

**SECRET**  
**LETTERS**  
**702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion**

APO 230, US Army,  
9 August 1944

**SUBJECT:** After Action Report for July 1944.

**TO :** Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.  
(Thru: Commanding General, XIX Corps, APO 230, US Army, and Commanding General, Second Armored Division, APO 252, US Army)

In compliance with letter, Subject: Action Against Enemy, Report After/After Action Report, 319.1/401, Headquarters, First United States Army, 13 July 1944.

The 702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion alerted and moved from vicinity Balleroy, France, 022300 July 1944, to vicinity of Livry, France to relieve anti-tank Brigade of Seventh Armored Division (British) along front line sector of Second Armored Division (702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion attached). Battalion supported by 41st Armored Infantry Regiment (Second Armored Division). Two companies placed on front line duty, one company placed on indirect fire under control of Second Armored Division Artillery. Rotation of companies accomplished during period. Relieved from duty on front line by composite anti-tank groups of British Command, 17 July 1944.

Approximately one hundred and sixtyfive (165) missions fired by companies "A" and "B" during above period. Majority of fires called for were unobserved. Harrassing and interdiction fires during night.

No enemy attacks during above period. Heavy shelling throughout. One M-10 damaged by direct hit from artillery shell.

Casualties: Two (2) officers wounded and evacuated.  
Nineteen (19) enlisted men wounded and evacuated.  
None killed.

All casualties from shell fragments.

The 702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion relieved from front line duty 17 July 1944. Held in assembly area vicinity La Mine from 18th to 25th July 1944 for reorganization and rest. Battalion losses in material replaced and unit prepared for future operations by 23 July 1944.

No enemy action during this period.

Unit alerted 20 July 1944 south along VII Corps front. Battalion less Company "C" (Attached CC "A", under command GENERAL I. D. WHITE) attached CC "A" under command GENERAL MAURICE ROSE. Battalion moved in the two columns of CC "A" in attack on St Gilles and objectives further south. Objective reached 270500B July 1944. Battalion less Company "C" given mission of providing anti-tank defense around assembly area CC "A".

No actual operations against enemy. Unit held in reserve in columns.

Two (2) M-10's temporarily out of action. One from shell fragments and one from mine fields.

Casualties: One (1) enlisted man killed.  
Seven (7) enlisted men wounded and evacuated.

Unit alerted 281500 for attack in three columns of CC "A" on attack south toward Moyon and Villerboudon. Heavy resistance encountered. Battalion less company "B", attached to 66th Armored Regiment, placed in west column to proceed with attack. Number of enemy tanks, attacking CC "A" column from flanks, taken under fire by this unit. CC "A" moved in to assembly area in vicinity of Villerboudon on 31 July 1944 prepared to launch attack to east, objective, Tilly Sur Vire. Company "B" placed in positions north of Beaucondray to protect flank of CC "A".

Eleven enemy tanks destroyed by Company "A" and "B" during above operations. Several machine gun emplacements destroyed in assistance to Infantry attack.

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Casualties: One (1) Officer wounded and evacuated.  
Twenty seven (27) enlisted men wounded and evacuated.  
Nine (9) enlisted men killed.

Total vehicular losses 1 to 31 July 1944:

One  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton, 4x4 truck.  
One  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton, 6x6 truck.  
Three motorcycles.  
Three 1 ton trailers, 2 wheel, cargo.  
Two M-8, Armored Cars.  
Three M-10 Tank Destroyers (Damaged and replaced during operations)

Total Ammunition Expenditure: 3 Inch Gun (Primary Weapon).

Indirect fire: 3864 rounds.  
Direct fire : ABC, SD: 42 rounds.  
HE : 483 rounds.

Total casualties in unit:

Three officers wounded and evacuated.  
Fifty three (53) enlisted men wounded and evacuated.  
Ten (10) enlisted men killed.

*John A. Beall*  
JOHN A. BEALL,  
Lt Col, Inf,  
Commanding.

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