

HEADQUARTERS
629TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
AFPO 230, U.S. ARMY

3 June 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report.

TO : The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington 25, D. C.
(Thru: Channels)

1. Transmitted herewith is After Action Report for this organization for the month of May 1945.

GLENN COLE
Lt. Col., Inf (TD)
Commanding

Incls:

- 1 - Resume of Operations for Month of May 1945
- 1 - After Action Report for month of May 1945
- 1 - Battalion Journal for month of May 1945

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CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
Ed W. Meyer *al w*
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE *26 Mar 46*

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After Action Report, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for month of May 1945

RESUME OF OPERATIONS:

The battalion was attached to the 99th Infantry Division for the entire period. No contact was made with enemy forces. However, some prisoners were captured in the areas occupied and screened by the respective companies.

On 3 May 1945, the battalion occupied a part of the city of Landshut, Germany to maintain law and order. Check points and patrols were established to perform that mission.

On 10 May 1945 the battalion arrived in the vicinity of Gemunden am Main, Germany to occupy a sector of the 393rd Infantry Regiment's sector. Each company was assigned a sector of the Kreis of Gemunden for the purpose of maintaining law and order. Check points and patrols were organized for screening the displaced persons and evacuees and for guarding bridges and German ammunition. On 17 May, Reconnaissance Company was detailed as the guard company for a proposed 600 man POW camp. The POWs began the construction of the camp, working under civilian foremen.

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After Action Report, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for month of May 1945

1. ENEMY: Period 1 to 31 May 1945.

a. Units in Contact:

During the entire period there was no contact whatsoever between the enemy forces and combat units of this battalion.

b. Reserves:

The enemy had no known reserves at his disposal.

c. Enemy Activity: Period 1 to 9 May 1945.

Groups of fanatic enemy forces were holding out in various and widespread localities, defending bitterly from towns and engaging in guerilla type warfare from densely wooded areas. The bulk of his forces were in retreat and there was no determined defense offered by the enemy anywhere along the front. SF guns and artillery fire was practically nil but small arms and mortars were employed on a large scale.

d. Enemy Strength and Morale:

Due to an extremely fluid front there was no means of determining the enemy's strength. Many of his troops were ignorant of the situation and progress of the war. The majority of the troops knew or surmised the situation since they had been in retreat for weeks and their morale ranged from fair to poor. SS troops maintained the highest degree of morale and constituted the stiffest line of resistance encountered by our forces.

c. Plans Open to the Enemy:

The enemy was in a complete state of disorder and couldn't assemble a fighting force large enough to hold for long in any one area. Desertion of his troops on an increasing scale tended to deplete his ranks and he had little knowledge as to the location of our forces and also to the location of many of his own units. His final and total defeat was inevitable and he was powerless to prevent it.

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After Action Report, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for month of May 1945

2. COM SITUATION:

a. On 1st and 2d May 1945 the front lines were very fluid with elements of the battalion on the North Bank of the Inn River (Z330725) Germany.

During period 3 May to 7 May 1945, battalion was maintaining law and order in Landshut, Germany (U256015). On 8 May 1945 unit began move to occupational area in vicinity of Gemunden am Main, Germany (N397640) arriving there on 10 May 1945. From 10 May to 31 May 1945 units were located in vicinity of Gemunden am Main, Germany.

b. On 1st and 2d May 1945 battalion CP was located at Gieserhausen (Z336955), from 3 May to 7 May 1945 at Landshut (U256015), on 8 May 1945 at Eichstatt (T520395), on 9 May 1945 at Ansbach (T045835) and from 10 May 1945 to 31 May 1945 at Gemunden am Main (N397640), Germany.

c. Not applicable. All unit were operating with elements of the 99th Infantry Division.

d. On 1st and 2d May 1945 units supported infantry in their attack to the southeast from Landshut, Germany (U256015). From 3 May to 8 May 1945 units maintained law and order in Landshut, Germany. From 9 May to 10 May 1945 units moved from Landshut to Gemunden. 10 May to 31 May 1945 units occupied area in vicinity of Gemunden am Main as occupational troops establishing checkpoints, guard posts and patrols. Also screened party leaders, arresting those who were suspected of security threats.

e. Combat efficiency of the Battalion at close of period - Superior.

f. Operations for the period resulted in 827 PWs being taken during period. All vehicles were thoroughly checked by maintenance. An ordnance inspection of small arms, optical equipment, and all ordnance equipment except vehicles was completed.



After Action Report, Amphibious Tank Destroyer Battalion, for month of May 1945

3. ADMINISTRATION:

Assignments, attachments, personnel, promotion, awards and decorations.

a. Assignments and attachments:

This organization was attached to the 99th Infantry Division, (III Corps, 3rd U. S. Army) throughout the month of May 1945.

b. Strength status at beginning and end of period:

	Auth. Strength			Strength as of 1 May 1945			Strength as of 31 May 1945			Net Increase			Net Decrease		
	O	WO	EM	O	WO	EM	O	WO	EM	O	WO	EM	O	WO	EM
Hq & Hq Co	13	2	110	13	1	109	13	1	111	0	0	2	0	0	0
Recon Co	7	0	110	4	0	110	5	0	112	1	0	2	0	0	0
Co A	6	0	124	5	0	126	5	0	127	0	0	1	0	0	0
Co B	6	0	124	5	0	126	5	0	130	0	0	4	0	0	0
Co C	6	0	124	6	0	123	6	0	124	0	0	1	0	0	0
Med Det	1	0	15	1	0	13	1	0	15	0	0	2	0	0	0
BN TOTAL	39	2	607	34	1	607	35	1	619	1	0	12	0	0	0

(See Casualty, reinforcement and Prisoner Annex for Breakdown) (attached)

One personnel requisition for one officer (communications officer) and one Warrant officer (Maintenance and Repair Auto Ass't), Unit requisition No. 16, dated 25 May 1945, submitted - not filled.

The following named officers recommended for promotion to 1st Lieutenants:

2d Lt. Carl J. DePanicis	O-1999868
2d Lt. Chester T. Yachna	O-1999869
2d Lt. John J. Barsic	O-1999861

The following named enlisted man received battlefield appointment as 2d Lt.:

Staff Sergeant Adam I. Taracko ASN 20320797

The following named enlisted men recommended for battlefield appointments to 2d Lieutenant:

Staff Sergeant Alfred J. Lipin	ASN 33201739	Co A
Staff Sergeant Walter E. Masters	ASN 35027407	Recon Co

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After Action Report, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for month of May 1945.

3. ADMINISTRATION: (continued)

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS MADE DURING PERIOD

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>AWARD</u>	<u>GENERAL ORDERS</u>
Major	Garland D. Kite	0-281456	Bronze Star	Sec IV, GO 33, 99th Inf Div, dated 3 May 1945
1st Lt.	Thurston Cowgill	0-516857	Silver Star	Sec III, GO 89, 83d Inf Div, dated 5 May 1945
Sgt	John R. Bullock	35722964	Silver Star	Sec II, GO 46, 99th Inf Div, Dated 23 May 1945
Cpl	Thomas E. McQuire	31136150	Bronze Star	Sec IV, GO 46, 99th Inf Div, dated 23 May 1945
Pfc	Mitchell J. Tluczek	36562257	Bronze Star	" " " "
Pvt/4	Robert E. Burgess	35596993	Bronze Star	" " " "
Pfc	Louis K. Kaziol	36764076	Bronze Star	" " " "
Pvt	Royal G. Cox	39169043	Bronze Star	" " " "
Sgt	John E. Brock	35722939	Silver Star	Sec I, GO 47, 99th Inf Div, dated 25 May 1945
Cpl	John Collucci	32632829	Bronze Star	Sec IV, GO 47, 99th Inf Div, dated 25 May 1945
Pvt	Roger K. Zimmerman	36990192	Bronze Star	" " " "
Pvt/5	Billy H. Towns	35583623	Bronze Star	Sec I, GO 48, 99th Inf Div, dated 26 May 1945
Pfc	Joseph Barkoski	32191309	Bronze Star	" " " "
Sgt.	Allen D. Fields	33047489	Bronze Star	Sec III, GO 82, 82d Airborne Div, dated 23 May 1945

COLLATERAL OFFICERS DURING PERIOD COVERED BY REPORT:

- Bn Cmdr Lt Col Glenn Cole, Inf.
- CC Hq Co Capt. Francis H. Dobbins, FA
- CO Ren Co 1st Lt. Floyd H. Dikeman, AUS
- CO Co A Capt Charles L. Grimshaw, Inf
- CO Co B Capt Edwin H. Stewart, FA
- CO Co C Capt Anthony G. Covatta, AUS
- CC Med Det Capt Domenico A. Savoia, M.C.

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After Action Report, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for month of May 1945

3. ADMINISTRATION: (continued)

CASUALTY, REPLACEMENT AND PRISONER OF WAR ANNEX

DAY	WIA	KIA	LIA	NB	PN	REPLACEMENTS
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	1	0	0
5	0	0	0	1	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	0	0	1	0	0
17	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	1	0	0
19	0	0	0	1	0	0
20	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	0	0	0	2	0	0
29	0	0	0	6	0	0
30	0	0	0	3	0	1
31	0	0	0	0	0	0

During the month of May all Class I supplies were drawn from the 99th Inf Div.

Classes II and IV supplies were drawn from the 99th Inf Div, with the exception of ordnance equipment which was drawn from the 3463rd Ordnance company. Classes III and V supplies were drawn from Army dumps.

Basic loads of Classes I, III and V supplies were maintained at all times.

Practically all roads used were major roads and these in good condition.

During the month 6 1/2-ton trucks were drawn as initial issue and 1 carriage, motor, T41 was drawn as a command vehicle, replacing car, Armored, utility, L20.