

HEADQUARTERS  
ARMY GROUND FORCES  
Army War College  
Washington, D.C.

320.2/39 (TD Units)-GNOPN  
(5-5-42)

May 5, 1942.

SUBJECT: Organization of Tank Destroyer Battalions in August, 1942.

TO: Commanding Generals,  
Second and Third Armies,  
IX Army Corps.



1. Activate 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Heavy, Self-propelled) with filler personnel from Field Artillery Replacement Training Center insofar as it is available for this purpose, and 825th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Heavy, Self-propelled) with filler personnel from Infantry Replacement Training Center insofar as it is available for this purpose. Each battalion will be organized in accordance with Table of Organization 18-25, with 35 officers and 744 enlisted men at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma.

2. Commanding General, Third Army, is charged with activation of these battalions and they will be attached to the Third Army.

3. Activation will be as early in August, 1942, as availability of personnel, housing, and other facilities permit. Activation will not take place until commissioned personnel is available. Subject to the above, the exact date of activation will be determined by the officer charged with activating each unit.

4. Cadres. a. (See Section II, Circular No. 6, War Department, dated January 9, 1942.)

b. Each battalion will be formed with a cadre of 77 enlisted men conforming to the Table of Organization. The cadre for 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Heavy, Self-propelled) will be furnished by 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Heavy, Self-propelled). The cadre for 825th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Heavy, Self-propelled) will be furnished by 806th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Heavy, Self-propelled). Cadremen need not hold the grades indicated in the Table of Organization but must be qualified to perform duties of the positions for which they may be selected.

c. Each unit furnishing a cadre is authorized overstrength in grades equal to that of the cadre. Requisitions to The Adjutant General for such overstrength will be marked "cadre equivalent."

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d. Promotions to cadre grades and to fill vacancies may be made by source units effective June 1, 1942.

e. Should a source unit be ordered out of the continental United States before the cadre is withdrawn, the cadre will be left at the station at which the source unit is serving at the time of receipt of orders. The Commanding Officer of the source unit will immediately notify the Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, direct that the cadre is available.

f. Each cadre will be moved to the station of activation on call of the activating agency.

g. Both commissioned and enlisted cadres should be at the station of activation at least 15 days, and preferably 30 days, before a unit receives its fillers.

5. Grades to new units will be authorized in accordance with War Department letters: AG221 (1-18-42) EA-A, Subject: "Allotment of Grades and Ratings and Authorized Strengths to Tactical Units (Less Air Corps and Services with Air Corps)", dated January 21, 1942, and AG 221 (4-3-42) EA-A, Subject: "Staff Sergeants (Grade 3) in Lieu of Mess and Platoon Sergeants (Grade 4)", dated April 6, 1942.

6. Fillers, including attached medical personnel, will be requisitioned from The Adjutant General by commanders charged with activation of units.

7. Officers. a. Commanders and key personnel for Battalions. (See paragraph 3b, AG 320.2 (12-15-41)OP-A-M, December 26, 1941, Subject: "Officer Filler and Loss Replacements for Ground Arms and Services.")

b. Officers accompanying enlisted cadres. Units furnishing enlisted cadres will provide one officer of company grade per company cadre to accompany each cadre to the station of activation. The officer accompanying each cadre will then become a part of the officer complement of the new unit upon its activation.

c. Remainder of officer complement. In providing the remainder of the officers, commissioned personnel for the newly organized units will so far as practicable, be furnished from those under control of the activating authority and available for such assignment. Requisitions for necessary additional officers will be submitted to The Adjutant General.

8. Controlled items of equipment will be furnished both units in priority C-2. (See War Department letter of April 23, 1942, AG 400 (4-8-42)MC-E-M, Subject: "Distribution of Controlled Items of Equipment.")

9. Direct correspondence is authorized.

10. Date activation is effected will be reported to Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, and to The Adjutant General.

11. Obligate the following procurement authorities to the extent necessary, using appropriate purpose numbers:

Travel performed during the fiscal year 1942 (prior to July 1, 1942) is chargeable to the following procurement authorities to the extent necessary:

Finance Service--Army- 1942-43

FD 33 P-02, -04, -05 A 0425-23

(For travel of military and uniformed civilian personnel, including dependents, and civilian employees; communication service; rental of camp sites, and procurement of utility services).

Army Transportation -- Motor

QM 1620 P 32-02, 35-12 A 0525-2 "C"

(For gasoline and oil, and repairs to motor vehicles en route)

Army Transportation--Commercial

QM 1620 P 54-01, 54-02, 54-13, 54-07 A 0525-2 "D"

(For packing, crating and shipping equipment, impedimenta, and authorized household goods allowances of officers and enlisted men of the first four grades; and for tolls and ferriages en route).

Procurement authorities for travel performed subsequent to June 30, 1942 will be furnished at a later date.

By command of LT. GEN. McNAIR:

/s/  
/t/ CLYDE L. HYSSONG,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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