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History of the 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion

Foreword

When the 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion was activated on 10, April, 1942, our country had been at war four months. Consequently, our country and our army were new to the ways of war - the country's industries were being geared to the war effort, the armed forces were in the midst of an enormous and rapid expansion; new weapons and equipment were being constantly developed, and improved or discarded; new tactics and techniques were being evolved and battle-tested. All this at a time when we were already engaged in a death struggle in the Pacific. Efficient turmoil and organized confusion was normal in those days when we were prosecuting one war while preparing for a bigger one. So, amid struggle and turmoil, trial and tribulation, the 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion was born, and its history henceforth was to be one of struggle.

To say that our birth was a struggle is putting it midly. At that time the Tank Destrover concept was a new one, known only to a very few officers, and understood by even less. Conceived by the late Lt. General Lesley J. McNair, Tank Destroyers were, at the time of our birth receiving their first battle test on the fields of Bataan, where they were being successfully employed in their secondary role of self-propelled, direct fire artillery, repelling repeated Japanese attempts to envelop our forces by making beach landings behind our lines. Except for this brief, incomplete, and unconclusive battle test, the Tank Destroyer idea had been tested only in two maneuvers, these in Louisiana and the Carolinas in the fall of 1941. So it was but natural that our birth would be a struggle, for Tank Destroyer doctrine had not yet crystallized and Tank Destroyer weapons were yet to be developed. The reaction of most of us when we were assigned to the Tank Destroyers was, "Tank Destroyers! What's that?" Our first groping lessons, with the blind leading the blind, occured in the enervating heat of Camp Gordon, Georgia, where we conducted our field problems afoot because we had no equipment. Then followed the hectic period at Camp Hood, Texas, where we tried to learn everything about everything. Here our schooling really began, and our thinking really crystallized, but there were just not enough hours in the day to do and learn all that needed to be done and learned. It was a period of organization and re-organization, of shooting and marching and maneuvering, of equipment borrowing, of insidious inspections, un-predictable weather, "gumbo" mud, heartbreak, toil. It was here that many of us cursed the day we were born, the inspectors, the instructors, the weather, and the never-ending toil. But it was here that the outfit really became of age, for we gained a spirit and elan, a confidence and dash that henceforth never left us, and frequently stood us in good stead. There followed a two month vacation in Camp Carson, Colorado, where we celebrated our first birthday. Then began our trek to the Arizona desert, destination Yuma. There the orgainzation shook out the kinks and ironed out the rough spots, and became truly "organized for combat." There we took a post graduate course in tactics, became hardened to physical and mental hardship, endured the heat and sand, convinced ourselves that we could fight, and whip, anything, and, in our spare time, "invaded" mexico. Then we were off again, this time to Camp Gruber, Oklahoma - we were truly a "Gypsy" outfit. There followed Louisiana Maneuvers, Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, Camp Livinston, Louisiana, where we observed our second birthday, and then, finally, POE --Camp Miles Standish and Boston, Massachusetts. We were on our way.

Since 2 March 1943, when it was my privilege and honor to assume command of this battalion, it has been my aim and single ambition to field a team that could perform efficiently under any circumstances and against all comers. Money players were wanted - men who would deliver when the chips were down. In order to accomplish this,

two things were necessary; first, every member of the battalion had to believe that he was the best soldier, in the best outfit, in the best army in the world; second, this belief in himself and his outfit had to be reasonably substantiated by fact. The proud and enviable record obtained by this battalion on the battlefields of Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, and Austria, stands as mute evidence to the wisdom of this policy, and to the successful accomplishment of it, Working for division after division, corps after corps, and army after army, sometimes as a battalion, usually by companies, sometimes by platoon, sometimes even by single guns, we never once failed to accomplish the mission assigned us, and invariably won the respect and admiration of our superiors. Even more important, we always won the everlasting gratitude of those we fought with, the infantryman, cavalryman, and tanker. Such a reputation, can be won only by those individuals who have an unshakeable belief in themselves, their outfit, and their God, and its price is invariably high, being compounded of blood, sweat, and toil. None of us will ever forget those dark December days of the Ardennes Campaign, when defeat daily confronted us, when we won merely because we wouldn't give up. Who could possibly forget, having once endured, the unbearable cold, the frozen "C" rations, the snow-filled foxholes, and the rampaging German of those days? None of us will ever forget when the tide turned, when we helped relieve Bastogne, and continued on to reduce the "Bulge", wearing out division after division in the process. Neither will we ever forget those trying days in February along the Sauer and Our Rivers, when we assaulted and broke through the Siegfried Line. Those were bitter days of unremitting struggle. But our task was not over. Once through, we chased the German across the Prum River, through Bitburg, across the Kyll River, halting only at the Rhine, just north of Koblinz. Then, having become experts in the assault of fortified positions, we moved south to Saarburg, going through the Siegfried Line again there, and again continuing the pursuit to the Rhine, this time through St. Wendel and Kaiserslautern to Ludwigshafen. The great day came, 29 March 1945, when we began our crossing of the Rhine at Mainz, for we knew we were beginning the blow that would end the German war. Pursuit was now the order of the day, and pursue we did, with still some hard, sporadic fighting - first up the magnificent autobahn to Dassel, near which we liberated some of our comrades, captured in December. Then, after the surrender of Kassel, turning south to Gotha, and proceeding again up an autobahn, subduing Weimar, Erfort, Jena, and Gera enroute, and halting just short of Chemnitz. These are never-to-be-forgotten, victorious days. It was about this time that Hitler's Inner Fortress gained prominence. So south we went again, this time to Nuremburg. Then followed a period of relentless, sleepless, pursuit, the crossing of the Danuoe into Austria at Braunau (Hitler's birthplace), the fall of Regensburg, and, finally, the surrender message of the Commanding General, 6th SS Panzer Army, delivered to the Commanding Officer, Reconnaissance Company, 811th TD Bn., deep in the Alps near Spitale, Austria on 7 May 1945. It was here, along the Steyr River, deep in Austria, that the war ended for us. We shall never forget these things, nor shall we forget the Hungarian gold, the Ohrdruf concentration camp, the burned-out, dead cities, the mud, the dirt, and filth of war. And never shall we forget the price in blood which we paid for our magnificent achievements. Let us carry the three battle streamers -- Ardennes, Rhineland, Central Europe-on our battle flag with pride, and, when we wear our Distinguished Unit Citation, let us remember that we wear it because brave men in a brave outfit were not afraid to die. As your commanding officer over the major portion of the existence of the battalion, I am sincerely proud of each individual member, and I am exceedingly proud of our battalions' accomplishments. When the chips were down, we delivered. Our future history is as yet unwritten, but, whatever future holds, I am sure that the job will be accomplished with efficiency, dispatch, and quiet confidence, and that our efforts will be crowned with success.

> A. R. BROWNFIELD Lt. Col., FA Commanding

TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO

MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE

THIS BOOK IS HUMBLY DEDICATED

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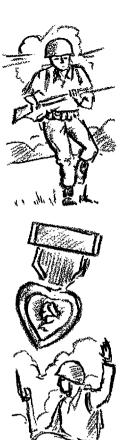
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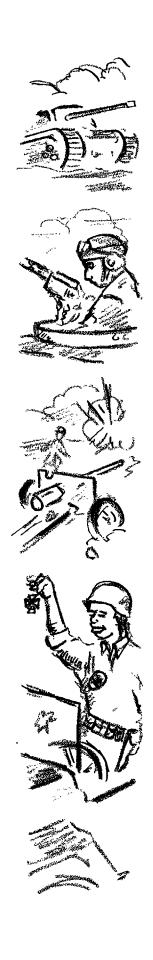
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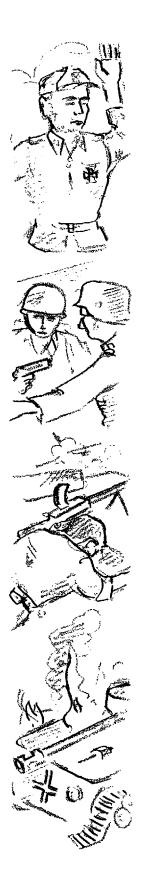
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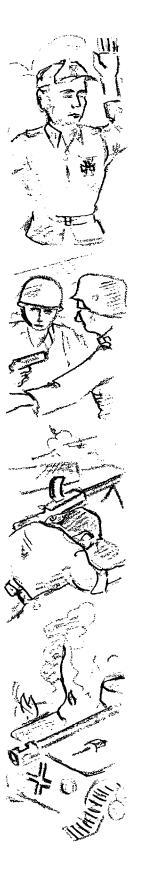
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Capt.	Richmond, Utah
lst. Lt.	Box 395, Kerniersville, N. Carolina
lst. Lt.	Box 145, Distant, Pennsylvania
lst, Lt.	Claridge, Pennsylvania (Deceased)
lst. Lt.	2459 Monta Vista Pi, Seattle, Wash.
lst. Lt.	22 Court Place, Sugusta, Maine
lst. Lt.	606 N. Main, Britt, Iowa
lst. Lt.	235 W. Ohio St., Marquette, Mich.
2nd Lt.	7600 60th St., Srgo, Illinois
2nd Lt.	301 Wicko St., San Antonio, Texas
2nd Lt.	1830 H. Lewis St., Tulsa, Okla. (Deceased)

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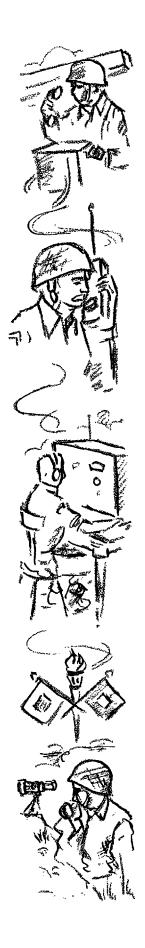
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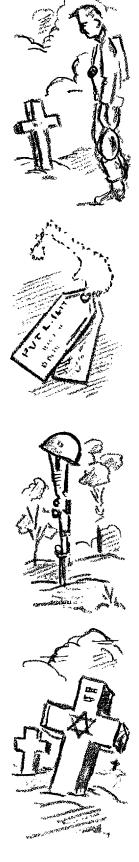
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Finn, Charles H. Fox, Sam J. Fox, Thomas F. Frasier, Wiley B. Gaier, Edmund J. Giannaula, Anthony J. Gibson, Leland E. Greenberg, Irving Gruenberg, Melville H. Groseclose, Blondell E. Grogan, Frederick E. Hackman, Otto H. Harrison, Allen C. Harrison, Lloyd W. Hart, Charles J. Healey, Richard S. Hedson, Harry D. Hogue, Van L. Gardner, William E. Mansavage, Max L. Smith, Charles G. Bewley, James F. Evans, George L. Freeman, Cecil D. Hackman, Otto H. Mahan, James A. Murphy, Walter W. Richard, George L. Ruebusch, Raymond L. Archer, Harvey B. Graf, Walter W. Kerns, Howard C. Lakes, Edward M. McConathy, Howard G. McCoy, Albert Allen, Ralph

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Box 25, Parsonage St., Rhinebock, New York RR, Chattanooga, Tennessee Rt. #2, Lawrenceberg, Tennessee General Delivery, Clifty, Tennessee 38 Marshall Ave., Akron, Ohio 409 S. Sixth St., Newark, New Jersey 1105 Marshall Ave., Evansville, Indiana 2823 W. 29th St., Brooklyn, New York 1802 Balkan Place, Toledo, Ohio Rt. #2, Juliaetta, Idaho 314 Greene St., Syracuse, New York 315 E. Laurel St., Seymour, Indiana 129 E. 2nd St., Ada, Oklahoma 832 E. Hamilton St., Flint, Michigan W. Terre Haute, Indiana Rt. #2, Kennerdell, Pennsylvania 3859 N. 18th St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Rt. #1, Buncombe, Illinois Polk, Ohio 540 E. 173 St., Hammond, Indiana 1408 Marlowe Ave., Indiana Tracy, Kentucky Peoples, Kentucky 126 W. Reel Ave., Vincennes, Indiana 315 Laurel St., Seymour, Indiana Rt. #1, Cannelburg, Indiana 1832 Brame Pl., Toledo, Ohio Rt. #2, Washington, Indiana 5552 Attica Ave., Pleasant Ridge, Cincinnati, Ohio 116 Johnson Ave., W. Terre Haute, Indiana Rt. #1, New Albany, Indiana Rt. #1, Mt. Sterling, Kentucky Rt. #2, Germantown, Ohio 225 Floral Park, Lexington, Kentucky Rt. #1, Portsmouth, Ohio 307 Grove St., Logansport, Indiana









Remember When





Command Posts European Theater

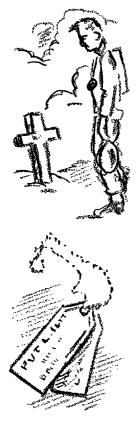
LOCATIONS OF FWD CP 15 September 44 - 15 August 45

14 September 1944 -15 September 1944 -6 October 10 November 1944 11 November 1944 12 November 1944 -13 November 1944 - 16 November 1944 17 November 22 November 1944 23 November - 15 December 1944 16 December 19 December 1944 20 December 25 December 1944 26 December 1944 27 December 3 January 1945 4 January 7 January 1945 8 January 17 January 1945 18 January 20 January 1945 21 January - 24 January 1945 25 January 1945 26 January 2 February 1945 3 February - 18 February 1945 19 February - 23 February 1945 24 February - 27 February 1945 28 February - 3 March 1945 4 March 1945 5 March - 11 March 1945 12 March 1945 13 March - 16 March 1945 17 March - 18 March 1945 19 March 1945 20 March 1945 21 March 23 March 1945 24 March 26 March 1945 27 March 1945 28 March - 29 March 1945 30 March 1945 31 March 1945 1 April - 2 April 1945 3 April 6 April 1945 7 April 11 April 1945 12 April 1945 13 April 1945 14 April 1945 15 April 17 April 1945 18 April 19 April 1945 20 April 23 April 1945 24 April - 26 April 1945 27 April 1945 28 April - 29 April 1945 30 April - 2 May 1945 3 May - 4 May 1945 5 May - 9 May 1945 10 May 9 June 1945 10 June 3 July 1945 4 July 1945 5 July 1945 6 July 1945 7 July 14 August 1945 15 August 1945

Cherbourg, France VO 2709 2 Miles N.E. Valognes, France 0-007033 1/8 Mile S. La Mare du Parc, France Sees, France Chateau Thierny France P-790385 2 Miles W. Berg, Luxembourg Mertzig, Luxembourg P 9932 Consdorf, Luxembourg P 9534 Wallbillig, Luxembourg P 9533 Christnach, Luxembourg Tronquoy, Belgium Vaux-Les-Rosieres, Belgium 0 7609 Tourteron, France P 4321 St. Marie, Belgium P 5567 Compogne, Belgium P 6467 Tavigny, Belgium Steinback, Belgium P 7775 Nuldange, Luxembourg P 8737 Stegen, Luxembourg P 9143 Bettendorf, Luxembourg P 9845 Cruchten, Germany P 9990 Mettendorf, Germany L 0853 1 Mile N. W. Rittersdorf, Germany L 1156 Rittersdorf, Germany P 9603 Ellange, Luxembourg L 1314 Saarburg, Germany WL 3000 Niederlosheim, Germany WL 5400 Bliesen, Germany WQ 8297 Reuschbach, Germany WR 3954 Friedelsheim, Germany WM 0019 Waldgrehweiler, Germany WM 2050 Gau-Algesheim, Germany WM 3456 Gonsenheim, Germany WG 7614 Lich, Germany WH 1353 Neukirchen, Germany WH 1871 Holzhausen, Germany WH 1793 Hertingshausen, Germany WJ 0865 Gotha, Germany WJ 4568 Nohra, Germany WJ 5369 Weimar, Germany WK 3559 Jerisu, Germany WK 3360 Meerane, Germany WK 0062 1 Mile S. Toppeln, Germany WO 3461 1/2 Mil W. Schweisdorf, Germany WO 4201 Nurnberg, Germany WT 9558 Hemau, Germany WU 2054 Regensburg, Germany WU 2811 Mirskafen, Germany WZ 9176 Simbach, Germany WV 4152 Vocklabruck, Austria XV 5349 Laakirchen, Austria WY 2968 Bobingen, Germany WR 0294 Kaiserslautern, Germany VU 8658 Metz, France VS 8096 Solssons, France VM 0421 3 Miles N.E. Duclair, France Le Havre, France







Sgt. Harry Roberts

Sgt. John H. Tinney





History

811th Tank Destroyer Battalion

FROM 15 MAY 1942 TO 30 JULY 1945

On 15 March 1942, the War Department ordered the formation of the 811th T.D. Bn. (Hv), directing that the 606th T. D. Bn. (Hv), then stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, furnish the cadre. In compliance with the above directive, a cadre of officers and men, as listed below, proceeded to Camp Gordon, Georgia, and on 10 April 1942. officially activated the 811th T.D. Bn. (Hv). The Bn was assigned to the 1st Army.

officially activated the official f.D.	Bn, (nv) , m	e bh was assigned to the 1st Arm
(CADRE ROSTI	ER
2nd Lt. W.W. March (Commandin 2nd Lt. Allan C. Richard 2nd Lt. Stephen W. Rich 2nd Lt. Julius Troyky 2nd Lt. William A. Daniels		-
M/Sgt. William K. Gallup M/Sgt. Jack M. Harris lst Sgt. Hugh M. Jones T/Sgt. Cecil V. Walls T/Sgt. Clarence J. Kobliska T/Sgt. Reinhold H. Krause S/Sgt. Maurice R. Harshaw S/Sgt. Reggie C. Gritzmacher S/Sgt. Alvin E. Wilerson S/Sgt. Robert J. Sass	<u>HQ CO</u>	Sgt. Harold F. Correll Sgt. James W. Millican Sgt. Lowell H. Smith Sgt. Elden T. Baughman Cpl. T. W. Hazelwood T/4 Walter L. Peffer T/4 Clinton D. Kidd T/4 Raymond O. Dennis T/5 Theodore I. Holt T/5 Edwin F. Narjes
lst Sgt. William J. Roach S/Sgt. Frank C. Will S/Sgt. William J. LaFavor Sgt. Carl T. Holte Sgt. Edward L. Sargent Sgt. Walter J. P. Kiely Sgt. Roy C. Peterson	<u>CO "A"</u>	Sgt. Elmer C. Andren Sgt. Harrison Y. Backer Cpl. Conrad A. Hummelgard T/4 Marlie M. Thomason T/4 Joseph J. Knowles T/4 Hobert E. Belle T/5 Robert J. Moore
lst Sgt. Edward C. Ringel S/Sgt. Weldon L. Mulligan S/Sgt. Samuel E. Winn S/Sgt. Clyde E. Deer Sgt. Jess B. Johnson Sgt. James V. Ellis Sgt. Allen C. Harrison	<u>CO "B"</u> <u>CO "C</u> "	Sgt. William L. Haralson Cpl. Alfred M. Heritsch T/4 Ewell D. Hunter T/4 Winston D. Myers T/5 James W. Manson T/5 Charles F. Mohr Sgt. Harry H. Thomas
lst Sgt. Homer T. Bennett S/Sgt. William S. Jacobsen S/Sgt. Ira R. Morton S/Sgt. Axel G. Nelson Sgt. Charles T. Barnes St. Wayne J. Bell Sgt. Harold L. Moe	<u></u>	Sgt. Leslie E. Wells Sgt. William H. Chaddick Cpl. Joe P. Puckett T/4 Lloyd E. Borkowski T/4 Benjamin F. Stepman T/5 Willard J. Campbell T/5 Horace J. Butler
lst Stg. Thomas J. Withrow S/Sgt. George A. Siebert S/Sgt. Floyed J. Hawn S/Sgt. Robert E. Miller S/Sgt. Virgil G. Pedersen Sgt. Varm Baberte	<u>CO "D</u> "	Sgt. Arthur O. Solberg Sgt. Noble E. Morgan Sgt. Harold F. Svoboda Cpl. Paul J. Zawatson T/4 Fred A. Hoffman

T/4 Frank C. Higgins T/5 Johnie P. Mellick

T/4 Clarence Williams

Thus, our beginning was prosaic and simple enough. What, then, was our history, and who were our antecedents?

The 606th TD Bn, from which the cadre was drawn, was originally activated as the 6th Inf. Div. Provisional Anti-Tank Bn., and drew its personnel from the F.A. units of that divsion. The 6th Inf. Div. was activated 17 November 1917. It was transported overseas in mid summer, 1918, landing at Glasgow, Scotland, Southampton, England, Le Havre and Cherbourg, France. The division occupied sectors in Alsace, and, in late October, 1918, it supported the 89th Div. in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. In November the 6th Div. relieved the 82nd Div. in the Verdun-sur-Meuse Area. During its stay in France, the 6th Div. earned the nick-name of the "Sight-Seeing-Sixth", due to its many hikes from sector to sector. During 1921 various units of the Div. were de-activated, so that on 30 September 1921 the 6th Div. passed from the active list. With war clouds again settling over Europe, the 6th Div. was re-activated on 12 October 1939. Its major components were 1st, 3rd and 30th Inv. Regts., and the 1st and 80th F. A. Regts. In September 1940, the divisional artillery was reorganized as the 1st, 51st, 53rd, and 80th F.A. Bns., the 2nd and 3rd Bns., 1st F.A. Regt., being renamed the 51st and 53rd F.A. Bns. Now, let us examine the history of the "Famous First Field", our predecessor once removed, for no other units in our army has a more glorious past.

The 1st F.A. Regt. was organized as such in May, 1907, consisting of three Bns. of horse-drawn 75mm guns. To organize this regiment the W.D. had assembled a number of very old and very famous organizations. Probably the most famous is Btry "D", originally organized during the American Revolution as Porter's Co. of Arty, thereby becoming the first arty unit of Washington's Continental Army, and participating in his campaigns around New York City in 1778. Closely following is Btry "E", organized in 1812 as Ogden's Co., 3rd Arty Regt., and successfully engaging the British at Stoney Point, Canada, during the War of 1812, and the Seminole Indians during the Florida War, 1835-42.

The original 1st F.A. Regt. was organized shortly after the War of 1812, and served with distinction until after the Spanish-American War of 1898, when it was disbanded, and split up into separate batteries. Some of its batteries fought in the Seminole War, 1835-42, and the regiment served with distinction in the Mexican War, 1846-48, participating in the battles of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Matamoros, Monterey, Buena Vista, Contreras, Cherubusco, Mexico City and Chapultepec. During this war, "Stonewall" Jackson was a Btry commander in the regiment, and his battery was instrumental in the storming of Chapultepec. The years 1855 and 1856 found the lst F.A. Regt. in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, pacifying the Indians with grapeshot.

At the beginning of the Civil War, 1861-1865, the regiment was scattered along the Rio Grande, and Battery "D" was located at Fort Sumter, S. C., where the first shots of the Civil War were fired. Most of the regiment served in the Army of the Potomac throughout the Civil War. Btry "D", as it is now known, saw service in many battles, notably the Eleven Days Battle around Richmond in June, 1862, the Second Battle of Bull Run, August 30, 1862, Antietam, September 17, 1862, and Gettysburg, July 3, 1863. Btry "E" fought in the engagements of Seven Pines, White Oak Swamp, Bull Run, Williamsburg, Virginia, 1862, and Antietam, September 16-17, 1862. Btry "F" was practically annihilated at the first battle of Bull Run; on its reorganization, it took part in the battles of Gaines Hill, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Gettysburg, and Hanover Court House. Batteries of the 1st Field Artillery took part in over 70 engagements during the Civil War.

In the Spanish-American War, Btry "D" took part in the battle of El Caney in Cuba, Btries "E" and "F" took part in the campaign in Porto Rico, Btry "D" was sent to the Phillippines in 1899, participating in eighteen engagements.

In 1907 the regiment was re-activated, and in 1917 was re-assembled at Fort Sill, where its permanent station remained until May, 1941, when it joined the 6th Inf. Division at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Ten battle streamers are authorized by the War Department, and are carried on the regimental standard.

Of our other predecessors, the 51st and 53rd F.A. Bns. were originally a part of the 1st F.A. Regt., and the 80th F.A. Bn. has little history that is interesting. It was originally organized as the 22nd Cav. in 1917, and never saw service overseas.

Our past then is a long and glorious one, full of tradition, and of the history of our Nation. It is but natural that our own history should be just as courageous, just as action-filled, and just as glorious.

So much for our history;now to get on with our story. At the time of our activation per par. 22, 30 #89, W. D., Washington, D. C. the idea of the tank destroyer Bn. was so new that many of the officers who joined the Battalion in its early months had scarcely heard of tank destroyers before they received their orders. Consequently, there has been a rapid and steady evolution of equipment, organization and tactics since our inception. By I June 1942, the battalion consisted of 33 officers and 202 enlisted men, and was commanded by Lt. Col. Louis W. Haskell, who had arrived April 23rd. None of the personnel had previous tank destroyer training except the cadre. The equipment at that time consisted of 60 motor vehicles, which included 1/4 tons, motor-cycles and 2-1/2 ton trucks. The entire armament consisted of 56 30 cal. machine guns and 5 22 cal. rifles. Mos of the fillers which had been received were





from the F.A. Replacement Center, Ft. Bragg, N.C. A few were from the Inf. Replacement Center, Camp Croft, S.C. Most of the men were from New York and New England. The average age including the cadre was about 26 years. Fillers and equipment continued to come in, though in small amounts. Training consisted of physical conditioning and driving over the hot, sandy Georgia hills. Weapons training was hampered throughout the summer due to lack of equipment. Contact with the primary weapon, then a half track with a 75mm gun mounted therein, was rare. The 812th TD Bn., a neighbor, had the only ones which the battalion had ever seen. The inexperienced officers, most of whom were lately called to active duty from reserve, gained untold experience in administration. Most of the original officers were trained as field artillerymen. This fact had much to do with the "personality" of the battalion, its future training and tactics. On 12 May 1942 the battalion was assigned to the 2nd Army, and, on 2 July 1942, attached to the 1st Army Corps. On 13 July 1942, Capt. JOHN FLIESCH assumed command due to the transfer of Lt. Col. HASKELL to HQ, Army Ground Forces. On 22 July 1942, Lt. Col. E. A. O'HAIR arrived and assumed command.

The Medical Detachment was activated per par. 20, S.O. 187 W D, Washington. D.C. under the command of 1st Lt. CHARLES C. KISSINGER on 20 July 1942.

In late September the Bn. was ordered to Camp Hood, Texas per S.O. 68, Hq. 811th -T.D. Bn. to undergo training then being conducted by the newly organized Tank Destroyer Center. On October 2nd the outfit loaded its meager equipment, which had been augmented by 6 dilapidated personnel carriers drawn from the "Rollin Fourth" (4th lnf. Div.) half track personnel carriers, on flat cars for the journey, and on October 4th, the train pulled out. Each of the approximately 500 men was equipped with a Thompson sub-machine gun which he had never fired.

This the battalion was off to a new and probably the most important phase of its history, excepting actual combat. Two days later, at an early morning hour, the battalion arrived, and amid much confusion, was unloaded. No speed records were broken, a fact which was never forgotten during training at Hood, and a fact which revealed the "personality" of the outfit. From this bad beginning, the battalion proceeded to break nearly every training record established at that time. Every phase of tank destroyer training was engaged in under close supervision of the 6th Tank Destroyer Group, under the command of Col. B. P. PURDUE. The physical training and close combat training were especially notable, since Camp Hood pioneered the "Commando" type training. Personnel from the battalion were used later at various posts at which the unit was stationed to help with this type of training for other units. So intensive was the physical training there, that the "office commandos" of Headquarters and Headquarters Company were selected for the Army Ground Forces Physical Fitness Test the day after the Christmas, 26 December 1942, and they passed with an 88.23% score, at that time the highest score ever attained at Hood, and rated a commendation from the Group Co. It is impossible and out of place to discuss the scope of training while at Camp Hood. Suffice to say that every man became proficient with his weapon and his vehicle, and became thoroughly imbued with T.D. tactics as evolved as a result of the great desert tank battles which had just ended in North Africa. Just as the prescribed period of training ended, a contingent of 411 men arrived on January 9, 1943, thereby bringing the unit up to strength. The unit now had over 1000 men and officers. These new men were among the first of the draftees who had been called after the draft age limit was lowered to 18 years. Their average age was about 20. Their classification cards showed a marked similarity, a couple of years at good paying jobs, a couple of years in college, or high school graduate farm boys. Nearly all were from Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia. Only one or two had been in the army over four days. Fortunately, the battalion was allowed to remain at Camp Hood for an additional training period, in order to allow these new men to receive their training with all the training aids, equipment, and instructors available there -- in early 1943 equipment for training was still scarce. At the completion of the training of the new men on 28 February 1943 and at a review presenting them to their respective companies (the new men had been trained as a separate unit). Lt. Col. E.A. O'HAIR announced that he had been given command of a Tank Destroyer Group at Camp Bowie, Texas. Major A. R. BROWNFIELD, then Bn. Exec. Officer, assumed command. Shortly thereafter, in early March, 1943, the battalion moved to and built a tent camp at Table Rock Creek Area on the Camp Hood reservation. From there a cadre was sent to Camp Bowie, Texas, to activate the 663rd T.D. Bn. During the two weeks spent at Table Rock Creek, 18 guns, motor carriages, M10, were received. These were 3 inch. highvelocity guns mounted on diesel powered medium tank chassis. At this time the battalion was nearly complete in equipment, being equipped with 12 guns, motor carriage, M3 (half-tracks with 75mm guns), as well as with the above.

On the 16th of March 1943, the battalion entrained for Camp Carson, Colorado, having been assigned to the 3rd Army, per PAC Ltr. AFG, 370.5/6 (Tank Destroyer Units) and SO #52 Hq. TDC, Camp Hood, Texas. Men and equipment were loaded in 2 hours and 56 minutes, another Hood record, and a fact which reflected the state of training of the organization. Training had been intensive, discipline severe, and recreation scarce while at Camp Hood. The battalion arrived at Camp Carson, Colorado, cocksure, and with an esprit de corps not equalled again until after it had been in combat. Its arrival caused considerable interest. An equipment display was held later on Organization Day, 10 April 1943, at which over 5000 officers and men of the post attended. Training consisted chiefly of driving instruction, and firing with the new M-10 on towed targets. Our first birthday was further celebrated with a dinner and a dance, with guests secured by "Local Requisiton" from Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado. On 24 April 1943, the battalion, then attached to the 89th Inf. Div. was reviewed by the President.

On May 22, 1943, the battalion entrained for Camp Laguna, Arizona, having been assigned to the Desert Training Center, per Ltr. Hq. AGF 370.5/21 DTC, Camp Young, California. The train pulled out in a heavy sleet storm. After passing over the snow-capped Rockies, the outfit arrived at Yuma, Arizona, three days later; the temperature was 110° Fahrenheit, and the Medics took care of 8 cases of heat exhaustion that day.

However, the unit soon became acclimated to salt tablets, dehydrated food and the dry heat of the desert, and plunged rapidly into pre-maneuver training, which consisted of desert operation of motorized equipment, and large unit tactics. Group maneuvers with the 5th TD Group, commanded by Col. L. E. JACOBY, to which the battalion was attached, were held.

On 27 July, the battalion moved out of Camp Laguna to participate in the IX Corps' Desert Maneuvers. This maneuver was a gruelling test of the endurance of men and machines. Personal hardships imposed by the terrain and the heat were equalled only a few times in the ETO. The end of maneuvers found the unit capable of maintaining itself in the field, moving over long distances under adverse conditions, and adapting itself to all types of situations and to many orders of battle. The ease with which the battalion later adapted itself to changing orders of battle and to strange units, while in combat can be directly attributed to the experiences gained in this maneuver. The results obtained in the IX Corps Maneuvers are evidenced by letters of commendation.

Upon conclusion of the IX Corps Maneuvers, an intensive training program was carried out to improve the marksmanship of all personnel with all individual weapons. It was also during this period that a procedure for indirect firing was developed. Methods which were used proved to be sound on the range. A short time later the role of supporting artillery, having been proven sound in the Italian Campaign of 1943, was officially recognized as a secondary mission for tank destroyers. The procedure which was prescribed by the Tank Destroyer School was the same as that which was developed by the battalion, and which later proved effective in combat. At the conclusion of this period, the physical condition of all personnel was better than at any other time in the history of the battalion.

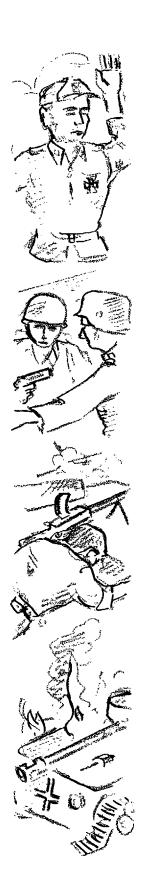
On 17 November 1943, the battalion was on the move again, this time to Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, for change of station, and was assigned to the 2nd Army, per Ltr. ASF 370.5/47 (TD Units). Here new equipment was drawn, since all of the organization's vehicles and guns had been left at Camp Laguna. By this time the Tables of Organization and Equipment had streamlined the tank destroyer battalion, a result of combat experiences in Sardinia, Italy and Africa. The primary weapon now consisted of the gun, motor carriage, M-18, a lightly armored, full tracked vehicle with Christy type suspension, powered by an air cooled, radial engine, and mounting a special 76mm gun. The Car, armored, light, M-8 and M-20, also made its appearance in the organization for the first time. Strength of the battalion was then 764 men and officers. While at Camp Gruber some of the personnel were transferred to the 702 TD Bn., that station, due to an early overseas date for them. During January, 1944, firing with the new M-18 was done on a towed target range built by the Pioneer Platoon of Reconnaissance Company.

On February 19, 1944, the battalion, now called a "Gypsy" outfit by its members, made a combination motor march and rail movement to the Louisiana Maneuver Area, the tracked vehicles moving by rail, and was assigned to the 4th Army, per Ltr. AGF 370, 5/315 (R). Army Maneuvers were already in progress, and the unit plunged into them with its characteristic adaptability. These maneuvers gave the battalion a chance to operate in mud and rain, swamps and woods, roads and highways, as opposed to the wide open spaces of the desert. Standing Operating Procedures crystallized, and formations were worked out to cover all foreseeable eventualities. While on the 4th Army Maneuver, the battalion worked under command of both the 18th and 19th TD Groups. Upon completion of the maneuver, the battalion marched to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, a temporary station, per TWX Hq. 4th Army -SNMAG 720, and was attached to the 12th TD Group, commanded by Col. JAMES J. DERRY. Col. DERRY had commanded the 606th TD Bn. when the 811th TD Bn. was "cadred".

On 17 May 1944, the battalion was alerted for overseas movement and on 26 May 1944, moved to Camp Livingston, Louisiana, a permanent station, per CG, XXI Corps, Camp Polk, Louisiana. The period from the receipt of alert orders until the unit actually moved to the Port of Embarkation was filled with the usual preparations for overseas movement. This included the Army Ground Forces Bn. Firing and Proficiency Test, which was completed about July 10th, with a score of 90%. At the Completion of the Proficiency test, a large number of the personnel were given furloughs.

In early August, 1944, an advance detail consisting of 1st Lt. WILLIS E. HORNING, WOJG RICHARD E. JORGENSEN and Sgt. Harry M. Moore moved to the New York P. of E., and embarked on the lle de France on 17 August 1944. On 25 August, the detail embarked at Gounach, Scotland. It moved to Knook Camp, and remained there until the 1st of September when it departed from Southampton on an LST, and landed on Utah





Beach, France, on the Cherbourg Peninsula. It then moved to Camp 500, in the vicinity of Valognes, France and awaited the arrival of the battalion.

The battalion departed from Camp Livingston by rail on 24 August 1944 for the Boston Port of Embarkation, arriving at Camp Myles Standish, Mass., on 26 August 1944, per letter SPTAB ICD 370.5 (#25A) ASF, Hq. BPOG. Here last minute supplies were drawn and inspections made. On the 4th of September, the unit sailed in two groups, Hq. & Hq. Co. and Rcn. Co. aboard the U.S.S. General J. R. Brooke, and A, B, & C, Cos. aboard the U.S.S. General William H. Gordon. The trip was uneventful and only a few of the less hardy members suffered from sea-sickness, although the holes were extremely hot. The battalion debarked in Cherbourg Harbor on 15 September 1944 and moved to a staging area near Valognes, France.

Following is a roster of the officers and men who landed in France with the Bn:

DEBARKATION ROSTER				
RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY				
_	HEADQUART	ERS PLATOON		
PARSONS, SAMUEL W.	Capt.	ROSENBOOM, RAYMOND B.	Cpl.	
CIPRIANO, JOSEPH F.	lst Lt.	DALGLEISH, JOHN, JR.	Pfc.	
RAY, FREDERICK P.	lst Sgt.	CANFIELD, CLYDE R.	Pfc.	
MORGAN, ROBERT D.	Pfc.	LEVENGOOD, LEVI P.	S/Sgt.	
PARMAN, WILLIAM C.	Tec 4	KOWALSKI, STEPHEN	Tec 5	
HOSTETLER, JAMES S.	Tec 5	MEISE, ERVAN R.	Pfc.	
SMITH, EUGENE	Pvt.	BRYANT, LESTER E.	Tec 5	
DUMAIS, ALPHONSE L.	Tec 5	ADAMS, JAMES O., JR.	Tec 4	
KEMMERY, EDWARD W.	Tec 5	ROBERTS, WILLIE J.	Tec 5	
NIED, THOMAS W.	Pvt.	JORDAN, GEORGE M.	Tec 5	
SMITH, HAROLD P.	S/Sgt.	WILLSEA, WILLIAM L.	Cpl.	
LYNN, DAVID	Tec 4	PEFFER, WALTER L.	S/Sgt.	
MOE, HAROLD L.	Pvt.	BRIDWELL, RALEIGH B.	Tec 4	
STEPP, ELBERT	Sgt.	SIEVERS, HOWARD H.	Tec 4	
BOYD, JOHNNY L., JR.	Tec 5	FOURNIER, HENRY	Tec 5	
	BALLOS, EN	ILE J. Pvt.		
RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY				

FIRST RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON

MAC NEMAR, DUNBAR D.	2d Lt.			
ASH, JOSEPH V.	S/Sgt.	MILLS, ROBERT H.	Pvt.	
WARREN, ASA C., JR.	Tec 5	COTE, LEO F.	Pfc.	
GIALOUSIS, ALEXANDER	Pfc.	GREENE, JOSEPH P.	Pvt.	
MOGARD, PALMER C.	Tec 5	DRIES, ROBERT J.	Pfc.	
BUCHANAN, JAMES B.	Sgt.	BINNING, EARL, JR.	Sgt.	
HERBERS, FREDERICK F.	Pvt.	DAVIS, MELVIN E.	Pvt.	
COSTEIN, JOHN I.	Pvt.	ANDREWS, CLAYTON P.	Pfc.	
FOURNIER, WILFRED G.	Pvt.	MALEC, VINCENT R.	Pvt.	
PRIMEAUX, WILMER	Pvt.	HIGGINS, FRANK C.	Pvt.	
MILEWSKY, JOSEPH M.	Pvt.	DILL, WOODROW W.	Tec 5	

RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

SECOND RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON

HARRIS, GORDON R.	2D Lt.		
MORGAN, NOBLE E.	S/Sgt.	ALLISON, BEN H.	Pfc.
BRENDEL, RALPH J.	Pfc.	WESTLING, LESLIE H.	Pfc.
CHAPMAN, RICHARD C.	Tec 5	HAAS, HOWARD W.	Tec. 5
WILLIAMS, WILLARD	Pvt,	BECKETT, GEORGE M., JR.	Pfc.
SCHNELL, ALBERT E.	Sgt.	BERRY, ROY F.	Sgt.
BARRY, JOHN M.	Pvt.	BERTSCH, WILLIAM G.	Pfc.
BERGER, WESLEY M.	Pvt.	MARSH, MERRILL V.	Pfc.
DE BARBARA, JOHN	Tec 5	NORMAN, WAYMON M.	Pvt.
CARLSON, EDWARD C.	Pvt.	ZIMMERMAN, LAWRENCE F.	Pvt.
WATTS, JOHN T., JR.	Pfc.	MAHN, ARTHUR T.	Pvt.

RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

THIRD RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON

1111.2					
SUNDSTROM, LENNART O.	2D Lt.				
KASZUBA, JOHN	S/Sgt.	ROBINSON, CLIFFORD E.	Pfc.		
BECHER, HAROLD J.	Pfc.	CARTWRIGHT, HERSCHEL E.	Pvt.		
KELLER, KENNETH R.	Tec 5	DICKINSON, MILLARD J.	Tec 5		
BORDENET, ERNEST J.	Tec 5	BRIDGES, LEROY J.	Tec 5		
HOCKEY, GEORGE J., JR.	Sgt.	BARTLEY, CHESTER A.	Sgt.		
HOWELL, SYLVESTER G.	Pfc.	ELLIOTT, LOREN E.	Pvt.		
TAPIA, CRUZ	Pvt.	DAILY, HOWARD C.	Pfc.		
HARPER, MAJOR L.	Pvt.	BOWEN, WALTER C.	Pvt.		
HAYES, HAROLD H.	Pfc.	GAUTHIER, ALFRED A.	Pvt.		
BROOKS, JAMES N.	Pvt.	WEINSTEIN, ARTHUR	Pfc.		

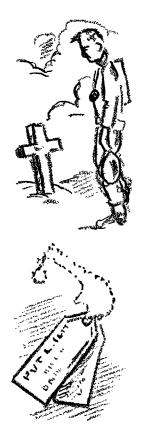
RE		NCE COMPANY	
	PIONEER	PLATOON	
JONES, PAUL W.	lst Lt.		-
TRIVIGNO, FRANK A.	S/Sgt.	LAWS, GLEN T.	Pfc.
DOLT, HUBERT J.	Pfc.	MANFREDO, ANTHONY V.	Pfc.
WILLIAMS, CLARENCE	Pvt.	MILLER, ROBERT E.	Pfc.
MC LEOD, SAMUEL W. PIZZO, HOSEPH J.	Tec 5	GITELSON, HERMAN H.	Sgt. Pfc.
RACER, WALTER R.	Pvt. Tec 5	HOLLIDAY, JAMES	Pvt.
DE AMICIS, WILLIAM M.	Sgt.	TOMLIN, ROBERT M., JR. HARRIS, MILLARD	Pvt.
MILES, SOLOMON	Pvt.	MOGAN, OSCAR B.	Pfc.
BARRETT, JAMES	Pfc.	HALL, NATHAN	Cpl.
STAGGS, LESLIE B.	Tec 5	CHODANY, JOHN	Pvt.
FORST, RALPH J.	Pvt.	WAINSCOTT, RAYMOND R.	Pfc.
HUSTED, LEROY F.	Pvt.	PATTON, CHARLES A.	Pfc.
DICKERSON, VIRGIL C.	Tec 5	MULVIHILL, MAURICE M.	Pfc.
	HEADQUA	ARTERS	
BROWNFIELD, ALBERT R.	Lt. Col.	BRYSON, MELVIN J.	Capt.
PEACOCK, EARL G.	Maj.	GRAVES, CHARLES W.	lst Lt.
TAYLOR, BLAINE C.	Maj.	HORNING, WILLIS E.	lst Lt.
TROYKY, JULIUS	Capt.	JORGENSEN, RICHARD E.	WOJG
		EDE COMPANY	
		ERS COMPANY CADQUARTERS	
CLARKE, HOWARD P., JR	Capt.		
SASS, ROBERT J.	lst/Sgt.	USTLER, JOHN R.	Tec 5
PARMERTER, KENNETH G.	S/Sgt.	TEEPLE, ROBERT H.	Pfc.
KNOWLES, JOSEPH J.	S/Sgt.	BURNETTE, FRANK S.	Pvt.
DABROWSKI, JITCHELL	S/Sgt.	MOORE, WALLACE L.	Pfc.
COHORST, RAYMOND J.	Cpl.	SCHMITT, EARL A.	Pvt.
BARRAGA, JOHN T.	Tec 5	REESE, FRANK E.	Tec 5
BEASLEY, HARRY W.	Pfc.	RITCHIE, WALTER H.	Pfc.
DAVIS, JESSIE W.	Tec 5	YERDEN, GEORGE A.	Píc.
RAMEY, JAMES E.	Tec 5	MOWRY, JOHN R.	Pvt.
LITTLE, SAM	Tec 5	CIOLETTI, IVO J.	Pfc.
MURANKO, JOHN A.	Pvt.	LOCKE, JAMES A.	Pvt.
SAMS, URBAN B.	Tec 5 Tec 4	BREWER, ROBERT	Pvt.
MAGNAVITA, HUGO MARTY, ERNEST F.	Tec 4 Tec 4	HOOGSTAD, EDWARD FISHER, CLARK P.	Pvt. Pvt.
-,			
		ERS COMPANY ION PLATOON	
HUTCHINSON, CHARLES R.	lst Lt.	ION FERIOON	
JOHNSON, JESS B.	T/Sgt.	WELLS, HERBERT R.	Pfc.
PEDERSEN, FLOYD W.	S/Sgt.	DENNIS, RAYMOND O.	Cpl.
PRIEBE, NORMAN A.	Sgt.	EATON, MARTIN L.	Tec 5
FLEMING, RAYMOND E.	Cpl.	LENOX, HEBER C.	Pvt.
COHN, EDWARD D.	Pfc.	WOLF, SILVEN F.	Pvt.
	DEPRIEST,	JOHN E. Tec 4	
н	CADOUARTE	ERS COMPANY	
111	STAFF P		
TANNER, HARRY B.	lst Lt.		
SAWYER, RICHARD F.	lst Lt.		
BENNETT, HOMER T.	M/Sgt.	BERRIER, RAYMOND D.	Pfc.
KINSELY, GLENN O.	T/Sgt.	ARNETT, FLOYD B.	Tec 5
WILLIAMSON, COE E.	T/Sgt.	ZEITZ, HERMAN J.	Pvt.
CORKERY, DENNIS S., JR.	T/Sgt.	BEE, LAWRENCE J.	Pfc.
SVOBODA, HAROLD F.	T/Sgt.	RANDOLPH, CHARLES F.	Tec 5
CLAYMAN, DAVID	S/Sgt.	SEITZ, PAUL F.	Tec 5
MOORE, HARRY M.	Sgt.	CAMERON, ARTHUR J.	Tec 4
BYRN, GLIDDEN E.	Tec 4	BLANKENSHIP, HUSTON D.	Tec 5
PHILLIPS, ROY M.	Tec 5	HUGHEY, PAUL B.	Tec 4
CARMICHAEL, DONALD R.	Tec 5	KOEHN, PAUL F.	Pvt.
CHERRY, JESS E.	Tec 5	OLGREN, EINER H.	Tec 5 Tec 4
SWITZER, JESSE W.	Tec 5	FOULK, ALBERT W.	Tec 4 Tec 4
DENONCOUR, ELDON J. RENNE, ANGELO	Tec 5 Tec 5	REED, JAMES O. Ferdon, floyd E.	Tec 5
		1 21.501, 1 2015 2.	















ZAKEL, JOHN JR. HUX, CLEM J. PATTERSON, ROBERT N. LEMPKA, WALTER A. WINSTEAD, LLOYD E. PAUL, ROLAND KYTE, JACK P. STROUSE, RAYMOND E. LEIS, WILLIE PITRE, CHARLES E. COLLINS, JAMES W. LILLEY, HOWARD L.

TURRELL, DONALD B.

MANHOFF, CHARLES M. MIDDLETON, HAZEL W.

KITTELSON, CLIFTON H.

CHINN, ELMER GROVE, CHARLES G. ONTKO, CLARENCE W. PEAVEY, REYNOLD R. SMITH, LLOYD M.

CRONIN, HENRY J. SAWYER, BURTON C. WITHROW, THOMAS J. CLARK, FRANK G. BAIN, RALPH T. CLAWGES, JAMES P. SARGENT, EDWARD L. MILLICAN, JAMES W. FRIEDEL, PAUL T. BEALER, EARL W. SPINDLE, CHARLES L. FELIX, JULIUS F. EVANS, CHARLES, JR.

HOLTE, CARL ROBINS, ROBERT J. GRAY, JOHNIE A.J.

KAWECKI, ALBERT F. GIBBS, FRANK E. MC KENZIE, FANT THOMPSON, RINER H. STEWART, CORBY PENIX, ORVILLE SMITH, HOWARD H. PROFITT, DOUGLAS TUCKER, EDWARD N. JOHNSON, RICHARD G. TUGGLE, EVERETT W. ALLEGREE, GEORGE R. WEBER, GEORGE H.

CRAFT, FINIS YOUNG, EARNIE L. WESTBROOK, RUSSELL L.

NAPIER, CARL F. MINER, ROBERT R. DITZEL, WALTER H. WILLEN, CLIFFORD H. OGBURN, HENRY A. HEADQUARTERS COMPANY MAINTENANCE PLATOON

Capt. WOJG M/Sgt. DII

M/Sgt.	DILKS, MORRIS F.		Sgt.
T/Sgt.	PICKERING, BENJ	AMIN L.	Tec 4
Pfc.	GRAZIANO, LEON	ARD	Tec 4
Pvt.	BRUNSON, SIDNEY	R.	Tec 4
Tec 4	KERCHOWSKAS, A	LBERT P.	Tec 5
Tec 4	NUZUM, PRESLEY	' W.	Tec 5
Tec 4	KREBS, ELMER B.		Tec 5
Tec 5	CAMPBELL, JOHN	ГТ.	Tec 5
Tec 5	DELO, EARL J.		Tec 5
Tec 4	KRAWEZ, MICHAE	L	Tec 5
KRAWCZY	K, FRANK J.	Tec 4	

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

TRANSPORTATION PLATOON

lst Lt.		
Sgt.	MULCAHY, TIMOTHY A.	Tec 5
Cpl.	RECTOR, BASIL T.	Tec 5
Tec 5	LYON, ROBERT L.	Pfc.
Pvt.	JORDAN, MORRIS L.	Pfc.
Pfc.	TEFFT, MERRILL H.	Tec 5
Tec 5	FIELDS, EARL L.	Pfc.
Tec 5	HAWKINS, MAURICE E.	Pvt.
Tec 5	MEADOWS, CLOWNIE T.	Pvt.
WARRING	ER, RAYMOND R. Tec 5	

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

Ca	pı.		
S/S	Sgt.	TROUTMAN, HAL H.	Tec 5
Тe	с 3	ROBINSON, DONALD D.	Pfc.
Te	c 4	RUIZ, MERCY R.	Pfc.
Τe	с4	SCHNEIDER, ROGER N.	Pfc.
Тe	с 5	SELVEY, ROBERT E.	Pfc.
Te	c 5	BARR, RONALD W.	Pvt.
Cp	1.	KUGELMAN, WALLACE	Pvt.
	SEIBE	CL, EZRA J. Pvt.	

"A" COMPANY HEADOUARTERS PLATOON

	ERO I ERICON	
Capt.		
lst Lt.		
lst Sgt.	GRIGSBY, THAD L.	Tec 4
Tec 5	HARRALSON, ORVILLE B.	Tec 5
Tec 5	EVANS, JOHN G.	S/Sgt.
Tec 5	MATHEWS, PERCY R.	Tec 5
S/Sgt.	JACKSON, WILBUR R.	Cpl.
Pvt.	SCHNELL, ARTHUR	Tec 4
Pfc.	MC KINNEY, CHESTER A.	Tec 5
Pvt.	BEASLEY, JAMES J.	Tec 5
Tec 4	RICHEN, ALEXANDER W.	Cpl.
Tec 5	JORGENSEN, HANS E.	Tec 4
Tec 5	LEWIS, NATHAN	Pvt.
T/Sgt.	WISE, VIRGIL S.	Tec 5
Tec 4	LANE, NOEL B.	Pvt.
Pfc.	HENSON, GEORGE P.	Pvt.

"A" COMPANY

FIRST PLATOON

2d Lt.		
Pvt.	CASADA, MATTHEW	Pfc.
Pvt.	WYGANT, FRED J.	Pfc.
Sgt.	KESTLER, CHARLES F.	Tec 4
Pvt.	HILL, IRA	Pvt.
Pvt.	STEWART, WILLIAM E.	Pvt.
Pvt.	BOCKHOLD, RALPH T.	Pfc.
Pvt.	WAHL, RAYMOND J.	Pvt.
Tec 5	MERCIER, ARTHUR W.	Tec 5
Cpl.	KIMBALL, JOHN G.	S/Sgt.
Pvt.	WEST, HARVEY B.	Pvt.
Pvt.	BURKE, THOMAS M.	Cpl.
Píc.	STUMP, WALTER A.	Pvt.

	-	DMPANY	
	C	Lon't	
KAHL, ROBERT L.	Tec 5	STACY, HAROLD	Tec 4
BACKER, HARRISON Y.	Sgt.	NEWITZ, JACK	Cpl.
TACKITT, ROBERT L.	Cpl.	PARSONS, BENJAMIN H.	Pvt.
ALFORD, ALVIN L.	Pfc.	KAUFER, CHARLES E.	Tec 5
		COMPANY	
		D PLATOON	
WHITING, RUSSELL H.	lst Lt.	PUCKETT, HARRY J.	Pfc.
DOAK, CHESTER O. SPRADLIN, NORMAN	Pvt. Pvt.	WELLS, AVERY	Cpl.
CAUDETTE, ROLAND D.	Sgt.	BRATCHER, CHARLEY A.	Pfc.
STEIER, FRANK A.	Pfc.	WRIGHT, CLARENCE R.	Pvt.
RATCLIFF, JAMES R.	Pvt.	HOFFMAN, FRED A.	Tec 5
BROCK, WILLIS	Pvt.	JACKSON, EMMETT, JR.	Pvt.
GOLDBERG, SAMUEL	Pfc.	LEMMONDS, FRED B.	S/Sgt.
COCUZZA, PETER M.	Tec 5	CARTER, WESLEY T.	Sgt.
MC CAULEY, LORENZIE J.	Cpl.	NABORS, CARL M.	Cpl.
JONES, CHARLIE	Pvt.	FIGG, CLEDIS L.	Pfc.
PRATER, ERNEST L.	Pfc.	MULVANEY, DONALD B.	Tec 4
SHAMBLIN, JOEL C.	Pvt.	HANRAHAN, ALBERT J.	Sgt.
TURNER, RAYMOND C.	Pfc.	CURRY, ALLEN W.	Cpl. Pfo
DAHM, HAROLD M.	Sgt.	CASSELL, WILLIAM N.	Pfc. Pvt.
RECTOR, JAMES L. KIKES, ORVILLE L.	Cpl. Píc.	BRANHAM, HAROLD L. BISHOP, ROBERT J.	Tec 5
KIKES, ORVIELE L.	FIC.	BISHOF, KOBERT J.	100 5
	''A'' C	COMPANY	
		PLATOON	
COLBURN, CHARLES J.	lst Lt.	<u> </u>	
SMITH, FRASIER E.	Pvt.	DREBY, NELSON A.	Tec 4
NOVOTNEY, PAUL J.	Pfc.	TOMASZEWSKI, GEORGE L.	Sgt.
PERNA, NORMAN C.	Sgt.	MEADOWS, JOHN W.	Cpl.
SIMS, DONALD L.	Pfc.	WINKLEPLECK, JOHN E.	Pfc.
DEUTSCH, ABRAHM	Pvt.	SIMS, HERMON	Pfc.
SPEER, DWIGHT M.	Pvt.	KANE, VINCENT J.	Tec 5
ROBINSON, ERNEST J.	Pvt.	GANZ, WALTER J.	Sgt.
CASTORIA, PRISCO G.	Tec 5	JUDGE, WILLIAM H.	Sgt.
STRETCH, NORMAN	Cpl.	COOPER, JAMES C.	Cpl.
MANNINGS, EARL R.	Pfc.	SCHMUHL, GEORGE M.	Pfc.
DIXON, ERNEST R.	Pvt. Pt	SKINNER, ROBERT S.	Tec 4
HALL, CHARLIE	Pvt.	BUZBEE, WATSON C.	Sgt.
WISE, THOMAS A. HAGER, JACK E.	Tec 5 Sgt.	BUSH, MAURICE R. MITCHELL, VIRGIL O.	Cpl. Pvt.
MC KENZIE, KENNETH	Cpl.	HAVEN, OLAN O.	Pvt.
JASPER, LADD	Pfc.	HAYS, GEORGE, JR.	Pfc.
·····			
	''B'' C	COMPANY	
-	IEADQUAR	TERS PLATOON	
MC CONKIE, FRANCE B.	Capt.		
DALLE TEZZE, DANTE J.	lst Lt.		
CHAILLE, JACK H.	S/Sgt.	LINTON, CHARLES N.	Tec 4
BOWEN, ELIHUE S.	Tec 4	LENZ, FRANCIS F.	Tec 5
RODD, CHARLES R.	Cpl.	HARALSON, WILLIAM L.	S/Sgt.
HAYMORE, SANFORD W.	Pvt.	FORE, FRANCIS P.	Tec 4
SHUPIENIS, JOSEPH J.	S/Sgt.	GRADWICK, STANLEY E.	Tec 5
STACY, VEXTER A.	Sgt. Pfc.	SHAW, CARL S.	Tec 5 Tec 5
EAGLE, RALPH M. EALEY, THURMAN	Pvt.	SHIPLEY, LAMOINE E. GRESS, REX C.	Tec 4
HANDLEY, EARL H.	Tec 4	KOCAL, ADAM R.	Cpl.
COOTS, CARL, JR.	Tec 5	MARRONE, VICTOR	Tec 4
BOGLE, BILL	Pvt.	BARTH, CHARLES	Pvt.
DUNCAN, JAMES C.	S/Sgt.	HOLDREN, ELMER C.	Tec 5
LIVESAY, SWAN L.	Tec 4	CURTIS CLARENCE E.	Tec 5
	JORDA	AN, HENRY A. Pfc.	
		OMPANY	
		PLATOON	
TORGERSON, JEROME H.	lst Lt.		Pfc.
GREGORY, CLIFTON L.	Tec 5	SCHELLER, VALENTINE	Tec 5
STAUFFER, LESLIE L. DONALDSON. BILL M.	Pfc. Tec 5	IGRAS, EDWARD W. Apodaca, William J.	Sgt.
	100 2		- Q -

APODACA, WILLIAM J.

Tec 5

DONALDSON, BILL M.



	<u>*B* COMPANY</u> <u>FIRST PLATOON</u> Con't			
- A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	KUCINSKI, JOSEPH F. MC GOWAN, CHARLES F. LEAMAN, EARL B.	Sgt. Pvt. Pfc.	WINCHESTER, PINK PASELA, STANLEY F. ADAMS, HOWARD F.	Cpl. Píc. Píc.
	BEAN, ERNEST	Pvt.	DENT, JOSEPH F.	Tec 4
	JOVINE, RAY HARRISON, JOHNNIE B.	Pvt. Tec 5	DE JOVINE JOY, NORMAN H.	S/Sgt. Sgt.
	SMITH, JOHN E.	Cpl.	HATCHER, ROY L.	Cpl.
TO FILL R	MAEURER, HERMAN A. TAULBEE, ANDREW P.	Cpl. Pvt.	SIKORA, BROWNIE P. GAUSE, JACK	Pvt. Tec 4
And a state of the	RUSH, PAUL E.	Pvt.	GLASNER, TONY	Sgt.
and the second second second	VANNATTA, RALPH B., JR. PAULEY, CHARLES W.	Tec 5 Sgt.	ALDERMAN, EVERETT E. NOLAN, LOUIS A.	Cpl. Pvt.
	TANDY, DEROY L.	Cpl.	BURRIS, CHARLES E.	Pvt.
		DU LANEY,	HERBERT L. Tec 4	
A FR	NORTON, ARCHIE W.	<u>''B'' CO</u> SECOND I 2d Lt.	MPANY PLATOON	
	ROYSTER, ELWOOD	Pvt.	CHANDLEY, ELMER J.	Tec 4
BO KAR	BERSSON, LEONARD E. HOPKINS, PATRICK J.	Pvt. Sgt.	FERENZ, THEODORE J. HOLTZCLAW, ALVIS G.	Sgt. Cpl.
	RIEGER, DONN H.	Pvt.	ALLEN, FOREST E.	Pvt.
	TYLER, CHARLES L. POPPEL, CLIFFORD H.	Pvt. Pvt.	SIDEBOTTOM, HOMER W. WILLIAMS, TROY W.	Pvt. Tec 5
and the second sec	SMITH, MICHAEL J.	Pfc.	FARKAS, JOHN J.	S/Sgt.
~~ \u	DUNCAN, CLAUDE F. MEUSE, EARL F.	Tec 5 Cpl.	THOMAS, HARRY H.	Sgt.
TANK T	BURCHETT, DARRELL	Pfc.	BAUER, RAYMOND M. HERRING, RUSSELL A.	Pfc. Pfc.
	COULSON, THOMAS W.	Pfc.	BAYES, ARTHUR	Tec 4
	HOPPES, WARNER SKINNER, HUBERT R.	Pvt. Tec 5	JONES, LESTER D. PERDUE, EVERETT C.	Cpl. Cpl.
	MILLION, THOMAS H.	Sgt.	TRUE, JOHN E.	Pfc.
	GONYO, RICHARD G. GLENN, JAMES H.	Cpl. Pvt.	SHELLY, RALPH A. TUCKER, JAMES	Pfc. Tec 5
022	" <u>B" COMPANY</u> THIRD PLATOON			
	ADAMS, ISAAC C.	2d Lt.		
à la c	HUMPHREY, JOE S. MERRIFIELD, FRED M.	P fc. Pvt.	HARPOLD, FRED W. WALKER, WILLIAM J.	Tec 4 Sgt.
·***	LEWIS, WILLIAM H.	Sgt.	GOSSELIN, ALPHONSE S.	Cpl.
	GARTEN, JAMES J. HOPEK, PAUL P.E.	Pvt. Pfc.	PERKINS, JAMES B. SHEEDY, JOSEPH E.	Pvt. Pvt.
	DAVIS, RANDALL W.	Pvt.	MYERS, WINSTON D.	Tec 4
	SCHMIDT, RAYMOND H. MIDDLETON, LAWRENCE D.	Pvt. Tec 5	EVANCHUCK, JOSEPH MARLATT, HOWARD I.	S/Sgt. Sgt.
S TAKA	BOYD, WILLIAM G.	Cpl.	MUNDY, JOHNNIE D.	Cpl.
Well Y	JONES, EUGENE LILLARD, MONO	Pvt. Pvt.	CONLEY, JACK NEWMAN, FREDERICK E.	Pfc. Pvt.
	SMITH, HERBERT	Pvt.	HUNT, LEONARD C.	Pvt.
	BASFORD, EUGENE R. MITROS, FRANK A.	Tec 5 Sgt.	COBLE, HENRY M. EMMONS, GEORGE H.	Pvt. Pfc.
	NUCKOLS, CHARLES O.	~ 5 * *		
	Receiced, childed c.	Cpl.	SHRADER, LEWIS D.	Pvt.
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R.	Cpl. Pfc.	SHRADER, LEWIS D. STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR.	Pvt. Tec 5
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R.	Pfc. "C" CO ADQUARTE	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR.	
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R.	Pfc.	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY	
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R. COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G. CARTER, EUGENE H.	Pfc. ''C'' CO CADQUARTE Capt. 1st Lt. 1st Sgt.	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY IRS PLATOON DAVITTO, JOSEPH	Tec 5 Tec 4
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R. COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G.	Pfc. '' <u>C''</u> CO ADQUARTE Capt. 1st Lt.	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY TRS PLATOON	Tec 5
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R. HE COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G. CARTER, EUGENE H. MITCHELL, BILL HUCKLEBERRY, CHARLES JOYNER, JOHN A.	Pfc. <u>CADQUARTE</u> Capt. 1st Lt. 1st Sgt. Pvt. Pfc. Tec 5	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY IRS PLATOON DAVITTO, JOSEPH GRASMANN, COURTLAND J. CAUSEY, JOHN THIMAS, ROBERT P.	Tec 5 Tec 4 Tec 5 S/Sgt. Tec 4
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R. HE COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G. CARTER, EUGENE H. MITCHELL, BILL HUCKLEBERRY, CHARLES JOYNER, JOHN A. NARJES, EDWIN F.	Pfc. <u>Capt.</u> 1st Lt. 1st Sgt. Pvt. Pfc. Tec 5 S/Sgt.	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY IRS PLATOON DAVITTO, JOSEPH GRASMANN, COURTLAND J. CAUSEY, JOHN THIMAS, ROBERT P. MC CONATHY, HOWARD G.	Tec 5 Tec 4 Tec 5 S/Sgt.
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R. HE COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G. CARTER, EUGENE H. MITCHELL, BILL HUCKLEBERRY, CHARLES JOYNER, JOHN A. NARJES, EDWIN F. EVANS, GEORGE L. WILSON, KENNETH L.	Pfc. <u>''C'' CO</u> CADQUARTE Capt. 1st Lt. 1st Sgt. Pvt. Pfc. Tec 5 S/Sgt. Sgt. Pfc.	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY TRS PLATOON DAVITTO, JOSEPH GRASMANN, COURTLAND J. CAUSEY, JOHN THIMAS, ROBERT P. MC CONATHY, HOWARD G. MATTLE, JOSEPH L. GILES, FRANCIS E.	Tec 5 Tec 4 Tec 5 S/Sgt. Tec 4 Pfc. Tec 4 Tec 5
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R. HE COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G. CARTER, EUGENE H. MITCHELL, BILL HUCKLEBERRY, CHARLES JOYNER, JOHN A. NARJES, EDWIN F. EVANS, GEORGE L. WILSON, KENNETH L. SANDERS, FRANCIS C.	Pfc. "C" CO CADQUARTE Capt. 1st Lt. 1st Sgt. Pvt. Pfc. Tec 5 S/Sgt. Sgt. Pfc. Pfc. Pfc.	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY CRS PLATOON DAVITTO, JOSEPH GRASMANN, COURTLAND J. CAUSEY, JOHN THIMAS, ROBERT P. MC CONATHY, HOWARD G. MATTLE, JOSEPH L. GILES, FRANCIS E. WEEBER, ROBERT W.	Tec 5 Tec 4 Tec 5 S/Sgt. Tec 4 Pfc. Tec 4 Tec 5 Tec 4
	EXAMPLE A CONTRESS SCHNIER, ROBERT R. HE COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G. CARTER, EUGENE H. MITCHELL, BILL HUCKLEBERRY, CHARLES JOYNER, JOHN A. NARJES, EDWIN F. EVANS, GEORGE L. WILSON, KENNETH L. SANDERS, FRANCIS C. PENNYPACKER, EDWIN G. MORAN, THOMAS J.	Pfc. "C" CO CADQUARTE Capt. 1st Lt. 1st Sgt. Pvt. Pfc. Tec 5 S/Sgt. Sgt. Pfc. Pfc. Tec 4 Tec 5	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY TRS PLATOON DAVITTO, JOSEPH GRASMANN, COURTLAND J. CAUSEY, JOHN THIMAS, ROBERT P. MC CONATHY, HOWARD G. MATTLE, JOSEPH L. GILES, FRANCIS E. WEEBER, ROBERT W. ALLEN, RALPH MANSAVAGE, MAX L.	Tec 5 Tec 4 Tec 5 S/Sgt. Tec 4 Pfc. Tec 4 Tec 5 Tec 4 Cpl. S/Sgt.
	SCHNIER, ROBERT R. HE COLLINS, DAVID G. O'CONNOR, EDWARD G. CARTER, EUGENE H. MITCHELL, BILL HUCKLEBERRY, CHARLES JOYNER, JOHN A. NARJES, EDWIN F. EVANS, GEORGE L. WILSON, KENNETH L. SANDERS, FRANCIS C. PENNYPACKER, EDWIN G.	Pfc. "C" CO CADQUARTE Capt. 1st Lt. 1st Sgt. Pvt. Pfc. Tec 5 S/Sgt. Sgt. Pfc. Pfc. Tec 4	STUCKENBORG, JOSEPH J., JR. MPANY CRS PLATOON DAVITTO, JOSEPH GRASMANN, COURTLAND J. CAUSEY, JOHN THIMAS, ROBERT P. MC CONATHY, HOWARD G. MATTLE, JOSEPH L. GILES, FRANCIS E. WEEBER, ROBERT W. ALLEN, RALPH	Tec 5 Tec 4 Tec 5 S/Sgt. Tec 4 Pfc. Tec 4 Tec 5 Tec 4 Cpl.

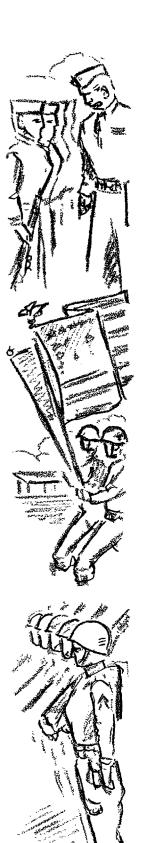
<u>"C" COMPANY</u> HEADQUARTERS PLATOON				
-	Co			
DONNELLY, THOMAS J.	Tec 4	BURDETTE, STANLEY C.	Tec 5	
	ACTION,	HUBERT H. Píc.		
	"C" CC	OMPANY		
		LATOON		
ORR, DAN S.	lst Lt.		D/	
CHANDLER, WILLIAM A.	Pfc.	CALLOWAY, LINWOOD	Píc. Tec 5	
LARKIN, LEE M. CASHDOLLAR, ELMER E.	Pvt. Pvt.	ALLGOWER, WALTER R. ZACHARILLA, DOMENIC	Sgt.	
REYNOLDS, MORGAN T.	Sgt.	GROGAN, FREDERICK E.	Cpl.	
DEETCH, EARL E.	Pfc.	GIDSON, LELAND E.	Pfc.	
RATLIFF, EVERT L.	Pvt.	FREY, DEREE M.	Pvt.	
SKINNER, WOODROW	Pvt. Píc.	ANDERSON, WILLIAM M. COULTER, BERTRAM C.	Tec 4 S/Sgt.	
ATKINS, CHARLES V. KERNS, HOWARD C.	$T_e c 5$	DEWLEY, JAMES F.	Sgt.	
JOHNSON, RAY N.	Cpl.	MURPHY, WALTER W.	Cpl.	
TURNER, ARCHIE	Pvt.	HAUSER, JOSEPH E.	Pfc.	
CAMPBELL, WILLARD J.	Pvt.	WRIGHT, BUD E.	Tec 4	
ALIANO, FRANK	Tec 5	SMITH, CHARLES G.	Sgt. Cpl.	
THOMAS, HENRY U. HARRELSON, WILLIAM T.	Sgt. Cpl.	MOOMAW, CLYDE M. WILSON, VOYNE P.	Pfc.	
CAMPBELL, JOHN H.	Pvt.	PERRY, ROY C.	Pvt.	
-	BLOC	KER, FLOYD R. Tec 5		
		DMPANY PLATOON		
DODGE, HAROLD L., JR.	2d Lt.			
COLVIN, RAYMOND J.	Pvt.	ARCHER, HARVEY E.	Tec 4	
GROGINSKI, JOHN A.	Pvt.	STEVENS, JAMES C.	Sgt.	
MITCHELL, CHARLES E.	Sgt.	FOX, SAM J.	Cpl.	
ARIS, EDWARD J.	Pvt.	TENDRICH, IRVING	Pvt. Pvt.	
KOCKLER, HARRY A. MILLER, WILLIAM B.	Pvt. Tec 5	KOLLING, JOHN P. HASKINS, CLARENCE C.	Tec 5	
TURLEY, HOWARD D.	Pfc.	FISHER, WILLIAM A.	S/Sgt.	
ALBRECHT, GEORGE P.	Tec 5	ASH, PAUL J.	Sgt.	
OSMON, ARTHUR R.	Cpl.	ARMSTRONG, HUGH L., JR.	Cpl.	
VOLK, CHARLES S., JR.	Pvt.	FOWLER, HERMAN F.	Pvt.	
HUOT, JOHN F. TOOMEY, BUFORD W.	Pvt. Pvt.	DUNAWAY, CARLOS D. GORMAN, JOHN	Tec 4	
MITCHELL, DON E.	Tec 5	WYTHE, ALLEN N.	Sgt, Cpl.	
WILLIAMS, THOMAS C.	Sgt.	MAHAN, JAMES A.	Tec 5	
CONGER, CLIFFORD C.	Cpl.	PAVLICKI, WALTER	Pvt.	
SQUILLANTE, DOMENIC G.	Pfc.	OBERHAUSEN, LEO	Tec 5	
	"C" C(OMPANY		
		PLATOON		
BONG, CHARLES G.	2d Lt.			
PEARSON, JOHN D.	Pfc.	TAYLOR, PAUL G.	Tec 4	
DWYER, GEORGE J. FREEMAN, CECIL D.	Pfc. Sgt.	EWING, MAURICE E. ANDREWS, GEORGE H.	Sgt.	
BRYANT, JOHN B.	Pfc.	BAKER, CURTIS	Cpl. Pvt.	
MICHALIK, KAROL C.	Pfc.	ASARO, FRANK T.	Pvt.	
WALTERS, WILLIAM G.	Pvt.	LAKES, EDWARD M.	Tec 5	
BECKEMEYER, MARVIN J.	Pvt.	FRUITS, HERBERT M.	S/Sgt.	
WERGLAND, HANS C.	Tec 5	BAUGHMAN, ELDEN T.	Sgt.	
HACKMAN, OTTO H. SCALETTA, ANTHONY A.	Cpl. Pvt.	RODY, CARL V. NEWTON, JAMES M.	Cpl. Pfc.	
RICHARD, HAROLD J.	Pvt.	SPINKS, LYLE W.	Tec 4	
KEPHART, NATHANIEL R.	Pvt.	SHIPULSKI, STANLEY	Sgt.	
KNOOP, VIRGIL W.	Tec 5	ZICKAFOOSE, WARREN E.	Cpl.	
GARDNER, WILLIAM E.	Sgt.	RICHARD, GEORGE L.	Pfc.	
RUEBUSCH, RAYMOND L.	Cpl. Dut	CALCOTE, JEFF	Pvt.	

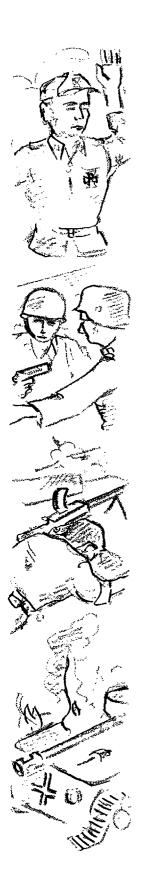
GRAF, WALTER R.

Tec 5

RUEBUSCH, KING, JOHN C.

Pvt.





At Valognes Staging Area the Battalion having been assigned to the 9th U.S. Army, awaited the unloading of its equipment and the issue of General Purpose Vehicles. All equipment except general purpose vehicles had been assembled at a staging area in the States, and shipped in the same convoy as the personnel. By 5 October 1944 most of the equipment had been received and on 6 October 1944 the Bn. moved to La Mare du Parc, France. Here the Bn. was attached to the III Corps. On 6 October 1944, the Bn. assumed the defense of the Normandy Peninsula, from Bretteville on the south to Dielette on the north. Rcn. Co. maintained 8 OP's and two road patrols, and the balance of the unit was on a 30 minute alert. T/5 Arnette, Hq. Co., there struck a mine with his jeep and was killed on the beach east of Carteret in late October, our first battle casualty. At that time there was reported to have been some 18,000 to 20,000 German troops on Guernsey and Jersey Island just off the coast. A raiding party from these islands actually came ashore near Granville, and took a number of prisoners in March 1945. During our own stay there the Bn. was called out on two alerts that ended up as "dry runs".

The Bn. was relieved on 5 November 1944 of the defense of the Normandy Peninsula and came under the command of the 1st U.S. Army, and was attached to the XVI Corps, per Mut. Order #417 Hq. NBS, Com 2, ETD. On or about 10 October 1944 the M-18's were fired for calibration into the English Channel from positions near Dielette. Pvt. Moran, Co. C. struck a mine in this position blowing a wheel off his M-20.

After nearly two months in the mud, orchards, and hedge rows of Normandy, and after the men had received their first lessons in "French" and "Calvados" the Battalion received orders from Normandy Base Section to move to Mersch, Luxembourg. On 11 November 1944 a combination rail and motor move was started. the M18's moved out by rail, the M32's by tank transport, and the balance of the unit moved by road. On arrival of the wheel column on 13 November 1944, the Battalion went into bivouac in the vicinity of Berg, Luxembourg, 8 miles north of Mersch, and was attached to CCR, 9th Armored Division, then in the VIII Corps. The track vehicles arrived at Mersch 3 days later, and moved into bivouac with the rest of the Battalion.

On 23 November 1944 the Battalion was organized for combat. Company A, with the first Platoon of Reconnaissance Company, was attached to CCB, 9th Armored Division, and moved to Hachiville, Luxembourg. On 24 November 1944 Company B and C went into indirect fire positions near Consdorf, Luxembourg. A Battalion fire direction center was set up at Scheidgen, Luxembourg. The Battalion CP was trains were located in Consdorf, Luxembourg, and Reconnaissance Company was at Christmach, Luxembourg. Reconnaissance Company established OP's at Berdorf and Lauterbourn over looking the Siegfried Line across the Our River. Lt. Richard F. Sawyer and Lt. Paul W. Jones acted as air observers using Division Artillery planes. Fire was conducted continuously and was of a harassing and interdictory nature, since very few targets of opportunity presented themselves. The additional range of the 76mm gun was used to extend the range of the Division Artillery's 105mm "Hows". Fire was conducted and positions were improved until 14 December 1944, when Company C was ordered to report to CCR, 9th Armored Division.

The Company moved out at 0800 hours, destination, vicinity Troix Verges, Belgium. On the eve of the Battle of the Ardennes the Battalion was organized for Combat as follows: Company A was attached to CCB, 9th Armored Division, and was located in the vicinity of Liethium, Belgium. Company B under Battalion control was in indirect fire positions just southwest of Consdorf, Luxembourg. Company C at Thommen, Belgium, was attached to CCR, 9th Armored Division. Reconnaissance Company, less the first and third Platoons, was at Christnach, Luxembourg, under Battalion control. The first and third Platoons were attached to Companies A and C, respectively. Hq. & Hq. Co., less one ammunition truck and one gas truck to each of Companies A and C, was at Consdorf, Luxembourg, under Battalion control. Battalion CP was located at Consdorf, Luxembourg, with a fire direction center at Schiedgen, Luxembourg. The Battalion was attached to Division Artillery, 9th Armored Division, then located at Fels, Luxembourg. On 15 December 1944 plans were being made to move the gun positions to the vicinity of Haller, Luxembourg, to occupy a sector between the 28th Infantry Division on the north and the 4th Infantry Division on the south. At 0600 hours on 16 December 1944 considerable enemyartillery fire fell in the Schiedgen-Consdorf area. OP's at Lauterbaurn and Berdorf, which were in process of being moved, were ordered remanned. Lt. Gordon R. Harris was unable to man the Lauterbaurn OP due to enemy fire. Capt. Samuel W. Parsons arrived at Berdorf at 0800 hours and found that enemy in considerable strength was attacking the town. Company B was ordered to move to its previously reconnoitered positions in the vicinity of Haller, and moved out at approximately 1000 hours. By this time the S-2 had reported that the enemy had attacked along the VIII Corps front and that the towns of Berdorf, Lauterborn, Osweiler and Dickweiler were held by the enemy. Reconnaissance in the vicinity of Beaufort, Luxembourg, to the north of Company B's new positions was halted due to heavy artillery fire and enemy dismounted action. At 1450 hours orders were received to occupy new positions in the vicinity of Waldbillig, Luxembourg. The 60th Armored Infantry Battalion to the north was reported to be cut off. The Battalion CP was set up at Waldbillig. Reconnaissance Company remained at Christnach. At approximately midnight 16-17 December 1944 Waldbillig was shelled. At 1045 hours on 17 December 1944 an enemy force was reported advancing on the southern flank through the Mullerthal draw.

