

AFTER ACTION REPORT NOTES - 705TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

Believed to have been written by Capt. Wayne Tennant

July 13, 1944		Trowbridge to marshalling area 57 mil. (Dorchester 3 mi. WVU 7D11 Dorset)
14 July 1944		VU 0801 3 mi. W Weymouth Dorset Camp 14
17 July 1944	2330	Dropped anchor
18 July 1944	1145	Beached 1 mi. NE St. Martin T4498 Omaha Beach (crossed out Omaha Beach)
	1500	Leave LST 1487 - mi 685.6
	1625	Arrive marshalling area B - mileage 692.3 - bivouac 1 mi. S.W. of St. Germain mileage 693.0
19 July 1944	1100	Arrive bivouac area S.W. Bricquebec - mileage 719.9. 5.0 miles S.W. of Bricquebec. Traveled 5.7 miles July 19.
31 July 1944	2400	5 mi. S.W. Bricquebec - vicinity Levaldecie - T090980
1 Aug 1944	0800	Alerted for movement
	1230	Departed bivouac. Traveled 60 mi south
	1900	bivouac So. of Coutances - vic. Equilly
2 Aug 1944	2400	1/4 mi. east of Equilly - T280340
3 Aug 1944	0100	Departed bivouac. Traveled all night on road to Dol. Frequent halts.
	0910	Road block and snipers reported ahead. Column moves S.W. toward Lanhelin, bypassing Dol
	1445	Enemy contacted S.E. of Miniac. Small number of Germans with 88, Germans driven back by TDs and cavalry fire. some T.D. officers wounded by shrapnel. Bn. reassembles and bivouacs.
	2400	1 mi. north of Lanhelin - X920945
4 Aug 1944	1230	Departed bivouac.
	1300	CP established at Miniac
	1330	Moved out of Miniac. Advanced toward Chateauneuf.
	1340	Co. C halted by road block. T.D.s move off to either side of highway. Infantry battalion brought up. Indirect fire by Co A.
	2400	1 1/2 mi. north of Miniac - S862005
5 Aug 1944	1500	Road block destroyed by 705 81mm mortar cavalry tanks reported through Chateauneuf.
	1540	Co. C & infantry advance through Chateauneuf.
	1600	Co. C encounters road block north of Chateauneuf.
	1750	Bn. receives new mission (minus Co. (?). Bn. reassembles and bivouacs.
	2400	1 mi. N. of Lanhelin. - X920945
6 Aug 1944	0820	March toward Brest resumed.
	2040	No resistance encountered until approaching St. Briec. Report of Russian and German force on north side of St. Bruic.
	2400	S. outskirts of St. Carreuc - X250930

7 Aug 1944 0430 Departed bivouac. Preceded by 15th Cavalry.
0700 Passed through St. Brieuç. Reports received of enemy ahead. Cavalry and infantry clear way to Guincamp.
1745 Co. C sends forward one platoon, to work with infantry to meet resistance encountered in Guingamp.
2115 Guincamp cleared of last resistance. Column moves through town.
2400 1 mi. S.W. St. Efflam - R848115

8 Aug 1944 0915 March resumed toward Brest. Frequent halts mines reported ahead.
1630 Co. A reports contact with enemy south of Morlaix.
2020 Morlaix cleared of enemy. Column proceeds through town.
2400 5 mi. W. of Morlaix - R360170

9 Aug 1944 1115 Co. C. with one rcn. plat. sent back to Morlaix to aid cavalry trains reported under attack.
1125 Security section, Co A moves south to investigate civilian reports of German bivouac.
1125 Two rcn. platoons patrol east to investigate civilian reports of Germans there.
1545 Bn. reassembles and resumes march toward Brest.
1915 Bn. bivouacs south of Lesneven. Digs in.
2100 Report of German infantry to our rear. Rcn. moves north to meet enemy. During the night negative reports were received at 10 minute intervals.
2400 2 mi. S. of Ploudaniel - R095100

10 Aug 1944 0900 Rcn. Advances to Lesnever, sets up road blocks.
1230 Bn. moves north to new bivouac coord. 099165.
2400 1 mi. S. of Lesnever - R099115

11 Aug 1944 0045 Bn. moves out on new mission. Marches continuously until 0900, then halts east of Morlaix.
1630 Bn. moves into bivouac near Ploumilliau. Mission to secure Beaches.
1900 Rcn Co sends out patrols. Out-guards established by Co. A
2400 1/1 mi. W. of Ploumilliau R684255

12 Aug 1944 1300 C.P. moves to S.W. of Ploumilliau.
1400 1/4 mi. S.W. of Ploumilliau - R684252
1820 Bn. moved out of bivouac on new mission. Report of paratroopers between Morlaix and Guincamp.
?55 Closed in assembly area east of Morlaix coord 484191.
?45 Moved out of bivouac and headed S.E. toward Callac.

13 Aug 1944 2030 Closed in bivouac N.W. of Callac.
2100 Rcn. sent back to Lannion to help secure beaches.
2300 Co. C establishes all around security.
2400 5 mi. N.W. of Callac - W685965

14 Aug 1944 0805 Moved out of bivouac. Traveled N.E. 22.8 miles to bivouac area S.W. Begard coord. 840165
1105 Closed in area S.W. of Begard.
1455 Moved out of bivouac - traveled N.E. 8.1 miles to new area south of Crouennec coord. 802262,

2230 submitted overly to group of guard positions set up to north and east. Two road blocks established by Rcn Co., two .50, two .30 cal mg adn two 76mm guns in position by Co. C.

2400 1/2 mi. S. of Caouennec - R802262

15 Aug 1944 0905 Moved out of bivouac and advanced north to LaRoche, taking up indirect fire positions north of LaRoche, to lay a concentration of fire in vicinity of Lezardrieux where a large concentration of Germans were reported.

1500 Co. A. and Co. C move forward with CP on orders from higher Hq to new firing position north of Ploudaniel, coord 982337.

1615 Co. A and Co C fire 306 rounds direct fire into Lezardrieux. All rounds fall in the town.

1615 ? moves into town. Large number of prisoners taken.

1900 Bn. reassembles. Bivouac 1 1/2 mi. E. of Treguier.

2400 1 1/2 mi. E. of Treguier R932354

16 Aug 1944 0730 TD Bn, Cavalry and engineers form the groups and begin working north according to prearranged plan moving up the peninsulas north of Treguier and Lezfrorieux, governed by phase lines and controlled by radio. All routes reconnoitered.

1600 Group B having reconnoitered to coast north of Pleubian, reassemble and return to bivouac 1 mile south of Pleubian.

1930 Group B move toward Paimpol crossing bridge at Lezardrieux. Resistance encountered vicinity Paimpal and Plounez. 150 prisoners taken.

2300 Bivouac vicinity Paimpal.

2400 1 1/2 mile east Paimpol S032341

17 Aug 1944 0730 Infantry and TDs move into Paimpal. Resistance encountered on Paimpal peninsula. Peninsula shelled by 1 platoon Co. C and infantry mortars fire. All Germans surrendered.

? Bn. reassembles and bivouacs 1 1/2 miles East of Treguier.

2400 1-1/2 mile East of Treguier. R932354

18 Aug 1944 0700 Moved out of bivouac, marched 60.6 miles to new bivouac west of St. Servais.

1100 Closed in new bivouac west of St. Servais. Co B returns to battalion.

2400 1 mi. W. St. Servais - R18810?

19 Aug 1944 1530 Moved out of bivouac. Traveled 5 miles to new bivouac, vicinity Ploouedern. (Co C support of inf)

1554 Arrived new bivouac. (Minus Co C)

1900 Rcn, A, and B established gun positions to north, east and south.

2400 1/4 mile N. W. Plouedern - R137084

20 Aug 1944 0530 Co A moved to vicinity Landerne.

2400 1/4 mi. N.W. Plouedern - R137084

21 Aug 1944 0810 Moved out of bivouac vicinity Ploudern and marched 8.7 miles to bivouac 1/4 mi. south Urbain.

0850 Closed in bivouac.

1100 Co B and C alerted.

1400 Visibility poor. Difficulty in selecting OP for indirect fire to west. Co C reports one platoon ready to fire.

1500 One TD plat, Co B, brought up to knock out pillboxes, where mg and mortar fire has

- Charlie 6 and Baker 5 penned in. TD plat remains with inf. during night.
- 1800 Advance CP goes forward northwest of Dabulas in search of good OP. Advance CP fired upon by friendly artillery who are registering in.
- 1800 Rcn submits negative reports from positions established by their 4 platoons just north of Daoulas
- 2400 Co C fires every half hour during the night on target to the west.