

BATTALION HISTORY

1944

The year of 1944 began with the Battalion stationed at Goodenough Island, Southwest Pacific Area, with the strength of 39 Officers and 842 Enlisted Men; of these totals, 25 Officers and 635 Enlisted Men were absent from the Battalion itself, being on Special Duty or Detached Service with the Division Regimental Combat Team Shore Parties, and one Enlisted Man (Pvt G. Schultz, Co A) absent awaiting trial in Base Section No. 3, Stockade, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. The first day of the New Year was officially declared a half-holiday.

January 2: One Officer (2d Lt. Lees) (Hq. Co) was placed on Special Duty with the 126th RCT Shore Party, and also one Officer (1st Lt. Stickler, Hq. Co) and three Enlisted Men of Hq. Co were placed on Special Duty with Co A, serving with the 128th RCT Shore Party.

January 4: The Battalion Commander (Lt. Col. Fanning) was placed on Special Duty with the 128th RCT Shore Party as Shore Party Commander, with the Commanding Officer, Co B (Capt. J. A. Zerneck) assuming the duties as Battalion Commander during his absence. Also on the 4th, the Battalion was alerted at 1300L for movement in the near future. Packing and all preparations for the movement commenced; in addition, a majority of the Battalion Enlisted Men were ordered to dock details for loading of the ship. This packing preparation continued throughout the rest of the day and all throughout the night until 1100L on the 5th.

January 5: At this time, all Battalion equipment and supplies, less Battalion Maintenance and the heavy vehicles and Tank Destroyers, had been loaded on the ship, and all personnel were ready for movement. However, it was announced shortly after that not all personnel would be leaving due to the lack of shipping space for personnel on the ship; instead an advance detail consisting of two Officers (Capt. Cornwell and 1st Lt. Welsh) and 21 Enlisted Men of the Hq. Co., 7 Enlisted Men of Co. B, and 2 Enlisted Men of the Med. Det. was sent with the shipment. This group left by truck convoy to the Dock No. 3 and loaded on the HMAS Westralia at 1900L on the 5th.

January 6: The ship remained in port overnight and embarked at 0600L on the 6th, leaving Goodenough Island enroute to vicinity of Finschafen, New Guinea.

January 7: The ship arrived at Cape Cretin, New Guinea, at 0600L on the 7th and disembarked in landing barges at 0800L. The group, less necessary unloading details, then proceeded by foot to the area that had been assigned to the Battalion, approximately 3 miles. When the group came within 100 yards of the assigned area, it had to wait for approximately 45 minutes while a bulldozer completed a trail through the thick jungle directly up to the beach area which was within 10 yards of the ocean. All personnel immediately began clearance of all brush and foliage to facilitate living conditions for this group and the remainder of the Battalion which was to follow. In addition, dock details were required from this group both day and night. Inasmuch as this group had kitchen equipment but no cooks, it messed with the 114th Engineers Battalion until January 10th, and then with the 107th Medical Battalion until the 18th, at which time a Battalion kitchen was set up. Weather conditions were extremely hot with little rainfall. The Battalion Commander returned to duty after temporary duty with the 128th RCT Shore Party, also the Battalion Adjutant (Capt. Lang) and the Battalion S-2 (Acting) 2d Lt. Lees on the 14th. Also on this date, 1st Lt. Stickler of Hq. Co and the three Enlisted Men of Hq. Co returned to duty after temporary duty with Co A.

From: Master E. O. H.

On the 15th Company A, less the First Platoon and a small detachment of rear echelon personnel still on Goodenough Island, departed from Cape Cretin by boat along with one Battalion of the 128th RCT.

January 18: The First Platoon of Company A and another Battalion of the 128th RCT departed from Cape Cretin by boat, both groups enroute to Saidor, New Guinea, to reinforce Company C and the 126th RCT who had landed there for offensive action against the Japanese. On January 17th, 9 officers (Capt. Marcelle, Bn. Staff, Capt. O'Connor, Bn. Surgeon, Capt. Zernecke, CO of Co. B), 1st Lt. Abdon, Bn. Dentist, 1st Lt. Foster, 1st Lt. Sawyer, 2nd Lt. Binkley, of Co. B, 2nd Lt. Erbes, Bn. Personnel Officer, and 1st Lt. Dickason of Med. Det., and 114 enlisted men arrived from Goodenough Island with more equipment and vehicles; this left one officer (1st Lt. Thompson, Bn. Motor Officer) and 55 enlisted men remaining on Goodenough Island. Prior to this movement, this group of personnel spent the majority of the time on Division dock details. This group also was transported from Goodenough Island to Cape Cretin on the HMAS Westralia. Weather conditions were very unfavorable for these men while on Goodenough Island with continuous rainfall, torrential at times, creating flooded areas and making movement of vehicles practically impossible. At 0015L, on the 12th, during a rain-storm accompanied with thunder and lightning, a large branch of a tree broke off and partially fell on one of the enlisted man (Tec 5 Notaling of Hq. Co.) injuring him severely, and he was left in the 9th Gen. Hosp. when the 9 officers and 114 enlisted men departed on the 16th. On the 18th, 5 enlisted men of Company B (Pvts. Flayter, Marzullo, Anderson, Mohrland, and Johnson) and 1 enlisted man of Hq. Co. (Tec 4 Jablonski) were placed on Detached Service with the 128th RCT as drivers along with Battalion vehicles, and departed enroute for Saidor.

January 20: Eleven more enlisted men and more vehicles and also 4 of the Tank Destroyers arrived from Goodenough Island on the USS "Etamin".

January 23: One officer (Capt. Hirsch) and one enlisted man of Hq. Co. and one from Rcn. Co., attached to the 127th RCT Shore Party arrived at Cape Cretin from Milne Bay along with other advance details of the 127th RCT. On the 23rd, Battalion personnel were distributed at four different locations--Cape Cretin, Saidor, and Milne Bay, New Guinea, and at Goodenough Island, with the majority being at Saidor in action with the 126th and 127th RCT's.

January 24: The first official casualty report was received from Company C (attached to 126th RCT) at Saidor, showing one enlisted man (Pvt. Casson) killed in action of January 2nd, and two enlisted men (Tec 5 Weiler, F. and Tec 5 Weiler, K) wounded in action on January 2nd, and one enlisted man (Pfc. O'Connor) wounded in action of January 5th.

January 28: On the 28th, 29th, and 30th, the Battalion received the bulk of its Christmas mail, approximately 150 bags full and of course this created quite a bit of excitement. Two officers were hospitalized during the month, Capt. Lang from January 26th to 31st, and 2nd Lt. Lees from January 18th to February 1st. Air Raid Alerts were very common during the month, a total of 30 being registered, however no bombs were dropped near the Battalion Area. Strength of the Battalion as of January 31st was 39 officers and 838 enlisted men, a loss of 4 enlisted men during the month. 1st Lt. Dickason was placed on Special Duty with the 128th RCT from January 18th to February 1st.

February 1: Two officers (Capt. Hirsch and 2nd Lt. Peters) and 59 enlisted men (6 of which were sick in hospital) of Hq. Co. were relieved from Special Duty with Rcn. Co. and returned to duty with Hq. Co. This left 2 enlisted men still on Special Duty with Rcn. Co. at Milne Bay. The 1st of the month was marked with 7 Air Raid Alerts, no bombs dropped near Bn. Area. Also on the 1st,

5 officers and 111 enlisted men from Rcn. Co. who had been on Detached Service at Milne Bay returned to Special Duty at Cape Cretin; leaving Capt. Bradley and 21 enlisted men remaining there on Detached Service.

February 4: Sgt. Hamthun and Tec 5 Kunikowski of Company A (atchd to Hq. Co. as casuals) departed with the 128th Inf. for Saidor.

February 5: 1st Lt. Stickler returned to duty from hospital, Pvt. Grotto (casual) joined; Capt. Bradley DS to SD.

February 7: Rcn. Co. was unattached from the 127th RCT (6 officers and 135 enlisted men); Sgt. Weaver transferred from 127th Inf. was assigned to Hq. Co. Pvt. Schultz, G. J. (Co. A) Ar in Conf Stockade Base Section No. 3 to duty (atchd to Hq. Co.).

February 9: Nineteen enlisted men from Co. A, 3 from Hq. Co., 11 from Co. B, arrived from Goodenough Island; Pvt. Grotto attached to assigned; Tec 5 Richter of Co. A trfd to 13th Sta. Hosp. at A.P.O. 922.

February 10: 1st Lt. Abdon was promoted to Captain with rank from Feb. 7th, also on 10th, 18 enlisted men of Rcn. Co., and 2 enlisted men of Hq. Co. (atchd to Rcn. Co.) DS to Duty from Milne Bay.

February 12: 2nd Lt. Lees, 5 EM from Hq. Co., 5 EM from Co. B, Duty to DS Advance Detail to Saidor, New Guinea; 2 EM from Med. Det. on SD with 107th Med. Bn. Malarial Group to DS to Saidor.

February 17: Special Services presented John Wayne of Hollywood, U.S.A., in person at the 40th Seabees.

February 18: 2nd Lt. Tideman of Co. A was promoted to 1st Lt. with rank from Feb. 12th. Major Wang was in Bn. Area from 18th to 20th at which time he departed for Saidor.

February 19: Capt. Hirsch and 2nd Lt. Peters were placed on SD with the 127th RCT, and 46 EM of Hq. Co. were placed on SD with Rcn. Co.

February 21: The quota of Rotation Personnel for month of May was submitted to Commanding General for approval.

February 22: From Feb. 22nd to 24th, time was spent in preparation for move to Saidor.

February 24: Lt. Col. Fanning, Bn. Comdr., duty to hosp., Major Wang assuming command.

February 25: The Battalion departed from Cape Cretin enroute to Saidor, troops being loaded on at 1145L, and embarked at 1500L. Noon mess and evening mess served from the ship's galley. Morning mess was served at 0700L on the 26th prior to disembarkation at 0745L. Then proceeded to assigned Battalion Area and commenced clearing area and setting up Company and Battalion Installations.

February 27: Tec 5 Francis E. Weiler of C Co., wounded in action, 2 Jan. 44, near Saidor, New Guinea, awarded Purple Heart per Hq. U.S. Forces, A.P.O. 321, dated 26 January 1944. The medal was presented 27 February 1944.

February 28: The Battalion was assigned duty of all unloading of ships at their arrival in this area, and on same date, Companies A and C were relieved of SD with 126th and 128th RCT's.

February 29: Twenty-four EM of Hq. Co. were relieved of SD with Co. C (126th RCT). Also on the 29th, Battalion quota for Rotation Personnel for month of June was submitted to CG for approval.

Strength of Battalion for move from Cape Cretin to Saidor was 13 officers and 186 enlisted men, a total of 199.

✓ Strength of Battalion as of February 29th, 39 officers and 834 EM.

March 1: Capt. H. J. Zerneck was relieved of assignment with Co. C and assigned to Bn. Staff as Acting Bn. Executive Officer, with 1st Lt. Haase being assigned as Commanding Officer of Co. C.

March 3: One officer and 25 EM departed from Goodenough Island at 0745L and arrived at Saidor at 1025L on the 5th; included in this shipment was remaining heavy vehicles and M-10's which had been left at Goodenough Island.

March 7: Ten replacements reported, these men being returned from hospitals, and 2 of which were from Hq. Co. and were placed on SD with Rcn. Co. at Cape Cretin. The Battalion also processed numerous Field Artillery Replacements.

March 9: 1st Lt. Moehn of Bn. Staff was relieved of SD with 126th RCT and assigned to Hq. Co. as Battalion Liaison Officer, 1st Lt. St. Clair of Hq. Co., was relieved of SD with 126th RCT and assigned as Bn. Communications Officer.

March 10: Fourteen replacements were assigned to Bn., and were assigned as follows: 1 to Hq. Co., 6 to Co. A, 1 to Co. B, and 6 to Co. C.

March 11 - 12: Hq. Co. and Med. Det. including Bn. Installations moved area across road and to an area further away from the Air Strip, except Bn. Supply and Bn. Maintenance. On the 12th, the approved quota for Bn. personnel returning to the United States under Rotation Policy was announced, with one officer and 28 enlisted men included.

March 13: 1st Lt. Moehn travelled to APO 322 and returned on 15th with S/Sgt. Dery of Rcn. Co. Also on 13th, Lt. Col. Fanning was transferred to Detachment of Patients, 42nd General Hospital, A.P.O. 923, Major Wang now Bn. Condr. On the 13th also, 2 officers (replacements) 2nd Lt. Miner and 2nd Lt. Hammond, reported and assigned to Bn., and assigned to Co. A and Co. C, respectively, on the 16th. First Bn. officers to be received having arm of service TD/FA.

March 16: Capt. Marcelle was relieved as Acting S-3 and assigned as Bn. S-3, and on this date also, 1st Lt. Hilton and 1st Platoon of Co. B returned from forward area, and also 1st Lt. Stickler duty to hospital.

March 18: Day and night schedule for unloading of Liberty Ships, LCT's, LST's and LCM's commenced. And on this day, all companies moved tents for dispersal purposes.

March 19: The approved quota for Bn. personnel returning to the United States under Rotation Policy was announced for month of June, 2 officers and 28 enlisted men included.

March 20: First show was shown in the Battalion Theater and was well attended.

March 21: The July quota for Rotation of Personnel was submitted to CG for approval, and on March 30th this quota was announced as approved with one officer and 28 EM.

March 23: The following assignments of officers was made--1st Lt. Moehn relieved as Bn. Liaison Officer and assigned as Acting Bn. S-2, 2nd Lt. Halstead relieved of duty with Co. A and assigned to Hq. Co. as Liaison Officer, and 2nd Lt. McElroy (replacement) who was assigned to the Battalion was attached unassigned to Hq. Co. The remainder of the month was spent with usual duties and with only a minimum of Air Raid Alerts.

Strength of the Battalion as of March 31st was 41 Officers and 855 Enlisted Men.

April 3: Co. C, the Bn. Adjutant, Executive Officer, 1 Officer and 14 Enlisted Men of Hq. Co., 2 EM of Med. Det., and 8 EM of Co. A, comprising advance details to the new Bn. Area departed from Saidor arriving at Yamai located south of the Mot River. Distance travelled was 11 miles, roads very poor, required 1 1/2 hours to complete the trip. The group set up the advance CP and commenced with clearing of area and building on kitchens and mess halls constructed of logs with tarpaulin cover. On the 3rd also, Rcn. Co. (less 6 drivers and 1 Officer left at Cape Cretin and 4 EM in hosp.) arrived at Saidor. On this date, 44 EM of Hq. Co. (3 of whom were absent in hospital) were relieved of SD with Rcn. Co.

April 4: Rcn. Co. moved to new Bn. Area at Yamai.

April 5: The new camp at Yamai was officially named Camp Easson, in memory of Pvt. James Easson of Co. C, who was killed in action on 2 Jan. 1944, at Saidor. He was first man to die in action from our Battalion. On the 5th the Battalion was officially placed under a new T/O, TBA and T/E dated 27 January 1944, whereby the Battalion T/O strength was reduced to 35 Officers, 1 WO and 634 EM. Considering the Bn. Strength as of present date, the Bn. would be carrying 5 Officers and 222 EM as overage. This adoption also called for a change in individual weapons and other equipment.

April 6: Co. A and Bn. Supply Section arrived at Yamai Camp Area from Saidor.

April 7: Co. B arrived at this area, and on the 8th, the Battalion move was completed with the arrival of Hq. Co. at new area. Holy Week Church Services were observed in Battalion Area. Period from 10th through 15th was spent in improving Bn. and Co. Areas and Installations.

April 8: Capt. Hirsch, Bn. Staff, and 2nd Lt. Peters, Hq. Co., were reld. from SD with the 127th RCT and reassigned duty in Bn., also 4 other Hq. Co. officers were reassigned duties in Hq. Co.

April 13: Due to the great number of men having skin disorders and rashes, a Bn. policy was instituted whereby these men were taken down to the beach area and allowed to swim in the salt water and absorb sunshine from 1500K - 1700K daily.

April 14: Capt. Bradley, CO of Rcn. Co., was placed on SD with the 127th Inf. RCT.

April 17: Training schedule was begun with small arms instruction and training in morning, with supervised athletics and swimming, sun bathing in afternoon.

April 22: The Battalion Chapel was completed and made ready for use.

April 23: Sunday - Dedication services were held, Catholic Mass at 0800K and Protestant Services at 1100K. On Saturday at approximately 1600K, the 23rd Port. Hosp. notified Hq. Co. by phone of the death of Tec 5 Mazin. Burial services for Tec 5 Mazin were conducted by Chaplain Bach, Hebrew faith, on Sunday 23 April, 0900K at USAF Cemetery No. 1, Saidor, New Guinea Area.

April 23 (Cont.): 1st Lt. Thompson and approximately 75 enlisted men of this Battalion were present. Also on Sunday two Officers: 2nd Lt. McGovern and 2nd Lt. George (replacements), assigned to this headquarters by Div. S.O., arrived and were attached unassigned, to Hq. Co. per Bn. S.O. Per Div. S.O. received this date, 1st Lt. Dickason (Med. Det.) who was on S.D. with 107th Med. Bn., was trfd to 107th Med. Bn. This same day word was received of Lt. Stickler being trfd from Hospital to Det. of Ptns., 44th Gen. Hosp. on 16 April. On the same day 25 M-10 Tank Destroyers arrived at Saidor for this Bn., completing the full quota of M-10 Tank Destroyers for this Bn. At approximately 1800K, 23 April, one Japanese soldier was brought to Bn. Hq. by a native interpreter who had taken him prisoner. The prisoner was taken into the custody of Bn. Officers Capt. Hirsch (S-2) and Capt. Marcelle (S-3). Prisoner was searched and belongings were taken from him, after which he was given food, water and cigarettes, being questioned by S-2 and S-3 Officers at the same time. Prisoner was then taken to Bn. Surgeon Capt. O'Connor for treatment of a jungle ulcer and a physical examination. Bn. Surgeon reported prisoner in good health. Under armed guard, prisoner was removed to Saidor and delivered to the Stockade.

April 24: Our long known and well liked Bn. Commander Lt. Col. Fanning returned from hospital in Australia to duty.

April 25: After a week's prior instruction, firing of small arms weapons was commenced, continuing through the week until Friday. Arms fired included Cal. .30 Carbine, Cal. .30 M-1 Rifle, M-1903 Rifle, and the .30 and .50 Cal. Machine Guns. During this same time a new type of weapon, Sub-Machine Gun Cal. .45 M-3 was test-fired.

On 28 April, Capt. Hirsch (S-2) was placed on SD with 32d Inf. Div. Hq., per Div. S.O. Also 1 EM from this Bn. was reld. of SD with 533rd EB and 8 EM from other organizations were attached to this Bn. On this same date per V.O.C.G., 1 Officer (Capt. H. J. Zerneck) from Hq., 5 Officers from Rcn. Co. (Lt. Bell, Lt. Pascoe, Lt. Johnson, Lt. Junkman, Lt. Tucker) and 126 EM from Rcn. Co., plus 1 EM, Hq. Co.; 8 EM attached from other organizations, and 2 Medical Aid men were placed on SD with the 126 RCT. This left a total of four EM of Rcn. Co. to remain in rear echelon. Also, per V.O.C.G., Major Wang and 1st Lt. Moehn of Hq. were placed on SD with Div. Hq. this date. Also, on 28 April per V.O.C.G., the following reassignments were made within the Bn.: Lt. George, attached unassigned to Hq. Co., was assigned to Co. C as Platoon Officer; 2nd Lt. Hammond of Co. C reld. of duties as Platoon Officer and reassigned to Hq. Co. as Bn. Communications Officer.

April 30: On Sunday morning usual Church Services were held. On Sunday afternoon troops were paid. Move of Rcn. Co. to board ship at Saidor was completed. Strength of the Battalion as of April 30: 42 Officers and 851 EM.

May 1 & 2: All 37mm. Guns (AT) and Vehicles in excess of T/E were turned in. This concluded turning in majority of property in excess of T/E, most of the smaller items having been turned in during the preceding week.

May 1: Communications School commenced 1 May 44 and is scheduled to continue throughout the month, hours being 0730K to 1130K. Instructions on use and procedure of 610 and 608 CW Radio Sets, code and all communication within the Tank Destroyer Battalion; Co.'s A, B, C, and Hq. Co. receiving instruction. Clerks School for the Battalion commenced 1 May 44, classes being held daily from 1300K to 1500K, 2nd Lt. Erbes (Personnel Off.) and Sgt. Krystowiak (Bn. Pers. Sgt.) as instructors. Course of instruction outlined covering Administration Procedure and General Clerking (1 Hr.), and Typing and General Military Correspondence.

May 2: Training schedule set up for all T.D. Co.'s on the M-10 Tank Destroyers to continue until 11 May 44 at which time subcaliber firing (direct laying), will begin. Phases of instruction are to cover the following subjects: To train crews for direct laying of fire; to prepare destroyers for immediate operation by proper maintenance, servicing and stowage; fundamental mechanics of driving and to determine proficiency.

May 3: The following reassignments were made within the Battalion: Capt. James A. Zerneck reld of present duty assignment with Co. B and attached to Battalion Hq. unassigned; Capt. Francis E. Lang, Bn. S-1, reld of present duty and assigned to Co. B as C.O.; Capt. Tabor, C.O., Co. A, reld of present duty and assigned to Bn. Hq. as S-1; 1st Lt. Hilton, Co. B, reld. present duty and assigned to Co. A as C.O.; 1st Lt. Haase, Co. C, reld. present duty and assigned to Hq. Co. as Transportation Off.; 1st Lt. Sawyer, Co. B, reld of present duty and assigned to Co. C as C.O.; 1st Lt. Verlander, Co. C, reld. present duty and assigned to Co. B for duty; 1st Lt. Moehn, Hq. Co., reld. of present duty and assigned to Bn. Hq. as Bn. S-2; 2nd Lt. Peters, Hq. Co., reld. of present duty and assigned to Co. C for duty; 2nd Lt. Savacool, Co. C, reld. of present duty and assigned to Co. A for duty; 2nd Lt. McGovern, attached unassigned to Hq. Co., assigned to Co. B for duty; 2nd Lt. McElroy, attached unassigned to Hq. Co., assigned to Co. C for duty. Commendations were received this date from Master of U.S.S. Comara as to the outstanding performance of duty of the Detachment 632nd Tank Destroyer Bn. as the best dispatch ever received in unloading the ship. To this commendation Col. Fanning's comment was: "With justifiable pride in past accomplishment, let us turn to our real job of busting pill-boxes and tanks. They have not heard the last of us." Also on this date, Capt. Bradley, C.O. Rcn. Co., was reld. of Special Duty with the 127th R.C.T. and reported to the Battalion to take charge of Rcn. Co. Rear Echelon, which now includes 5 M and a number of vehicles. Messing facilities are being furnished by Hq. Co.

May 4: Per Bn. S.O. the following reassignments of duties were made within the Battalion: Capt. J. Zerneck attached unassigned to Bn. Hq., assigned as Bn. Range Officer and Bn. Police Officer; V.O.C.O. 29 April confirmed and made record: 2nd Lt. Hammond, Co. C, assigned to Hq. Co. with principal duty as Bn. Communications Off.; 2nd Lt. Lees, Hq. Co., reld. of duty as Bn. Communications Off., attached unassigned to Hq. Co. Master Sgt. Schoen, Hq. Co., was appointed Bn. Provost Sergeant, his duties being to maintain policing, repair of roads, installations and any other necessary details for which no specific company is responsible.

May 9: New Table of Organization and Table of Equipment was received. The T/O and T/E is effective the 10 May 1944. The new T/O gives the Battalion an overage in lower grades of enlisted men but more ratings in grades of Technicians Grade IV and of the first three grades. The new T/O affects the officers very little except for the S-3 which calls for a Major instead of a Captain. It did give us an overage of Captains in Battalion Headquarters. Capt. Horace Abdon was transferred to 32d Div. Artillery.

May 10: Secret Message received from Hq. U.S. Forces A.P.O. 705, dated 10 May 44:

May 12: One Officer, and 1 Mechanic, and 6 drivers were placed on Detached Service to the 815th T.D. Bn. at Oro Bay as instructors from 15 May 44 to 12 July 44. They departed on the 12th of this month.

May 15: One Officer left on leave and 6 M left on furlough to Australia, because the Battalion is in a Forward Area the percentage going on furlough was small. Also entering into this is the fact that the Battalion is going through extensive training with the M-10 Tank Destroyer. Except for Co. B, who had 12 Destroyers before the other Line Companies B and C, the two Companies B and C training from scratch. The training is excellent and the men are putting all they have into it so as to be ready for future combat. Capt. Zerneck, R. J.

became Acting Adjutant during the leave of absence of Capt. Carl Tabor. There was a Battalion Movie tonight: "Broadway Rhythm," with Ginny Simms and George Murphy. Laundry went into Sador to be washed today. It's a convenience for the Officers and Enlisted men to have their washing done by a Laundry. Due to erroneous information A.P.O. 321, which was being used for three days was discontinued. The Battalion established it's own Water Point at the Youngo River. Beginning this date the Battalion Daily Bulletin carries the World News which is received from our efficient S-2. The men of the Battalion are very much concerned over current events, also started a weekly newstalk by Lt. Boehn, our S-2. Companies are given a newstalk each week.

May 16: Gus Rutkowski of Co. C this Battalion, was killed by self-inflicted gunshot wounds this date. An investigation of his death is being carried out by the Battalion Investigating Officer. Lt. Hammond, our Com. C., went from duty to hospital. Co. C fired sub-caliber from M-10 Destroyers. Ten rounds were fired per man.

May 17: The long anticipated furloughs for men who are going home under the Rotation Plan came true today. One Officer and 23 Enlisted men left for Sador for transportation to an embarkation point for the U.S.A. The men have been waiting since the 15th of May when the order was received to send them home. Since then they have been awaiting transportation. Co.'s A and C fired sub-caliber from M-10 Destroyers prior to the firing of service ammunition. Ten rounds were fired per man. The first group of men who left for the States were given a farewell talk by Col. Fanning, who stated to them that his refrigerator was open at all times at his home in La Crosse, Wis. The first group of men who left were the men who had been in the Service the longest period of time, most of them had been in the Battalion since being formed in Camp Livingston, La. in 1941. They had been overseas for about two years and all had at least six months in a forward area, New Guinea. The Battalion lost their Battalion Sergeant Major who had been acting in that capacity for eighteen months. Also leaving was 1st. Sergeant who had been in the Battalion since it was activated. They were gazed upon with envious eyes by the rest of the men who were left in New Guinea.

May 18: Co. A fired the M-10 Destroyers using service ammo. Results were very good considering that it was the first time they had fired the 3" Gun. The men seem to have a great deal of confidence in the gun, and are ready for anything. Catholic Services were held at the Battalion Chapel. It was Ascension Day Services. Mass was also offered for Pvt. Rutkowski of Co. C who was killed on the 16th of the month. Promotions were prevalent during the last few days because of vacancies existing under the New T/O and from men who were transferred under the Rotation Plan. Two men, S/Sgt. Claude B. Lehner (36207810) and Sgt. Ralph M. Parmichael (36208926), C and B Co.'s respectively, were transferred to the Det. of Students, CCS, Brisbane, Australia. Per Par. 1, S.O. 352, dtd the 14th of May.

May 19: Mr. Krystowiak, our Battalion Personnel Officer, gave a test to the clerks of the Battalion who have been attending clerk school. The grades of test were very satisfactory. The school was held because of so many men in Administration going home under the Rotation Plan. Protestant Services were held in the Battalion Chapel this afternoon. On this date the Roster of Personnel who are eligible to go home in September was submitted to the Commanding General.

May 20: Co. C fired M-10 Destroyer with 20 rounds expended per Destroyer. The firing was very satisfactory and the men expressed confidence in the 3" Gun and said they were ready for anything. A movie was shown at the Battalion Theater. It was well attended.

May 24: Two men from Rcn. Co. departed from Saidor, by Liberty Ship, to rejoin their unit. Also to guard radio equipment requested by Company Commander of Reconnaissance Co. A movie was shown at the Battalion Theater, entitled "Casablanca," and received very good approval from the men. It was very well attended.

May 25: Capt. James A. Zerneck, in addition to his other duties, was appointed Inventory Officer to inventory the Battalion Canteen. General Orders, No. 41, Par. 4, dated 17 May 44, from Headquarters 32nd Infantry Division, awarding Tec 5 Stanley Antonovich, (31059749), of Co. C, the Soldiers Medal for heroism near Yanai, New Guinea, on 8 April 1944. Received three packages of Safe Hand information from Rcn. Co., the company is in the forward area with the main body of the Division. Capt. James A. Zerneck, 0402215, in addition to his other duties, was appointed Inventory Officer: to Inventory the Battalion Canteen. Pfc Roland J. Fisher, (36208917), Co. B, trfd Det. of Rnts., 3rd Gen Hosp. Unit, A.P.O. 928.

May 26: Three men from 492d Eng. Base Equip. Co., were apprehended by Lt. Foster of B Co., for the unauthorized use of fire arms. The men were firing in Native and Troop areas. Their arms and ammunition were confiscated and their names turned over to the Provost Marshall of this area. Church services were held today at our Battalion Chapel - "Chapel on the Mount." Protestant Services at 1500K and Catholic Services at 1600K.

May 27: Movie at Battalion Theater, "Meet the People," with Dick Powell and Lucille Ball. It was very well attended by Officers and Enlisted Men, as well as by the Natives of this area. The Natives seem to enjoy the picture very much and there is always a goodly crowd on hand for all pictures.

May 29: Capt. James A. Zerneck, (0402216), was assigned Acting Adjutant, vice Capt. Herbert J. Zerneck, (0390322), relieved. Laundry services were suspended because of the lack of soap in this area. Malarial Rates for month of April: 1,000 men per annum, 632d T.D. Bn. - 70.9. Capt. H. J. Zerneck entered 23rd Field Hosp.

May 30: Memorial Day Services were held by all companies of our Battalion. Companies were formed in Co. areas, at 1315K and Taps was sounded at 1320K.

May 31: Capt. Horace G. Abdon, (0369086), our Battalion Dentist, was put on Special Duty with Hq. 32d Inf. Div., V.O.C.G. Movie shown at Battalion Theater: "Hi Good Looking" with Ozzie Nelson and Harriet Hilliard. Strength of Battalion as of 31 May 1944, 41 Officers; 1 WOJ, and 814 MM. Sgt. Kenneth H. Rantman, 20653032, Co. A, transferred from 23rd Field Hosp., and will proceed to Base "F", USMC, A.P.O. 322.

June 1: Monthly Sanitary Report was submitted to Commanding General. After an absence of mail for approximately six weeks, we finally received a quantity of First Class mail. This helped immensely in raising the spirits of all men.

June 2: On 26 May 1944, General Orders No. 42, 32d Inf. Div., awarding Good Conduct Medal's to members of this Battalion. Twenty men from Hq. Co., seven from Reconnaissance Co., and eight from Co. C were awarded the medal. Protestant Services were held at the Battalion Chapel at 1600K.

June 3: Catholic Services were held at the Battalion Chapel at 1400K. Capt. David A. Marcelle, our Bn. S-3, entered 23rd Field Hosp.

June 4: A re-broadcast of the Notre Dame - Michigan Football Game was broadcasted at the Battalion Theater. The recordings lasted approximately 3.

hours. In the evening the picture "Falcon and the Co-Eds" was shown.

June 5: Bn. Special Orders 157, assigning 1st Lt. Robert Storts, Bn. Gas Officer, vice 2nd Lt. Spencer H. Lees, transferred. WOJt Joseph J. Krystowiak was appointed Battalion Postal Officer.

June 6: Laundry service was again available and laundry was sent to Saidor. An M of the Base Graves Registration Office was found wandering on the beach, near our Battalion Area, without clothes. He was brought to the S-1 Office and questioned by the Adjutant. He was then turned over to the Bn. Surgeon for further examination. He was given a set of clothing and later taken to the 23rd Field Hospital. The Adjutant notified his Company CO. of the circumstances and of all available information.

June 7: The picture "Destination Tokyo," with Cary Grant and John Garfield, was shown at the Battalion Theater. A large crowd was on hand and many voiced their opinions stating it was one of the finest shown in this area.

June 9: Protestant Services were held at the Battalion Chapel at 1500K. A formal Retreat formation was held by all Companies on their Company Parade. The Retreat formation was followed by an inspection of arms. Music for the formation was provided by the 126th Infantry Band. In the evening the 126th Infantry Band presented a concert at the Battalion Theater.

June 10: The firing of small arms weapons and the M-10 Destroyers was commenced, 5 June 1944, and continued throughout the week. Arms fired included Cal. .30 Carbine, Cal. .30 M-1 rifle, M-1903 Rifle, and the .30 and .50 Cal. Machine Guns. The Rocket AT, 2.3" was also fired. The M-10 Destroyers expended a total of 390 rounds of 3" ammunition. In all phases of firing throughout the week the results were very satisfactory. Word was received from the C.O. of Rcn. Co., pertaining to his Company's participation in patrol work in the forward area. Their work is very satisfactory, and highly praised by the C.G. The morale and spirits of the men is at its highest peak and the results of two years training is very gratifying and fully shows its worth. Canteen funds received by our Battalion amounted to over ten thousand dollars. Capt. Herbert J. Zernicke returned to duty from 23rd Field Hospital. 2nd Platoon of B Co., consisting of 36 men and commanded by 1st Lt. Walter C. Verlander, left Bn. Area at 1900K, to board Liberty Ship at Saidor, for movement to forward area. The four M-10's and the remainder of the platoon were fully equipped and prepared for combat. S/Sgt. Joe Farrell, of Rcn. Co., also boarded ship at Saidor to rejoin his unit. Five Rcn. Co. vehicles were loaded for shipment to forward area. 1st Lt. Randolph V. Foster of Co. B, entered 23rd Field Hospital.

June 11: Catholic Services were held at Battalion Chapel: Confession, 1400K, Mass, 1430K. The picture, "Andy Hardy's Blonde Troubles", with Mickey Rooney and Bonita Granville, was shown at the Bn. Theater. Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., Special Orders No. 138, dated 2 June 1944, trfd. 1st Lt. Albert C. Erbes, to 14th Gen. Hosp., A.P.O. 322. Capt. David A. Marcelle, our Bn. S-3, returned to duty from 23rd Field Hosp. Major Malvin P. Wang, on D.S., A.P.O. 923, since 12 May 44, returned for duty to our Battalion.

June 12: Special Orders No. 141, dated 5 June 44, Capt. Charles T. Bradley, 0308886, F.A., reld. of asgt with 632d T.D. Bn. and asgd 114th Engr. Bn. Bn. Special Orders No. 157, dated 5 June 44, appointing 1st Lt. Harold E. Bell, 0372043, Company Commander of Rcn. Co., vice Capt. Charles T. Bradley, 0308886, trfd.

June 13: Canteen supplies were received and were made available to the Officers and men. Also a weeks ration of cigarettes and cigars were issued to the Companies.

June 13: (Cont.): Howard W. Cawthorne, 6973558, of the 92nd Service Sqdn., was apprehended by 1st Lt. Stephen St. Clair, 0414703, for firing his weapon at Yamai, New Guinea, near the River Hot, near our troop area. His Carbine was confiscated and report submitted to the Provost Marshall, Sub Base F, A.P.O. 321.

June 14: The remaining 126 men and 3 Officers of Co. B, commanded by Capt. Francis B. Lang, moved from the Battalion Area, with all equipment to Saidor. The Company will set up temporary quarters, and prepare for loading of Liberty Ship, which is to take them to the forward area. The Officers who accompanied the remainder of Co. B were 2nd Lt. Edward H. McGovern and 2nd Lt. Kenneth L. Binkley. The remaining 5 men and vehicles of Rcn. Co. will also be loaded for shipment to the forward area.

June 15: Par. 2, S.O. 144, Hq. 32d Inf. Div., dated 8 June 1944, Capt. Charles T. Bradley, 0308886, F.A., 114th Engr. Bn., placed S.D. with our Bn. Par. 5, S.O. 140, Hq. 32d Inf. Div., dated 4 June 1944, asgd Pvt. Grafton H. Thompson, 6138744, to our Bn. Bn. S.O. 167, dated 15 June 44, asgd Pvt. Grafton H. Thompson to Rcn. Co. Par. 5, S.O. 145, Hq. 32d Inf. Div., dated 9 June 1944, trfd Tec 5 William V. DeNoble, 20655627, Rcn. Co., to 4th Gen. Hosp., A.P.O. 322. Cpl. John J. Shesto, 20656881, Med. Det., to 42nd Gen. Hosp., A.P.O. 923. Cpl. Jerome A. Janz, 36208745, Co. C, to 18th Sta. Hosp., A.P.O. 928. Pfc Earl P. Williams, 31130757, Co. B, to 42nd Gen. Hosp., A.P.O. 928. 1st Lt. Randolph V. Foster of Co. B, returned to duty from the 23rd Field Hosp.

June 16: Protestant Services were held at Battalion "Chapel on the Mount", at 1500K.

June 17: Having reported to Co. B, this Bn., per Subject Letter, USASCS, dated 27 April 1944, Cpl. Orland W. Methvin, 34054455, was assigned to Co. B for duty. Catholic Services at Chapel on the Mount, our Bn. Chapel: Confession, 1400K, Mass, 1430K. Capt. Charles T. Bradley, 0308886, 114th Engr. Bn., reld of S.D. with 632nd T.D. Bn., Hq. 32d Inf. Div., S.O. 153.

June 18: The picture, "Lady Let's Dance," with Jimmy Ellison and Bolita, was shown at Battalion Theater.

June 19: Pvt. Walter L. Kelly, 36808651, Co. C, trfd from 23d Field Hosp. to Base F, USASCS, A.P.O. 322. Hq. 32d Inf. Div., S.O. 155, Tec 4 Joseph A. Gniotczyski, 36208838, Hq. Co., 632nd T.D. Bn., trfd to Det. of Pnts., 363rd Sta. Hosp., A.P.O. 503. Pfc. James M. Abernathy, 34176636, Co. A.

June 20: The Roster of Personnel who are eligible to go home in October was submitted to the Commanding General. 2nd Lt. Raleigh L. Hammond, 01822796, our Communications Officer, entered 23d Field Hosp.

June 21: 1st Lt. Stephen F. St. Clair, 0414703, reld asgnt 632nd T.D. Bn., asgnd Misc Gp USAFFE, and placed on duty with Amph Trng Cn, A.P.O. 928.

June 22: 2nd Lt. Raleigh L. Hammond, 01822796, was evacuated to Base F, USASCS, A.P.O. 322, for further hospitalization and treatment. The Battalion was alerted and instructed to make preparation for loading of Liberty Ship, Saturday, 24 June 44, at Saidor. At 1315K A Co. was alerted, ready to load Liberty Ship "USS Bradley" at Saidor, at 0730K, Friday, 22 June 1944. The 3rd Plt. of B Co. will also be loaded at this time. A Co. cleared the Battalion Area at Yamai, New Guinea, 1200K, 23 June 44. A Co. left with 1st Lt. Hilton in command, four Officers and 162 M. They moved with all equipment and 12 destroyers. 3rd Plt.

of B Co. consisted of one officer, Lt. Kenneth L. Binkley, and 30 EM and the four destroyers of their platoon. M-10 Destroyer firing commenced Monday, 19 June 44, and carried through to Thursday, 22 June 44. The gun positions were located at Yamai, and the impact area in the vicinity of Galek and Paramusi Hill. Officers and EM fired indirect fire. The firing on the whole was very satisfactory. Approximately 690 rounds were expended, for the entire period of firing.

June 23: Special Orders No. 8, Hq. Base Two, USASOs, 8 June 44, 1st Lt. Donald J. Stickler, 0359582, Inf. reld atchd unasgd Det. of Patnts., 44th Gen. Hosp., A.P.O. 922, reasgd full duty Hq. Co., 632nd T.D. Bn., A.P.O. 32. AF Mil Acft or Water T. Hq. Co. and C Co. received their booster typhus inoculations. Bn. Hq., Hq. Co., Med. Det., B Co. less 2nd and 3rd Plts., and Rcn. Rear Echelon prepared for movement to board Liberty Ship at Saidor. Major M. P. Wang left Saidor Airport enroute to Finschafen. 1st Lt. Robert H. Storts, appointed Inventory Officer to inventory Battalion Canteen, Bn. Spec. O. 175.

June 24: All Bn. and Hq.'s installations were taken down and loaded. Hq. vehicles left area at 0730K for Saidor. Co. C was alerted to make preparation for movement to Saidor. 1st Plt. of Co. C cleared Bn. Area at 1200K. Hq. Co. completed their preparation and policing of installations and areas and left our area at Yamai, New Guinea at 1800K. Hq. Co. spent the night near Saidor Airport on Red Beach. A and C Co.'s made camp near Saidor Cemetery.

June 25: The entire Battalion spent the day on loading details. Loading all equipment on USS Bradley and USS Wardwell.

June 26: A Co. boarded USS Bradley at 0800K and by 0915K the entire personnel had boarded ship. The loading of personnel aboard the USS Wardwell began at 1130K and by 1200K the personnel were aboard ship. The noon meal of 10 and 1 rations was served to troops while boat was still at the dock. USS Wardwell left dock at 1500K and dropped anchor in harbor. At 1830K the ship moved out of Saidor Harbor. The sea was calm and the troops looked forward to a pleasant voyage. While on board ship men were allowed to go about without shirts and leggins. Also at 1830K black-out rules were put into effect. Men were ordered to carry life jackets until ship reached its destination. Battalion personnel aboard USS Wardwell:

Hq. Co.	11 Off	131 EM	
Co. B	3 Off	96 EM	
Co. C	1 Off	39 EM	
Med. Det.	1 Off	9 EM	
Total	16 Off	275 EM:	291.

Battalion personnel aboard USS Bradley:

Co. A	5 Off	163 EM
Co. B	1 Off	35 EM
Hq. Co.	1 Off	3 EM
Rcn. Co.		3 EM
Med. Det.		2 EM
Total	7 Off	206 EM:

The Hq., 2nd and 3rd Plt.'s of Co. C, consisting of a total of 3 Off and 130 EM, remained at Saidor and will follow as soon as ships are available for transportation. Capt. H. J. Zerneck appointed Acting Adjutant, vice Capt. J. A. Zerneck, reld.

June 27: In the morning we found ourselves well out at sea and during the night we had joined a convoy of approximately 25 Liberty Ships escorted by a number of Destroyers. A practice air alert and abandon ship signals were sounded. The personnel followed orders to the letter and there was very little confusion among the men. A 10-day supply of cigarettes and tobacco were issued to personnel aboard ship.

June 28: At 1100K the main part of the convoy sailed in a new direction. Our convoy now consisted of three Liberty Ships and two escort ships. A practice air alert was sounded at 1415K. The personnel moved to their respective holds, in an orderly fashion, and in approximately five minutes the decks were clear. At 1915K we reached our destination and dropped anchor in Ataipe Harbor. We were to spend the night on the ship and debark in the morning.

June 29: Personnel unloaded ship at 0830K and were taken ashore in an LCT. Personnel were then taken to new Battalion Area. Preparations for new camp site were immediately started. The Battalion was allotted a very good area - located near the beach in a coconut grove. That night men slept in area in hammocks. Capt. James A. Zerneck to 107th Clearing Station for consultation as to his illness. Hq. 32d Inf. Div., S.O. 165, appointing Capt. Fred C. Welsh, 0413757, Hq. Co., to Court Martial Board.

June 30: The day was spent in establishing Battalion and Company installations. The 3rd Plt. of Co. B, consisting of 36 MM and commanded by 2nd Lt. Kenneth L. Binkley, by order of Task Force Hq., Eastern Command, moved to support 2nd Plt. of Co. B now in action at the Eastern Command. 2nd Plt. Ren. Co., commanded by 2nd Lt. Milton J. Johnson, with 20 MM, by orders of Task Force Hq., left on patrol and security duty with 3rd Plt., Co. B, to Eastern Command. Dock and Ammo Dump details were very prevalent and will continue to be so for some time to come. Strength of Battalion as of 30 June, 38 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer and 812 Enlisted Men.

July 1: 1st Lt. Eldon A. Haase, 0384205, Hq. Co., appointed Battalion Post Exchange Officer. Battalion and Headquarters installations were completed with little work remaining to be accomplished, and everything fairly well settled.

July 2: Protestant and Catholic Church Services were held and many of the men attended the services.

July 3: Hq. 32d Inf. Div., S.O. 164, dated 23 June 44, asgd Tec 4 H. F. Vanniewenhoven, 20655684, to Ren. Co. Hq. 632nd T.D. Bn., S.O. 185, 1st Lt. Donald J. Stickler, 0359582, attached unassigned to Hq. Co. Monthly Sanitary Report for month of June submitted to C.G., 32nd Inf. Div.

July 5: Capt. James A. Zerneck returned from 107th Clearing Sta. Hosp. Pfc. William H. Katschowsky, 37111251, Co. B, proceeded to Base F, USASOS, A.P.O. 322, on or about 27 June 44 for further treatment. Evacuation Orders 34, Hq. Sub Base F, USASOS, dated 26 June 44.

July 6: Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., S.O. 169, dated 3 July 44, Pvt. Michael E. Barnishin, 30034445, was asgnd to this Bn.

July 7: Canteen supplies were made available to all Bn. personnel. The Canteen will stay open all day to enable men who are on Dock and Ammo Details to purchase any supplies. These are the first supplies issued since arriving at our new location, Ataipe, New Guinea.

July 8: Hq. U.S. Forces, A.P.O. 705, 7 July 44, evacuating S/sgt Willard H. Layton, 30655659; and Pvt. Julian W. McGlinley, 13057043, of Ren. Co., from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 503 for further treatment. The picture, "Iron Major," was shown at our Battalion Theater. Our Special Service has obtained a new generator and picture projector for Bn. use. A large crowd was on hand for the first picture shown in our new area at Ataipe.

July 1: Hq., 6th Army, APO 442, General Orders No. 102, dtd 1 July 44, relieving 632nd T.D. Bn. from attachment to 32d Inf Div & atchd to AI Corps, as of 27 June 44. This necessarily changes our APO address to APO 705.

July 9: The Battalion received two Cars Armored Light M-8's, on loan from the 112th Cavalry. We are to use them for tactical purposes and problems to determine their capabilities and limitations.

July 10: The Officers and Enlisted Men of our Battalion have been given the opportunity to purchase Coco-Cola at the Division Pa. For many of the men, it will be their first taste of this nationally known beverage since leaving Australia. The hours allotted to our Battalion: Officers 1330K to 1430K, Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Enlisted Men: 1630K to 1830K, Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

Word was received, by radio message, from Capt. Francis E. Lang, of Co. B, that a member of his command, Pfc. Robert W. Kellner, 20653683, was slightly wounded in action.

1st Platoon, Co. B, alerted at 1900K to join forces with Co. B already on the East flank, by orders of XI Corps Hq.

1st Platoon of Co. C alerted at 1900K by XI Corps Hq. to prepare for amphibious landing with 124th Inf. A.C.T. The platoon of 41 enlisted men is commanded by 2nd Lt. Norbert W. Peters.

A Co. alerted at 1900K by XI Corps Orders, to mobile reserve, ready to reinforce any flank on two-hour notice.

July 11: Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., S.O. 176, dated 10 July 44, trfd 2nd Lt. Raleigh L. Hammond, 08122790, to Det. of Pnts., 47th Gen. Hosp., A.P.O. 928.

July 12: 1st Platoon of Co. B, which was on the alert, was ordered to move by Precision Defense Commander, to reinforce 2nd and 3rd Platoons of B Co., now at the Precision Command. The 1st Platoon of 40 enlisted men and commanded by 2nd Lt. Edward H. McGovern, left Battalion Area at 1830K.

1st Platoon of Rcn. Co., consisting of 23 enlisted men and commanded by 2nd Lt. William R. Junkman, by orders of C.G. Eastern Forward area, were ordered to report to C.G. at the Eastern Forward area at the earliest possible moment. This platoon was equipped with 6 Cars Armored Light M-8's for this particular engagement.

A rehearsal of the occupation of the Battalion Perimeter Defense was held at 1815K. Results satisfactory.

At 2100K the men of the Rcn. Platoon were given instructions, by our S-3, Capt. David A. Marcelle, on the operation of the M-8's and their primary weapon, the 37mm. Gun. 1st Lt. Donald J. Stickler, instructed on communications, and 2nd Lt. Kenneth L. Savacool instructed on ammunition and sighting and aiming.

Pfc. Robert W. Kellner, 20653683, Co. B, awarded Purple Heart for wounds received in action at Aitape, New Guinea, on 10 July 1944, per General Orders No. 2, from Headquarters, 30th Evacuation Hosp., A.P.O. 705, dated 11 July 1944.

Pvt. George M. Smart, 31059682, of Rcn. Co., wounded in action. Slightly wounded on right forearm at Aitape, New Guinea, 2200K.

July 13: 1st Platoon of Rcn. Co. test-fired the 37mm. weapon on the M-8 at 0800K; by 0900K all vehicles and guns had been tested and had left the Battalion Area to report to the Commanding General at the Eastern Forward Command.

Radio message received at 1700K from Capt. F. E. Lang of Co. B, stating the number of casualties in his command:

Cpl. John V. Kellner, 20653682, LIA at Chakila, New Guinea, 1150K.

Tec 4 Clyde M. Ritchie, 34176722, SIA, at Chakila, New Guinea, 1120K.

Cpl. Jerome J. Runte, 20653974, LIA, at Chakila, New Guinea, 1120K.

Pvt. Florian E. Flayter, 20653641, SIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1145K.

Pfc. Thomas D. Sullivan, 36358840, LIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1120K.

Tec 5 James V. McLroy, 33092057, LIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1120K.

Pvt. Benjamin J. Marzullo, 31040762, LIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1125K.

Pfc. Arthur J. Wagner, 14055877, SIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1100K.

Pvt. William P. Stanley, 12096122, LIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1300K.

Pvt. Leroy L. Leitner, 20653963, Chakila, New Guinea, 1100K.

July 13 (Con.):

From Reconnaissance Co.:

- 1 Pfc. Ferdie J. Giroir, 34156165, LIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1150K.
- 2nd Lt. Milton J. Johnson, 0888303, KIA, Chakila, New Guinea, 1130K.

Two M-10 Destroyers from B Co. were put out of action at Chakila, at 1130K. Both returned under their own power to the Rear Echelon to be repaired, arriving at Rear Echelon Maintenance at 1900K.

✓ Pvt. Jasper H. Mathis, 3417703, LMA at Tiver, New Guinea, from Recn. Co.

July 14: The two M-10 Destroyers from B Co. which were put out of action on 13 July 44, were fully repaired and returned to the front at 0900K.

By orders of the C.G. of the Persecution Command, Co. A, consisting of 134 M and 5 Officers moved to the forward area. A Co. left Battalion Area at 1400K.

The Battalion S-3 Section and 25 M from Hq. Co. also left for forward area. Lt. Col. H. E. Fanning commands the Battalion's forward echelon.

Major M. P. Wang commands the Rear Echelon at Aitape, which consists of 10 Officers and 271 M.

Word was received from 1st Lt. Robert H. Tideman, at 2400K, Commanding A Co., that 4 men of his command were wounded at one mile west of Tiver:

Sgt. Chester J. Ranski, 20653572.

Tec 5 Alvin C. Plister, 33114036.

Pvt. Ronald E. Oliver, 35470741.

Pvt. Anthony J. Kubiak, 33317486.

Pvt. John A. Capone, 13056973, LMA, at Tiver, New Guinea, (from Recn. Co.).

July 15: By order of Lt. Col. Fanning, 1st Lt. Oliver L. Tucker and 22 men of Recn. Co. left for Forward Area at 1300K.

✓ Pvt. Robert H. Hoyle, 34176984, of Co. A, was wounded at Tiver, New Guinea, at 2200K.

✓ Sgt. Chester J. Ranski, 20653572, of Co. A, died at 2400K from wounds received in action at Tiver, New Guinea.

General Orders, Number 5, Hq. 30th Evacuation Hospital, dated 14 July, awarding the Purple Heart to the following members of our Battalion wounded in action near Aitape, New Guinea:

Tec 4 Clyde L. Ritchie, 34176722, of B Co.

Cpl. John V. Kellner, 20653682, of B Co.

Cpl. Jerome J. Munte, 20653974, of B Co.

Tec 5 James V. McElroy, 33092057, of B Co.

Pfc. Ferdie J. Giroir, 34156165, of Recn. Co.

Pfc. Thomas D. Sullivan, 36358846, of B Co.

Pfc. Arthur J. Wagner, 14055877, of B Co.

Pvt. Florian E. Flayter, 20653641, of B Co.

Pvt. William P. Stanley, 12098122, of B Co.

Pvt. Benjamin J. Marzullo, 31040716, of B Co.

July 16: Tec 5 Theodore P. Paulos, 33135696, of B Co., LMA at 0930K on Anamo Trail, New Guinea.

By order of Lt. Col. Fanning, 25 M of Recn. Co. left for Forward Area at 1300K, to be attached to B Co.

By order of C.G., 32nd Inf. Div., one machine gunner and one radio operator from Hq. Co. to man C.G.'s launch. The two men left Battalion Area at 1500K.

July 16 (Con.): Pvt. Robert H. Hoyle, 34176984, of A Co., died from wounds received in action at Tiver, New Guinea.

July 17: 1st Lt. Thomas E. Moehn and Tec Sgt. Ernest Brunk left for Battalion Forward C.P. at 1200K, by order of Battalion Commander.

Word was received from 1st Lt. John H. Hilton, Company Commander of A Co., of the following men of his Command who were wounded in action at Anamo, New Guinea, at 0315K:

S/Sgt George H. Wilson 32211705
Sgt John H. Lee 37111553
Cpl William H. Powell 36207907
Sgt Walter Medina 39005052
Pvt Robert S. Neushaw 13050830
Pvt Muriel H. Fridley 33092125

Headquarters US Forces, A.P.O. 705, dated 16 July 1944, evacuating the following men from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 322 for further treatment:

Tec 5 Alvin C. Plister Co. A
Pfc Ferdie J. Giroir Rcn. Co.
Pfc Arthur J. Wagner Co. B
Pvt Florian E. Flayter Co. B
Pvt Benjamin J. Marzullo Co. B
Pvt William P. Stanley Co. B

S/Sgt George H. Wilson, 32211705, of A Co., died at 1700K of wounds received in action at Anamo, New Guinea.

1st Lt. Kenneth A. Hallead, 02034677, relieved of duty with Headquarters Co. and assigned to duty with B Co.

Capt. Fred C. Welsh, Headquarters Co., returned from Forward area to take command of the assigned Battalion Defense Perimeter.

July 18: Headquarters US Forces, APO 705, Subject Letter, dated 17 July 1944, evacuating Pvt. Anthony J. Kubiak, 33317466, of A Co. from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 713-1.

Forward Ammo Dump and A and B Companies kitchens returned to the rear echelon.

Battalion Ammo Dump was established in the old show area and a 24-hour guard posted at 1800K.

Headquarters 32d Inf. Division, Special Orders No. 183, dated 17 July 1944, S/Sgt. Raymond A. Kruszka, 16006585, Hq. Co., 1st Bn., 127th Inf., trfd in gr. of private to 632nd T.D. Bn., Auth. M 615-200.

July 19: Hq. 32 Inf. Div., S.O. 184, dated 18 July 1944, trfd S/Sgt. Willard J. Haytun, 20655659, Tec 5 John F. McGinley, 13057043, of Rcn. Co., to Det. of Ints., 363 Sta. Hosp., A.P.O. 503.

20 July: 1st Platoon of C Co., commanded by 2nd Lt. Norbert Peters and LPO E. moved to Korako, New Guinea, at 0900K, by orders of General Clarence A. Martin. They will be attached to 2nd Bn., 126th Inf. Regt., for administration, quarters and rations. The platoon moved out in full combat equipment.

July 20: Hq. US Forces, A.P.O. 705, Subject Letter, dated 18 July 1944, evacuating the following men from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 322:

1st Sgt.	Manuel S. Prematta	33062472 Co. A
Pvt.	Melvin L. Jenkins	39003700 Co. A
Pvt.	Gregory J. Schultz	20653045 Co. A
Pvt.	Grafton H. Thompson	61387444 Aen. Co.

Message received from Capt. F. E. Lang that Tec 5 Forest C. Willkinson, 33092190, of Aen. Co., wounded near Driniumor River, by our own artillery, at 1800K.

Message (radio) from Capt. F. E. Lang: Pfc Donovan L. Clement, 20656300, of B Co., seriously wounded near Driniumor River, New Guinea, at 2150K.

Pvt. Walter H. Shively, 13050981, of Aen. Co., accidentally shot himself near Driniumor River, New Guinea, at 2215K.

July 21: 1st Lt. Eldon A. Haase, Hq. Co., left for forward area at 0900K, by orders of the Commanding Officer.

Subject Letter, dated 21 July 44, 30th Evac. Hosp., evacuating, 20 July 1944, from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 713:

Sgt	John N. Lee	37111553 Co. A
Pvt	Robert S. Meushaw	13050830 Co. A
Cpl	William H. Powell	36207907 Co. A
Pvt	Lauriel H. Fridley	33092125 Co. A
Pfc	Robert Q. Kellner	20653683 Co. B

July 22: Pvt. Abraham H. Wolf, 13050844, Aen. Co., LMA, by friendly mortar fire at Driniumor River.

2nd Lt. Omar B. George returned from Detached Service with 815th T.D. Bn., reporting to this headquarters at 0900K.

Hq. US Forces, A.P.O. 705, Sub. Ltr. dated 21 July 44, evacuating Sgt. Walter Medina, 39005050, Co. A, from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 713.

Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., S.O. 137, dated 21 July 44, trfd Det. of Pnts., 2nd Sta. Hosp., A.P.O. 713, Unit 1: Pvt. Joseph V. Myers, 38150539, of Co. B.

July 23: Hq. US Forces, A.P.O. 705, Sub. Ltr. dated 22 July 44, evacuating Pvt. John A. Capone, 13056973, Aen. Co., from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 322.

Hq. 30th Evacuation Hosp., General Orders 10, awarding the Purple Heart, to Pfc. Donovan L. Clement, 20650300, Co. B, for wounds received at Aitape, New Guinea.

Battalion S.O. 205, dated 23 July 44, relieving 2nd Lt. Edward H. McDoern, 01822810, of duty with Co. B and assigned to duty with Aen. Co.

Hq. 237th Station Hosp., General Order No. 14, awarding Tec 5 Alvin C. Blister, 33144686, of Co. A, the Purple Heart, for wounds received in action, 14 July 44, at Aitape, New Guinea.

1st Lt. Frank P. Dillon, 01165848 (repl) assigned to this Hq., by 32d Inf. Div., S.O. 163, dated 22 July 44, and Battalion S.O. No. 205, dated 23 July 44, assigning him to duty with B Co.

July 24: Hq. 30th Evac. Hosp., G.O. 11, dated 23 July 44, awarding the Purple Heart to Pvt. Abraham A. Wolf, 13050844, Aen. Co., for wounds received at Aitape, New Guinea.

Hq. 30th Evac. Hosp., G.O. 7, dated 16 July 44, awarding the Purple Heart to Pvt. Anthony J. Kubiak, 33317480, Co. A, for wounds received in action at Aitape, New Guinea.

Pvt. Donald M. Oliver, 35470741, Co. A, for wounds received in action at Aitape, New Guinea.

July 24 (Con.): Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., 23 July 1944, S.O. 189, par. 6, trfd. Det. of Pnts., 233d Sta. Hosp., A.P.O. 713, Unit 1: Pfc Roy A. Shadley, 33135001, Rcn. Co.

Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., S.O. 189, dated 23 July 1944, par. 8, Pvt. Walter C. Bailey, 37534344, asgd 32nd T.D. Bn.

July 25: Battalion S.O. 207, dated 25 July 1944, assigning Pvt. Walter C. Bailey, 37534349, repl., to Co. A for duty.

Battalion S.O. 207, dated 25 July 1944, appointing 2nd Lt. Omar B. George, Inventory Officer to inventory Battalion Canteen.

The following M. from Co. A trfd to Det. of Pnts., 32nd Station Hospital, A.P.O. 713:

Cpl. William H. Powell

Pvt. Muriel H. Fridley

Pvt. Robert S. Neushaw

Tec 5 Domenic Baldino, Co. C, trfd. Det. of Pnts., 47th Gen. Hosp., APO 928, 32nd Inf. Div., S.O. 190, dated 24 July 44.

July 26: Tec 5 Forest C. Wilkinson and Pvt. Abraham A. Wolf of Rcn. Co., evacuated from APO 705 to APO 322.

1st Platoon of Co. C, commanded by 2nd Lt. Norbert Peters, were relieved of duty with 2nd Bn. 126th Inf. and assigned to duty with 169th Inf., 43d Div. Their duties are to guard the Eastern Defense Perimeter.

July 27: Chaplain (Capt.) Robert L. Michalski returned to our Battalion per par. 7 S.O. 193, 32nd Inf. Div., dated 27 July 44. Capt. Michalski was placed on special duty with 126th Inf., 20 December 1943.

A letter of commendation was received from Hq. 815th T.D. Bn., dated 21 July 1944, commending 2nd Lt. Omar B. George of Co. C and eight M. from our Battalion, for the excellent manner of performance of their work in connection with the school in Operation and Maintenance of the M - 10's. As a result, the letter stated, the 815th T.D. Bn. benefitted greatly in the knowledge acquired by their Officers and men. The following M. accompanied Lt. George:

H/Sgt. Robert A. Goldenstedt Hq. Co.

Tec 4 Perry L. Flury

Tec 4 Samuel H. Goodenough

Tec 4 Frank Sarmiento Hq. Co.

Tec 5 Edward A. Loveland

Pfc James D. Langford

Pvt. Frank G. Iacovini

Pvt. Jack H. Peters

Col. Fanning forwarded the letter by indorsement to the C.O.'s of Hq. and Co. B and to the M. concerned, stating that he did so with pleasure and pride, adding that the fact there was no time available for organization and preparation of the course, made the results obtained the more commendable, thus indicating the fine spirit and cooperation which exists in all units of the Battalion. Col. Fanning directed that copies of the commendation be attached to the Officers Form 66 - 1 and to the service records of the M. concerned.

July 28: Having reported to this headquarters, per S.O. No. 183, 32nd Inf. Div., dated 17 July 44, Pvt. Raymond A. Kruska, 16006585, assigned to Co. B for duty.

July 29: Hq. US Forces, APO 705, dated 26 July 44, evacuating the following men from APO 705 to APO 322:

Pfc Donovan L. Clement B Co.

Pvt. Roy L. Seroogy Rcn Co.

Pvt. W. R. Shively, 13056981, Rcn Co. evacuated from APO 705 to APO 713 27 July 44.

Pvt. K. W. Huckleberry, 36454900, A Co, evacuated from 30 Evac. Hosp. APO 705 to 54th Evac. Hosp., 27 July 44.

July 29 (Con.): The Battalion Forward CP moved from its original position 1 1/2 miles west of Tiver to 200 yards west of Tiver, New Guinea.

Rcn Co. kitchen moved to forward CP and set up kitchen installation.

July 30. By direction of the President, the Silver Star was awarded posthumously, by the Commanding General, XI Corps, to 2nd Lt. Milton J. Johnson, 0888303, of Rcn Co. For gallantry in action east of Chakila, New Guinea, on 13 July 44.

July 31: Strength of Battalion as of 31 July 44: 37 Officers, 1 WO, and 800 EM.

August 2: Headquarters, Fifth Replacement Depot, USAFPM, A.P.O. 711, dated 17 July, asgd 2nd Lt. James A. Fitzsimons, 01822690, P.A., T.D., to this Battalion.

August 3: 1st Lt. Eldon A. Halse, Hq. Co., returned to Rear Echelon from forward area.

August 4: Pvt. Donald M. Oliver, 35470741, Co. A, evacuated from APO 705 to APO 713-1, 2 August 1944.

The S-1, S-2, S-3 and Personnel sections moved into new quarters at 1800h. A large hospital tent was erected and all sections will be together. This will facilitate closer cooperation between all sections.

August 5: The Battalion A.P.O. address was changed from A.P.O. 32 to A.P.O. 705. There will be no noticeable delay in our mails due to this alteration.

August 6: By direction of the President, the Silver Star was awarded by the C.G., XI Corps, 4 August 1944, to Pvt. Daniel H. Fridley, 33094125, of Co. A. For gallantry in action and conspicuous bravery near Anano, New Guinea, on 17 July 1944.

By direction of the President, the Silver Star was awarded by C.G., XI Corps, 4 August 1944, to Pfc. Walter H. Tiggert, 20039477, Medical Detachment. For gallantry in action and conspicuous bravery under hazardous conditions near Anano, New Guinea, on 17 July 1944.

By direction of the President, the Bronze Star was awarded by the C.G., XI Corps, 4 August 1944, to Sgt. John H. Lee, 37111353, of Co. A. For gallantry in action near Anano, New Guinea, 7 July 1944.

Hq. Base A, Gense, Special Orders No. 211, dated 20 July 1944, trfd. 2nd Lt. Malcolm L. Hammond, 01822790, from 47th Gen. Hosp. to this organization.

August 7: Major J. J. Krystowiak, our Personnel Adjutant, left by plane for Sidor at 1130K. Mr. Krystowiak will pay the Rear Echelon troops of the 3rd Inf. Div. and Co. C of our Battalion.

Capt. James A. Zerneck, 0402210, and 2nd Lt. Kenneth L. Dillie, 0203440, who were on the June rotation quota, left Battalion area at 1800h to board liberty ship "James Goodhue," enroute to Milne Bay.

August 8: Battalion Special Orders 221, dated 8 August 44, assigning Capt. Herbert J. Zerneck, as Battalion S-1, vice Capt. Carl P. Taber, trfd.

The 2nd Platoon of Co. B, commanded by 1st Lt. Walter C. Verlander, returned to rear echelon for a rest. They had been in action since 16 June 1944, and well deserved the rest.

The 1st Platoon of Co. C, commanded by 2nd Lt. Norbert P. Peters, relieved the 2nd Platoon of Co. B, and occupied their positions in the forward area. Prior to this the 1st Platoon, Co. C, had been attached to 109th Inf., 43rd Inf. Div.

Four officers of this Battalion received promotions: 1st Lt. Thomas M. Boehn, Bn. Hq., promoted to Captain; 2nd Lt. Robert A. Greening, A Co., promoted to 1st Lt.; 2nd Lt. Kenneth L. Sawcoo, A Co., promoted to 1st Lt.; 2nd Lt. William A. Clark, Rcn Co., promoted to 1st Lt. latter 6th Army P.O. 211, date 2 Aug 1944.

August 10: Capt. Thomas E. Moehn, Bn. S-2, and 1st Lt. William R. Junken, Rcn. Co., left on a special mission by P.T. Boat. The Officers were accompanied by two and two native boys. They will make a reconnaissance of the area east of Yakumul.

August 11. The 1st Platoon of Co. A, commanded by 2nd Lt. Michael B. Miner, were attached to 1st Bn., 126th Inf., for a special mission. The 1st Platoon proceeded east to Yakumul this morning.

B Co. and 1st Platoon of Co. C reverted to Battalion control at 1300K. They will leave forward area at 1300K and return to rear area at 1400K.

August 12: By direction of the President, a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, XI Corps, to Pvt Robert S. Meushaw, 13050690, of Co. A. For gallantry in action and conspicuous bravery near Anamo, New Guinea, on 17 July 44.

2nd Lt. Raleigh L. Hammond rejoined the Battalion and was attached unassigned to Headquarters Co.

August 13: Major Malvin P. Wang left Battalion area at 1230K, for leave to the United States.

August 14: WOJG J. J. Krystowiak, Tec Sgt William E. Boushon and Tec Sgt Stanley Sheldon, returned from Saidor by plane and arrived in Battalion area at 0930K.

August 13: Capt. Thomas E. Moehn of Bn. Hq., 1st Lt. William R. Junken, 3 Sgt Fred G. Liebman and Tec 5 Forrest B. Chaffin of Rcn. Co. returned from a very successful patrol mission East of Yakumul, New Guinea.

August 14: 1st Lt. Benjamin O. Pascoe, Rcn. Co., evacuated from APO 705 to APO 322, 12 August 1944.

August 15: A Co., left forward area at 1123K and returned to Battalion control, arriving Tadji Plantation at 1243K.

August 16: Lt. Col. H. M. Fanning, Capt. David A. Marcelle, S-2 & 3 section, and the remainder of Hq. Co. and Rcn. Co. returned to Battalion area, from Forward C.P., at 0810K. All units of this Battalion are now under Battalion control.

Two platoons of C Co. still remain at Saidor, New Guinea, under the command of 1st Lt. James C. Sawyer.

Battalion S.O. 229, dated 16 August 44, 2nd Lt. Raleigh L. Hammond, 08122796, attached unassigned to Hq. Co., is assigned to Rcn. Co. for duty.

August 17: 3 Sgt Marvin R. Schumacher, 20656868, and Tec 5 Clayton A. Patterson, 20652646, of the Medical Det., are rel'd of duty with 107th Med. Bn. Malaria control group and of attach to Hq Det, 107th Med. Bn., per S.O. 213, Hq. 32nd Inf Div., dated 16 August 1944.

August 18: 1st Lt. Harold E. Bell, relieved of duties as Co. Commander of Rcn. Co. and atchd unassigned to Bn. Hq.

1st Lt. Eldon A. Haase rel'd of duties with Hq. and assigned Co. Commander of Rcn. Co.

1st Lt. Oliver M. Tucker, relieved of duty with Rcn. Co. and assigned Hq. Co. as Bn. Liaison Officer. In addition to his other duties, Lt. Tucker is also assigned Bn. P.A. Officer, Bn. Claims Officer, Investigating Officer, Bn. Summary Court Officer, and Bn. Survey Officer.

1st Lt. Donald J. Stickler assigned Bn. Communication Officer and in addition as Special Service Officer.

1st Lt. Robert A. Storts rel'd of duty as Asst. Bn. Liaison Officer and assigned Hq. Co. In addition to his other duties, Lt. Storts is also assigned Bn. Liaison Officer.

August 18 (Con.): A meeting of all Bn. Officers was held at 1100K, Bn. Hq. The training schedule for the next 4 to 6 weeks was discussed and the plans formulated. The training schedule will take effect 21 August 1944. The afternoons will remain open for recreational purposes.

A Retreat Formation will be held by all companies, Monday through Friday at 1700K.

August 20: Memorial Services in honor of those in this Bn. who gave their lives for their country were conducted by Chaplain Michalski at the Bn. Theater, 0930K, with all companies in attendance.

August 23: M Sgt Robert Goldenstedt, Hq. Co., appeared before XI Corps, Promotion Board, at 1900K. M Sgt Goldenstedt has been recommended for Warrant Officer, Junior Grade.

Capt. Raymond K. Hirsch, 0347181, relieved of temporary duty with Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., and asgnt 632nd T.D. Bn. and asgd to 32nd Inf. Div.

rvt Winfield L. Alexander, 38532160, Co. D, 126th Inf., trfd to 632nd T.D. Bn. per Special Orders 218, Hq. 32nd Inf. Div., dated 21 August 1944.

August 24: Pvt Muriel H. Fridley, 33092125, Co. A, awarded the Purple Heart, for wounds received in action at Aitape, New Guinea, on 17 July 1944. 363d Station Hospital, General Orders No. 10, dated 19 August 1944.

Pvt Walter R. Shively, 13056981, Rcn. Co., awarded Purple Heart, for wounds received in action, Aitape, New Guinea, 20 July 1944. 363d Station Hospital, General Orders No. 10, dated 19 August 1944.

August 25: Special Orders, No. 92, Headquarters XI Corps. APO 471, dated 25 August 1944, appointing M Sgt Robert W. Goldenstedt, 20653311, Hq. Co., as WOJG AUS.

Special Orders, No. 238, Hq. 632nd T.D. Bn., 25 August 1944, assigning WOJG Robert W. Goldenstedt, W2107089, to Headquarters Co. with principal duty as Assistant Maintenance, Repair and Automotive Officer.

August 28: One Officer and 29 Enlisted Men left on a 15-day furlough to Australia. Air transportation was provided from Taji Airport at 0930K.

August 29: Sixth Army Inspectors inspected the records and files of this Battalion. Prior to inspection all 1st Sgts. records were inspected.

August 31: Capt. Carl P. Tabor, 0367281, and 1st Lt. Benjamin O. Pascoe, 0888197, returned to duty, arriving this Battalion 1030K.

Strength of Battalion as of 31 August 44, 33 Officers, 2 WOJG, and 780 Em.

September 1: Letter of Commendation from Maj. Gen. Gill, Hq., 32nd Inf. Div., dated 21 Aug 44, received by CO on the outstanding performance of Rcn. Co. in long range patrolling during the period 16 May - 24 July 44 in the Aitape, New Guinea, area. The leadership, energy, initiative and determination displayed by 1st Lt. Junkman, 1st Lt. Pascoe and 2nd Lt. Johnson in the performance of their first combat missions was termed as being of superior caliber. The excellent physical condition of the men and the conduct of both officers and men in performing missions not ordinarily required of T.D. personnel, was also commended. Col. Fanning added his indorsement, instructing that this commendation be published to the entire Battalion, and added that justifications of these commendations was occasioned by the hard work, energy, professional knowledge and determination to "do it better" which is always in evidence on the part of all when tackling a job. He stated that the "big one" is coming up and that he looked forward to it with pride and confidence in our ability to do the job in the same superior manner.

Sept. 1: 1st Lt. Robert R. Tideman, 088198, is relieved of duty and assignment with Company A, and is hereby attached unassigned to Battalion Headquarters.

Sept. 2: The following men from this Battalion were transferred to 112th Q.M. Bakery Co., per S.O. No. 66, Hq. U.S. Forces, A.P.O. 705, dated 31 Aug 44:

Hq. Co. - Pvt Jack E. Steadman	20734224
A Co. - Pvt David J. Hepworth	20634621
Pvt Edwin J. Schexmeyer	38484906
B Co. - Pvt Robert N. Yates, Jr.	33560037
Pvt Robert B. McLeroy	34136681

Sept. 4: Hq 32d Inf Div, APO 32, G.O. 67, dated 30 Aug 44: By direction of the President, under provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 Feb. 1944, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 32d Inf Div to Maj Malvin P. Wang, 0226855, 632d TD Bn. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in New Guinea from 21 December 1943 to 17 Feb. 1944.

Spec. Orders 248, dated 4 Sept 44, 1st Lt. Robert R. Tideman, 0888198, atchd unasn'd to Bn Hq, is reasn'd to Co A.

Capt Francis E. Cornwell, 0406121, is relieved of duty as Bn. S-4 and atchd unasn'd to Bn. Hq.

1st Lt. Harold E. Bell, 0372043, atchd unag'd, is asgd to Bn. Hq, with principal duty as Bn. S-4.

Sept. 5: Radio Message WH 928, from CG Alamo Force, APO 712, to issue orders transferring personnel selected under the June, July and August Rotation Quota, to Rotation Detachment, Base F, APO 322, for purpose of awaiting further orders for return to the United States. The total personnel from June, July and August Quotas, from this Battalion, is 2 Officers and 79 EM.

C Co. arrived from Saidor, by Liberty Ship, and personnel debarked at 1300K, reaching Battalion Area at 1400K.

Sept. 6: Four EM left Aitape for furlough to Australia, by air transportation. Hq. 1, A 1, Rcn. 1, C 1.

Headquarters U.S. Forces, APO 705, Subject Letter dated 5 Sept 1944, evacuating 1st Lt. John E. Hilton, 04551610, A Co., from APO 705 to APO 713, Unit 1.

Sept. 7: 75 EM of this Battalion, transferred to 43d Inf. Division, per Special Orders No. 68, Hq., US Forces, A.P.O. 705, dated 4 Sept 1944. Auth: Radio WH 733, Hq. Alamo Force, 3 Sept 44. Hq. Co: 15 EM. A Co: 27 EM. B Co: 28 EM. C Co: 5 EM.

Sept. 7: 1st Lt. Oliver M. Tucker, 0359430, assigned as Acting Adjutant, vice Capt. Herbert J. Zernecke, 0398322, transferred. 1st Lt. Robert R. Tideman, 0888198, assigned C.O. of Co. A, vice 1st Lt. John J. Hilton, 0431610, transferred.

Sept. 8: Hq. 632nd T.D. Bn., A.P.O. 705, S.Q. 252, dated 8 Sept 44, awarding the order of the Purple Heart to the following men:

Pfc Jasper M. Mathis, Rcn. Co. For wound received in action at Tiver, New Guinea, on 13 July 1944.

Pvt George M. Smart, Rcn. Co. For wounds received in action at Anamo, New Guinea, on 12 July 1944.

Five EM of this Bn., left on furlough to the U.S. from Tadjil Airport at 1030I: Hq. Co., 1EM; A Co., 2 EM; B Co., 2 EM.

Sept. 9: By direction of the President, the Silver Star is awarded by C.G., U.S. Forces, A.P.O. 705, to the following named Officers and EM of this Bn:

Rcn. Co. 1st Lt. William R. Junkman (0888272)
S Sgt Fred G. Liebman (2065507)
Tec 5 Forrest B. Chaffin (36110112)

For gallantry in action near Marubian, New Guinea, from 10 August 44 to 13 August 44. Hq. U.S. Forces, APO 705, S.O. No. 31, dated 7 Sept 44.
Hq. 632nd T.D. Bn., S.O. 253, dated 9 Sept 44 transferred 18 EM of Co C to the following Companies:

Co A - 6 EM
Co B - 2 EM
Rcn Co- 10 EM

Sept. 11: Hq. US Army Forces in the Far East, APO 501, S.O. No. 238, dated 28 Aug 44, promoting 1st Lt. John E. Hilton, 0451610, to the rank of Captain.

Sept. 12: 2nd Lt. Edward H. McGovern, 01822816, Rcn., evacuated from APO 705 to APO 713, Unit 1. Hq. US Forces, APO 705.

Capt. Herbert J. Zernecke, and Capt. Francis E. Cornwell, left on Rotation to the U.S. Seventy-eight EM from this Bn., on Rotation to the States, left the Bn. Area at 0915T. Before the men left the area, 1st Lt. Tucker gave a farewell talk, expressing for the Colonel, who was unable to be present, appreciation for the fine spirit and cooperation shown by the men while under his command, and conveyed the Colonel's best wishes for their future welfare.

Sept. 13: The following Officers will attend a school, 14 Sept 44, on Bomb Reconnaissance Refresher Course:

Hq. Co. - 1st Lt. Robert H. Storts
A Co. - 1st Lt. Robert W. Greening
B Co. - 1st Lt. Randolph V. Foster
C Co. - 1st Lt. Denis J. Illige
Rcn Co. - 1st Lt. Benjamin J. Pascoe

The course will be conducted by Capt. Kovar, Hq. 32d Inf Div.

Sept. 15: S Sgt Howard S. Bertram, 3620885, Co B, received Battle Field promotion to the rank of 2nd Lt. Authority of Commission, par. 6, S.O. 252, Hq. USAFFE, dated 11 Sept 44. 2nd Lt. Howard S. Bertram, 01686308, assigned to Co A, per S.O. 259, Hq. 632d TD Bn., dated 15 Sept 44.

2nd Lt. Raleigh L. Hammond, 08122796, TD/FA, Rcn. Co. placed on temporary duty with 32d Rcn. Troop, par. 3, S.O. 74, Hq. US Forces, APO 705, dated 15 Sept 44.

Sept. 16: General Orders No. 33, Hq. US Forces, APO 705, dated 10 Sept 44 the Silver Star awarded to Sgt Hubert S. Roush, 37111513, Rcn. Co. for gallantry in action near Chakila, New Guinea, on 13 July 1944.

Sept. 17: Sgt Hubert S. Roush, Rcn. Co., received Battle Field promotion to the rank of 2nd Lt. Authority of commission par. 5, S.O. 254, Hq. USAFFE, 13 Sept 44. 2nd Lt. Roush, 01686322, assigned to Hq. Co. and placed on TD with Rcn.

Sept. 20: 1st Lt. Robert H. Storts appointed Inventory Officer to inventory Battalion Canteen 26 Sept 1944.

Capt. Carl P. Tabor, 0367281, evacuated from APO 705 to APO 322. Hq. U.S. Forces, APO 705, dated 20 Sept 44.

Sept. 21: Pfc James B. King, 33091737, Co. B, evacuated from APO 705 to APO 322. Pfc Edward J. Lemke, 36208967, Co. A, evacuated from APO 705 to APO 322. Hq. US Forces, APO 705, dated 21 Sept 44.

Sept. 23: This Battalion was alerted for possible move. A meeting of all Company Commanders and Battalion Officers was held at 1100I at the S-3 Office.

Sept. 25: Hq. USAFFE, APO 501, Special Orders 259, dated 18 Sept 1944, promoting 1st Lt. John M. Thompson, 09114067, to the rank of Captain.
Hq. US Forces, APO 705, dated 22 Sept 1944, evacuating Capt. Thomas E. Moehn, 0245244, from APO 705 to APO 322.

Hq. USAFFE, APO 501, Special Orders 261, dated 20 Sept 1944, promoting 1st Lt. Harold E. Bell, 0372043, to the rank of Captain.

Sept 26: Hq. USAFFE, S.O. 261, dated 20 September 1944, promoting 2nd Lt. Norbert F. Peters, 0888199, Co C, to the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

Sept. 27: Hq. USAFFE, S.O. 262, dated 21 Sept 1944, promoting 1st Lt. James C. Sawyer, 0450113, Co C, to the rank of Captain.

Sept 28: 2nd Lt. Raleigh L. Hammond, 01522796, Rcn. Co., evacuated from APO 705 to APO 713, Hq. U.S. Forces, APO 705, dated 26 Sept. 44.

Sept 29: Letter, Headquarters 38th Inf Div, APO 38, dated 24 September, assigning the following Officers to this Battalion:

1st Lt. Roger M. Bercaw	01822316
1st Lt. Harry A. Best, Jr.	0322074
1st Lt. Milton J. Bojdak	01822348
1st Lt. Donald L. Kelley	01823457
1st Lt. James A. McLelland	01163371
1st Lt. Charles E. Myers	01824901

On 24 Sept 1944 this Battalion received 30 half tracks from the Force Ordnance Depot, APO 705.

1st Lt. Randolph V. Foster, 0451595, Co B, proceeded from APO 705 to APO 324 for purpose of acting as Liaison Officer. Letter Hq. 43rd Inf. Div., dated 28 Sept 1944.

Sept. 30: One Officer and 14 EM from this Battalion were alerted to leave, on the September Rotation Quota, for return to the U.S.

Strength of the Battalion at the close of the month: 30 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers, 620 EM.

October 2: Headquarters, 5th Repl. Depot, APO 711, Special Orders 231, dated 25 September 1944, assigning 2nd Lt. James R. Fitzsimons, 01822690, to this Battalion.

Headquarters, 5th Repl. Depot, APO 711, Special Orders 230, dated 24 September 1944, assigning 1st Lt. Pascal Adamo, 01822972, and 2nd Lt. Wendell T. Blevins, 01822769, to this Battalion.

October 3: The September Rotation Quota was alerted to depart for the Rotation Detachment, APO 565.

1st Lt. Benjamin O. Pascoe, 0888197, evacuated and transferred from 37th Station Hospital, APO 705.

October 4: September Rotation Quota, 12 Enlisted Men left Battalion area at 0600I, to board plane for transportation to APO 565. One Officer, 1st Lt. Robert W. Greening, and two Enlisted Men left on furlough to the United States.

Having reported to this Headquarters, per Radiogram, Sixth Army, dated 22 September 1944, the following Officers were assigned to the following organizations:

Headquarters Company

1st Lt Emil C. Rassmann 01823484

Company A

1st Lt Harry A. Best, Jr. 0322074

1st Lt James A. McLelland 01168371

Company B

1st Lt Roger M. Bercaw 01822316

Rcn. Co.

1st Lt Milton J. Bojdek 01822348

1st Lt Charles E. Myers 01824901

October 5: Having reported to this organization, per 4th Ind., Hq. 6th Army, 25 September 1944, Captain Theo W. Jordan, 01166523, is hereby assigned to Hq. Co. with principal duty as Liaison Officer.

October 6: The Battalion stood formation in the area immediately across the road from Battalion Headquarters at 1600I to hear a speech of farewell addressed to this organization by General Gill. The General thanked the Battalion for the splendid job it had done while attached to the 32nd Infantry Division and expressed regret that we were no longer with the division. He expressed best wishes for good luck and success in future operations, stating that he was well aware of the fact that this organization knew our work as Tank Destroyers and that he was confident success would be ours. Following his speech, General Gill presented Captain Moehn the Silver Star medal.

6 Oct 44 to 9 Oct 44: During the period of 6th Oct to 9 Oct the Battalion made preparations for leaving the Battalion Area and boarding LST's at Aitape. All Company - Battalion Installations were taken down and all vehicles combat loaded. The destroyers were moved from the Battalion Area to an area near the LST loading slips. All plans for the loading of the troops and vehicles were completed.

10 Oct 44: The Battalion was alerted with C Co. moving out first, followed by B and A Co.'s. C Co. left Battalion Area at 1000I, B Co. at 1030I and A Co. at 1100I. Hq. Co. and Rcn. Co. were divided into three groups and detached to A, B, and C Co.'s.

The noon and evening meals were served at the usual time.

Three LST's were assigned to the Battalion: LST 458 docked at 1305I, LST 459 at 1315I and LST 469 at 1240I. Preparations for the loading of vehicles and bulk stores were immediately taken. A Co. was assigned LST 458, B Co. LST 459, and C Co. LST 469. Details were numerous and loading continued throughout the night.

11 Oct 44: By 0600I the loading of the ships was almost completed. Due to a damaged Ramp LST 459 was not completely loaded, and returned to Hollandia at 1000I to make repairs. Another LST was to be sent to complete the loading of C Co.

At 1130I the personnel of A Co. boarded ship and loading rosters checked.

Personnel aboard LST's:

LST 458

Off 16
A 116
Rcn 63
Hq 36
Med 8

LST 459

Off 10
C 118
Rcn 21
Hq 67
Med 2

LST 469

Off 7
B 114
Rcn 21
Hq 2
Med 2

At 1340I LST 459 pulled away from the beach and anchored in Aitape Harbor. At 1437I LST 458 left beach and anchored. At 1800I the ships left the harbor and proceeded for Hollandia.

12 Oct 44: By 0600I we had reached Hollandia and dropped anchor by 0615I. The ships beached at 0815I to take on additional personnel and equipment.

After taking aboard 1 D-8 Tractor, and one Officer and 5 Enlisted Men, LST again dropped anchor in Hollandia Harbor at 1230I.

Capt. Thomas E. Moehn boarded LST 458 at 0315I, after having returned to Aitape for the remainder of C Co.

13 Oct 44: Hq 632nd T.D. Bn., S.O. 287, dated 13 Oct 44, relieving 1st Lt. Emil C. Rassmann of duty with Hq Co. and assigned to B Co. for duty.

S.O. 287, relieving 2nd Lt. Michael B. Miner of duty with A Co. and assigned to Hq Co. with principal duty as Liaison Officer.

S.O. 287, appointing 1st Lt. Randolph V. Foster as C.O. of B Co., vice Capt. Francis E. Lang, transferred.

At 0900I the personnel had their first of a series of orientation lectures. The lecture was given by 1st Lt. Robert R. Tideman of A Co. The talk was of a general outline of our objective and what was to be expected and encountered. Further lectures will be more in detail giving the troops a clearer picture and thorough understanding of our mission.

The A.P.O. address of this Battalion has been changed from A.P.O. 705 to A.P.O. 72.

The Convoy was beginning to form and at 1500I our ship lifted anchor and proceeded to join the Convoy. As darkness settled strict regulations were laid down for blackout security. For the duration of the voyage life belts were to be carried at all times.

BATTALION HISTORY

14 Oct 44: Early morning found us well out at sea, having left the New Guinea coast line during the night. Weather: "Light rains with low overhanging clouds." Morale: "The morale and spirits of the men is very high."

Care and maintenance of vehicles and weapons is a part of the daily schedule. The Nave announced at 1500I that our ship had just crossed the Equator.

15 Oct 44: Various classes were held throughout the day on Motor Maintenance and lectures on Leyte Island in the Philippines. Around 1600I our Convoy was joined by another Convoy coming from the Southeast.

16 Oct 44: Routine duties.

17 Oct 44: Routine duties.

18 Oct 44: Routine duties.

19 Oct 44: Speed has been reduced as we are nearing our objective. At 2400I the Convoy was within a 60-mile radius of our objective. At 1715I Blackout, everyone required to wear helmets and life jackets until landing.

20 Oct 44: Early breakfast at 0500I. Preparations were started immediately for landing the vehicles. At 0625I a lone Japanese plane was sighted. There was intense anti-aircraft fire. Later report plane was destroyed at 0635I fire ceased. At 0700I the Navy started to shell our objective. Navy planes are overhead for protective aircover. At 0830I the assault waves started to form. At 0915I our ship dropped anchor-at 0945I anchor was lifted. At 0950I rocket boats shelled the beach.

At 1100I our ship beached withdrawing at 1130I. The water was shallow and the ship could not reach shore. Two other attempts were made at 1300I withdrawing at 1315I, also at 1335I withdrawing at 1350I. One other attempt was made and the ship could not beach, withdrew at 1445I and dropped anchor in the bay.

21 Oct 44: After standing out in the bay overnight, at 0915I the first of the vehicles from the tank deck were loading on to LCT 990. The LCT was loaded and at 0935I departed to unload at the beach landing point. At 1130I LST 458 moved to the beach. Pontoons were put in extending from the ship to shore. By 0200I the pontoon bridge was in readiness and the first of the vehicles reached shore at 1415I. By 1600I the ship was unloaded of vehicles. By 1800I all bulk stores had been taken in shore and placed in Battalion Dump. The Battalion assembled in Battalion Assembly Area for the night. At 1910I Air-raid alert was sounded, raid lasted until 1925I. During the night there was intense Artillery fire from Artillery units near our assembly area.

22 Oct 44: At 1205I C Co. moved out to take up position in new Battalion Assembly area, with the rest of the Battalion following. C.P. group arrived at Battalion Assembly Area at 1415I. Due to small arms firing in vicinity the C.P. was moved. 01 and 06 left at 1530I to pick out new assembly area. Battalion arrived at new area at 1615I. By nightfall all companies were in area and defense perimeter was established. At 1600I, C Co. moved to Palao for possible mission.

23 Oct 44: The Battalion again moved to new assembly area on outskirts of Palao at 1500I.

Word was received from Capt. Sawyer, C Co., 2nd Platoon C Co. knocked out five Japanese pill-boxes. Time of mission 1310I to 1530I. Air strike was placed on same area approximately 1 hour later. Approximately 30 Japs killed. Location, B 0010 L 0060.

*C Co - support of 19th Oct
vicinity of Palao*

BATTALION HISTORY

23 Oct 44 (Cont'd): A Co. 2nd Platoon assigned to 34th R.C.T., south of vicinity of Pawling.

24 Oct 44: During the morning three air raids took place with intense anti-aircraft fire. An unestimated number of Japanese aircraft were destroyed by U.S. Navy planes in the vicinity. At 1600I a disturbance was caused amongst the Filipino natives. A Japanese booby-trap placed in a native home was set off, killing three people and wounding two. Those injured were treated by the Battalion Surgeon. To lessen confusion amongst the civilian population in our Battalion vicinity, the people were gathered in a group. Guards were placed around our entire perimeter. Sniper fire was prevalent throughout the day.

25 Oct 44: At 0720 air-raid alert was sounded and a lone Japanese plane was sighted. Raid ceased at 0725I. The natives in this vicinity were given food and water. At 0835I, three Jap planes appeared, one Jap plane destroyed, no bombs dropped in our area. Raid ceased at 0840I.

Pvt. John T. Leaver, 35095729, Hq. Co., LWA at 1500I, Palo, Leyte, P.I.

Pfc. Thomas T. Hannigan, 36629511, Hq. Co., SWA, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile North of Palo, Leyte, P.I.

Four men of Co. C were slightly wounded by sniper fire, at the Co. C.P. in vicinity of Palo.

Sgt Frank J. Urban, 33134528.

Tec 4 John A. Facter, 13057086.

Cpl Lonnie G. Simpson, 34166557.

Pvt Peter P. Johnson, 36208671.

26 Oct 44: 3rd Platoon of Co. A left Battalion assembly area at 0830I to take up a position of readiness, in support of 34th R.C.T. Battalion C.P. moved to new assembly area, 1500I, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile West of Palo.

At 1815 air raid with intense anti aircraft fire. Pvt. George D. Meyers, 39131578, A Co., SWA, during the air raid. He was treated by Battalion Surgeon and immediately taken to the hospital.

27 Oct 44: During the day the Battalion was prepared to move to new assembly area. Due to congested road conditions it was decided to stay in present position for the night.

28 Oct 44: At 0615I, 3rd Platoon of A Co. and S-1 moved to find new assembly area. By 0930I an area had been selected. Due to bridges being repaired, along route of march, a further reconnaissance was made for new area. A position was selected East of Alangalang. At 1430I the first of the vehicles arrived by 1700I. All vehicles were in area and defense perimeter set up.

29 Oct 44: The following Officer and men of C Co. were awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action at Palo, Leyte, P.I., on 25 October 1944. Special Orders No. 303 dated 29 Oct. 44: 1st Lt. Norbert F. Peters

Sgt Frank J. Urban

Cpl Lonnie G. Simpson

Tec 4 John A. Fichter

Pvt Peter R. Johnson

The Headquarters Rear Echelon moved from Palo at 0630I, and established Rear Echelon Headquarters in vicinity of Alangalang.

A heavy wind and rain storm occurred during the night. The road and area of our assembly area is full of water and almost impassable for vehicles.

BATTALION HISTORY

30 Oct 44: At 1115I the Battalion moved to a new location. Enroute the column was held up for approximately ten minutes by sniper fire. Arrived in new assembly area, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile northwest of Jaro, at 0915I. Patrols from Hcn and C Co's were sent out to cover and investigate our new area.

1 Nov 44: Headquarters, 36th Evac. Hospital, APO 72, S.O. 60, dated 30 Oct 44, trfd Pvt George D. Meyers, 39131578, A Co, to Det of Pnts, 36th Evac Hosp.

2 Nov 44: The Battalion moved from assembly area northwest of Jaro at 0830I. Arrived new assembly area, at Tunga at 0850I.

1st Lt Frank P Dillon, 01165848, B Co, attached unassigned to 58th Evac Hosp, APO 72, dated 29 Oct 44.

3 Nov 44: C Co moved from Battalion assembly at 1500I, to Jaro. C Co will be in support of the 19th RCT. The Co may have a fire mission early this evening. Fired harassing fire during night.

4 Nov 44: The CO of C Co reported an expenditure of 371 rounds of IIE ammunition during the night.

The elements of C Co, at the Battalion CP, moved at 1530I and rejoined C Co at its CP North of Jaro.

5 Nov 44: C Co rejoined the Battalion, first elements arriving at 1530I. C Co spent two days at Jaro on a firing mission, in support of the 19th RCT.

6 Nov 44: Left assembly area, at Tunga, 0915I, and arrived newly selected area near Carigara, at 1000I. A Co rejoined Battalion, arriving assembly area 1030I.

7 Nov 44: S Sgt James P. Montgomery, 39299373, A Co, slightly wounded, accidental gun-shot, at 0700I, Carigara, Leyte, P.I.

8 Nov 44: Per SO 311, dtd 6 Nov 1944, 1st Lt Randolph V. Foster, reld of dy as CO of B Co and asgd to B Co for dy. Having rptd to this Hq, Capt Francis E. Lang, asgd CO of B Co. VOCC, 1st Lt Emil C Rassman, reld dy with B Co and atchd unasgd to Hq Co.

A heavy wind and rain-storm, which lasted approximately 36 hours, causing considerable damage to roads and bridges.

9 Nov 44: Hcn Patrol returning at 1745I reported shell fire in Carigara Bay. Firing was investigated and found to be friendly mortar fire.

10 Nov 44: SO 315, dtd 10 Nov 44, 1st Lt Emil C Rassman, 01823484, aptd Bn Adj, vice 1st Lt Oliver M Tucker, 0359458, aptd Bn Postal O, vice MSG Joseph J. Krystowiak, reld.

11 Nov 44: SO 67, dtd 6 Nov 44, Hq, 36th Evac Hosp, evacuating Tec 4 Frank L. Muracco, 31040312, Hq Co.

A Co patrol returned at 0830I with negative report. Natives reported Japs were in hills about a week ago. One rd of small arms delivered in their direction from unknown source.

Hcn Ptl No. 1 returned at 1145I with native reports that Japs had been living in native huts two days ago in vic Rajhalu. Huts were investigated and report confirmed.

BATTALION HISTORY

12 Nov 44: 3rd Plt of C Co ordered to stand by for employment and support of 21st Inf. They were not committed due to one-way road and congested traffic.

13 Nov 44: At 0530I a Jap plane bombed bridge near Carigara. Bridge was made impassable to all vehicles. At 1030I the bridge had been repaired and opened to traffic.

02 and Rcn Plt left for rcn of Jaro to conduct rcn of Jaro trail.

2nd Lt Virgil O McElroy, 01824063, C Co, wounded at Pinanapoan, Leyte, P.I., 8 Nov 44. Bn SO 318, 13 Nov 44, awarding 2nd Lt Virgil O McElroy, 01824063, Purple Heart.

14 Nov 44: 1st Lt William R Junlanan, 0688272, Rcn Co, returned to dy from lv to Australia.

C Co standing by for possible employment by 21st Inf.

The following named C reported to this organization:

2nd Lt James R Fitzsimons	01822690
1st Lt Pascal Adamo	01822972
2nd Lt Wendell T Blevins	01822769

15 Nov 44: Message from 07, dtd 15 Nov 44. Battalion minus A Co and B Co will be attached to 32nd Division, effective 2000, 15 Nov 1944.

Hq, 30th Evac Hosp, APC 72, Co 72, dtd 15 Nov 44, Pfc Llewellyn R Abbott, 31057036, and S Sgt James F Montgomery, 39229373, Co A, atchd unsgd to 30th Evac Hosp.

16 Nov 44: Air-raid at 2000I; one bomb dropped near our area, no damage or casualties.

Corps Order No. 14, dtd 15 Nov 44, attaching A Co to 24th Div, B Co remains atchd to 1st Cav. The remainder of Bn Attached to 32nd Div. C Co atchd to 126th Inf, 32nd Div.

A Co reld of Beach Defense and to be prepared to move to new assembly area vicinity of Jaro.

17 Nov 44: Bn SO 322, dtd 17 Nov 44, asgn 1st Lt Pascal Adamo, 01822972, and 2nd Lt James R Fitzsimons, 01822690, to Rcn Co. 2nd Lt Wendell T Blevins, 01822769, asgd to Hq Co with primary duty as Trans C.

At 0700I, 02 and 01 left on reconnaissance for new assembly area. 01 and 02 returned at 1245I. The CP group departed for new assembly area at 1300I arriving new area 1500I. Location of CP vic of Colosian Pt.

We were under fire of Jap Arty at time of arrival. Shells were exploding in water 400 yds off shore. No damage or casualties.

A Jap bomber dropped three bombs, 2000I, near our CP area. No damage or casualties.

18 Nov 44: We were again under Jap Arty fire. Shells landing in water approx. 300 to 400 yds off the beach. One man from Rcn Co, wounded in shoulder from piece of shrapnel. The EM did not require hospitalization. The man wounded was Pvt Lester K. Stonehocker, 37662257.

Col Fanning left for hospital at 1000I.

During period from 1100I to 1130I enemy artillery fire increased and it was decided to move CP to different location. 02 and elements from Rcn Co left CP at 1300I to pick new assembly area. Due to bad roads the last vehicles arrived in new assembly area at 1730I. Location of CP - Vic 16.0 - 66.9.

Capt David A Marcelle, senior Staff Officer, assumed command of Bn per VCOO.

BATTALION HISTORY

19 Nov 44: Hq, USAFFE, APO 501, SO 280, 9 Oct 1944, promoting 1st Lt Eldon A Haase, 0384205, Rcn Co, to temp rank of Captain.

20 Nov 44: 2nd Plt, Rcn Co, reld of dy with B Co and rejoined Rcn Co. Effective 0730I, VOGG, X Corps.

A Co reld of dy with 24th Div, 1600I, VOGG, X Corps. A Co rejoined Bn at 32nd Div CP.

Bn CP moved to 32nd Div CP. The first of the vehicles left for new area at 0800I. Area cleared 0930I. Intense rain made movement slow and roads were almost impassable. Rcn Co will take over the perimeter defense of Div CP.

20 Nov 44: 02 and personnel of S-2 S-3 Sections departed, 1350I, on rcn mission to locate enemy positions in vic of Colasian Pt. At 1500I, S-2 Sgt reported that Capt Thomas E Moehn, 0425244, had been SWA by enemy machine-gun fire in vicinity of Colasian Pt.

Capt. Thomas E Moehn, 0425244, DOW, 1815I, Co D, 107th Med Bn. **BURIED 21 NOV 44, US CEMETARY, CARIGARA, RT.**

Tec 5 Wilkinson, Rcn Co, Tec 5 Rodriguez, Tec 5 Nelson, Tec 4 Cullen, were also slightly wounded in vicinity of Colasian Pt. They had accompanied 02 on Rcn mission.

Pvt Lester K Stonehocker, 37662257, Rcn Co awarded Purple Heart, Bn SO-325, 20 Nov 44.

2 M-8's from Rcn departed to relieve half-tracks from Bn Hqs. They were under verbal order of Inf Comdr.

A carrying party of 60 men from C Co were sent out to 128th Inf. Message received at 1020I from 039. Carrying party returned at 1750I.

21 Nov 44: Work Details from A, Rcn, performed labor duties on beach and road. One section of M-10's from A Co were detailed, at 1455I, for defense of 32nd Div QM Emergency Rations Dump. One rd of enemy arty fire dropped 50 yds from Destroyers. They were withdrawn from Dump as they were drawing arty fire.

22 Nov 44: Two half-tracks from A Co were used on wire detail. Half-tracks were unable to return to unit because of road conditions. Remained with C Co overnight. It was reported by Rover 10, that A Co half-tracks had killed 16 Japs and captured 1 machine-gun.

At 1227I two rds of arty or mortar fire dropped near this CP; no casualties.

23 Nov 44: Col Whalen, Div Chaplain, directed Capt Michalski to report to Co E, 107 Medics, clearing Sta for duty this date.

24 Nov 44: Red Alert was sounded approx 0815I. All gunners manned their machine-guns. No bombs were dropped in our vicinity, the Jap planes seemed to be on a photo rcn mission. A Co which is located on beach for defense of Div CP, claimed to have shot down two of the Jap planes.

Approx 1630I, 3 rds of Jap arty fire landed West of the CP. Several rds also landed South of the Div CP.

BATTALION HISTORY

25 Nov 44: Message fr 049 to 03 - Outpost near Art 6 sighted small patrol of 7 Japs. The patrol was going North about 1 mi SW of CP.

Message fr 08 to 03 - A patrol fr 126 Inf spotted Jap Arty which had been firing on our position. The Inf called for a concentration from our own Arty. It is assumed they were knocked out since we have no Arty fire since then.

During the day there were three Red Alert's, no planes appeared over our area. Several rds of enemy arty landed East and West of our position.

Four Red Alerts were sounded during the night.

Word received from 09 that Lt Col Fanning had been evacuated, 24 Nov 44.

26 Nov 44: Capt David A Marcelle, assumed command of the Bn. SO 331, 632 TD Bn, dtd 26 Nov 44.

SO 331 - Capt Francis E Lang, rel'd of dy and asgmt with Co B and is asgd to Bn Staff, with Prim dy Bn Ex O, astg.

1st Lt Randolph V Foster is aptd Co Comdr of B Co, vice Capt Francis E Lang, rel'd.

Capt Theo W Jordan, aptd Actg Bn S2, aptd Information and Education O, in addition to his other duties.

27 Nov 44: Approx 1000 3 rds of enemy arty landed near ridge - 300 yds of CP.

There were numerous airraid alerts throughout the day and night.

Message from CG, X Corps - strong possibility of Jap airborne attack within 24 hrs. During night 26 - 27 Nov, Japs landed small groups of air-borne troops from transport type planes on beaches South of Dulag and San Pablo air strips. Plane later crash landed. One group consisted of suicide squad of 16 Japs. Two were killed by our troops, remainder still at large.

Capt Francis E Lang reported at CP, 19251, to take over duties as Actg Ex-O.

28 Nov 1944: Par 3, SO 331, dtd 26 Nov 44, as concerns 1st Lt Randolph V Foster, only, is rescinded. (SO - 333, dtd 28 Nov 44.)

1st Lt Walter J Varlander Jr, 0387982, is aptd Co Comdr of Co E (SO - 333, dtd 28 Nov 44).

1st Lt Randolph V Foster, placed on temp dy with Hq Co, (SO - 333, dtd 28 Nov 44).

2nd Lt Michael B Miner and 2nd Lt Wendell T Blewins rel'd of dy and asgmt with

Hq Co and are asgd to Co E. (SO - 333, dtd 28 Nov 44.)

Tec 5 Alber E Nelson, 6145570, awarded Purple Heart for wounds rec'd in action at Colasion Pt, 20 Nov 44 (SO 333, dtd 28 Nov 44.) Hq Co.

Tec 5 Arthur F Rodriguez, 39006104, awarded Purple Heart for wounds rec'd in action at Colasion Pt, 20 Nov 44, (SO 333, dtd 28 Nov 44.) Hq Co.

Tec 5 Joseph A Larison, 39154439, awarded Purple Heart for wounds rec'd in action at Pinaropcan, 13 Nov 44, (SO 333, dtd 28 Nov 44.) Hq Co.

Tec 5 Forrest C Wilkinson, 33002190, awarded Oak Leaf Cluster, in lieu of a second Purple Heart, for wounds rec'd in action at Colasion Pt, 20 Nov 44. Par 3, SO 333, dtd 28 Nov 44.

S-1 Section left for Rear Echelon at 1300. Arrived Rear Echelon 1630.

29 Nov 44: Hq, X Corps, APO 310, SO 118, 26 Nov 1944, 1st Lt William R Jolly, 01324966, Inf, rel'd of asgmt to 34th Inf Regt, APO 24 and is asgd 632 TD Bn, APO 72.

BATTALION HISTORY

30 Nov 44: SO 335, Hq 632d TD Bn, dtd 30 Nov 44, awarded Purple Heart to Pvt Edward J. Nowacki, Hq Co, for wounds received in action at Colasian Pt, 18 Nov 44.

The Bn reld of assignment and dy with 32d Div and prepared to assemble entire Bn in vicinity of Jaro. Reconnaissance for new area was made by 1st Lt Oliver M Tucker and 2nd Lt Hubert C Roush.

The S-2 - S-3 Section and Rcn Co assembled near Rear Echelon at Carrigara. At 2230I S-2 and S-3, Rcn Co moved to new assembly area near Jaro. Hq Co and Rear Echelon units of A, C, Rcn Co's loaded equipment throughout the night in preparation of move in the morning. There were numerous red alerts during the night. One plane dropped bombs approx 500 yds from Rear Echelon CP.

Battalion Strength at close of month: 37 Off 2 WO 600 M.

1 Dec 44: At 0950I the first serial of Hq Co departed for new area. Traffic was slow and first elements arrived new area 1230I. Work was immediately started on Company and Battalion installations. Tents were set up on Co Streets. Elements of A Co closed in new area 1700I.

A meeting of Staff, Special Staff O's and Co Commanders held in S-3 tent 1615I.

Lights and candles permitted at night. Classes will be held daily on Radio and Telephone procedure. Lessons learned from recent combat and maintenance of all vehicles and equipment.

2 Dec 44: 1st Lt William R Jolly, 61324866, asgd to dy with Co C, per SO 337, Hq 632d TD Bn, dtd 2 Dec 44.

SO 337, dtd 2 Dec 44:

1st Lt Milton J Bojdak, 01022348, reld of dy and asgmt with Rcn Co and asgd to Co A.

WOJF Joseph J Krystowiak, W2107041, is aptd Asst Adj.

WOJF Joseph J Krystowiak, W2107041, aptd Postal C, vice 1st Lt Oliver M Tucker, 0359458, reld.

3 Dec 44: Hq 9th General Hosp, APC 920, SO 165, dtd 27 Nov 44, Lt Col Hugh M Fanning, 0274047, Bn Hq, atchd unasgd to 9th Gen Hosp, eff 26 Nov 44.

BATTALION HISTORY

4 Dec to 12 Dec 44: The period of 4 Dec to 12 Dec 44, the Bn has spent in the care and maintenance of all wheeled and tracked vehicles, and all Bn and Co equipment. Bn installations have been erected and Co's have established Co areas. EM have been allotted time to the care and cleaning of their clothing and equipment.

During Reveille formations 15 minutes of calisthenics are given to all personnel; also hour classes on identification of friendly and enemy aircraft and orientation lectures on the Philippine Islands and the people inhabiting them.

On 9 Dec 44, the following Officers received a letter of commendation from the CO of the 632d TD Bn, for their outstanding work and devotion to duty during the operation on Leyte, Philippine Islands:

Capt JOHN J. O'CONNOR	0419061	Med Det
Capt HAROLD E. BELL	0372043	S-4
Capt JOHN M. THOMPSON	0914067	Bn Motor O
1st Lt DONALD J. STICKLER	0359582	Hq Co, Commo O
1st Lt CHARLES E. MEYERS	01824901	Rcn Co
1st Lt KENNETH L. SAVACCOOL	0888309	A Co
2d Lt HUBERT S. ROUSH	01686322	Hq Co

13 Dec 44: Major Malvin P. Wang returned to dy from leave to United States.

Par. 1, SO 348, 632d TD Bn, dtd 13 Dec 44, Major Malvin P. Wang, 022685, assumed comd of the Bn.

14 Dec 44: SO 349, 632d TD Bn, dtd 14 Dec 44, par 2, Capt FRANCIS E LANG, 0401073, is reld of duty as Actg Bn Ex O. Par 3, Capt DAVID A MARCELLE, 0397220, is reld of duty as Bn S-3, and is aptd Bn Ex O. Par 4, Capt FRANCIS E LANG, 0401073, is aptd Bn S-3, vice Capt DAVID A MARCELLE, 0397220, reld.

15 Dec 44: Hq X Corps, APO 310, SO 130, dtd 13 Dec 44, Pvt Edward I. Husgcz, 35517437, is reld fr asgmt to MP Tr, 1st Cav Div, APO 201 and is asgd to 632d TD Bn, APO 72.

16 Dec 44: SO 351, 632d TD Bn, 1st Lt MILTON J. BOJDAK, O-1822348, is reld of dy and asgmt with Co A and is asgd to Co C.

2d Lt HUBERT S. ROUSH, O-1686322, is reld of Temp dy with Rcn Co.

2d Lt HUBERT S. ROUSH, O-1686322, is reld of dy and asgmt with Hq Co and is asgd to Rcn Co.

18 Dec 44: The Oct & Nov Rotation and Furlough Men left Bn area at 0915I to staging area where they will be processed to United States. The following number of men departed from each company:

Hq Co	10	10 EM	Rcn Co	12 EM
A Co		9 EM	Med Det	2 EM
B Co		9 EM		
C Co	10	10 EM	Total	20 52 EM

20 Dec 44: SO 238, par 28, Hq 4th Repl Depot, APO 703, dtd 16 Dec 44, Tec 4 Robert T. Klein, 12003005, S Sgt James V. Rauperson, 14082174, S Sgt Sam Baum, 36164870, were asgd to this orgn. Par 1 SO 356, HQ 632d TD Bn, dtd 21 Dec 44, asgd EM conc to Hq. Co.

2 Off and

21 Dec 44: The December Rotation and Furlough Personnel, consisting of 32 EM, left Bn area at 0900I, enroute to the United States.

BATTALION HISTORY

21 Dec 44 (Contd): The following number of men departed from each company:

Hq Co	6 EM	Rcn	1 Off	6 EM
A Co	7 EM	Med		1 EM
B Co	6 EM			
C Co	1 Off 6 EM	Total	2 Off	32 EM

22 & 23 Dec 44: 57 EM replacements reported to this orgn per par 1 SO 90, Hq 1st Cav Div, APO 201, dtd 21 Dec 44, and were assigned to the following Co.'s:

Hq Co	6	C Co	11
A Co	16	Rcn Co	18
B Co	10	Med Det	2

25 Dec 44: Christmas was declared a holiday for all personnel. Twelve cans of beer were issued per each man with another issue of beer to follow. Seven turkeys were issued to each Co. for Christmas dinner. At 12 o'clock Mid-Night Mass was held at the Battalion Chapel, by Capt ROBERT A MICHALSKI. Christmas carols were sung by the Battalion Choir under the direction of 1st Lt DONALD J STICKLER.

26 & 27 Dec 44: Many of the old vehicles, which the Battalion has had since departing from the States and Australia, were turned in for replacement. Preparations are being made by all companies for the impending move in the near future.

28 Dec 44: SO 363, dtd 28 Dec 44, 2d Lt MICHAEL B MINER, 01824067, awarded the Purple Heart for wounds recd in action at Pinamopoan, Leyte, P.I., 18 Nov 44.

The award of the Purple Heart was awarded to the following men by Major WANG:

✓ Hq Co - Tec 5 Albert E Nelson 61145570
Tec 5 Arthur F Rodriguez 39006104
Tec 5 Joseph A Larison 39154489

A Co - Cpl Lester E Otto 36207870

29 Dec 44: The following men from Rcn Co were awarded the Purple Heart by Capt DAVID A MARCELLE, Bn Ex-O:

Pvt Lester K Stonehocker	37662257
Pvt Jasper H Mathis	34177003
Pvt George M Smart	31059682