

[REDACTED]

AFTER ACTION REPORT

From: 010001A, November 44
To: 302400A, November 44
705th Tank Destroyer Battalion
Coord: VK 8550 - Kohlscheid
Date: 071200A December 44

No. 2

MAPS: France, Germany 1/50,000

OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD:

From 010001A, attached to 95th Infantry Division with mission of supporting the fires of Division Artillery and AT defense southern half Division sector. Battalion position, see attached overlay No. 1.

November 1, Company C and 3rd Platoon Company A fired 29 missions, 132 rounds HE, indirect fire. 2nd November the same units fired 40 missions indirect fire, expended 160 rounds HE. 022400A, relieved attachment 95th Division.

030720A, November, relieved by 818th TD Bn. At 030930A Battalion marched to Angevillers, coord. U477289, assigned Task Force Polk (VOCG XX Corps). Route: Thiaucourt, Beauchamps, Audun, Fontoy, Angevillers. Closed 031245A.

Period 4-7 November no change in position. Period spent maintenance vehicles, weapons, radios, individual equipment. 061000A Reconnaissance Company attached to 43rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron.

Orders received 072040A, moving Battalion vicinity of Weiler-la-Tour, (VP8906) at 081400A. Closed assigned areas 081617A, Battalion Headquarters and Trains remained Angevillers. Route: Angevillers, Volmerange, Burange, Weiler-la-Tour. Company A attached 802nd TD Bn., by order of Task Force Polk.

Effective 091800A, Battalion detached Task Force Polk, attached 83rd Division Artillery (auth. CG 83rd Div.) 091800A Company A, 802nd TD Bn., attached to 705 TD Bn. by command of CG 83rd Division. Reconnaissance Company occupied Fixem (U9495) and hill N.W. of Berg (U970935) from 6-9 November, reverted to Battalion control 091200. Reassembled vicinity Weiler-la-Tour 091200.

B Company, attached 330th Infantry Regiment, closed vicinity VP910066 at 101000A. Regimental and Company attachments: 3rd Platoon 3rd Battalion; 2nd Platoon 2nd Battalion; 1st Platoon in Regimental reserve.

November 11, 3rd Platoon Reconnaissance Company attached C Company. 1st Platoon Company C attached 1st Battalion 331st

[REDACTED]

Infantry Regt; moved to Puttelange, (VP937994).

Effective 121000A, Battalion relieved attachment 83rd Division, attached Task Force Polk. A Company reverted Battalion control. Company A, 802nd TD Bn. relieved of attachment 705th TD Bn.

By order of Task Force Polk, Battalion reassembled Angevillers, (U477289) closing 121630A. Company A attached 90th Infantry Division, moved to Division assembly area vicinity Cattenom Forest.

Message from 3rd Cavalry Group, signed 140955A, alerted B Company for movement to 3rd Cavalry Squadron area vicinity Cattenom Forest. Left Angevillers 141215A, closed new area 141430A. C Company alerted 141200A. They were attached 43rd Cavalry Squadron, cleared Angevillers 141410A, closed assembly area, (908921).

Battalion (-), moved from Angevillers 150815A. Original destination Fixem, (U9495) but movement delayed considerably by extremely heavy traffic on roads. Command Group and Reconnaissance Company crossed Moselle River to Rettel. Crossing effected at Cattenom 151330A. Battalion CP located Basse-Rentgen (VU890992). Closed at 151630A.

November 16, Advance CP, Company A, Company B, and Reconnaissance Company located Rettel, (982947) Company C vicinity Cattenom Forest. 161300A 1st platoon B Company advanced to Kirsch (coord. 023014), 161600A 2nd Platoon advanced to Evendorff (coord. 912045), 161630A Co. Headquarters and 3rd Platoons advanced to Sierck (coord. 002943). Co. A 135th Engineers attached to 705 TD Bn. and scheduled to arrive Rettel 170905A.

November 17th Company C left area vicinity Cattenom Forest, crossed Moselle River. Closed new area Evendorff. Battalion Hq. and Trains left Basse-Rentgen for area U908923, closing 171415A. 1st Platoon B Company advanced to Merschweiler. No enemy contact thus far.

Battalion Hq. and Trains left U908923 18th. Infiltrated across Moselle River in groups, arrived new area Sierck 181130A. Co. B CP and 2nd Platoon moved to Apache, coord. 015960. Company C advanced from Evendorff to Ritzing, 076936, and 1st and 3rd Platoons pushed to Mandarin 058954. 181600A Reconnaissance Company left Rettel with mission to clear enemy from woods north of Kitzing. Reported mission completed 181721A, occupied positions Kitzing. 1st Platoon B Company occupied position high ground north Merschweiler. Observed enemy motorized column moving towards Eft, coord. 903056, and took it under fire. One command car knocked out, one truck damaged. Dismounted enemy troops also fired upon, results unknown. 190600A 2nd Platoon B Company advanced to Besch, 3rd Platoon advanced to Merschweiler. Both platoons closed 190730A.

Company A departed Rettel 190700A, proceeded Sehndorf, 989025, closed 190855A. Battalion Advance CP left Sierck for

[REDACTED]

Merschweiler 191045A. Other movements of companies as follows: Co. A moved to Merschweiler; Co. B CP moved to Oberperl; 2nd Platoon of Co. B moved to Besch; 1st Platoon of Co. B moved to Wochern; 3rd Platoon of Co. B moved to Borg; Co. C CP moved to Scheurwald. At 191815A, CP of B Company and Battalion Advance CP located Perl.

Afternoon of 19th B Company fired upon two enemy pillboxes and neutralized them. At 201500A, report received of unknown number enemy tanks vicinity 163923, moving from the northeast. Companies A, B and Reconnaissance Company alerted, C Company displaced forward to meet attack if it developed. C Company CP established Buschdorf, 2nd Platoon Scheurwald, 3rd Platoon Obertunsdorf, 1st Platoon Wehingen. Reconnaissance Company enroute to Perl. Threatened attack did not materialize, B Company fired on enemy personnel, results unknown.

November 21, B Company reassembled Perl and A Company Sehndorf.

During 23rd - 24th, there were no fires, no changes in position. Company B captured two prisoners vicinity Perl 23rd.

Advance CP returned to Sierck 251130A. C Company moved from Buschdorf to Perl.

No change 26th November.

Mortar platoon Reconnaissance Company moved forward 27 November to fire on 3 enemy pillboxes located 029033. Definite results not known. At 271000A, Operations Instructions #6 received from 3rd Cavalry Group ordered continued support of Group with A Company attached 3rd Cavalry Squadron, C Company attached 43rd Cavalry Squadron, 705 TD Bn. (-) Group Reserve. C Company moved 280945A. CP and 3rd Platoon to Buschdorf, 1st Platoon Mittel, 2nd Platoon Hellendorf. A Company moved also, 1st Platoon to Borg, 2nd Platoon Wochern, 3rd Platoon Besch. 2nd and 3rd Platoons split into sections. 1st section, 2nd Platoon took position 044015, 2nd section 049020. 1st Section, 3rd Platoon, located 016020, 2nd Section 015015. 281505A, Command Group left Sierck established CP at Perl. No change 29 November.

Orders received Battalion would be relieved by 614th TD Bn (T). 301300A, Company A 614th TD Bn. effected relief A Company. A Company assembled Sehndorf 301330A. Co. C 614th TD Bn. relieved Company C during afternoon 30th. Relief completed 301700A, C Company assembled Perl, Company B and Reconnaissance Company, already assembled Perl, remained in positions. Forward CP returned to Sierck 301530A. Preparations made for movement North as per instructions.

Secret orders received 28 November Ninth US Army relieved Battalion from assignment Third US Army, and assigned it to XIX Corps, Ninth US Army. Instructions were to move northward to Ninth US Army sector 1st December 1944.

[REDACTED]

AFTER ACTION REPORT

Period: 01 0001 A, November 1944
30 2400 A, November 1944

During the period covered by this report the 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion fired 610 rounds HE indirect fire and 58 rounds AP direct fire. Two enemy pillboxes and one enemy vehicle were definitely knocked out, and one additional vehicle was damaged. Other enemy installations were neutralized by extensive harassing fires. The Battalion captured two prisoners during the period and suffered one casualty.

[REDACTED]