

Changes in Organization of the 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion

The 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Heavy- self propelled) was activated at Camp Swift, Texas on 12 July 1943. The 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion was reorganized under T/O 18-35 Authority letter Headquarters, Army Ground Forces subject "Reorganization of Tank Destroyer Battalions", dated 2 July 1943. The Battalion was then known as the 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion (towed).

Reconnaissance Company was created on 12 July 1943, per General Order No. 5 Headquarters, 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Camp Hood, Texas dated ____, July 1943.

The 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion relieved from attachment to the VIII Army Corps and attached to the 95th Infantry Division at Camp Swift, Texas per General Order No. 77 Head Quarters, Third Army, Smith-Young Town, San Antonio, Texas, dated 19 July 1942. (no orders received relieving this unit from the 95th Inf. Div.) The 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion was also attached to the Third Army, (no orders received).

The 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion was transferred from Camp Swift, Texas to Camp Bowie, Texas on 12 January 1943, was relieved from Third Army and assigned to the Tank Destroyer Center, assigned to Basic Unit Training Center (no orders received). This Battalion moved from Camp Bowie, Texas to Camp Hood, Texas 30 March 1943 relieved from assignment to Basic Unit Training Center and reassigned to advanced Unit Training Center per S.O. No. 56 HQ Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Texas 5 March 1943 made permanent station per subject letter A.G.F. W.D.C. 1 June 1943.

This Battalion moved from Camp Hood, Texas to Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky, relieved from assignment to Tank Destroyer Center and assigned to Second Army per S.O. No. 161 HQ Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Texas 6 July 1943. This Battalion was attached to IV Armored Corps per same orders.

This Battalion moved from Camp Breckenridge to Camp Forrest, Tennessee 4 Sept 1943. Unit released from attachment to 1V armored Corps and reverted to control of Second Army per S.O. 149 13th HQ, Special Troops, 2nd Army, Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, 24 August 1943.

This Battalion moved from Camp Forrest, TN. Maneuver District HQ, to Camp Breckenridge, KY, 10 Nov 1943. Upon arrival, this Battalion was relieved from control of Maneuver District, HQ 2nd Army, and assigned to XX Corps per S.O. 196, Maneuver District HQ, Nashville, TN. 1 Nov 1944.

Effective Midnight, 24-25 January, 1944, this Battalion was relieved from assignment to XX Corps, and assigned to XX11 Corps per Subject Letter, HQ 2nd Army, Memphis, TN. 19 January 1944.

This Battalion was attached to 13th HQ Special Troops, 2nd Army effective 21-22 August 1944 per telegram, HQ 2nd Army, Memphis, TN.

Battalion was attached to 14th Detachment Special Troops, 2nd Army (no orders received). Battalion was relieved from attachment to 14th Detachment, Special Troops, 2nd Army per (no orders received).

Battalion departed from Camp Breckenridge, KY., 25 September 1944 so as to arrive at Camp Myles Standish, Trenton, Mass., 27 September 1944.

On 26th September 1944, this Battalion was assigned to 9th U.S. Army, per Subject Letter Troop Assignment No. 68, HQ 12th Army Group APO 655, dated, 1 October 1944. This Battalion attached to XV1 Corps, 17 October 1944 per Subject Letter, Troop assignment No. 47 HQ 9th U.S. Army APO 339, 17 October 1944.

This Battalion was relieved from attachment to XV1 corps per (no orders received). Battalion relieved from assignment to 9th U.S. Army, and assigned to 1st U.S. Army 5 December 1944 per Subject Letter, Troop Assignment No. 117, HQ 12th Army APO 655, dated, 6 December 1944.

This Battalion was attached to the 106th Infantry Division, 5 December 1944, per subject letter, Troop Assignment Order #33, HQ VIII Corps APO 308, U.S. Army, dated, 12 December 1944. This Battalion was attached to V111 Corps, 5 December 1944, per Subject Letter, HQ, 1st Army APO 230 dated, 7 December 1944.

Battalion relieved from VIII Corps, and attached to XV111 Corps effective 21 December 1944 per Subject Letter Troop Assignment No. 151, HQ, 1st U.S. Army APO 230, dated, 24 December 1944.

Battalion relieved from attachment to 106th Infantry Division and XV111 Corps (Airborne), and attached to 1st U.S. Army in place, per Troop Assignment No. 2, HQ, 1st U.S. Army, dated 3 January 1945, per Memorandum, HQ XV111 Corps (Airborne), APO 109, U.S. Army dated, 4 January 1945.

Battalion relieved from assignment to 9th U.S. Army and from attachment to XV1 Corps, per TWX-KX-21875, 6 December 1944, effective date of change, 5 December 1944.

Battalion attached to XV111 Corps (Airborne) 2 April 1945, per Troop Assignment No. 36, HQ 1st U.S. Army, 10 April 1945.

Battalion relieved from attachment to XV111 Corps, and relieved from assignment to 1st U.S. Army, assigned to 3rd U.S. Army per Troop Assignment No. 40, HQ, 1st U.S. Army, 21 April 1945, effective date of change, 20 April 1945.

Battalion attached to 111 Corps effective 17 April 1945 per Troop Assignment No. A-136 HQ, 1st U.S. Army, 22 April 1945.

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Battalion attached to 97th Infantry Division, effective 20 April 1945, per Troop Assignment A-44, HQ X11 Corps, 20 April 1945.

Battalion relieved of assignment to 3rd U.S. Army and assigned to 1st U.S. Army, effective 28 April 1945 per Troop Assignment No. 114, HQ 12th Army Group, 30 April 1945.

Battalion relieved from attachment to X11 Corps, effective 28 April 1945, per Troop Assignment A-139, 1st U.S. Army, 1 May 1945.

Battalion relieved of attachment to 97th Infantry Division, and attached to V Corps effective 30 April 1945, per Troop Assignment No. 45, 1st U.S. Army, 2 May 1945.

Battalion attached to 3rd Tank Destroyer Group, and attached to 97th Infantry Division effective 30 April 1945 per Troop Assignment 1119 HQ, 12th U.S. Army Group, 6 May 1945.

Battalion attached to V Corps effective 6 May 1945, per Troop Assignment A-143 HQ, 3rd U.S. Army, 10 May 1945.

Battalion relieved from assignment to V Corps effective 6 May 1945, per Troop Assignment No. 46, HQ, 1st U.S. Army, 8 May 1945.

Battalion relieved of assignment to 3rd U.S. Army, and relieved of assignment to 12th Army Group effective 17 June 1945, per Troop Assignment No. 102 HQ, 12th U.S. Army Group, 28 June 1945.

Movement of Battalion from Camp Lucky Strike, France, to La Harve, France.
Movement of Battalion from France to United States, Movement Orders, HQ ETO, 5 June 1945.

G.O. #5, HQ, 820 Tank Destroyer Battalion, Battalion reorganized under Table of Organization and E18-25, 15 March 1944.

Battalion inactivated per G.O. #38, 5th HQ, Special Troops, 4th U.S. Army, Camp Swift, 6 September 1945.