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HISTORY

Date: 31 December 44
pic / RLC

FIRST TANK DESTROYER BRIGADE

24 NOVEMBER 1942 - 31 DECEMBER 1944

Prepared in Accordance with AR 345-105, 18 November 1929, as changed.

INTRODUCTION

AH-63

When the organization of the Tank Destroyer Command was initiated late in 1941, both group and brigade headquarters were provided in the organizational structure. A number of Tank Destroyer battalions and groups were activated in 1941 and early in 1942, however, it was not until November, 1942 that the first tank destroyer brigade was activated. A second brigade was also activated but it was short-lived and was deactivated early in 1944.

The Tank Destroyer Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company was designed primarily as a tactical organization and was provided with proper equipment and personnel to perform the missions of a tactical headquarters in the field. However, since its organization the Brigade has functioned principally as a Tank Destroyer special staff section for the Third United States Army, in the United States, in England, and since its arrival on the Continent, during which time supervision of training and the general welfare of Tank Destroyer troops and their employment in battle was a primary duty. Tank Destroyer groups and battalions at times have been attached to Brigade Headquarters for short periods.

It was soon after the arrival of Third United States Army in France that the tactical "set-up" of Brigade Headquarters paid dividends. A special headquarters of Brigade size, capable of operating with armor, was required to command an armored task force in the exploitation of the Brittany Peninsula, after the break-through at Avranches. The First Tank Destroyer Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company was constituted as Headquarters of Task Force "A", which was placed under command of Brigadier General Herbert L. Earnest, Commanding General of the Brigade, and attached to VIII Corps. The task force consisted of infantry, artillery, cavalry, engineers, tank destroyers and service units, totaling about 5,000 troops and the officer personnel and equipment of the Brigade Headquarters was augmented as required by the mission.

Task Force "A" was dissolved on 22 September 1944 and the Brigade Headquarters returned to Third United States Army and resumed its functions as Army Tank Destroyer special staff section. Complete record of Task Force "A" operations has been prepared and submitted to the War Department as an "After Operations Report" and has also been included in VIII Corps and Ninth United States Army history.

As a result of his outstanding success as commander of Task Force "A", Brigadier General Earnest was given command of Combat Command "A" of the 4th Armored Division on 2 December 1944 and left the Brigade after having commanded for a period of slightly over two years. During this period General Earnest not only ably commanded the Brigade and attached troops but accomplished much good work for all Tank Destroyer units of Third United States Army. Colonel Logan C. Barry, former Executive Officer, assumed command of the Brigade.

CLASSIFICATION

CANCELLED

OCT 13 1947
- 1 -
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
SECRET *John C. H. C.* 26 June 46
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

13310
MASTER

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Award of Bronze Star Medal.

History, 1st TD Brig (Cont'd)

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A. ORIGINAL UNIT:

Brigade. (1) Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Tank Destroyer

(2) Date or Organization: 24 November 1942.

(3) Place of Organization: Camp Hood, Texas.

quarters Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Texas, dated 24 November 1942, copy attached as APPENDIX I.

(4) Authority for Organization: Section I, General Orders Number 31, Head-

quarters Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Texas, dated 24 November 1942, copy attached as APPENDIX I.

(5) Sources from which original personnel were obtained:

(a) Officers:

Colonel Herbert L. Earnest, 07282, Cavalry, transferred from President, Planning Board for the Northern Camp, Camp Hood Military Reservation. Promoted to rank of Brigadier General, United States Army, 3 February 1943. ¹

Colonel Frank T. Scarcey, 012819, Infantry, transferred from Headquarters Advanced Unit Training Center. ¹

Captain Alton P. Mathis, 0238157, Infantry, transferred from the 807th Tank Destroyer Battalion. ²

Captain Ralph K. Johnson, 0272659, Cavalry, transferred from the 704th Tank Destroyer Battalion. ²

Captain Lawrence A. Green, 0355753, Infantry, transferred from the Training Brigade, Tank Destroyer Center. ²

First Lieutenant James L. Beaton, 0378908, Cavalry, transferred from Headquarters Company, Tank Destroyer Center. ²

First Lieutenant Hoyt Fowler, 0452404, Field Artillery, transferred from Headquarters, Advanced Unit Training Center, Tank Destroyer Center. ³

First Lieutenant Richard J. Haskell, 01284700, Infantry, transferred from 1st Training Group, Advanced Unit Training Center, Tank Destroyer Center. ³

1 Par 7, SO #252, Hq, TDC, Cp Hood, Tex, 24 Nov 42 - APPENDIX II.

2 Par 8, SO #253, Hq, TDC, Cp Hood, Tex, - APPENDIX II.

3 Par 5, SO #255, Hq, TDC, Cp Hood, Tex, - APPENDIX II.

(b) Enlisted Men:

Enlisted men were transferred from the following organizations to form Headquarters Company, 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade:

Number of Men

Headquarters Company ¹
Advance Unit Training Center
Camp Hood, Texas 35

780th Tank Destroyer Company ¹
Camp Hood, Texas 9

Headquarters Company ¹
2d Tank Destroyer Training Group
Advanced Unit Training Center
Camp Hood, Texas 3

Headquarters Company ¹
Tank Destroyer Center
Camp Hood, Texas 3

638th Tank Destroyer Battalion ¹
Camp Hood, Texas 1

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History, 1st TD Brig (or 4)

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A. ORIGINAL UNIT: (Cont'd)

(5) (Cont'd)

(b) Enlisted Men: (Cont'd)

Headquarters Company
 Tank Destroyer Training Group
 Advanced Unit Training Center
 Camp Hood, Texas

Number of Men

APPENDIX II.

- (Par 6, SO #253, TDC,)
- (Par 4, SO #256, TDC,)
- (Par 2, SO #258, TDC,)
- (Par 2, SO #254, TDC,)
- (Par 2, SO #256, TDC,)

(c) Changes in Officer Personnel:

Personnel changes have been frequent in the Brigade and on 31 December, 1942, there were no members of the original officer "cadre" remaining on duty with Brigade Headquarters. The following is a record of officers who joined after organization of the Brigade and the position to which they were principally or ultimately assigned. (See APPENDIX V).

(d) Changes in Enlisted Personnel. (See APPENDIX V).

B. CHANGES IN TABLE OF ORGANIZATION:

(1) 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade organized under Table of Organization and Equipment 18-50-1, which originally was issued as tentative, and undated. The Table of Organization and Equipment was later dated only 1943.

(2) On 8 March 1943, the 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade was reorganized in conformity with letter, Headquarters Army Ground Forces, 27 February 1943. (APPENDIX III).

(3) The following changes were requested by the 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade:

(a) Minor additions and deletions of Quartermaster Equipment were made by 1st Indorsement, Headquarters Army Ground Forces, Army War College, Washington, D. C., in reply to a request submitted 11 February 1943.

(b) On 8 May 1944 a request was forwarded to the Third United States Army, and subsequently to the War Department, for consideration of major revisions of personnel and equipment, which were, with one exception, approved. Approval was granted by 3d Indorsement, War Department, AGO, Washington, D. C., dated 12 July 1944, file: AG 320.3, subject: "Additional Personnel, Grades and Ratings". (Attached as APPENDIX IV).

(c) From time to time since arrival in the European Theater of Operations this headquarters continued to suggest and recommend additional items of equipment which it was believed would increase operational efficiency. The majority of these recommendations were approved.

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C. STRENGTH COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:

Strength of the unit, at no time, varied greatly above or below the Tables of Organizational strength. The strength of officers and enlisted men was usually constant and conformed to allowances permitted on the Tables of Organization.

Strength of the unit as of the 31st of December 1943 was twelve officers and fifty-seven enlisted men. These figures represent actual Tables of Organization totals.

As of the 31st of December, 1944, the unit strength was twelve officers, ten present and two on temporary duty, and forty-nine enlisted men. These reductions occurred late in the month of December, 1944, because of urgent need for infantry replacements in Third Army.

Changes in rank of two officers, the aide and communications officer, formerly listed on the Tables of Organization as Company Executive, and in grades of several enlisted men were authorized by 3d Bureau of Personnel of the War Department to the letter written by this headquarters in May, 1944, but this involved no change in unit strength. (See APPENDIX IV).

D. STATIONS: (Permanent or Temporary) of Units Or Parts Thereof:

The unit was activated at Camp Hood, Texas, (the Tank Destroyer Center). Upon activation, the unit was assigned to the Tank Destroyer Center. A change of assignment was effected by permanent transfer of the unit from the Tank Destroyer Center to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, ordered by Headquarters Army Ground Forces in letter, Headquarters Army Ground Forces, subject: "Transfer of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana". (Copy attached as APPENDIX VI). On arrival of the organization at Camp Claiborne, assignment to the Tank Destroyer Center was terminated and assignment to the Third Army was effected. The Commanding General, 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade, was officially designated at this time as the advisor to the Commanding General, Third Army, on all Tank Destroyer matters.

On 15 September 1943, the unit departed from Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, for temporary duty in the Fourth Period of Third Army directed maneuvers in the Louisiana Maneuver Area. These maneuvers were successfully completed on 15 November 1943 and were the only maneuvers in which the Brigade participated. While still in the maneuver area the unit received notification that a readiness date of 1 December 1943 for movement overseas had been established and soon thereafter the unit returned to its permanent station to make preparations and for the training which was involved.

On 15 November 1943 the unit returned from the Louisiana Maneuver Area to its permanent station at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana. Upon its return the unit resumed its previous duties and also instituted an intensive training program to prepare all personnel for overseas duty.

All Army Ground Forces tests were passed with excellent results, and on 26 December 1943 the Advance Detachment of the unit departed from Alexandria, Louisiana (Camp Claiborne), enroute for Fort Hamilton, New York (New York Port of Embarkation).

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D. STATIONS (Cont'd)

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Embarkation) and arrived at destination 28 December 1943. At 1230 hours, 2 January 1944, the detachment sailed from Pier 88, New York, on the British troopship "Queen Elizabeth", commonly referred to as the "Greyhound of the Atlantic", at that time the largest ship in the world. On 8 January 1944, the "Queen Elizabeth" arrived in the Firth of Clyde, British Isles, off Greenock, Scotland and troops were disembarked 10 January 1944. The detachment landed at Greenock, Scotland, where it boarded a troop train for Bewdley, Worcestershire, England, on the afternoon of 10 January 1944, arriving there early on the morning of 11 January 1944.

While the advance detachment was enroute, the Main Body of the unit departed from Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, by rail at 0900 hours, 7 January 1944, and arrived at Camp Shanks, New York (New York Port of Embarkation) 0300 hours, 10 January 1944. At 1630 hours, 22 January 1944, the Main Body left from Pier 88, New York, on the British troopship, "Queen Mary", sister ship of the "Queen Elizabeth". The "Queen Mary" arrived in the Firth of Clyde and anchored off-shore from Greenock, Scotland, at 2000 hours, 28 January 1944, and the troops landed at Greenock, Scotland, British Isles, at 0900 hours, 29 January 1944, where a troop train was boarded. The Main Body departed Greenock, Scotland, by rail, on 29 January 1944, and was met at Wolverhampton, near Bewdley, Worcestershire, England, by Lieutenant Colonel Cadenhead and other members of the Advance Detachment, where the Main Body detrained. Trucks were boarded and the twenty-five mile journey to Bewdley by truck completed the overseas movement of the Main Body. The Main Body detrucked at Bewdley at 0300 hours, 30 January 1944. (See APPENDIX VII for names of both officers and enlisted men comprising Advance Detachment and officers and enlisted men comprising Main Body

Stationed also at Bewdley was the VIII Corps of the United States Army to which the Brigade was attached.

On 6 April 1944, having been assigned to Third United States Army, an Advance Detachment for the Brigade proceeded from Bewdley to Macclesfield, Cheshire (near Army Command Post), in preparation for a permanent change of station of the unit. The Main Body of the Brigade moved from Bewdley by motor convoy to Macclesfield, Cheshire, on 9 April 1944, a distance of approximately eighty miles. At this time the Brigade was designated as Tank Destroyer Section of Third Army.

On D + 29 (4 July 1944) at approximately 1100 hours, General Ernest, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Cadenhead, Master Sergeant Packer, Corporal Sanford and Private First Class Bennett joined the Forward Echelon of the Third United States Army Headquarters and proceeded to Southampton, England, an embarkation area. The voyage across the English Channel was made via LST, part of a convoy, which anchored on the "Utah" beach on the coast of France at approximately 1530 hours, 6 July 1944. The Advance Detachment travelled with the Forward Echelon of the Army to a bivouac area near Blandamour, France, then approximately seven miles from the front on the 6th of July.

The Main Body of the Brigade departed from Camp Knock, Wiltshire, for the marshalling area (Camp D-7), Dorchester, Dorsetshire, on 7 July 1944. On 9 July the Main Body left Camp D-7 and moved to the embarkation area, Portland Harbor, loaded on LCT 519 at 2000 hours, and left Portland Harbor for the Continent at 2200 hours, 10 July 1944. At 1830 hours, 11 July 1944, the Main Body arrived at "Utah" hours, 10 July 1944. At 1830 hours, 11 July 1944, the Main Body arrived at "Utah"

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D. STATIONS (Cont'd)

beach, France, debarked, and moved to Transit Area "B", where the Main Body remained overnight 11/12 July 1944. At this time the unit experienced its first "combat" as the area was bombed by Nazi planes. Early the following morning the Main Body departed from Transit Area "B" and closed into a bivouac area at 1430 hours, 12 July 1944 established with the Third United States Army Headquarters near Blandamour, France. (See APPENDIX VII for names of officers and enlisted men who comprised Advance Detachment and Main Body arriving on Contingent).

During the period from 1 August to 22 September 1944, the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade was constituted as Provisional Headquarters, Task Force "A" and operated in the Brittany Peninsula as a combat unit of the VIII United States Corps, to which it was attached (See FO No. 10, VIII Corps.)

Initially Task Force "A" was stripped for action and approximately thirty men of the Headquarters Company, 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade remained at Equilly, France, together with the remainder of the Headquarters Company, 6th Tank Destroyer Group, upon the departure of the forward echelon. These groups constituted the Rear Echelon of Task Force "A", and remained at Equilly until the 18th of August at which time the Rear Echelon moved forward to join the Task Force main body. On the 20th of August Headquarters Company rejoined the forward elements of Task Force "A" at Hanvec, France, on the Brittany Peninsula. During the remainder of the operations of this task force, Headquarters Company acted as headquarters and service company for Task Force "A", furnishing personnel, rations and other supplies and with the aid of a platoon of engineers, furnished security for the Task Force command post. An average of over 200 enlisted men and thirty officers were accommodated by the Headquarters Company during the period of operations of Task Force "A".

Initially the VIII Corps was under control of the Third United States Army, but as the Brittany operations neared a close on 9 September, the Ninth United States Army, with headquarters at Rennes, France, assumed control of the final phase of the Brittany operations, which was primarily concerned with the capture of the great port of Brest. After completion of the Brittany operations, 26 September 1944, Task Force "A" was dissolved. (See APPENDIX IX for Historical Report of Task Force "A". Note: Omitted on all copies except distribution to The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, D. C.). The 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade was relieved of attachment to the VIII Corps, United States Army and ordered to return to the Ninth United States Army, to which it was assigned.

When Task Force "A" was dissolved the 6th Tank Destroyer Group, and the 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion, previously elements of the Task Force, were attached to 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade, which moved from Plounz-Porzay, Brittany, France, to a temporary bivouac area at Bodilis, Brittany, France, where both the 6th Tank Destroyer Group and 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion, now assigned to the Ninth United States Army, were detached and departed the day following their arrival at Bodilis. The 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade moved from bivouac area at Bodilis at 1450 hours, 26 September 1944, and closed into a bivouac area in the vicinity of Etain, France, where Third Army Headquarters was established, at 1215 hours, 29 September 1944. (See Section E, "MARCHES", for detailed account).

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D. STATIONS (Cont'd)

On 30 September 1944, the day following arrival at Third United States Army Headquarters, the Brigade moved into billets in the village of Braquis, France (U4864) and set up the Command Post in the building, "Ecole-Hairie". After the return of the 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade to Third United States Army, the Brigade resumed its Special Staff functions as the Tank Destroyer Section. (See APPENDIX X, Operations Memorandum No. 6).

With the movement of the Third United States Army Headquarters to Nancy, France, the 1st Tank Destroyer Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company moved to Maxeville, France, which adjoins Nancy on the north, and established its headquarters in the building "Ecole Maternalle", Maxeville, where it remained until 28 December 1944. On that date the Brigade moved to the City of Luxembourg and set-up its headquarters in the Hotel Wellington.

E. MARCHES:

26 February 1943 - March from Camp Hood, Texas to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

(1) Purpose: Change of station.

(2) Length of daily march: 26 February - 150 miles.
27 February - 150 miles.

(3) Points between which marched, with dates:

26 February 1943 -- From Camp Hood, Texas, to Lufkin, Texas.

27 February 1943 -- From Lufkin, Texas, to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

(4) Condition of roads and weather.

Roads were hard-surfaced and dry.

Weather was clear and cool.

(5) Remarks (other data):

March was made by motor convoy with an overnight halt at Lufkin, Texas.

15 September 1943 - March from Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, to Louisiana Maneuver Area and Return.

(1) Purpose: Temporary change of station for participation in Fourth Period of Louisiana Maneuvers, 1943.

(2) Length of daily march: 15 September 1943 - 75 miles.
15 November 1943 - 75 miles.

(3) Points between which marched, with dates:

15 September 1943 -- From Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, to a bivouac area in the vicinity of De Ridder, Louisiana.

15 November 1943 -- From bivouac area in the vicinity of Burr Ferry, Louisiana, to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

(4) Conditions of roads and weather.

Roads were both hard-surfaced and dirt, but dry.

Weather on 15 September 1943 was clear and warm. Weather on 15 November 1943 was clear and cool.

(5) Remarks (other data):

Marches were both made by motor convoy and completed in less than five hours.

7 January 1944 - Rail movement from Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, to Camp Shanks, New York.

(1) Purpose: Movement to New York Port of Embarkation for overseas duty.

(2) Length of march: 1600 miles. Information on daily march not available.

E. MARCHES : (Cont'd)

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- (3) Points between which marched, with dates: 7 January 1944 to 10 January 1944 -- From Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, to Camp Shanks, New York.
- (4) Condition of roads and weather: Movement was by railroad over major U. S. railroads. Weather was generally rain or snow during entire four days of travel.
- (5) Remarks: (other data): Unit arrived at Camp Shanks, New York, at 0300 hours, 10 January 1944. Unit passed through eight states enroute.

28 January 1944 - Rail Movement from Greenock, Scotland, to Bewdley, Worcestershire, England.

- (1) Purpose: Movement to initial oversea station and assignment
- (2) Length of march: 315 miles. March completed in 24-hour period.
- (3) Points between which marched, with dates: 28 January 1944 to 30 January 1944 -- From Greenock, Scotland to Bewdley, Worcestershire, England.
- (4) Condition of roads and weather: Movement was by rail over major British railroads. Weather was generally damp, cold, with intermittent rain.
- (5) Remarks: (other data) Unit debarked from troopship, "Queen Mary," and boarded troop train at approximately 1200 hours, 28 January 1944. Arrived at Bewdley, England, at 0410 hours, 30 January 1944.

9 April 1944 - March from Bewdley, Worcestershire, England, to Macclesfield, Cheshire, England.

- (1) Purpose: Permanent change of station and assignment.
- (2) Length of daily march: 9 April 1944 - 80 miles.
- (3) Points between which marched, with dates: 9 April 1944 -- From Bewdley, Worcestershire, England, to Macclesfield, Cheshire, England.
- (4) Condition of roads and weather: Roads were all hard-surfaced, narrow, and wet, and weather was in form of intermittent rains over entire route and cool.
- (5) Remarks (other data): March terminated attachment to VIII United States Corps.

23 June 1944 - March from Macclesfield, Cheshire, England to Camp Knook, Heytesbury, Wiltshire, England.

- (1) Purpose: Movement to Staging Area prior to voyage across English Channel to Continent.
- (2) Length of daily march: 23 June 1944 - 185 miles.
- (3) Points between which marched, with dates: 23 June 1944 - From Macclesfield, Cheshire, England, to Camp Knook, Heytesbury, Wiltshire, England.
- (4) Condition of roads and weather: Roads were hard-surfaced, narrow, and dry, and weather was warm and clear.
- (5) Remarks (other data): Movement by motor convoy to Staging Area in preparation for a sea voyage to the Continent.

7 July 1944 - March from Staging Area to Port of Embarkation

- (1) Purpose: Final march to point of embarkation of troops moving to the Continent.
- (2) Length of daily march: 7 July 1944 - 20 miles.
- (3) Points between which marched, with dates: 7 July 1944 - From Camp Knook, Heytesbury, Wiltshire, England, to Camp D7, Dorchester, Dorsetshire, Marshalling Area and thence to Portland Harbor on 9 July 1944.
- (4) Condition of roads and weather: Roads were hard-surfaced, narrow, and dry; weather was cool and skies were cloudy.
- (5) Remarks (other data): Unit loaded on LCT 519 at 2000 hours, 9 July 1944, and arrived on the coast of France at 1830 hours, 11 July 1944, and subsequently closed into a bivouac area with the Third United States Army Headquarters near Blandamour, France.

E. MARCHES: (Cont'd)

26 - 29 September 1944 - March from Brittany Peninsula, France to Etain, France.

(1) Purpose: In compliance with orders to return to Third United States Army.

(2) Length of daily march: 26 September 1944 - 150 miles.

27 September 1944 - 150 miles.

28 September 1944 - 150 miles.

29 September 1944 - 150 miles.

(3) Points between which marched, with dates:

26 September 1944 - From Bodilis, France, to Loudeac, France (X1967).

27 September 1944 - From Loudeac, France, to Bonneville, France

28 September 1944 - From Bonneville, France, to Chaintrix, France.

29 September 1944 - From Chaintrix, France, to Braquis, France.

(4) Conditions of roads and weather:

Roads were hard-surfaced over entire route; were usually free of traffic, except for occasional supply convoys until the 29th of September when the Third United States Army rear boundary was reached, at which time traffic became increasingly congested. All roads were dry. The weather during the entire march was cool and clear with only one short period of intermittent rain encountered.

(5) Remarks (other data):

The march culminated the longest actual march made by this unit, a distance of 1,271 miles, from Equilly, France, to Etain, France, more than half of which was a "combat march", during the period from 1 August 1944 to 29 September 1944. The route of this march took the unit through the streets of the Pte de Orleans in the City of Paris, through the battlefields of World War I, and the fortress of Verdun.

13 October 1944 - March from Braquis, France, to Maxeville, France.

(1) Purpose: Change of location of Army headquarters.

(2) Length of daily march: 13 October 1944 - 50 miles.

(3) Points between which marched, with dates:

13 October 1944 - From Braquis, France, to Maxeville, France, immediately north of Nancy.

(4) Condition of roads and weather:

Roads were extremely muddy, slippery, and wet. Weather was cloudy and cold.

(5) Remarks (other data): This movement was made by motor convoy.

28 December 1944 - March from Maxeville, France to the city of Luxembourg.

(1) Purpose: Movement to Tactical Echelon, Third United States Army Headquarters.

(2) Length of daily march: 28 December 1944 - 65 miles.

(3) Points between which marched, with dates:

28 December 1944 - From Maxeville, France (845137.) to Luxembourg, Duchy of Luxembourg.

(4) Condition of roads and weather:

Roads were hard-surfaced and dry. Weather was extremely cold and visibility was usually restricted to less than one-half mile due to heavy fogs.

(5) Remarks: Movement was made by motor convoy through Pont-a-Mousson, Metz, and Thionville to Luxembourg.

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F. CAMPAIGNS:

Credit for campaign participation has not been announced but Third Army and attached troops are tentatively scheduled to receive credit for participation in the following campaigns:

Normandy
Northern France
Germany

G. BATTLES:

No battles named as such by the Theater Headquarters; however it is believed that Battle of St. Malo and battle of Brest will be named.

H. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS:

The list of engagements below in which this unit actively participated against the enemy occurred as a result of operations of Task Force "A". For a detailed, accurate, and narrative account of all engagements listed below, reference is made to the Historical Record of Task Force "A", attached as APPENDIX IX, and also Ninth Army history of Brittany Campaign.

DOL:

- (1) Engagement: Initial contact with enemy east of Dol, France.
(2) Name of Commander: In command of Task Force "A" was Brigadier General Herbert L. Earnest.

ST. MALO:

- (1) Engagement: Assault on St. Malo, initially begun at Miniac.
(2) No change.

ST. BRIEUC:

- (1) Engagement: Occupation of St. Brieuc.
(2) No change.

GUINGAMP:

- (1) Engagement: Reduction of resistance at Guingamp.
(2) No change.

MORLAIX:

- (1) Engagement: Occupation of Morlaix.
(2) No change.

PLOUGERNEAU:

- (1) Engagement: Reduction of strongpoint at Plougerneau.
(2) No change.

PLOUDANIEL:

- (1) Engagement: Attack and capture of large German force.
(2) No change.

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H. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: (Cont'd)

ST. MICHEL-EN-GREVE:

- (1) Engagement: Occupation of St. Michel-en-Greve and securing beaches in this area.
(2) No change.

TREGUIR:

- (1) Engagement: Occupation of Treguir.
(2) No change.

LEZARDRIEUX:

- (1) Engagement: Reduction of enemy resistance in Lezardrioux.
(2) No change.

PLOUIVEZ:

- (1) Engagement: Reduction of enemy strongpoint east of Plouivez.
(2) No change.

PLOUNEZ:

- (1) Engagement: Hopping up operations at Plounez and Paimpol Peninsula.
(2) No change.

DAOULAS PENINSULA OPERATIONS:

- (1) Engagement: Operations on Plougastel-Daoulas Peninsula in conjunction with Task Force "B"
(2) No change.

CROZON PENINSULA:

- (1) Engagement: Initial development of Crozon Peninsula operations which later were under command of Commanding General, 8th Infantry Division.
(2) No change.

DOUARNENEZ PENINSULA:

- (1) Engagement: Reduction of strongpoint at Audierne.
(2) No change.

This list of engagements is concluded with the reduction of the strongpoint at Audierne on the Douarnenez sub-peninsula.

I. LOSSES IN ACTION, OFFICERS AND MEN:

(1) Engagement:

(a) During the first day of operations of Task Force "A", the command post of the Task Force was subjected to fire from enemy artillery at Miniac, France. Lieutenant Francis J. Haggerty, Jr., aide to Brigadier General Ernest, Task Force Commander, attempted to seek the safety of his foxhole during the shelling and severely lacerated his right ear. The Brigade Headquarters was very fortunate, however, for although both officers and men were frequently

I. LOSSES IN ACTION, OFFICERS AND MEN (Cont'd)

(1) Engagement: (Cont'd)

exposed to heavy small arms and artillery fire, the command post was shelled numerous times, and the command post was bombed and strafed, only one casualty was suffered during this period.

(b) After return of this headquarters to the Third United States Army on the western front, and before the Army's successful reduction of the fortress city of Metz, Lieutenant Frank R. Young, at the time assistant S - 3 on detached service with the 603d Tank Destroyer Battalion, was seriously wounded in action. This officer was in command of an M-18 tank destroyer which formed the foremost salient of a small bridgehead across the Seille River, east of Pont-a-Mousson. Intense artillery fire was directed at the troops which formed this bridgehead, and Lieutenant Young was seriously wounded when a round from an enemy high velocity gun burst near him. Lieutenant Young was recommended for the Bronze Star for his actions in this engagement.

(2) Names: Lieutenant Francis Figgerty, Jr.
Lieutenant Frank R. Young.

(3) Killed: None.

(4) Wounded: Lieutenant Frank R. Young.

(5) Missing: None.

(6) Taken prisoner: None.

J. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

(1) Engagement: Brittany operations, and Battle of Northern France.

(2) Names: Brigadier General Herbert L. Ernest
Colonel Logan C. Berry
Lieutenant Colonel Louis C. Cadenhead, Jr.
Major Ralph K. Johnson
Lieutenant Frank R. Young

(3) Act: (See APPENDIX X attached)

(4) Award: (See APPENDIX X attached)

K. PHOTOGRAPHS OF PERSONNEL, IMPORTANT SCENES OR EVENTS:

(See APPENDIX XI attached. Note: Omitted on all copies except distribution to The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington.)

By order of Colonel BERRY:

ROBERT L. CRIST
Captain, Infantry
Adjutant

DISTRIBUTION:

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