Cpl. George H. Emmons for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Cpl. James J. Garten for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Cpl. Eugene Jones (posthumously) for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Cpl. James B. Perkins for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Cpl. Lloyd M. Smith for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 18 December 1944.
Cpl. Joel C. Shamblin for heroic achievement in Germany on 17 March 1945.
T/5 James N. Brooks for heroic achievement in Germany on 8 April 1945.
T/5 John H. Campbell for heroic action in Belgium on 18 December 1944.
T/5 Jess E. Cherry for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 April 1945.
T/5 James W. Collins for heroic achievement on 17 December 1944 in Luxembourg.
T/5 Robert J. Dries for heroic achievement on 20 December 1944 in Belgium.
T/5 Emmett Jackson, Jr. for heroic achievement in Germany on 17 March 1945.
T/5 Presley W. Nuzum for heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 December 1944.
T/5 Henry A. T. Ogburn for heroic achievement in Belgium on 26 December 1944.
T/5 Walter R. Racer in Germany for heroic achievement on 21 March 1945.
T/5 Lewis D. Schrader for heroic achievement in Germany on 22 February 1945.
Pfc. Walter C. Bowen for heroic achievement in Germany on 16 April 1945.
Pfc. Thomas W. Coulson for heroic achievement in Germany on 22 February 1945.
Pfc. Wilfred G. Fournier for heroic achievement in Belgium on 20 December 1944.
Pfc. Orville L. Hikes for heroic achievement in Germany on 6 April 1945.
Pfc. Carl Cahoy for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.
Pfc. Stanley Malecki for heroic achievement in Germany on 16 April 1945.
Pfc. Joseph M. Milewski for heroic achievement in Belgium on 20 December 1944.
Pfc. Louis A. Nolan for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
Pfc. Ernest J. Robinson for heroic achievement in Germany on 10 April 1945.
Pfc. Andrew P. Taubée for heroic achievement in Belgium on 30 December 1944.
Pfc. Domenic G. Squillante for heroic achievement in Germany on 20 February 1945.
Pvt. Ellis E. Carr for heroic achievement in Belgium on 26 December 1944.
Pvt. Henry M. Coble for heroic achievement in Germany on 14 February 1945.

OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1st Lt. Gordon R. Harris for heroic achievement in Germany on 15 April 1945.
1st Lt. Dunbar D. MacNemar for heroic achievement in Germany on 6 April 1945.
2nd Lt. Martin L. DeJovine for heroic achievement in Germany on 31 March 1945.
S/Sgt. Frank A. Mitros for heroic achievement in Germany on 31 March 1945.
Purple Heart

Major Blaine C. Taylor
1 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Major Earl G. Peacock
17 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Captain Howard P. Clarke, Jr.
16 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Captain Henry J. Cronin
22 Dec. 44 in Belgium

Captain David G. Collins
17 Dec. 44 in Germany

Captain Willis E. Herzing
18 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Captain France B. McConkie
12 Jan. 45 in Belgium

1st Lt. Charles R. Hutchinson
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

2nd Lt. Martin L. DeJovine
22 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

1st Lt. Dunbar D. MacNemar
21 Dec. 44 in Belgium

1st Lt. Lennart O. Sundstrom
29 Jan. 45 in Luxembourg

2nd Lt. Fivel C. Brenner
16 Jan. 45 in Belgium

1st Lt. Donald B. Turrell
1 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Captain Samuel W. Parsons
22 June 45 in Germany

2nd Lt. Stanley Shupalski
13 Jan. 45 in Luxembourg

Captain Julius Troyky
19 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

S/Sgt. Charles G. Smith
18 Dec. 44 in Germany

2nd Lt. Clem J. Hux
17 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

2nd Lt. Earl Binning, Jr.
17 Dec. 44 in Belgium

Cpl. Campbell Ewart, Jr.
16 Sept. 44 in Germany

Pvt. Michael Itch
20 Oct. 44 in Germany

Pvt. Julius Ingle
23 Nov. 44 in France

Sgt. Harry H. Thomas
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

M/Sgt. Robert N. Patterson
24 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/4 Raymond E. Strouse
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pfc. Morris F. Jordan
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/4 Hugo Magnavita
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Sgt. Tony Glassner
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/4 Elithe E. Bowen
24 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pfc. Karol C. Michalik
19 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pvt. Fred M. Merrifield
16 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/5 Eugene R. Basford
16 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pvt. Paul E. Rush
17 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Sgt. Roy F. Berry
5 Apr. 45 in Germany

Captain John Zakel, Jr.
17 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

1st Lt. Paul Z Towber
15 Nov. 44 in France

1st Lt. Edward P. O'Connor
14 April 45 in Germany

T/4 Frank E. Reese
18 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Cpl. Lloyd M. Smith
19 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/5 Urban B. Sams
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/4 James O. Reed
19 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pfc. John E. Winklepleck
15 Mar. 45 in Germany

Sgt. Forest E. Allen
16 March 45 in Germany

Sgt. Theodore J. Ferenz
16 March 45 in Germany

Cpl. James J. Garten
16 March 45 in Germany

Pfc. George G. Coull
15 March 45 in Germany

Pfc. Fred F. Herbers
13 March 45 in Germany

T/4 Leland E. Gibson
16 March 45 in Germany

Fvt. Charles Atkins
15 March 45 in Germany

Sgt. Frederick E. Newman
14 Feb. 45 in Germany

T/4 Leo Oberhausen
18 Dec. 44 in Belgium
S/Sgt. Thomas H. Million
15 Mar. 45 in Germany

T/5 John I. Costein
14 Mar. 45 in Germany

Pfc. Ben H. Allison
22 Feb. 45 in Germany

Pfc. James Barrett
9 Feb. 45 in Luxembourg

Pfc. Charles W. Huckleberry
9 Feb. 45 in Luxembourg

T/5 Robert J. Dries
15 March 45 in Germany

Sgt. Harold M. Dahm
21 Dec. 44 in Belgium

T/5 Martin L. Eaton
21 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/5 Jess E. Cherry
22 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pvt. Homer W. Sidebottom
23 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

S/Sgt. David Clayman
20 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Cpl. Charles R. Rodd
24 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/5 John Debarbera
28 Dec. 44 in Belgium

T/4 Arthur Bayes
25 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/Sgt. William H. Lewis
24 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/Sgt. James C. Duncan
23 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pvt. Frank C. Huggins
27 Dec. 44 in Belgium

Cpl. Walter E. Harrison
14 April 45 in Germany

Sgt. Richard G. Johnson
18 Dec. 44 in Belgium

T/5 Irving Greenberg
8 April 45 in Germany

Sgt. James L. Rector
24 April 45 in Germany

Pfc. Herbert G. Schwager
6 May 45 in Austria

T/4 James Tucker
2 May 45 in Germany

Pfc. William G. Walters
21 Dec. 44 in Belgium

Vt. Elwood Ryster
1 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Sgt. James B. Buchanan
15 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Cpl. Raymond M. Bauer
8 Feb. 45 in Luxembourg

T/4 Elmer J. Chandley
8 Feb. 45 in Luxembourg

Cpl. Charles Benear
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T/5 John A. Joyner
13 Jan. 45 in Belgium

T/4 Robert W. Weeber
13 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Pfc. Abraham Deutsch
13 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Pvt. Joseph J. Stuckenbourg
10 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Pvt. Randall W. Davis
13 Jan. 45 in Belgium

Cpl. Deoy L. Tandy
17 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/4 Howard L. Lilley
17 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

T/5 Russell L. Westbrook
18 Dec. 44 in Luxembourg

Pvt. Charles G. Grove
15 Mar. 45 in Germany

Pvt. Bill Mitchell
17 Dec. 44 in Belgium

Pvt. Bill Bogle
11 Mar. 45 in Germany

T/4 Fred W. Harpold
2 April 45 in Germany

Cpl. Paul P. Hoepke
2 April 45 in Germany

S/Sgt. Frank Mitros
2 April 45 in Germany

Cpl. Louis Nolan
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Pfc. John Mayopoulos
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Vt. Carl Rhodes
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Pvt. Alex M. Sandler
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Pfc. John F. Brondell
10 April 45 in Germany

Cpl. Otto H. Hackman
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**OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART**

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HEADQUARTERS 9TH ARMORED DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General
APO 254 U.S. Army
10 January 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: Officers and Men of the 9th Armored Division, 12th Armored Group, 814th Tank Destroyer Battalion and 482nd A.A. Battalion AW (BP).

1. The division is assembled again after having fought severe and critical battles in several different sectors. We all regret that the 9th Armored Division did not fight as a single unit.

2. Combat Command "B" and attached elements of the 814th Tank Destroyer Battalion and the 482nd A.A. Battalion fought gallantly in the vital St. Vit area, performing an important role in upsetting the enemy's action in that sector. Combat Command "R", Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 12th Armored Group, and elements of the 814th Tank Destroyer Battalion and 482nd A.A. Battalion, attached, delayed the enemy to the northeast of Bastogne, Belgium thus enabling other American troops to occupy and prepare defensive positions in Bastogne. Elements of Combat Command "R" later fought with the 10th Armored Division in the siege of Bastogne.

3. The division, less Combat Command "B" and "R", held the sector in Luxembourg between the 4th and 28th Infantry Divisions. Combat Command "A" and elements of the 814th Tank Destroyer Battalion, attached, carried the fight to the enemy thus enabling the 3rd Army to launch an attack on 22 December.

4. Combat Command "A", with attached units was attached to the 4th Armored Division on the night of 26-27 December and carried out its mission of opening and protecting the Neuville a Poste--Bastogne Road. The division and its three combat commands operated road blocks and maintained contact between the 28th Division and the left rear of VII Corps. Several units were improvised to provide assistance and the left rear of VII Corps. Personnel of the Engineers and Reconnaissance battalions and the clerks and service personal of the division were used as infantry during the action. The supply, evacuation and maintenance units of the division performed their duties in a commendable manner.

5. The division and attached units fought like veterans and proved their battle leadership and combat efficiency to be superior. The courage, resourcefulness and aggressiveness of the groups who were surrounded have never been excelled.

6. As division commander, I express my pride and sincere appreciation of your splendid record. We will move forward to greater accomplishments.

7. Let us not forget our gallant dead, and let each of us say a fervent and humble prayer that God will have mercy on their souls.

JOHN W. LEONARD,
Major General, U.S. Army,
Commanding

2nd Ind.

200.4 (20 Jan 45)


TO: Commanding General, 4th Armored Division; APO 259, U.S. Army.

1. It is an honor to forward to the Commanding Officer, Combat Command "A", the commendation of the Army Commanders for the distinguished action during the Battle of Bastogne.

2. The movement of Combat Command "A", 4th Armored Division across the entire Corps and the attack which followed, was a distinguished Military operation and contributed materially to the decisive victory which resulted in the Battle of Bastogne.

I wish to add my own commendation and congratulations to the officers and men of Combat Command "A", 4th Armored Division.

[Signature]

[Title]

Major General, U.S. Army,
Commanding.
HEADQUARTERS 9TH ARMORED DIVISION
APO 259
U.S. Army 31 January

Colonel Thomas L. Harrold

1. The mission given the 9th Armored Division, 1st Armored Division, and 3rd Armored Division was to push across the Rhine River and capture or destroy all enemy forces in the area. The 9th Armored Division was one of the three divisions that were committed to the invasion of Europe, and it played a key role in the Allied victory.

2. The division was commanded by Major General J. W. Leonard, who was later promoted to the rank of General. The division was organized into three infantry regiments, each consisting of three battalions. The division also included a variety of support units, including engineers, artillery, and reconnaissance elements.

3. The division's operations were marked by a combination of aggressive tactics and disciplined execution. The division's success was due in large part to the leadership of its commanders, who were able to inspire their troops to fight with determination and purpose.

4. The division's contribution to the Allied victory in World War II was recognized with a number of honors and awards. The division was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation, and its soldiers were decorated with a variety of medals for their contributions to the war effort.

5. The division's legacy lives on through the officers and men who served in the 9th Armored Division, and the division's contributions to the Allied victory in World War II will always be remembered.
HEADQUARTERS, 50TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 80, U. S. Army
23 March 1945

GENERAL ORDERS
221

E. X. T. R. A. C. T.

NUMBER. The following letter from Headquarters 511 Corps, APO 312, U. S. Army,
dated 17 March 1945, is published for the information of all concerned.

"Major General McBridge*

Commanding, 511 Corps.

My Dear General McBridge:

I want to extend to you, in the respect and admiration of the entire corps, the hearty
appreciation of your exemplary service in helping ensure the success of the
operations of our troops in the recent battles.

In the face of the enemy's stubborn resistance, you demonstrated the highest personal
conundm and the most effective leadership; your quick and skilful planning, in spite of the
terrible conditions under which you worked, and your trained and disciplined troops
operated with great efficiency.

The sacrifice made by our troops is a source of pride to all of us, and we take
great satisfaction in knowing that our efforts have contributed to the success of the
operation.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) S. D. EDDY

Colonel, Commanding.

Headquarters, 511 Corps, APO 312, U. S. Army.

By command of Major General McBridge.

S. P. WALKER

Colonel, CAVAN

Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL
S. W. TRONE

Lt. Col., AGD

Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS, 81ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, APO 493, U. S. Army, 28 March 1945

TO: All members of the command.

SUBJECT: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps. APO 108, U. S. Army.

TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

S. W. TRONE

Lt. Col., AGD

Adjutant General

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 81ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, APO 493, U. S. Army, 28 January 1946

TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

SUBJECT: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

S. W. TRONE

Lt. Col., AGD

Adjutant General

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 81ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, APO 493, U. S. Army, 28 January 1946

TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

SUBJECT: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

S. W. TRONE

Lt. Col., AGD

Adjutant General

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 81ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, APO 493, U. S. Army, 28 January 1946

TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

SUBJECT: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the VIII Corps.

S. W. TRONE

Lt. Col., AGD

Adjutant General

1st Ind.
HEADQUARTERS
COMBAT COMMAND "B"
9TH ARMORED DIVISION
APO #259, U.S. ARMY

TO: All units CC "B", 9th Armored Division.

27 December 1944

1. Field Marshal Montgomery has informed Lt. General Hodges, First Army, that the turning point of the war was the defense of St. Vith.

2. I wish to take this opportunity to commend the men and officers of this command, which was the first unit to reach St. Vith after the Germans struck, for the skill and bravery displayed in carrying out their part in the action.

3. I desire that this letter be read to all troops at the earliest opportunity.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Cotran
COTHRAN
Maj. G-3

HEADQUARTERS, 811TH TANK DESTROYER BN., APO 463, U. S. Army, 3 Jan 1945.

TO: Commanding Officer, Co "A", 811th TD BN.

1. Inasmuch as Co A with 1st Hcn platoon attached were a part of CC "B", 9th Armored Division at the time of this action, it gives me great pleasure to forward this commendation on to you.

A. R. BROWNFIELD
Lt. Col. FA
Condg.

Telegram from CG, 101st Airborne Division to CG 9th Armored Division:

Ltrs of Commendation #2

THE 101 AIRBORNE DIVISION IS MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY ELEMENTS OF THE NINTH ARMORED DIVISION IN RECENT DEFENSE OF BAS- TOUCHE. COMBAT COMMAND ROGER IS BEING RECOMMENDED FOR UNIT CITATION.

Lt. Hq. 9th Arm Div, APO 259, U.S. Army:

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: Commanding General, 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion, U. S. Army (THRU:

1. Personnel of Combat Command "B" of the 9th Arm Div which included Com-

pany C and one platoon of the Reconnaissance Company, 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion,

have been praised for their superior fighting at BASTOGNE by the 101st Airborne Di-

vision and Combat Command "B" of the 10th Arm Div. Copies of the radio sent by the 101st

Airborne Division and the letter sent by the Commanding Officer, Combat Command "B",

2. In another letter the officers from this headquarters are attached.

units, I have expressed my pride in the officers and men of the 9th Arm Div and its attached

senior commanders shows that my confidence in you is well justified. I commend you

again and desire that a summary of attached messages of commendation be given to your

officers and men.

/s/ John W. Leoonard,
/1/ JOHN W. LEONARD,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding
2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, COMBAT COMMAND "A", 9TH ARMORED DIVISION, APO 259.
US Army, 4 February 1945.

TO: Officers and Men of Combat Command "A", "D" Battery, 482 AAA Battalion (AW) 31, 81 Tank Destroyer Battalion, 89th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, "C" and "E" Troops, 89th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron.

1. It is a pleasure to pass on these commendations.
2. It is desired that they be brought to the attention of all personnel.

/s/ Thomas L. Harrold,
Commanding.

3rd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
APO 493
20 January 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO: Commanding General, III Corps, APO 403, U. S. Army.

1. The outstanding color of your movement and the unyielding, vicious and skillful manner in which you pushed the attack, terminating at the end of four days and nights of incessant battle in the relief of BASTOGNE, constitute one of the finest chapters in the glorious history of the U. S. Army.
2. You and the officers and men of your Command are hereby highly commended for a superb performance.
3. You will apprise all units concerned of the contents of this letter.

/s/ G. S. Patton, Jr.,
Lieut. Commanding.

4th Ind.

HEADQUARTERS COMBAT COMMAND "A", 9TH ARMD DIV, APO 259, U.S. Army, 4 Feb 45.

TO: Officers and Men of Combat Command "A", "D" Battery, 482 AAA Battalion (AW) 31, 81 Tank Destroyer Battalion, 89th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, "C" and "E" Troops, 89th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron.

1. It is with pleasure that I pass on to you the commendations of the Commanding General of the Third U. S. Army, III Corps, 4th Armored Division and 9th Armored Division.
2. I wish to add my own commendation and express complete confidence in your future accomplishments.

/s/ Thomas L. Harrold,
Commanding.

4th Ind.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMORED DIVISION
APO 259
U. S. Army
17 January 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO: Commanding Officer, Combat Command "A", 9th Armored Division.

1. I was present for the command of the officers and men of Combat Command "A", 9th Armored Division. During the course of the battle, the officers and men of Combat Command "A" displayed admirable courage and fortitude in the face of adversity.

/s/ Hugh J. Gaffey
Commanding.
GENERAL ORDERS

NUMBER 28

THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY

9 May 1945

SOLDIERS OF THE THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY

AHEAD OF THE 29TH DIVISION

During the last 5 days of the war, the Third United States Army and the 29th Infantry Division have advanced from the Siegfried Line to the Rhine River, liberating Luxembourg, Belgium, the Netherlands, and northern Germany. The division has captured 45,000 prisoners, destroyed 10,000 tanks, and captured 150 aircraft. The Division has earned the admiration of the German people, who have welcomed it with open arms.

The Division has demonstrated its ability to operate in the most difficult conditions. It has shown that it can fight in the face of overwhelming odds. It has demonstrated that it can fight with determination and courage.

The Division has been commanded by General George S. Patton, Jr., who has led it with skill and daring.

C. S. PATTON, JR.,
Major General, United States Army

HEADQUARTERS 89TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Office of the Commanding General

10 August 1945

TO:

Commanding Officer, 89th Infantry Division

THE 89TH INFANTRY DIVISION was attached to and served under the command of the 89th Infantry Division on 7 September 1944. The Division was organized as a part of the 89th Infantry Division on 15 September 1944, and was attached to the 89th Infantry Division on 15 September 1944. The Division operated in the Normandy area until the end of the war. The Division was organized as a part of the 89th Infantry Division on 15 September 1944. The Division was attached to the 89th Infantry Division on 15 September 1944.

The Division has demonstrated its ability to operate in the most difficult conditions. It has shown that it can fight in the face of overwhelming odds. It has demonstrated that it can fight with determination and courage.

The Division has been commanded by General H. W. McBride, who has led it with skill and daring.

H. W. McBride,
Major General, United States Army

THRU: Commanding Officer, 1st TD Gp.
TO: Commanding Officer, 81st TD Bn.

1. It is with pleasure and gratification that I forward this richly deserved commendation for a job well done.
2. The cooperation of the members of your command to the epic defense of the city of BASTOGNE will long be remembered.
3. It gives me deep satisfaction to add my commendation to that of the Commanding General, 9th Armored Div.

/s/ Troy H. Middlebon,

TROY H. MIDDLETON,
Major General, U.S. Army,
Commanding

Ltrs of Commendation #3

HEADQUARTERS III CORPS
Office of the Commanding General
APO 301, U.S. Army

25 January 1945

200-1 GHNGC

SUBJECT: Commendation.
TO: Commanding General, 9th Armored Division, APO 259, U.S. Army,
THRU: Commanding Officer, Combat Command A, 9th Armored Division,
TO: APO 259, U.S. Army.

1. The following letter from the Army Commander is quoted to all III Corps units which participated in the relief of BASTOGNE:

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
APO 403

20 January 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.
TO: Commanding General, Officers and Men of the III Corps, APO 303, U.S. Army

1. The speed with which the III Corps assembled, and the energy, skill and perseverance with which it pressed its attack for the relief of BASTOGNE, constitute a very worthwhile feat of arms.
2. You and the officers and men of your Command are hereby highly commended for a superior performance.
3. You will apprise all units concerned of the contents of this letter.

/s/ G. S. Patton, Jr.

G. S. PATTON, JR.,
Lieut. General, U.S. Army,
Commanding

2. The Corps Commander is gratified to transmit the Army Commander’s commendation to the units of Corps troops and divisions participating in the relief of BASTOGNE. The uncertainty of the enemy situation, the stubborn enemy resistance, the disregard for losses and the team work which all units displayed in gaining the goal of relieving BASTOGNE were the contributing factors that made the operation such an outstanding victory, and will be highly valued in the history of each unit.
3. The Corps Commander adds his commendation for the performance of this task well done.
4. The contents of this letter will be made known to all officers and enlisted men in your organization at the earliest practicable time.

/s/ John Millikin

JOHN MILLIKIN,
Major General, U.S. Army,
Commanding
Snapped at Random
1955
Convention Pictures
1956

Convention Pictures
1959

Convention Notes