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: Auth: CG 8 Inf Div:  
: Date: 1 Feb 1945 :  
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HEADQUARTERS  
817TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
A.P.O. 339. US ARMY

1 February, 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

TO : The Adjutant General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

THROUGH: Commanding General, 8th Infantry Division, APO 8, U. S. Army.

Section I --- Authority  
Section II --- Introduction  
Section III --- Report After Action Against Enemy.  
Section IV --- Annexes

- ANNEXES
1. Administrative, 817th T. D. Bn.
  2. Overlay, Operations, 817th T. D. Bn.
  3. Overlay, Intelligence, 817th T. D. Bn.

SECTION I - AUTHORITY

In compliance with par 10, AR 345-105, this report by the 817th Tank Destroyer Battalion, 1 January, 1945, to 31 January, 1945, is submitted.

SECTION II - INTRODUCTION

1. Command: During the time covered by the report the 817th Tank Destroyer Battalion operated under the following Headquarters and Commanders:

- a. Ninth Army - - - - - Lt Gen William H. SIMPSON
- b. XIX Corps - - - - - Maj Gen Raymond S. McLAIN
- c. 8th Infantry Division - - Brig Gen W. G. WEAVER
- d. 2nd Tank Destroyer Group Lt. Col. BELL
- e. 817th Tank Destroyer Bn Lt. Col. William H. BARDES.

2. Composition of 817th Tank Destroyer Battalion:

<u>a. Organic</u>	<u>Commanders</u>
Headquarters Company	Capt William J. EDGAR
"A" Company	1st Lt. Howard M. VOGEL
"B" Company	Capt John T. OMENHISER
"C" Company	Capt Robert L. MCKENZIE

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*Raymond S. McLain*

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3. This operation report covers the combat action of the 817th Tank Destroyer Battalion during the period since the last report which was submitted as of 312400A December, 1944.

4. MAPS:

The following maps were used in this operation:

Central Europe, 1/100,000 -

Germany, 1/25,000

SECTION III - REPORT AFTER ACTION AGAINST ENEMY

1 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. Battalion attached to 8th Infantry Division with Company A supporting the 28th and 121st Infantry Regiments; Company B supporting the 13th Infantry Regiment; and Company C supporting the 113th Mechanized Cavalry Group. 3" guns are dug in for anti-tank defense coordinated with 8th Infantry Division anti-tank defenses. Alternate positions have been selected and prepared to meet any possible enemy attack from adjoining sectors. A number of guns are used for firing Star Shell (illuminating) missions in cooperation with 8th Division Artillery units. Five forward observation posts are maintained by our Reconnaissance Platoons of Headquarters Company.

b. COMMAND POST LOCATIONS --

Battalion . . . . .	029378
Company A . . . . .	023335
Company B . . . . .	055375
Company C . . . . .	073397

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area. Put 13th 3-inch gun into position, between HURTGEN and GERMETER.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area. Moved two 3-inch guns slightly to improve fields of fire.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area. Placed 13th 3-inch gun into position

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RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Moved one M-8 emplacement to area west of KLEINHAU. Moved CP of second platoon to same area. Continued operation of outposts. Sighted a 10 man enemy patrol at 0930 hours at 07153175. Placed 75-mm PAK gun in position and Ren personnel manning it.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy aircraft were active over our installations, strafing in the KLEINHAU, HURTGEM, GERMETER areas. One ME 109 was seen shot down by friendly AA unit. Enemy artillery fire was moderate in all sectors. Small scale infantry attack was attempted by the enemy in the BERGSTEIN sector but was repelled by friendly infantry with artillery in support. Small enemy patrol attempted to infiltrate Division lines at F 01052900. The patrol was dispersed and repelled by friendly infantry.

2 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area. Surveyed in one gun to fire illuminating shell on call of division.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts. Improved gun emplacements.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy Artillery fire was light to moderate throughout the Division sector. Five enemy tanks, type undetermined, seen at F 12424080. No movement was reported of these tanks closer to our lines.

3 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area. Prepared position for additional 75-mm PAK gun just received.

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COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area. Prepared position for additional 75-mm PAK gun just received

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery fire was light throughout the division sector but mortar fire was intensified in the vicinity of F 106379. No armored activity.

4 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area. Dug and prepared eight alternate positions south of GEY to be occupied in the event of a breakthrough in 104th Infantry Division Sector.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery was moderate. Air burst artillery was reported being used in the HURTGEN and VOSSENACK sector. No enemy armor was reported.

5 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area. Fired 12 rounds of HE to register in gun on SCHMIDT, and 10 rounds of Star Shell at same area.

COMPANY B -- Continued to work on defense of area.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area.

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RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery was moderate to light throughout the sector. Smoke was used briefly during the afternoon in the vicinity F 0834, F 0835 area. Four or five well camouflaged self-propelled guns were observed via F 0431. Enemy air was inactive.

6 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area. Placed additional 75-mm PAK gun in position.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area. Fired 16 rounds of HE to register gun on various points. Prepared to fire Star Shells.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. No armored activity. Artillery fire was light throughout the sector. Enemy mortar fire was heavy in the vicinity. No enemy air activity reported.

7 January, 1945

1. SITUATION

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

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A. Enemy artillery fire light in the sector and flare activity was predominant along the entire Division front. No enemy air activity. No armored activity.

8 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Mortar fire was intense in the VOSSENACK sector. No reports of armored activity in sector. No enemy air activity.

9 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change. Received four 3" guns and transferred three 75-mm PAK guns to 8th Infantry Division.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area. Prepared positions for two additional 3-inch guns.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area. Prepared position for one additional 3-inch gun.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area. Prepared position for one additional 3-inch gun.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery continued to be light to moderate. Our OPs reported enemy vehicle activity in the vicinity of F 004308. They also reported four men digging slit trenches in vicinity of F 054309. This information was relayed thru channels and friendly artillery dispersed all activity. There was no armor reported along the Division sector.

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10 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued work on defense of area. Placed two 3-inch guns in position, both in VOSSENACK area.

COMPANY B -- Continued work on defense of area. Placed one 3-inch gun in position, in KLEINHAU area.

COMPANY C -- Continued work on defense of area. Placed one 3-inch gun in position in LANGENBRUICH area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. No enemy armored activity along division front. There was no enemy air activity. Enemy artillery reported to be light throughout the sector.

11 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued to improve defense of area.

COMPANY B -- Continued to improve defense of area.

COMPANY C -- Continued to improve defense of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. There was an increase of enemy artillery and was especially heavy in the HURTGEN and GEY sectors. Enemy fighters were active over the Division front. One enemy plane was shot down in the vicinity F 04203620 and one plane was shot down at 04503359 and both pilots parachuted and were captured by friendly Infantry. One plane believed to have been firing rockets made a direct hit upon a house in BRANDENBURG.

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12 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Fired 5 rds star shell in SCHMIDT area on request of 119th Arty Group. Continued to maintain and improve defense of area.

COMPANY B -- Continued to maintain and improve defenses of area. Guard of Co. B in BOGHEIM challenged an officer and seven men in a jeep who were unfamiliar with password and states they were from Troop E. Officer gave his name as Lt. Richardson and convinced guard of his identity and was allowed to continue. A check with 113th Cav reveals they have no officer by that name in Troop E. Adjoining units warned to watch for these men.

COMPANY C -- Continued to maintain and improve defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to maintain and operate outposts. CP #1 was pushed back with 309th Inf on an enemy attack. Ground was regained by 309th and our OP remained later in day.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Our OPs reported heavy vehicular traffic vicinity 117376. The enemy made a small attack in vicinity of 010304 at 1125 hours. It consisted of a heavy artillery barrage followed by a small infantry attack upon friendly infantry pillboxes in that vicinity. The attack was repulsed by infantry-artillery team with no ground lost. Enemy artillery upon other sectors of the division front was light. No armor was reported in the sector.

13 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Continued to maintain and improve defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Continued to maintain and improve defenses of area.

COMPANY C -- Continued to maintain and improve defenses of area

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RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to maintain and operate outposts. Plans and reconnaissance made for reorganization of outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery and mortar fire showed a marked increase in the UNTERMAUBACH and BERGSTEIN sectors. An enemy force of 150 foot troops attempted to retake hill 400 in the BERGSTEIN sector. After considerable exchange of small arms fire and with aid of friendly artillery the attack was repulsed with considerable losses to the enemy. Armored vehicles were not reported opposite the division sector

14 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 12 rds Star shell at direction of 43rd F.A. F.D.C.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY SITUATION:

a. There was a decrease in artillery fire in the sector over the 13th. Three ME 109s appeared over the sector flying NW. They did not strafe the sector. No armor was reported. Three enemy patrols estimated strength of 20 men each attempted to cross the Roer river vicinity F 116389, F 116404 and F 113373. The attack was repulsed.

15 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired one star shell mission at request of Division Artillery

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

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COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Reports of the landing of paratroopers in the UNTERMAUBACH-OBERMAUBACH sectors was investigated by a combat motorized patrol headed by the C.O. Our OPs in this vicinity reported that several flares had been dropped by a single plane but that they had heard no groups of planes over the area and had not seen any parachutists dropped. Patrol could not confirm any of the parachutist report. OPs reported that there was some enemy activity along the Roer river in vicinity of OBERMAUBACH as an enemy patrol was being repulsed along the bank of the river. Enemy artillery fire was moderate. No armor was reported for the period.

16 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Artillery was light for the period. No enemy air or armor was reported.

17 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fires 4 rds Star shell at request of division artillery.

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COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- 2nd Platoon moved its CP to O17322. Moved one M-8 to vic O17322 to cover approaches from southwest.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

The only enemy activity reported for the period was light artillery fire directed at the GEY, OBERMAUBACH, BRANDENBURG and VOSSENACK sectors. One enemy observation plane dropped numerous flares over the GEY sector during the hours of darkness.

18 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 3 rds Star shells for 121st Inf Regt.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 9 rds Star shells for Div. Arty.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts. Maintained and improved defenses of area.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. No armor reported. Enemy artillery continued to be light. One enemy plane on reconnaissance mission was over the division sector during the hours of darkness. White ground flares were numerous along the front. Numerous enemy vehicles mostly large vans or trucks were seen moving on the road between NIDEGGEN and BERG to the NE.

19 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired one Star Shell for Div Arty. Observed fire for 28th Inf Regt on an enemy truck and trailer at 049300 -- recorded 4 hits.

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COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts. Maintained and improved defenses of area.

3. PLANS AND ORDERS:

a. Prepared Withdrawal Plan which employs three routes of withdrawal in the event of withdrawal. (See Section IV -- ANNEXES).

4. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery showed a slight increase over the previous day. Single unidentified plane flying SE to SW over Bn sector at 2300 hours. One enemy patrol of six men attempted to infiltrate in Vic F 091359 at 0500 hours but was repulsed. No armor reported.

20 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Continued to operate outposts. Maintained and improved defenses of area.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery was again light over the sector. Our 1st Plt Co A reported a German truck and trailer parked in vicinity 040301. Plt Ldr acted as forward observer for artillery and the truck and trailer were knocked out. Enemy air activity was limited to two reconnaissance planes during the hours of darkness. No armor was reported during this period.

21 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

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2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery fire was light for the period. A seven man patrol in the vicinity of F 072326 was reported by one of our CPs and relayed to the Artillery, who took the patrol under fire. Air support reported enemy vehicles in vic of F 137331, and were subsequently bombed by P-47s.

22 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired two rds Star shell on request of Div Arty.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Prepared position in KLEINHAU area for one additional 3-inch gun.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Prepared position for one additional 3-inch gun in KLEINHAU area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery was light with interdictory barrages being prevalent in the GEY sector. Flare activity continued to be prevalent in all sectors during the hours of darkness. No armor reported in the sector.

23 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change

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2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired five rds star shell on request of Div Arty.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Placed one gun in position in KLEINHAU AREA.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Placed one gun in position in KLEINHAU area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. The battalion sector was extremely quiet with but a few rounds of artillery falling in the BERGSTEIN sector. Two enemy tanks were reported SE of STOCKHEIM at 0930 hours. No enemy air activity.

24 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Moved one 3-inch gun from position to where gun used for Star Shell is located to fire indirect missions for Div Arty as requested.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Moved one 3-inch gun from position to where gun used for Star Shell is located to fire indirect missions for Div Arty as requested.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery showed a slight increase over the previous period. The bulk of the artillery falling in the GEY sector. One of our OPs reported enemy personnel in the vicinity of 074311 several times during the period. No armor was reported.

25 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change

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b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

BATTALION -- Bn C.O., S-3, R0, and CO of B Co reconnoitered area for switch positions to strengthen defenses along 8th Division northern and southern boundaries in the event a breakthrough was effected in sectors of 104th Inf. Div on the left and 78th Inf Div on the right.

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 18 rds HE (RC) on request of Div Arty.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 48 rds HE (RC) on request of Div Arty.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery and mortar fire continued light in the Battalion sector. One of our OPs reported 7 Germans camouflaging a road running SE from DROVE. Air support reported eight enemy tanks in vicinity of 070312. No enemy air activity.

26 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

a. No change.

b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 20 rds HE (RC) on direction of Div Arty.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery and mortar fire continued to be light. One of the OPs reported receiving sniper fire in the BERGSTEIN area. Information was acted on by the artillery but without result as the sniper was again active. No enemy air activity. Armor was not reported opposite our sector

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27 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 20 rds HE (RC) on direction of Div Arty.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery was light to moderate except in the GEY sector where artillery fire was heavy. No enemy air activity was reported. Our OP 4 reported four men moving around a farm house at 088338 and the artillery acting on this information placed nine rounds in that vicinity. No hits were recorded and the men soon came out of the house and inspected the craters made by the friendly shells. Air reconnaissance reports 10 tanks and 15 vehicles in vicinity of F 194377. P-47s and long range artillery were placed on the target.

28 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 2 rds star shell on request of Div Arty.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 22 rds HE(RC) on direction of Div Arty.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

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3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery fire was extremely light throughout the Battalion sector. One enemy plane flew over the sector during the hours of darkness. It was apparently on a reconnaissance mission. There were no reports of armor opposite our sector.

29 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 1 rd Star shell on request of Div Arty. Fired 54 rds HE(RC) in support of 45th F. A.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 132 rds HE(RC) in support of 43rd F. A.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery fire in the battalion sector was light to negligible. One enemy reconnaissance plane appeared over sector during hours of darkness. There was no armor reported in the sector. During the hours of darkness there was considerable flare activity in the VOSSENACK sector.

30 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 329 rds of HE in support of 43rd F. A.

COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 164 rds of HE in support of 43rd F. A.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Five EM wounded and one killed when men were caught in artillery barrage laid down by enemy, enroute to obtain hot meal.

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RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Enemy artillery again remained light throughout the sector. One enemy SP gun fired 30 - 40 rds in the STRASS sectors 1630 - 1830 hrs. There was no enemy air activity over the battalion sector. There was some armor reported opposite the 78th Inf Div sector to our south but the type and number was not known. The armor made no appearance opposite our sector.

31 January, 1945

1. SITUATION:

- a. No change.
- b. CP LOCATIONS -- No change.

2. OPERATIONS:

BATTALION -- Bn C.O., S-3, RO, CO Company C reconnoitered area for switch positions to strengthen defenses along division northern and southern boundaries in the event a breakthrough is effected in sectors of 104th Inf Div on the left and the 78th Inf Div on the right.

COMPANY A -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 4 rds star shell on request of 45th F. A.

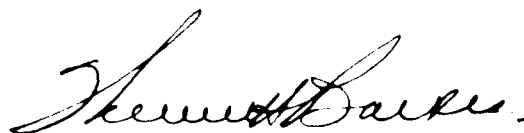
COMPANY B -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Fired 7 rds Star shell on request of G-3, 8th Infantry Division.

COMPANY C -- Maintained and improved defenses of area.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOONS -- Maintained and improved defenses of area. Continued to operate outposts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY:

a. Five tanks were observed in NIEDERAU 12484215 at 1430 hours. Friendly artillery placed sernade on town. Results unknown. No enemy air activity was evidenced. Heavy vehicular activity was reported on the SOLLER-STOCKHEIM highway by our CP 5. Friendly artillery placed fire on this road.



WILLIAM H. BARDES  
Lt. Col., 817th T. D. Bn.  
Commanding



817TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION  
 S-1 ADMINISTRATIVE ANNEX FOR OPERATIONS REPORT PERIOD 1 JAN 45 to 31 JAN 45

BATTLE CASUALTIES					TOTAL SICK AND NON-BATTLE CASUALTIES	
KILLED	WOUNDED	MISSING	CAPTURED	TOTAL		
OFFICERS	0	1	0	0	1	0
E.M.	2	9	0	0	11	12
TOTAL	2	10	0	0	12	12

REINFORCEMENTS

Date	Officers	Enlisted Men	Total
1 January, 1945	0	5	5
8 January, 1945	0	2	2
10 January, 1945	0	2	2
14 January, 1945	0	1	1
16 January, 1945	0	4	4
17 January, 1945	0	2	2
21 January, 1945	0	2	2
25 January, 1945	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	20	20

STATUS OF SUPPLY

1. STATUS OF SUPPLY FOR MONTH OF JANUARY, 1945:
  - a. During month status of supply did not change.
    - Class I -(2) two days supply on hand.
    - Class III -(2) two days supply on hand.
    - Class V -One hundred per cent (100%) basic load