

HEADQUARTERS
705TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
A.P.O.403 U.S. ARMY

AFTER-ACTION REPORT 01 MARCH-31 MARCH 45

At beginning of period, Company A, 705 TD Bn., attached to CCA, 11th Armored Division. Companies B and C, 705 TD Bn., attached to CCB, 11th Armored Division.

01 March - Company B and C moved out of Hoffelt (702683) at 0730, closed vicinity Sellerich (029829) at 1500. 705 TD Fwd CP moved out of Hoffelt at 1000, closed vicinity Sellerich at 1400. Company "A" remained at Manderfeld (008938). At 1800 one round 75mm enemy artillery struck Bn. CP, killing C.O., wounding Bn.S-3 & S-4.

02 March - At 1300 Bn. Fwd CP moved to Buchet (989835). Ren.Co.moved from Alfersteg (910856) to vic. Buchet (998829) closing at 1630.

03 March - At 1400 Ren.Co. moved to Tafel (058808), at 1600 moved to Fleringen (119798). At 1935 Bn. Fwd CP moved to vic. Sellerich (022818). During the day Companies B and C crossed the Prum River in support of CCB.

04 March - Ren.Co. moved out of Fleringen at 0930 to hold line along 18 grid line (785 to 800). Relieved at 1430 by elements of the 90th Infantry Div. Bn.Fwd CP moved to vic. Fleringen. Company B supporting CCB moved to coord. L150790, expending 17 rds. HE, 14 boxes .50 Cal. on targets of opportunity. Company C supporting CCB moved to coord. L150790.

05 March - During the day, Companies B and C provided close support to CCB in their drive northeast toward Ndr.Rettingen, with Ren.Co. protecting the left flank as they advanced. At 1800 Ren.Co. crossed Kyle River to secure bridgehead at Dohm (235853), relieving elements of CCB, suffering several casualties due to enemy mortar fire.

06 March - Ren.Co. withdrew from bridgehead. Ren.Co., Companies B and C moved south with CCB, crossing Kyle river at Lissengen bridge.

During the subsequent drive by the 11th Armored Division to the Rhine river on the following two days, Companies B and C continued in support of CCB. Reconnaissance Company was employed as reconnaissance and leading elements for CCB from the Kyle river to the Rhine.

At the completion of the drive, companies assembled in the following positions: Co.B at Niederberweiler F660069, Co.C at Wehr F628008, Ren.Co. at Ndr.Lutzingen F690085.

10 March - At 2000 one platoon and one section of Reconnaissance Co. assisted in the taking of Bruhl.



11 March - Companies B and C with one section of Ren.Co. cleared assigned sector vicinity Ndr. Durenbach, occupying ten towns and capturing 49 prisoners in designated area.

During the period 06 March to 11 March 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion captured 2145 German EM, 1 Warrent Officer, 17 Officers, killed unknown number of the enemy, destroyed 1 pillbox, 3 wheeled vehicles, 10 150mm howitzers. Total 76mm ammunition expended during the same period: 259 rds. HE, 13 rds. APC. Battalion suffered 17 casualties.

12 March - Companies B and C completed clearing assigned sector vic. Ndr.Durenbach, occupying towns in cleared area until relieved by elements of V Corps, thence moving to Bell, Germany, closing at 1530. Bn. CP, Hq.Co. and Ren.Co. moved to Bell during the morning.

13 March - No change.

14 March - Company A released from attachment to CCA, closed in Bell at 1430.

15 March - Company A re-attached to CCA, Company B attached to CCB, 705 TD Bn (-) attached to 11th Armored Division.

16 March - Battalion alerted for movement, companies A and B moving out of Bell at 1700 with CCA & CCB.

17 March - 705th TD Bn(-) moved out of Bell at 0430, closed in assembly area vicinity Wagenhausen (L4672) at 1100. At approximately 1600, Bn. (-) attached to CCR, with mission of protecting Division's right flank along route of advance. 705 TD Bn (-) moved out of Wagenhausen at 2000, crossed Moselle River behind CCR, closed Altlay.

18 March - Bn (-) Arrived Altlay (L6754) at 0430, moved out of Altlay at 0700, advanced to Hahn, closed at 1115. Ren.Co. given mission of reconnoitering route B as far as Kirn at 1215. Mission completed during afternoon.

19 March - At 0830 moved out of Hahn, advanced to CCR assembly area L691451, closed at 0925. Moved out of assembly area at 0955, advanced to Wickenrodt, closing at 1230. Moved out of Wickenrodt at 1730, closed in Hundsbach (L8725) at 2330. 212 Prisoners taken at Hundsbach.

20 March - Moved out of Hundsbach at 1330, closed in Dormoschel at 1730, reconnoitering routes on southern flank of Division enroute.

21 March - Co.C given mission of clearing Rathskirchen (M9912). Ren. Co. given mission of clearing Rudolphskirchen M9813. Missions completed 1000. Bn (-) atchd CCR moved out of Dormoschel at 1230, orders changed enroute, returned to Dormoschel, closing at 1330. Bn. (-) assigned an area vicinity Dormoschel to be cleared. By 1900 one-half area cleared, 18 prisoners taken.

22 March - Remainder of assigned area cleared. Rest of day spent in active patrolling of towns in cleared area.

23 March - At 1000, 705 TD Bn (-) atchd to CCA, 11 Armd Div. and alerted for movement. At 1130 moved out of Dormoschel. At 1545 closed in Guntersblum M4433, atchd to 41st Cav., 11 Armd Div. At 1930 elements of Co.C and Ren.Co. completed occupation of assigned front line sector along Rhine river.

24 March - Company C and Ren. Co. continued to maintain positions along assigned front-line coord. 473345 to 464391. At four hour intervals beginning at 2200, section of 1st Plat. Ren.Co. contacted elements on north flank.

25 March - Six prisoners taken. No change in position.

26 March - No change in position. No enemy contact.

27 March - Bn (-) relieved of their responsibility for front line sector along Rhine river. At 0900 Ren.Co. and Co.C withdrew their elements from W bank of the Rhine, closing in Guntersblum at 1045.

28 March - At 1030 Bn (-) moved out of Guntersblum behind 41st Cav. at 1030. Cmd. Grp. closed in Hechtsheim at 1255. Co. C and Ren. Co. closed in Marienborn at 1305.

29 March - At 0500 Bn. (-) alerted for movement. At 0730 moved out of Hechtsheim and Marienborn, marched with 41st Cav. along 11 Armd Div. route, closed in Kl Auheim at 1930.

30 March - Moved out of Kl Auheim M854674 at 0630. Closed in assembly area Langenselbold at M9377. Closed in Niedergrundau M9880 at 1245. At Niedergrundau given mission of clearing routes to Wittgenborn in conjunction with C Troop 41st Cav. Moved out of Niedergrundau at 0600, encountering no enemy resistance enroute. Having taken town of Wittgenborn, Bn. (-) moved north to Spielberg, closing at 0900.

31 March - Moved out of Spielberg (N0991), mission to take town of Schlierbach (N113905). Unmanned road block encountered on direct route east. Road block bypassed on northern route. 50 rounds HE fired into town of Hellstein (N1192). Closed in Schlierbach at 0930. Moved out of Schlierbach at 1500, mission to take town of Bad Soden. Closed in Bad Soden at 1715. Two hospitals containing 50 American and British PWs and 300 French PWs liberated. Ren.Co. reconnoitering route to NE, encountered moderate enemy resistance at town of Ahl (N181896) Town taken at 2000. Elements of Ren.Co. & Co.C withdrew to Bad Soden.

At end of period Co.A remained atchd to CCA, Co.B atchd to CCB, 705 TD Bn (-) atchd to 41st Cav.

