

DOWNGRADED TO:

OPD
86
1

CLASSIFICATION REMOVED

AUTHORITY OF TAG

HEADQUARTERS 774TH TANK BATTALION
APO 230, U. S. Army

14 Dec 44
Date 314.7 Initials

1 December 1944

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

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

In compliance with Change 3, par 10, AR 345-105, the following summary of Action Against the Enemy by the 774th Tank Battalion for the period 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944 inclusive is submitted:

1 November 1944

The Battalion, less Companies A, B, C and the Assault Gun Platoon, was in Division Reserve near Moutfort, Luxembourg, still assigned to First United States Army, attached to VIII Corps and the 83rd Infantry Division.

Company A was relieved from attachment to 329th Infantry Regiment and placed in support of 329th Infantry Regiment 1st and 2d platoons in vicinity of Company CP at Eschweiler, Luxembourg. 3d platoon relieved from training with 3d Battalion 329th Infantry on Maginot line and attached to Company C, this Battalion, vicinity of Dalheim, Luxembourg, employed in secondary mission. Company B, in division reserve vicinity of Wecker, Luxembourg, was firing secondary mission under the control of 322d FA battalion. 2d and 3d platoons firing harassing indirect fire at enemy towns of Mesenich, Oberbillig, Wasserliesch, Liersberg, Konz Karthaus, and Zewen. Company C in vicinity of Dalheim, Luxembourg, attached to 330th Infantry Regiment fired HE indirect fire on enemy towns of Wies, Besch, Mehr, Palzem, Dilmars, Kruesweiler and Nennig. Company D left Battalion Reserve area arriving vicinity of Herborn and attached to 329th Infantry Regiment. Reconnoitered area. Assault Gun Platoon, vicinity of Flaxweiler, Luxembourg, attached to 323 FA Battalion, fired several missions at enemy OP's and personnel. Mortar Platoon left Battalion Reserve Area at Moutfort and closed in vicinity of Mompach, attached to Co D, 329th Infantry Regiment. Battalion received one officer replacement who was assigned to Company A. Companies A and C each received one bull dozer blade.

161-69.2

2 November 1944

Company A : 3d Platoon relieved by 1st Platoon firing secondary mission attached to Company C, this Battalion, vicinity of Dalheim. Company B: 1st Platoon expended 149 rounds HE on enemy towns of Konz Karthaus, Zewen, and Wasserliesch. Company C: 3d platoon training with 329th Infantry Regiment on attack of fortified position at Maginot line. Balance of company fired registration. Company D continued reconnaissance in area vicinity of Herborn. Assault Gun platoon fired registrations. One tank and crew of Battalion Headquarters relieved from attachment to Company A.

3 November 1944

Company A: 1st platoon relieved from attachment to Company C, this Bat-

-1-
SECRET

10675

talion and moved to Battalion Reserve for maintenance and installation of a bull dozer. Company B: 3d platoon fired secondary missions on enemy towns of Wasserliesch, Zewen, and Kons Karthaus. Company C: 2d and 3d platoons training with 2d battalion 329th Infantry Regiment at Maginot Line. 1st platoon fired indirect HE on enemy towns of Besch, Nennig, Weis, Kruesweiler, Dilmar, Wehr and Nennig. Company D continued reconnaissance vicinity Herborn. Assault Gun Platoon expended 78 rounds of harassing fire. Mortar Platoon received approximately 25 rounds enemy counter-battery fire vicinity of CP at Mompach.

4 November 1944

Company A relieved from support of 329th Infantry Regiment and attached to 331st Infantry Regiment. Company B was attached to 331st Infantry Regiment effective 1400. Fired secondary mission on enemy towns of Kons Karthaus, Zewen and Wasserliesch. Company C fired secondary mission on enemy towns of Besch, Nennig, Wies, Kruesweiler, Dilmar and Wehr. Reconnaissance made for possible attack of town of Basse Couts. Company D continued dismounted reconnaissance and patrolling. Mortar platoon relieved from attachment to Company D, 329th Infantry Regiment and returned to Battalion Reserve Area. One tank from Battalion Headquarters relieved from attachment to Company A and returned to Battalion Reserve. One EM replacement received and assigned to Company C.

5 November 1944

Company A moved from Eschweiler to assembly area in the city of Luxembourg with a mission to train with 3d battalion 331st Infantry Regiment. Company B moved from vicinity Wecker to new area in the city of Luxembourg preparing to train with 2d Battalion 331st Infantry Regiment. Company C firing indirect on enemy towns of Nennig, Besch, Kruesweiler, Dilmar and Wehr. Company D relieved from attachment 329th Infantry Regiment and returned to Battalion Reserve at Moutfort. Assault Gun Platoon relieved from attachment to 323 FA Battalion and returned to Battalion Reserve at Moutfort.

Task Force Markle, formed for a tactical mission, began training. Composed of 774th Tank Battalion (less Companies A, B, and C), 83rd Cav Rcn Troop, and Reconnaissance platoon 802d TD Battalion, the latter two elements attached to T/F Markle this date.

6 November 1944

Companies A, B, and C continued training with regiments to which attached. T/F Markle continued training, maintenance, and preparation for mission. Special training on Demolitions Snake M-2.

7 November 1944

Companies A and B continued training. Company C fired secondary mission on enemy towns of Nennig, Besch, Kruesweiler, Dilmar and Wehr. T/F Markle continued training, maintenance and preparation for tactical mission.

SECRET

8 November 1944

Companies A and B continued training. Company C fired secondary mission on enemy towns of Besch, Nennig, Wies, Kruesweiler, Dilmar and Wehr. T/F Markle continued training, maintenance and preparation.

9 November 1944

Company A training with 331st Infantry Regiment on attack of a fortified position and holding high ground. Company B continued training with 331st Infantry Regiment stressing inter-communication between tanks and Infantry. Company C fired indirectly on enemy towns of Kruesweiler and Nennig. T/F Markle continued training and preparation. Demonstrated tank dozer in operation.

10 November 1944

Company A continued training with 331st Infantry Regiment in the morning, then moved to new position vicinity of Evrange, Luxembourg. Company B moved to new position vicinity of Preiche, Luxembourg. Company C relieved from attachment 330th Infantry Regiment reverting to Battalion control, remaining vicinity of Dalheim: fired indirectly on enemy towns of Dilmar, Besch, Nennig, Kruesweiler and Wehr.

T/F Markle established forward CP vicinity of Mondorf, Luxembourg. T/F Markle S-2 established liaison with CC "B", 10th Armored Division in preparation for operations east of Moselle river.

11 November 1944

Company A reconnoitered area from bivouac at Evrange to Moselle river; results river high, bridges out. Companies B, C and T/F Markle: No change. T/F Markle S-2 in liaison with CC "B" of 10th Armored Division reported no prospect of immediate move, due to rainy weather and swollen Moselle river creating tactical obstacles.

12 November 1944

T/F Markle dissolved effective 12/11/44. Liaison with CC "B" 10th Armored Division discontinued. 83rd Cav Recon Troop and Recon platoon, 802d TD Battalion relieved from attachment T/F Markle. Company C, vicinity of Dalheim, attached in place to 330th Infantry Regiment. Assault Gun Platoon attached to Division Artillery, moved to vicinity of Flaxweiler, Luxembourg, under control of 329d -FA Battalion. Companies A and B: no change. Battalion received six (6) flame throwers, issued 2 each to companies A, B, and C.

13 November 1944

Company A relieved from attachment to 331st Infantry Regiment and placed in support of 330th Infantry Regiment; moved to vicinity of Herborn, Luxembourg. Company B relieved from attachment to 331st Infantry Regiment and placed in support of 331st Infantry Regiment. Company C relieved from attachment to 330th

SECRET

Infantry Regiment and placed in support of 330th Infantry Regiment. Balance of Battalion in reserve began training on use of flame thrower from tanks.

14 November 1944

Company A: no change. Company B moved vicinity Preiche to new area vicinity of Flaxweiler, Luxembourg. Company C moved from Dalheim to Welfrange. 2d Platoon, Company D placed in support of 329th Infantry Regiment and moved from Moutfort to vicinity of Herborn. Assault Gun Platoon expended 50 rounds on harassing and interdiction fire, then moved to vicinity of Erpeldange, Luxembourg.

15 November 1944

Company A: 2d Platoon fired secondary mission on enemy town of Kons Karthaus. Received counter-battery fire, estimated to be 155mm from ϕ 825 to ϕ 915. Company B completed preparations for indirect firing in conjunction with 908th FA Battalion. Company C made preparations for indirect firing. 2d Platoon, Company D supporting 329th Infantry Regiment made reconnaissance of area. One enlisted replacement received by Battalion. Show of Battalion talent held in Battalion Reserve Area in evening.

16 November 1944

Company A firing secondary mission under control of 322 FA Battalion expended 200 rounds of harassing fire on enemy town of Kons Karthaus. 3d platoon, company B expended 12 rounds on registration for indirect fire. Company C fired secondary mission on enemy towns of Beuren, Sins, Tettingen, Hochem and Nennig. 2d platoon Company D moved vicinity of Mompach and continued reconnaissance. Assault Gun Platoon fired registration for indirect fire. Battalion reserve held a flame thrower demonstration for Major General Robert C. Macon, commanding 83d Infantry Division and other Division commanding officers. An American airplane, a P-47, crashed vicinity of Moutfort at 1700. Pilot jumped from plane before it crashed but his parachute failed to open; found dead in nearby field.

17 November 1944

Company A: 2d Platoon firing secondary mission expended 200 rounds of harassing fire on enemy town of Kons Karthaus. Company B: 1st platoon fired indirectly 200 rounds on enemy towns of Neider, Obersost, Kummern, Onsdorf and Nittel. Company C employed on secondary mission fired on enemy pillbox and harassing fire on enemy towns of Weis, Tettingen, Sins, Kruesweiler, Beuren, Dilsar and Nennig. Second platoon of Company D moved vicinity of Mompach, remaining in support of 329th Infantry Regiment. Assault Gun platoon fired for registration then 6 rounds of propaganda fire into town of Palsen. Battalion changed its APO number from 403 to 230 in compliance with 1st Army directive.

18 November 1944

Company A: 2d platoon on secondary mission expended 200 rounds of harassing fire on enemy town of Kons Karthaus. Company B: 1st platoon fired indirectly

SECRET

on enemy towns of Wincheringen, Helfant, Dilsingen, Kollig and Obersost. Company C expended 80 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Nennig, Sins, and Tettingen.

19 November 1944

Company A: 3rd platoon on secondary mission expended 218 rounds of harassing fire on enemy town of Konz Karthaus. Received small amount of counter battery fire of 22 rounds, light and medium at 2145 hours. Second platoon ammunition dump hit. Large enemy Jet propelled plane flew directly over CP at 2245 hours; direction of flight, south. Company B: 1st platoon firing indirectly expended 200 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Kollig, Heider, Obersost, Kummern, Onsdorf, enemy woods and a crossroads. Company C: fired 35 rounds HE on registration and 80 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Beuren, 61 rounds on Kruesweiler and 59 rounds on Sins. Company D's second platoon patrolled along Moselle river.

20 November 1944

Company A: 2d platoon on secondary mission fired on enemy towns of Liersberg, Igel, and Konz Karthaus. 3rd platoon received mission to patrol sector along Moselle river that a platoon of Company D had been patrolling. At 0845, lead tank ran into enemy teller mines at EJ NW of Wasserbillig, resulting in one enlisted man killed, one officer and three enlisted men slightly wounded. Tank completely destroyed by fire. Remainder of platoon continued on mission and returned to company bivouac area. Mines laid in path of tank tracks, five in a row, so that the tank received full effect of at least 5 mines.

NOTE: Tanks should not follow same routes continuously in areas close to front lines. Enemy noting such movements will infiltrate patrols at night to place mines in the paths usually traversed by such vehicles.

Company B: 1st platoon fired 200 rounds of harassing fire indirectly on enemy towns of Fisch, Kummern, Obersost, Onsdorf and Kollig. Company C on secondary mission expended 63 rounds harassing fire on enemy towns of Nennig, Sins, Tittingen and Wies.

Patrolling by second platoon Company D along Moselle river ordered discontinued as a result of Company A's loss of one tank by mines in that sector. Light tanks had been covering same route for previous two days in their patrolling mission.

21 November 1944

Company A: 3rd platoon expended 205 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Liersberg, Igel and Konz Karthaus. Company B expended 200 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Helfant, Wincheringen, and Bilsingen. Company C fired harassing secondary mission on towns of Nennig, Tettingen, Wies and Sins. Balance of Battalion training.

-5-

S E C R E T

22 November 1944

Company A: 2d Platoon expended 220 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Liersberg, Igel and Konz Karthaus. Company B: 1st platoon fired 200 rounds harassing fire on towns of Kollig, Wincheringen, Fellerick, Obersost, Kummern and Neider. Company C firing secondary mission of harassing fire on enemy towns of Nennig, Kruesweiler, Sins and Wies. Assault Gun Platoon attached to Division Artillery, relieved from attachment 323rd FA Battalion an attached 322 FA Battalion. Alerted for move.

23 November 1944

Company A: 3rd platoon on secondary mission fired 205 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Liersburg, Igel and Konz Karthaus. Received small amount of enemy counter-battery fire at 1415 of 5 or six rounds; size unknown. Company B: 1st platoon fired indirectly 200 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Ornsdorf, Wincheringen, Fellerick, Kollig, Obersost, Kummern, and Neider. Second platoon Company B relieved first platoon on secondary mission. Company D's second platoon departed vicinity of Mompach and returned to Battalion reserve area vicinity of Moutfort. Assault Gun Platoon moved from Erpeldange to N of Geyershof and fired 40 rounds of registration and 20 rounds of propaganda. All personnel enjoyed Turkey for Thanksgiving dinner.

24 November 1944

Company A: 2d platoon expended 399 rounds HE on enemy towns of Liersberg, Zewen, Wasserbesch, Fellerich, Fawen. 3rd platoon relieved 2d platoon on secondary mission. Received approximately 30 rounds of medium and light counter-battery fire 1415 to 1700; size unknown. No damage. Company B: 2d platoon fired indirectly on towns of Helfant, Rommelfangen, Esingen, Ornsdorf, Kollig, Niedersost, Obersost, Fisch, Wincheringen, and Bilsingen. Company D: 1st platoon departed Battalion Reserve Area at Moutfort and closed in bivouac area vicinity Herborn, Luxembourg. Assault Gun Platoon expended 30 rounds of 105 HE on observed fire — effect good. Company C reported swastikas placed on building in grease, vicinity their CP at Welfrange, Luxembourg. Investigation, but origin undetermined. Possible hint that residents are Pro-Nazi.

25 November 1944

Company A: 3rd platoon on secondary mission expended 329 rounds harassing fire on enemy towns of Wasserbasch, Fellerich, Tawern and Zewen. Company B: 2d platoon on indirect fire expended 300 rounds HE on enemy towns of Ornsdorf, Kollig, Neider, Obersost, Fisch, Wincheringen, Bilsingen, Helfant, Rommelfangen and Esingen. Assault Gun Platoon expended 12 rounds 105mm of observed fire on enemy positions—effect good; also 6 rounds of propaganda vicinity of Echternach. Major General Macon, commanding 83 Infantry Division presented awards of Bronze star to 2d Lt Szmara, and Corporal Huff, all of Company A; also Purple Hearts to 2d Lt Szmara and Private Massaro, all of Company A.

-6-

S E C R E T

~~SECRET~~

26 November 1944

Company A: 2d platoon on secondary mission expended 240 rounds harassing fire on enemy towns of Zewen, Oberkirch, Liersberg, Igel. 3rd platoon fired indirectly registering in. Company A received air alert warning from 322 FA Battalion 2035. AA guns were manned immediately. At 0845, three aircraft (possibly enemy) circled gun positions until 0912 leaving in the direction of west. Company B: 2d platoon secondary mission expended 260 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Ornsdorf, Kollig, Neider, Obersost, Fisch, Wincheringen, Bilsingen, Helfant, Rommelfangen and Esingen. Company C on secondary mission expended 250 rounds of harassing fire on towns of Krusweiler, Dilmar, Beuren, Esingen and Helfant. Assault Gun Platoon expended 37 rounds 105mm HE of observed fire on enemy infantry vicinity of Echternach and 20 rounds of propaganda on town of Echternach.

27 November 1944

Company A: 3rd platoon on secondary mission expended 150 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Konz Karthaus, Igel and Zewen. Company B: 2d platoon on secondary mission expended 158 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Ornsdorf, Kollig, Neidersost, Obersost, Fisch, Bilsingen, Helfant, Rommelfagen and Esingen. Company C: firing indirectly expended 13 rounds on registration and 160 rounds of harassing fire on towns of Kruesweiler, Helfant Esingen, Beuren and Dilmar. 1st platoon of Company D moved from Herborn to Dickweiler to support Company B, 52d Armored Infantry Regiment, 9th Armored Division for suspected enemy attack on Dickweiler. Assault Gun Platoon fired indirectly on enemy towns of Echternach, Welschbillig and Eisenach; also 20 rounds of propaganda fire on towns of Echternach.

28 November 1944

Company A: 2d platoon on secondary mission expended 160 rounds harassing fire on towns of Konz Karthaus, Igel, and Zewen. Company B: 2d platoon secondary mission fired 150 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Esingen, Rommelfagen, Helfant, Bilsingen, Fisch, Obersost, Neidersost, Kollig and Ornsdorf. Company C: on secondary mission under control of 323rd FA Battalion fired 160 rounds of harassing fire on enemy towns of Dilmar, Beuren, Esingen, Helfant and Kruesweiler. 1st Platoon of Company D remained in support of Company B, 52d Armored Infantry Regiment, 9th Armored Division at Dickweiler. Assault Gun platoon expended 100 rounds of observed fire at targets in or near Rosport, and Steinheim. Also fired 10 rounds of propaganda vicinity of Echternach.

29 November 1944

Company A: 3rd platoon firing indirectly on enemy towns of Konz Karthaus, Igel and Zewen. Company B: 2d platoon on secondary mission fired indirectly on enemy towns of Ornsdorf, Kollig, Niedersost, Obersost, Fisch, Bilsingen, Helfant, Rommelfagen and Esingen. Company C: employed on secondary mission fired on enemy towns of Kruesweiler, Dilmar, Esingen, Helfant, Beuren, and Sudlingen.

30 November 1944

Company A: 2d platoon secondary mission expended 190 rounds of harassing fire on targets vicinity of Konz Karthaus, Igel and Zewen. Company B: 2d platoon

SECRET

30 November 1944 (cont'd)

on secondary mission expended 190 rounds of harassing fire on targets vicinity of Onsdorf, Obersost, Wincheringen, Bilzingen and Helfant. Company C: attached 330th Infantry Regiment effective 12/10. Company employed on secondary mission expended 190 rounds of harassing fire on targets vicinity of Helfant, Sins, Esingen, Dilmar, Beuren, and Kruesweiler. 1st platoon Company D, remaining in support of 52d Armored Infantry Regiment, 9th Armored Division at Dickweiler. Assault Gun platoon fired indirectly 49 rounds of observed fire on German OP, 60 rounds on town of Ralingen, 30 rounds at "inden, 25 rounds vicinity of Edingen. 774th Tank Battalion (-) held a demonstration on M-2 demolitions snake, bulldozer and flame thrower in operation from tanks.

For the Commanding Officer:

Roger D. Andrews

ROGER D. ANDREWS
1st Lt, Inf, 774th Tank Battalion,
Adjutant

5 Incls:

- #1-S-3 Journal (Nov)
- #2-S-2 Journal (Nov)
- #3-S-4 Journal (Nov)
- #4-Casualties (Nov)
- #5-Awards (Nov)

R.S.L/hel

1st Ind.

ATTN: THE 330 INFANTRY BATTALION, APO 83, U.S. Army, 21 December 1944.

TO: Commanding General, VIII Corps, APO 308, U.S. Army.

Forwarded.

For the Commanding General:

N. P. Conden
N. P. CONDEN,
Major, AGD,
Asst Adj General.

6 Incls. n/c

enc 1/6