

SECRET

OP 19  
Eto  
/c/

HEADQUARTERS  
813TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION (SP)  
A.P.O. NO. 403, U.S. ARMY

July Aug Sep 44

From: 0001 hrs 1 Sept 1944  
To : 2400 hrs 30 Sept 1944

SUBJECT : Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

TO : Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (THRU CHANNELS).

FOREWARD: On 1 September 1944, the 813th Tank Destroyer Bn (SP) was still attached to the 79th Inf Div. Among the more outstanding of the operations for the month which will be discussed more in detail in the succeeding pages of this report were the following:

- a. March of the Bn to the Belgian border.
- b. The action on 29 Sept 44.
- c. Accomplishments of the Bn (Co B) firing XV Corps Arty missions.

1 Sept 44 At 1530 hrs the Bn CP Grp moved out taking the following route: CLERMONT, GRAND FITZ JAMES, ANGENLIEU, ERQUINVILLERS, LIEUVILLERS, EPAYELLE, ROLLOT, BOULONNE LA GRASSE, ONVILLERS, REMAUGIES, FESCAMPS, where they went into biv for the night, distance traveled 70.3 miles closing in at 2420 hrs. In the great majority of the moves of the Bn CP Grp, the Bn Med Aid Det accompanied the group. Ren Co closed in CLERY Coord 5260; all ren pls went on route reconn NE to SOMME RIVER. Co A closed in PEUILLERES Coord 5061 marching with the 313th Inf CT with the 3rd pl acting as advance guard and the rest of the company in general support, distance traveled 67 miles. Cos B and C marching with the 314th and 315th Inf Regts closed in HAM Coord 4966, distance traveled 68 miles.

2 Sept 44 The next morning at about 0815 hrs, 2 Sept, 44, the Bn moved across the SOMME RIVER on the bridge constructed by the 304th Eng. route: MONACU, CLERY SUR SOMME, BOUCHAVESNES, MOISLAINS, MANACOURT, YTRES, METZ\*EN\*COEUR, TRESCAULT, HAVRAINCOURT, CONTAIN PETIT FONTAINE, CALBRAI, RAMILLES, ESTRUN, HARDAIN, DOUCHY ANNON, closing in on the Belgian border at 0130 hrs, 3v Sept 44 at Coord 888197, distance traveled 75.5 miles, with the 2nd pl of Ren Co on route reconn for the Bn. and the 1st and 3rd pls on reconn for Cos A and C. Co A moved across the SOMME stopping in CLERV where the pls went into pos at once to guard the bridgehead across the River. At 1200 hrs the Co moved out closing 1 1/2 miles NE of RUELEGIES about 1000 yds west of the Belgian border arriving there at 0130 hrs, 3 September 44, with the rest of the Bn. The coord of Co's pos were 8919; of Co B 8820 (RUEPROVOST); of Co C, the same. The 2nd pl of Co C captured 11 Germans after firing cal .50 MG ammo and 2 rds of HE.

4088370.2

103-63.2

(on Jan 45)

SECRET

DEC 12 1945

324  
DEC 1945

*[Handwritten signature]*

Incl #2

3 Sept 44            During the next two days that followed the Bn spent most of the time  
&                    in the maintenance of vehicles and profiting by a slight rest period which  
4 Sept 44            included short passes to the nearby town of St AMAND for showers and  
&                    recreation. At 2130 hrs on 5 Sept 44, the Bn received an alert for move-  
5 Sept 44            ment by ass't G-3 of 79th Inf Div. destination as then unknown but pro-  
                      bable starting time somewhere on 6 Sept or 7 Sept . The Bn was told  
                      that it was no longer assigned to the 1st Army but to the 3rd Army but  
                      that assignment was not officially confirmed until a later date.

6 Sept 44            On 6 Sept 44, the C.O. of Company A became Bn S-3 and the then S-3  
                      became Company A C.O. Information was also received that the destination  
                      of the Bn would be an area 7 miles S of REIMS, and on 7 Sept 44, at 0900  
                      hrs the Bn left ORTHIES moving to 7 miles S of REIMS traveling 161 miles  
                      closing at 2200 hrs. The weather from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs was rainy,  
                      but the Bn convy had clear weather from 1600 hrs to 2200 hrs. The road  
                      conditions were good but the condition of the tracked vehicles was  
                      questionable in that on many of the vehicles the tracks were greatly worn  
                      and retracking was highly necessary. The Bn, however, on 8 Sept 44 was  
                      ordered to move again despite the condition already described moving those  
                      M-10s which were safe to move in regular convoy and the others at reduced  
                      speeds, to insure safety. Co C had moved previously traveling with CT  
                      5 (COMBAT TEAM 315)

8 Sept 44            At 1030 hrs 8 Sept 44, the Bn less Co C moved from the FOREST OF  
                      CHALPAGNE (ARDENNES) traveling 125.9 miles and closing in MATHONS Coord  
                      006836. The move into this area brought the Bn within a few miles of  
                      JOINVILLE from which point the 79th Inf Div to which the Bn was attached  
                      was to jump off towards the next Obj (Vic of CHARLES). The Bn for the  
                      most part was located in the Foret de MATHONS with Co C in pos near  
                      POISSONS with the 315th Inf Regt. Five of Co C M-10s came into the biv  
                      area with several M-10s in very much need of repair and retracking.

9 Sept 44            This day was spent in care and cleaning of equipment after the long  
                      road marches already described. The Bn C.O. requested that Co C atchd  
                      to 315th Inf Regt be relieved by one company of the 773rd TD Bn so as to  
                      allow the company to retrack and do general maintenance along with the  
10 Sept 44            rest of the companies. The request was acted upon and accepted and on  
                      10 Sept 44, Co C returned to Bn control going into biv near MATHONS, at  
                      Coord 0083.

11 Sept 44            On 11 Sept 44, at approx 1700 hrs the Bn moved to JOINVILLE into  
                      the area vacated by the 79th Inf Div which had moved on towards CHARLES.  
                      Coord of Bn 0885.

11 Sept to            This period was devoted to intensive maintenance of all tracked  
17 Sept Inc.            vehicles and most of the M-10s were retracked with the Bn sending trucks  
                      back to UTAH Beach to obtain the tracks.

                      From 1 Sept 44 to 8 Sept 44 the Bn traveled a total of approximately  
                      150 miles. Between the period 11 Sept to 17 Sept 44 the Bn on 11 Sept  
                      moved as has been stated to JOINVILLE. On that day the Bn received 4 M-10s  
                      as replacements. The Bn Motr Maint. was moved to JOINVILLE with the Bn  
                      less the Bn rear Ech which remained in MATHONS. On 12 Sept the Bn received  
                      4 additional M-10s and 4 Officers and 24 EM as replacements. On 13th Sept  
                      one man was killed and another seriously injured as a result of a motor  
                      accident. On 14 Sept the PFI brought in 122 prisoners (5 Off and 117 EM)  
                      and this Bn transported these PWS to the Third ARMY inclosure.

S E C R E T

11 Sept 44 On 15 September the Bn was alerted for movement from the area at  
to JOINVILLE to an assembly area at VOMECOURT to arrive there 16 Sept 44.  
17 Sept 44 At 1010 hrs the Bn moved out and closed in on BETTONCOURT (835735) at 1600  
(Continued) hrs, 16 Sept 44, distance traveled 70 miles. The Bn Rr Ech moved to the  
vacated area at JOINVILLE. At 1130 hrs the Bn S-3 reported to the C.O. of  
the 773rd TD Bn to coordinate defenses in the 79th Inf Div sector. The  
813th TD Bn (SP) was given an area of responsibility W of the line 930 and  
S of 750 (LUNEVILLE ENISA L/100,000). Co B of the 813th TD Bn relieved Co  
C of the 773rd TD Bn on 17th of Sept in the vic of RUGNEY (900730). On 16  
Sept 44, per orders of 79th Inf Div, Rcn Co reconnoitered S and N of BAUD-  
RICOURT where the enemy were reported to have made a road block. No enemy  
was encountered.

On 17 Sept 44 Co A closed in on CHARMES (920760) at 1500 hrs and estab-  
lished wire commo w/314th Inf Regt. At 1700 hrs, Co A made reconn for routes  
and fire positions between Co B, 813th TD Bn and the right pltn. of Co B,  
773rd TD Bn. Co B set up in RUGNEY, Coord: 900730 and Co C in the vic of  
BETTONCOURT with the responsibility of resisting possible enemy armored attack  
from S along the line AVILLERS (860700) to MIRECOURT (810680). Rcn Co estab-  
lished an OP in vic of MIRECOURT and the Bn C.O. contacted the 2nd French  
Armored Div. One Rcn pltn. established one OP in VINCEY and made a check SE  
to the 2nd French Armored Div sector near NEMENY, checking RAPEY, UBEY,  
BRANTIGNY also.

At 1610 hrs the Bn CP moved from BETTONCOURT TO CHARMES (927757) closing  
at 1640 hrs, distance traveled 7 miles. The Bn then established wire com-  
munication with the 314th Inf Regt. The Bn Rr Ech moved to CHARMES (920760).

18 Sept 44 At 1630 hrs, 18 Sept 44 the Bn was ordered to attach two companies to  
the 106th Cav Grp with the rest of the Bn in XV Corps Reserve. The Bn C.O.  
ordered Companies A and C to join the 106th Cav Grp, this leaving Co B to  
go into XV corps Reserve with the rest of the Bn. Later that day the Bn C.O.  
established a more forward CP with Rcn Co in ROZELIMURES. Co B took up def-  
ensive positions in BRANTIGNY. Again contact was established with the French  
2nd Armored Div., the 106th Cav Grp, the 773rd TD Bn. and the 5th TD Grp.  
Four men received notifications of their being awarded the Bronze Star.

4 AGO  
JAN 20 1945  
Received

oh-s-4  
110Pm

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

18 Sept 44 Co A moved from CHARMES at 1730 hrs arriving at ROZELIEURES, Coord: 0344, where it contacted the 106th Cav, whereupon the following disposition of the company took place: The 1st Pltn. joining "B" troop and going N to a position in vic of MORIVILLERS with the remainder of the company marching on to ESSEY-LA-COTE, where the 2nd Pltn. of the company joined "C" Troop of the 106th Cav and went to HALLAINVILLE, leaving one section there, taking the 2nd Section to CLEZENTAINNE. The remainder of the company went into an assembly area about 2 miles S of ESSEY-LA-COTE, Coord: 0595. The Bn CP was still located at CHARMES.

19 Sept 44 At 0630 hrs Co A received orders from "A" Troop, 106th Cav to move its 3rd Pltn. into position at REHAINCOURT. At 0730 hrs, the company CP moved to ESSEY-LA-COTE, Coord: 0613. At 1000hrs, the 1st Sec of the 2nd Pltn. ran into a German foot patrol at Coord: 1304, receiving small arms fire. The Sec fired three rds of HE into the sector from which the fire came and received no further attack. The extent of damage to enemy remained unknown, and the Sec moved back to its position at CLEZENTAINNE, the 2nd Sec remaining in position at HALLAINVILLE. At 1030 hrs, the number 1 gun of the 3rd Pltn. fired at 20 German Troops at Coord: 0540, 4 rds HE and the Germans surrendered to the Cav outpost and to the French troops. There were 12 Germans wounded by this fire and 8 prisoners were taken. The rest were given medical care. At 1130 hrs, 1st Pltn. began firing from positions at Coord: 1035 at German vehicles traveling NW along MAGNIERES VALLOIS road at range of about 3000 yds. Vehicles moved in single file and at speeds varying from 25 to 30 miles per hour, so that they were rather difficult to hit. The Pltn. expended 20 rds of HE, destroying two vehicles and probably destroying two more. The number of enemy personnel killed and wounded remained unknown. At 1630 hrs the company returned to its former position at 2 miles S of ESSEY-LA-COTE, Coord: 0595, in order to have better communications with the Pltns.

Co B remained in BRANTIGNY, receiving word that it was then in XV Corps Reserve, and also that the U.S. SEVENTH ARMY was within 2½ miles of EPINAL and that it was possible that the enemy might try to thrust through out sector. The threat did not ripen into a reality. One section of Ren Co was attached to Co B and it went down to CHATEL to contact the French 2nd Army, near Coord: 0069.

Co C moved to 0096, CHARMOIS. The 1st Pltn. in vic of DAMILIVIERES, and the 2nd and 3rd Pltns. in vic of MONT. The 1st section of the 2nd and 3rd Pltns, along with the "C" Troops of the 106th Cav, plus some F.F.I., attacked MONT at 1800 hrs and at 1830 hrs, MONT was in Allied hands. The 2nd Pltns. fired 22 rds of HE, 26 rds APC, and 250 rds of Cal .30 ammunition. The 2nd Pltn. observed hits on 2 German tanks, destroying one and damaging the other.

S E C R E T

20 Sept '44: The next day Co. C. moved to coord 0097, REHAINVILLER, with the 1st plat taking up positions in the vicinity of 0098, HERINENIL, the 2nd plat at 0097 and the 3rd Plat at coord 0087.

At 0600 hours Co. A received orders to move out with the 106th Cav. and moved out 0830 hours marching to a position 500 yards E of BONTIEUX (9725) and made a halt, and at 1400 hours moved out again marching NE and crossing at 1550 hours and MEURTHE river at coord 0064 arriving at BUTHELUFT coord 0116. At 1700 hours the 3rd plat moved out with A troop of the 106th Cav. taking up a defensive position 1/2 mile E of VITREMONT. At 1950 hours remainder of the Co. moved into a bivouac area with B troop of the 106th Cav. 1 mile W of HEDIVILLER, coord 0010, distance traveled 31 miles.

21 Sept '44. At 1530 hours the 1st Plat moved out with B Co. 106th Cav to a position in North part of LUNEVILLE, coord. 0708. At 1530 hours the 3rd plat moved from position 1/2 mile E of Vitremont to position in East part of Luneville. coord 0905. At 1815 hours the Co. CP moved to its position 2500 yards W of Luneville, coord 0051, also the 2nd plat. The 3rd plat relieved by 315th Inf. Regt., returned to Co. CP position. Artillery fire fell near the position, and mortar fire landed frequently in the area.

22 Sept '44. At 0830 hours Co. A left for Luneville to make recon positions for the 1st and 2nd plats. At 0930 hours, these plat moved into positions North of Luneville. The 2nd at Coord. 0809, and the 1st at 0818, and the 3rd plat remained at coord 0718. At 1100 the enemy artillery began to shell Luneville and artillery and mortar fire fell in the position of the 2nd plat, injuring one officer seriously. In another part of town one EM was wounded and evacuated also. The enemy continued to shell the plats area throughtout the day at different intervals, but there wereno further casualties.

Co. C. REHAINVILLER, (0097) to VITREMONT (0501) . The 1st, 2nd and 3rd plats moved from the assembly area 1/2 mile north of VITREMONT at 1400 hours. Each plat was attached to 121st Cav. It was little enemy activity reported. On 21st Sept '44, Co. C fired 56 rounds of HE at an enemy column retreating towards MONCEL into the FORE DE MONDON. The exact damage unknown. It is believed to have caused several casualties among enemy personnel

23 Sept '44. On 23 Sept, at 0735 hours the Bn. CP moved to REHAINVILLER, coord 0696 after having made a temporary halt at BLAINVILLE SUR L'EAU. The distance traveled was 30 miles, Co. B. and the Bn. rear Echelon also moved. Co B to Rehainviller, and the Bn rear echelon near the area of the Bn. CP. The plat moved into firing positions (Indirect) near the town of Rehainviller. During the night, and early morning of 24 Sept Co B fired 604 rounds of HE from these positions, general target area being the EINVILLE VATHEY BATHELMONT road. This firing by Co. B was the beginning of a long series of firing missions assigned the Co by XV Corps. The company was under control of the 173rd F. A. group working with the 182nd F. A. Bn., tied in with the firing direction center of that Battalion. During the period 23 Sept to 1 Oct '44 Co B fired 516 missions expending 6745 rounds of No. 3 ammo HE and 115 rounds of SMK. XV Corps very satisfied with the accuracy of the firing and a letter of commondation to the Bn., expressed its satisfaction with the conduct of Co. B fire.

S E C R E T

23 Sept 44 During the day all the pls of Co A were under heavy enemy mortar and arty fire. Two tanks were observed about 3000 yds from their positions but range being too great the pls called for arty to be brought upon these tanks.

24 Sept 44 Co B during the night of the 24th, fired 31 missions expending 729 rds of shell HE. Several men went for dental inspection and treatment.

At 1600 hrs 23 Sept 44, Rcn Co departed from the bivouac area at ROZELI-EURES, Coord 4548, traveling NE to a new assembly area at 5113, S of LANATH. The Bn Rear Ech also moved to Coord 0607, vic of REHAINVILLER, from its previous location at CHARLES, Coord 9275.

25 Sept 44 At 2222 hrs on the 24th of Sept, Co A, minus one pl, was ordered to go with the 121st Cav Squadron on recon of the left flank of the 79th Inf. Div., the company to support the cavalry. The company CP and the 1st and 3rd pls assembled in LUNEVILLE where they were picked up by a guide from the cav. The CP and the 1st pl moved into pos at Coord 0745, and the 3rd pl moved behind 2nd pls of the 121 Cav to a pos at 1150. At 0700 hrs the 2nd pl moved into LUNEVILLE. At 1100 hrs, the 3rd pl began to receive enemy arty fire which was repeated at 30 min. intervals during the day, but no casualties or damage was done. At 1830 hrs the CP with the 1st and 2nd pls moved back to LUNEVILLE, with the 2nd pl moving again at 2000 hrs to JOLIVET Coord 0906, and the 1st sec of the 1st pl going into pos at 0722.

During the night, Co B fired 32 missions, expending 744 rds of Shell HE.

Co C moved from Coord 0501 to Coord 0402, VITRIMONT, and then the Company moved 13 miles N and E to vic of 1513 Coord, RECHICOURT, with the pls going into pos on the high ground  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile S and E of the town. The company was attached to Troop A of the 121st Cav and went into pos at 1000 hrs. This mission was to support cav and intercept any enemy forces who might escape through the woods to the N from the PARROY FOREST. 1st and 3rd pls were in pos on the right. Later they observed enemy Inf. in edge of the Forest and fired a few rds of 3" shell HE into the area. About 1400 hrs, approximately 60 men N of the Marne Canal were sighted advancing west from ZHIES. Fire was brought upon them and heavy enemy arty was returned. OPs were then established and it was rptd that at least a Bn and perhaps a regt of foot troops were advancing along the Canal W toward the village of PARROY. 3" shell HE was fired by the pls and again they received heavy enemy arty fire in return. As the enemy increased its heavy arty fire, the pls were forced to withdraw to better cover positions, the road back being interdicted by extremely heavy fire by the enemy. At about 1530 hrs the company received orders from the Cav CO to throw as much fire as possible at the enemy before withdrawing to the pos held by the pls the night previous. The pls fired 3" HE direct at the enemy and made an orderly withdrawal, moving into pos occupied the night before, at about 1800 hrs.

One man was injured as a result of a shell hitting a tree above him, one of the branches fracturing his shoulder. The three pls expended a total of 103 rds of shell HE during the day.

26 Sept 44 On the 26th of Sept, the 1st pl of Co C was relieved from attachment with the 121st Cav and attached to C Troop of the 106th Cav. The pl took up defensive position at JOLIVET. 2nd pl remained with the 121st Cav taking up a defensive pos at BONVILLER, and the 3rd pl also with the 121st Cav in def pos at EINVILLE. All pls closed in these pos at 1800 hrs.

During the night of 26 Sept and early morning of 27 Sept Co B from its ind fire pos in REHAINVILLER fired 46 missions expending 913 rds of HE, target area a gen'vic PARROY FOREST, exact damage unknown but several enemy veh rptd knocked out by the firing and numerous enemy Inf. killed and wounded

26 Sept 44  
(Continued)

Rcn Co moved from area  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles S of LAMATH Coord 5113, to LUNEVILLE, Coord 0899, spending most of the day in the care cleaning of equipment and maintenance of vehicles.

The Bn CP moved from REHAINVILLER to LUNEVILLE, Coord 0697, distance traveled 5 miles.

27 Sept 44

During the forenoon of 27 Sept, Co C CP moved to LUNEVILLE Coord 0700.

Co B CP also moved from REHAINVILLER to LUNEVILLE, Coord 0900, setting up the company FDC in that town. At 1600 hrs, the company was attached to 182 FA Bn taking up ind. fire pos at Coord at LUNEVILLE, firing no missions during the day but 0900, during the night of 27 Sept to 0700 hrs 28 Sept firing 42 missions expending 780 rds HE with very satisfactory results.

Co A at 0730 hrs, 27 Sept, had its 2nd and 3rd pls and also one sec of the 1st pl moved into ind fire pos at Coord 0501 setting up a FDC there, and establishing an OP at Coord 0820. The pls reg expending 34 rds HE and 3 rds Smoke. At 1330 hrs, the company was ordered to cease firing by the C.O. of the 106th Cav and to assemble the company at LUNEVILLE. The order to cease firing emanated from the XV Corps which felt that it was not necessary for the company to be in indirect fire missions just at that particular time.

Rcn Co moved from LUNEVILLE to a point  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile NE of REHAINVILLER with the 1st pl on a mission to establish an OP in the vic of EINVILLE. One M-20 crew from the pioneer section worked with Co C as a relay station to the Bn CP.

Also on the 27th of this month the Bn R Ech moved to LUNEVILLE taking over the location vacated by the Bn CP which moved to EINVILLE later,

28 Sept 44

At 1300 hrs, Co A's 2nd and 3rd pls moved out from LUNEVILLE the 2nd pl with C troop of the 106th Cav and the 3rd pl with A troop, the 2nd pl moving into pos at Coord 1169; the 3rd pl to Coord 1075. At 1400 hrs the company CP moved to EINVILLE, Coord 0768, the 1st pl in reserve with B troop of the 106th Cav. At 1745 hrs the 3rd pl fired 15 rds of HE at BAUZEMONT, and at 1830 hrs, fired 26 rds HE and 3 rds APC into HENAMENIL after moving into a position at Coord 1279. At 1745 hrs the 1st pl moved into fire position at Coord 0760 firing 84 rds HE during the night. There were considerable mortar and artillery fire from the enemy, but the company suffered no casualties.

Co B fired 42 missions of unobserved fire in support of the infantry attack by the 313th Inf Regt of the 79th Inf Div in the Parroy area Coord 2000 expending 486 rds of HE between 1400 - 1930 hrs and during the night fired 55 missions expending 609 rds of HE making a total of 97 missions and 1095 rds of HE fired between 1400 hrs 28 Sept and 0513 hrs 29 Sept 44.

Co C's CP moved from 0700 Coord LUNEVILLE, to Coord 0610, SERRES. The pls assumed new positions approximately 2200 yds W of BAUZEMONT with the 2nd and 3rd pls firing 189 rds of HE on the enemy in that town, 1st pl of the company supporting. At 1830 hrs friendly tanks entered BAUZEMONT and 75 PWs were taken by the 121st Cav. with Co C's 1st pl occupying the high ground 500 yds from BAUZEMONT during the operation. At night-fall the 1st pl moved back into the assembly area in the village of VALHEY. The 3rd pl went into a defensive pos with the 2nd pl overlooking BAUZEMONT. The securing of these positions proved to be of the utmost importance on the following day, one of the most active in the history of the Bn.

Rcn Co moved to Coord 7874, EINVILLE.

29 Sept 44

On this day, the Bn knocked out 15 enemy tanks without loss of any kind to itself. Following is the account of the day's action:

Co C: On the morning of the 29th Sept 44, at 0930 hrs, the CO of the Cav Troop suggested that the 1st pl be sent to the high ground around BAUZEMONT. This move was approved by the Bn C.O. and the company commander and the 1st pl which was then in the vic of VALHEY, moved to BAUZEMONT. The Cav Troop believed that they had discovered some enemy tanks well concealed in a line on

29 Sept 44  
(Continued)

the side of a hill near BAUZEMONT. At approximately 1100 hrs, just after the 1st pl had moved into position the first enemy tank was fired upon and was knocked out by the pl. Immediately after, a second tank was destroyed, and then a German halftrack was observed to the E of the enemy tank pos and that was also destroyed by the 1st pl. Still later, more enemy tanks were observed in the vic where the enemy tanks had been previously destroyed. They were also brought under fire by the 1st pl and were left burning. Other enemy vehicles at this time were being bombed and strafed on the north and on the other side of the hill from which the enemy tanks had been knocked out. The 3rd pl moved one gun into a favorable pos and was able to observe and shoot at enemy tanks in the vic of the other enemy tanks. The 3rd pl knocked out one enemy tank. About 1600 hrs, two destroyers were sent E of BATELMONT to complete the destruction of three more tanks which by reason of the firing forced the crews to abandon. The 2nd pl knocked out these three tanks and returned to the pl pos leaving all three tanks burning.



S E C R E T

29 Sept '44: At 1730 hours an observer from Ron. Co. (Capt. Johnson, C.O.) with a destroyer M-10 proceeded to within 500 yards of the knocked out tanks to gather information on the type of tanks and other information, but heavy enemy fire prevented their going any farther. At that position they were able to shoot HE at groups of enemy on the crest of the hill near these enemy tanks. The score for Company C for the day's action was

1st Plat. knocked out 4 tanks and one half track.

2nd Plat. knocked out 3 tanks.

3rd Plat. knocked out 1 tank.

The tanks knocked out by Company C were Mk. IV.

Now follows an account of the day's action by Company A.

At 1200 hours, Company A's 3rd Plat was in their position at Coord 1274 and observed enemy tanks in vicinity Coord 1192. The plat. opened fire on them, knocking out three Mk IV tanks, one halftrack, and one small vehicle. At 1215 hours, the plat. received heavy mortar and artillery fire. The plat. knocked out one mortar but at that time the enemy had zeroed in the plat's position so the plat had to withdraw to another position at Coord 1168. The plat expended 55 rounds of APC and 9 rounds of HE. At 1315 hours the 2nd Plat moved into position at Coord 1169 and at 1515 hours, began firing at an enemy column moving NE out of BAUZEMONT at which time it knocked out one Mk V, one Mk IV and one heavy truck and a considerable number of foot troops, expending 131 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of APC. When the mission was completed the plat received heavy counter-battery fire and withdrew approximately 600 yards to a position at Coord 1164, the 1st plat remaining in indirect fire position at Coord 0760 and fired artillery missions. At 1600 hours, plat fired 60 rounds of HE at an enemy gun battery in vicinity of Coord 1675 and silenced this enemy battery. At 1915 hours, the plat fired 24 rounds of HE at an unknown number of enemy trucks heard in the vicinity of Coord 1391, with good results. The total ammo expended by the 1st Plat was 255 rounds of HE. The 3rd plat also knocked out one Mk V tank in the vicinity of Coord 1192. The score for Co A during the day's action:--

Two (2) Mk V tanks, four (4) Mk IV tanks, three (3) half tracks and trucks. One mortar and forty to fifty foot troops killed and wounded.

The total for the Battalion for the day was: --

Two (2) Mk V tanks.

Thirteen Mk (13) IV tanks.

Three (3) Halftracks and trucks.

One (1) Mortar.

Forty-fifty (40-50) foot troops killed and wounded.

An enemy battery silenced and possibly badly damaged.

S E C R E T

29 Sept '44:  
30 Sept '44:

During the hectic action of the 29th of Sept in which Cos. A and C participated, Co B from its indirect fire position re-registered using 22 rounds of smoke shells. 77 missions were fired by the company during 1015 to 1315 hours, all unobserved missions. 437 rounds of HE expended. During the night, one plat fired 18 missions of concentration fire between the hours of 2126, 29 Sept '44 to 0600 hours, 30 Sept '44 expending 120 rounds of HE making a total of 95 missions and 557 rounds of HE and 22 smk fired during that period.

30 Sept '44: Co. C's 1st plat moved into indirect fire position 1/2 mile S of SERRES, with the with the 2nd Plat remaining in same position as on 29 Sept '44 and the 3rd plat moving to the high ground in the vicinity of BAUZEMONT, occupying the position formerly held by the 1st Plat. The 3rd plat received scattered artillery fire around the village and their position at approximately 1600 hours and enemy tanks were seen to the NE of BAUZEMONT. These were taken under artillery fire by the 1st plat the plat leader and the company CO directing the fire. These three enemy tanks at coord 125095 proceeded to move back towards BURES. An enemy mortar was sighted on hill 273 and also taken under fire by the 1st plat. One mortar was destroyed and the cavalry officer working with the Company reported that Co C had knocked out two tanks but the company did not take credit for them as it could not possibly affirm the Cavalry officer's report.

Co B on the 30 Sept '44 still had its CP in Luneville. The firing plats registered again using 30 rounds of smoke. 77 missions of concentration fire were fired between the hours of 0930 to 1825 hours, ammo expended 561 rounds of HE. At 2000 hours the company tried to register on enemy infantry by sound detectors but the Infantry and our posts could not pick it up. Not being able to fire an air burst the mission was given to an A. A. outfit. Again during the night of 30 Sept '44 the company fired 30 more mission of concentration fire expending 205 rounds of H.E. for a total of 766 rounds of HE and 30 rounds of smoke for a total of 107 missions.

Co A on the 30 Sept remained in the same positions as on 29 Sept. The 2nd Plat received heavy enemy artillery fire throughout the day. At 1730 hours, one section of the 3rd Plat. moved into positions at Coord 1279 and fired 12 rounds of HE at a steeple that was being used as an enemy OP in the town of HENAMENIL. The section then returned to their previously held positions. During the day the 1st Plat of Co A fired 205 rounds in indirect fire missions general target area being the PARROY area.

The Recon plat remained in previous positions with the Co. CP still at Einville Coord 7874. The one M-10 of the company which knocked out one enemy tank Mk IV on 29 Sept was with the 3rd Plat at Bathel Mont, Coord 0911. The OP there was heavily shelled during the day by enemy artillery, but the plat suffered no casualties. The Company M-10 fired 40 rounds into an enemy OP and enemy gun positions in vicinity of hill 290 Parroy area.

S E C R E T

Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports (Cont'd).

Total enemy materiel destroyed to date including that destroyed during the period of this report is as follows:

17 Mk IVs  
7 Mk Vs  
1 Mk VI  
4 SP Guns  
22 GP Vehicles  
2 AT Guns  
8 Pillboxes  
2 MG Nests  
585 PWs taken (with an est 300-400 killed or /wounded)

*George M. Cutchen*  
GEORGE MC CUTCHEN  
Major, 813th TD Bn  
Executive.

**SECRET**

MISC  
S-344 Bu  
78  
15100

319.1 (AG/TSC)

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY, APO 230, 15 September 1944.

TO: The Adjutant General.  
(THRU: Commanding General, Twelfth Army Group, APO 655).

L-73



J. E. M.

319.1 (AG-O)

3rd Ind

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH ARMY GROUP, APO 655, 22 September 1944.

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.  
(Thru: Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, U S Army,  
APO 887-A)



T.E.S.



**SECRET**

AG-78