

After Action Against Enemy Report

NO 1

FROM: 131400 June 44
TO : 302400 June 44

UNIT : 823 rd TANK DESTROYER Bn
PLACE: FRANCE, 477694
TIME : 201000 July 44

MAPS: FRANCE

13 JUNE 44

1st Lt. IRVING R. POLEY, Liaison OFFICER No 1, landed in FRANCE with the Command Element of the 30th Infantry Division.

24 JUNE 44

Unit minus the 3rd platoons of "A" and "B" Companies disembarked at OMAHA WHITE FOX beach at 0612 arriving Transit Area No:4 at 0800. Departed 0835 and arrived at Initial Area "A" (30) at 1015. About 1400 Captain SAMUEL D. SWANSON 1st Platoon "C" Company and Battalion Medical Detachment, lost units, arrived at Initial Area "A". Moved to indirect fire positions near 505830 at 1445. Positions were fully prepared and Platoon registration started, "B" Company firing the first round. Reconnaissance of roads, bridges and for direct and indirect fire positions was made by Reconnaissance platoons of Area 530830, 557806, 520706 and 503723. 3rd Platoons "A" and "B" Companies closed into indirect fire positions at 2243 having disembarked approximately at 1800.

25 JUNE 44

Period was spent improving indirect fire positions and the registration of "C" Company. At 1830 "A" Company moved to a new indirect fire position at 633831 and by 2200 was ready to register. Difficulty in observing shell burst required 130 rounds to register one Company. One short round from a "B" Company gun caused three (3) casualties in a "B" Company security section and a fourth casualty occurred when a Headquarters Company enlisted man was run over by a vehicle. Plans were prepared for the execution of the primary mission.

26 JUNE 1944

"C" Company fired eight (8) concentrations for a total of 246 rounds on Division assigned targets. 1st Lt. ELLIS W. MC INNIS and one "3" gun and crew from 1st platoon "C" Company fired two (2) rounds HE, five (5) rounds AP and twenty (20) rounds CPA at an enemy pillbox. The HE did not penetrate, exploding on the outside, the AP penetrated going through both walls while the CPA seemed to go through the outer wall exploding within the building. On order XIX Corps, unit at 1345 moved to 542733 closing at 1518 at which time it was released from the 30th Infantry Division and attached to the 29th Infantry Division. Immediate reconnaissance for direct fire positions was made. Gun Companies moved to a position of readiness at 534813 closing at 2200. The 1st Reconnaissance platoon established an OP and the 1st and 2nd Reconnaissance platoons established static outpost lines to fill a gap between the 175th Infantry Regiment and the 119th Infantry Regiment. Gun Companies moved to combat positions after 2200 hours.

27 JUNE 44

27 JUNE 44

Period was spent improving gun positions and fields of fire with Reconnaissance platoons continuing to maintain outposts in gap between 175th Infantry Regiment and 119th Infantry Regiment. Units experienced their first enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire. General GERHARDT visited Battalion CP and two company positions.

28 JUNE 44

There was little change in unit positions during period although fields of fire were improved, several guns were shifted to better positions, gun positions perfected with reconnaissance for firing position being strenuously pushed and OPL maintained by Reconnaissance platoons. 1st LT. JOSE H. BRUDON was the Battalions first Officer casualty sustaining a grenade wound in the right leg, when an uncharged body-trap exploded.

29 JUNE 44

As defense against a suspected enemy counter-attack special precautionary measures in the manning of direct fire positions were taken with new positions being prepared for the direct support of the advancing Infantry and Armored Units. There was no change in Reconnaissance platoons missions and elements of the 2nd Reconnaissance platoon in conjunction with parts of the 119th Infantry Regiment conducted a night patrol in the gap between the 175th Infantry Regiment and 119th Infantry Regiment capturing seven (7) Germans at 504698, prisoners being handled by the 119th Infantry Regiment. Unit suffered six (6) casualties by enemy shelling, gun fire, accidents and battle exhaustion.

30 JUNE 44

"B" Company moved to new direct fire positions behind the advancing 115th Infantry Regiment. "A" and "C" Companies continued the direct support of the 175th and the 116th Infantry Regiments. No change in the Reconnaissance platoons missions. 1st Lt. THOMAS SPRINGFIELD and one 1st platoon "A" Company gun fired seven (7) rounds HE at an enemy CP, the results of fire being undeterminable. Four additional casualties were suffered during the period.

Periods cover from 2200 to 2300 hours.

OTTEMER
LT. COL.

Official:

LOHSE
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