

HEADQUARTERS
824TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
10 June 1945

SUBJECT: Organization History of 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion
for Period 11 May to 31 May 1945.

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, US Army
Attention: Historical Section.

1. Enclosed herewith battalion history of this organization
for the period of 11 May to 31 May 1945.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER

EUGENE D MAYERS
1st Lt., F.A.
Adj.



6 Enclosures:

- 1- Annex "A" - Narrative Account of Operations (4 copies)
- 2- Annex "B" - Original Unit (4 copies)
- 3- Annex "C" - Strength - Commissioned and Enlisted Men (4 copies)
- 4- Annex "D" - Losses in Action - Officers and Men (4 copies)
- 5- Annex "E" - Awards
- 6- Annex "F" - Company Operations Reports (1 copy)

HEADQUARTERS
824TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
10 June 1945

NARRATIVE ACCOUNT OF BATTALION OPERATIONS
PERIOD 11 MAY TO 31 MAY 1945



The Battalion history from May 11th to May 31st covers the post-hostilities period of policing and occupying established areas in Austria.

On May 11th the Battalion was performing such duties in its area, with disposition as follows "A" Company was located at SILZ (41 56) with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached. "B" Company was at OBERHOFEN (254 61) with the 3rd Reconnaissance Platoon attached. "C" Company was at STAMS (245 58) minus the 1st Platoon which was attached to Reconnaissance Company at UNTERDORF (249 59). The Battalion CP and Headquarters Company were established at RIEBZ (249 59).

Until the 17th of May the Battalion was engaged with occupational duties such as, maintaining check-posts, foot and road patrols, a cage for PW's and suspected transients, liaison with adjacent units and the establishment of a military government within its assigned sector.

On the 15th of May the Battalion received verbal orders from the VI Corps that it was alerted for movement and would initiate preliminary inspections and conduct intensive maintenance operations to bring equipment into the best possible condition.

On the 17th of May the Battalion was relieved from duties within its assigned area by the 384th FA Bn, to enable swifter preparation for movement. On this date "A" Company moved to a bivouac area vicinity STAMS (245 58). "B" Company assembled in position at OBERHOFEN and "C" Company assembled at STAMS, the 1st Platoon returning to its control. The 1st and 3rd Reconnaissance Platoons were relieved from attachment and assembled with Reconnaissance Company at UNTERDORF.

From 15th to 18th May the 85th Ordnance inspected the Battalion equipment.

On the 24th and 25th of May the line Companies conducted practice fire with 76MM guns while Reconnaissance Company practice fired its 37MM guns.

On 29 May the Battalion was alerted for movement orders from the 7th Army.

An inspection was conducted by I. G. 103rd Infantry Division on the 31st May. Battalion was rated Excellent.

Throughout this period a daily training program was maintained, athletic and recreational periods supplemented by scheduled competitive soft-ball games and the required hours of orientation talks.

HEADQUARTERS
824TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
10 June 1945

ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation - 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Towed)
- (2) Date of organization - 10 August 1942.
- (3) Place of organization - Camp Gruber, Oklahoma
- (4) Authority for organization - Headquarters, Third Army
General Order Number 81
dated 27 July 1942.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained -
Draftees and transfers from other organizations.
- (6) Reorganized - Battalion converted to a self-propelled unit.
General Order No. 90, Headquarters Seventh Army, 11 March 45



ANNEX "B"

HEADQUARTERS
824TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
10 June 1945

STRENGTH - Commissioned and Enlisted

- (1) At beginning of period - 31 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers
592 Enlisted Men
- (2) Net increase during period - 3 Officers, 0 Warrant Officers
(2 Off asgd from 827th TD Bn)
(1 Off asgd from 645th TD Bn)
16 Enlisted men (RTU)
- (3) Net decrease during period - 0 Officers, 0 Warrant Officers
7 Enlisted men
(2 EM trfd to DOP)
(5 EM temp dy U.S. Dropped from
rolls)
- (4) At end of period*- 34 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers
601 Enlisted Men

* Period from 11 May to 31 May 45 incl.



ANNEX "C"

HEADQUARTERS
824TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
10 June 1945

LOSSES IN ACTION FROM 11 MAY to 31 MAY incl.- Officers and Enlisted Men

KILLED

None

WOUNDED

None



ANNEX "D"

HEADQUARTERS
824TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

APO 758, US Army
10 June 1945

AWARDS



AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Technician Fifth Grade Robert Elderbroom, 42026256, Field Artillery, Company A, 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion, from 30 November 1944 to May 1 1945, in France and Germany. Residence: Syracuse, New York.

Sergeant Alexander McIntosh, 32698450, Field Artillery, Company A, 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion, from 27 November 1944 to May 1, 1945, in France, Germany and Austria. Residence: Brooklyn, New York.

Sergeant Arthur E. Weissman, 39108631, Field Artillery, Company "C", 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion. For heroic achievement in action. During the period 22 and 23 December 1944, Sergeant Weissman kept vital communications intact as his company advanced in direct support of infantry elements in the attack on Fort Regeret, France. Intense enemy artillery fire constantly disrupted communications, necessitating Sergeant Weissman's going forward under fire to repair the breaks. Communications were maintained adding immeasurably to the coordination between the Tank Destroyers and the Infantry. On 14 April 1945, near Obr Heinriet, Germany, when placed in command of a destroyer during an emergency, Sergeant Weissman responded brilliantly by displaying outstanding leadership and assisting in the repulsion of a counterattack by the enemy. Sergeant Weissman's actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: San Francisco, California.

AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Corporal John F. Gordy, 32695423, Field Artillery, Company "A" 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy during the period 10 April to 4 May 1945, in Germany and Austria. Residence: Brooklyn, New York. Next of kin: Mrs Mary Gordy (Mother), 3307 Glenwood Road, Brooklyn, New York.

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART

Private First Class Carl A. Knoll, 36299504, Field Artillery, Reconnaissance Company, 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion, France 1 December 1944. Residence: Mayville, Wisconsin.