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HEADQUARTERS 908TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 83, United States Army

28 January 1945

SUBJECT: Organization History.

TO : The Adjutant General, United States Army,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. In compliance with paragraph 13, Army Regulations 345-125, dated 29 November, 1929 the following historical data for this command for the calendar year 1944 is submitted:

a. Original Unit: (308th Ammunition Train, 83d Division).

- (1) Designation: No change.
- (2) Date of Organization: No Change.
- (3) Place of organization: No Change.
- (4) Authority for organization: No Change.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: No Change

b. Changes in Organization:

- (1) Redesignation: No change.
- (2) Date of organization: No Change.
- (3) Place of Organization: No Change.
- (4) Authority for organization: No Change.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from other units and by transfer from Replacement Depots in the European Theatre of Operations.
- (6) By Changes in Tables of Organization:
 - a. By Changes No. 1 to T/O and E 6-25, dated 4 February 1944.
 - (1) Increase: 1 Tec 4; 3 Tec 5.
 - (2) Decrease: 2 Pfc; 2 Pvts.
 - b. By Changes No. 3 to T/O and E 6-25, dated 16 June 1944.
 - (1) Increase: 3 1st Lts; 3 Sgts; 3 Tec 4; 10 Tec 5.
 - (2) Decrease: 4 Pfc; 26 Pvts (Basics).
 - c. All units reduced basics plus 5 percent of remaining strength per letter 320.3 Headquarters, Third United States Army, dated 12 June 1944, Subject: Reduction of Basic Privates in Table of Organization Units.
 - d. Authorized strength:
 - (1) At beginning of period: 31 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 488 enlisted men. Total strength: 521.
 - (2) At end of period: 34 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 473 enlisted men. Total strength: 509.



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c. Strength, commissioned and enlisted:

(1) At beginning of period: 46 Officers; 2 Warrant Officers; 547 enlisted men. Total - 595

(2) Net increase and decrease each month:

D A T E	: OFFICER :	: WARRANT :	: ENLISTED :	: TOTALS :	: INCREASE :	: DECREASE :
31 January 1944	: 38	: 2	: 543	: 583	: --	: 12
29 February "	: 38	: 2	: 551	: 591	: 8	: --
31 March "	: 30	: 2	: 489	: 521	: --	: 70
30 April "	: 30	: 2	: 487	: 519	: --	: 2
31 May "	: 30	: 2	: 487	: 519	: --	: --
30 June "	: 30	: 2	: 489	: 521	: 2	: --
31 July "	: 33	: 2	: 465	: 500	: --	: 21
31 August "	: 36	: 2	: 474	: 512	: 12	: --
30 September "	: 35	: 2	: 460	: 497	: --	: 15
31 October "	: 34	: 1	: 460	: 495	: --	: 2
30 November "	: 36	: 1	: 474	: 511	: 16	: --
31 December "	: 36	: 1	: 469	: 506	: --	: 5
Totals	: 38	: 38	: 127			

a. Net decrease for year: 89

(3) At end of period: 36 Officers; 1 Warrant Officer; 469 enlisted men. Total - 506

d. Stations (permanent or temporary) of unit or parts thereof:

DATE	: DATE	: UNIT	: S T A T I O N
ARRIVED	: DEPARTED	: UNIT	: S T A T I O N
12 Sep 43	: 30 Mar 44	: Bn	: Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky.
30 Mar 44	: 1 Apr 44	: Bn	: Aboard NYC Train enroute to NYPE
1 Apr 44	: 5 Apr 44	: Bn	: NYPE, Camp Shanks, N.Y.
5 Apr 44	: 6 Apr 44	: Bn	: Aboard USST "George Washington", N.Y.
			: Harbor.
6 Apr 44	: 16 Apr 44	: Bn	: Aboard USST "George Washington" enroute
			: Liverpool, England.
16 Apr 44	: 19 Apr 44	: Bn	: Aboard USST "George Washington" at anchor
			: in Liverpool Harbor, England.
19 Apr 44	: 2 May 44	: Bn	: Camp at Bryn-y-pys, England
2 May 44	: 14 May 44	: Bn	: Camp at Aston Park, England.
14 May 44	: 19 May 44	: Bn	: Camp at Ystrafeldte Bivouac Area, Wales
19 May 44	: 21 May 44	: Bn	: Camp at Senny Bridge Range, Wales.
21 May 44	: 24 May 44	: Bn	: Camp at Builth Wells, Wales.
24 May 44	: 27 May 44	: Bn	: Camp at Senny Bridge Range, Wales.
27 May 44	: 16 June 44	: Bn	: Camp at Aston Park, England
16 June 44	: 17 June 44	: Bn less Sv	: Camp at Stonehinge, England. (Sv Btry re-
		: Btry	: mained at Aston Park, England).
17 June 44	: 18 June 44	: Bn (Sv Btry	: Camp at Long Bridy, England.
		: rejd Bn)	

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DATE ARRIVED	DATE DEPARTED	UNIT	STATION
18 June 44	19 June 44	Hq, Hq Btry, Btry :A, Btry B (less :Btry Hq) & Med :Det.	Aboard LST 317 at anchorage off Portland, England.
18 June 44	19 June 44	Hq Btry B, Btry :C & Sv Btry	Aboard LST 516 at anchorage off Portland, England.
19 June 44	23 June 44	Hq, Hq Btry, :Btry A, Btry B :(less Btry Hq), :& Med Det.	Aboard LST 317 in anchorage off Omaha Beach, France.
19 June 44	22 June 44	Hq Btry B, Btry C :& Sv Btry	Aboard LST 516 in anchorage off Omaha Beach, France.
22 June 44	22 June 44	Hq Btry B, Btry :C & Sv Btry	Assembly Area vicinity of Briqueville, France.
23 June 44	27 June 44	Hq, Hq Btry, :Btry A, Btry B :(less Btry Hq) & :Med Det	Assembly Area vicinity of Bricqueville, France. (Hq Btry B, Btry C & Sv Btry rejd Bn)
27 June 44	11 July 44	Bn	Positions vicinity of Carentan, France.
11 July 44	18 July 44	Bn	Positions vicinity of Calot, France.
18 July 44	28 July 44	Bn	Positions vicinity of Bois Grimot, France.
28 July 44	4 Aug 44	Bn (Less Sv Btry)	Positions vicinity of La Cardonniere, France.
28 July 44	4 Aug 44	Sv Btry	Vicinity of Moncuit, France.
4 Aug 44	5 Aug 44	Bn (less Sv Btry)	Positions vicinity Dol-de-Bretagne, France.
4 Aug 44	5 Aug 44	Sv Btry	Position vicinity Le Haye and Mot Dol, France.
5 Aug 44	6 Aug 44	Bn (Less Sv Btry)	Positions vicinity La Folleville, France.
6 Aug 44	7 Aug 44	Sv Btry	Positions at Dol-de-Bretagne and La Gouesniere, France.
7 Aug 44	9 Aug 44	Sv Btry rejd Bn : Bn	Position at St. Meloir des Ondes, France.
9 Aug 44	10 Aug 44	Bn (Less Sv Btry)	Positions at Marchandais, France.
10 Aug 44	13 Aug 44	Bn (Less Sv Btry)	Positions at Pleslin, France.
9 Aug 44	17 Aug 44	Sv Btry	Position at Pleslin, France.
13 Aug 44	17 Aug 44	Bn (Less Sv Btry)	Positions at Tremereuc, France.
17 Aug 44	20 Aug 44	Sv Btry	Position at Plouer, France.
17 Aug 44	20 Aug 44	Bn (Less Btry B)	Positions at Plouer, France.
17 Aug 44	18 Aug 44	Btry B	Positions at Launay, France, rejd Bn at Floeur, France on 19th.
20 Aug 44	21 Aug 44	Bn	Camp at Chantpie, France.
21 Aug 44	22 Aug 44	Bn	Camp at Grandchamp, France.
22 Aug 44	31 Aug 44	Hq & Hq Btry, :& Med Det.	Position at Treillieres, France.

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DATE ARRIVED	:	DATE DEPARTED	:	UNIT	:	S T A T I O N
22 Aug 44	:	17 Sept 44	:	Btry A	:	Position at Blain, France.
22 Aug 44	:	18 Sept 44	:	Btry B	:	Position at vignaux, France
22 Aug 44	:	31 Aug 44	:	Btry C	:	Position at Nantes, France
22 Aug 44	:	28 Aug 44	:	Sv Btry	:	Position at Curette, France
28 Aug 44	:	30 Aug 44	:	Sv Btry	:	Position at Treillieres, France
30 Aug 44	:	17 Sept 44	:	Sv Btry	:	Position at Heric, France
31 Aug 44	:	18 Sept 44	:	Hq & Hq Btry, Btry:	:	Position at vignaux, France
	:		:	B, Btry C & Med	:	
	:		:	Det	:	
17 Sept 44	:	18 Sept 44	:	Sv Btry & Btry A	:	Position at Vigneux, France
	:		:	(Rejd Bn 17th).	:	
18 Sept 44	:	23 Sept 44	:	Bn	:	Bivouac at Montargis, France
23 Sept 44	:	25 Sept 44	:	Bn	:	Leudelage, Luxembourg.
25 Sept 44	:	29 Sept 44	:	Bn	:	Filsdorf, Luxembourg.
29 Sept 44	:	9 Oct 44	:	Bn (Less Btrys A & B	:	Positions at Mondorf, Luxembourg
	:		:	B	:	
29 Sept 44	:	7 Oct 44	:	Btrys A & B	:	Positions at Canach, Euxembourg.
7 Oct 44	:	14 Nov 44	:	Bn	:	Positions at Mondorf, Luxembourg.
14 Nov 44	:	6 Dec 44	:	Bn	:	Flaxweiler, Luxembourg.
6 Dec 44	:	7 Dec 44	:	Bn	:	Bivouac at Eyanatten, Belgium.
7 Dec 44	:	17 Dec 44	:	Bn	:	Positions at Schevenhutte, Germany
17 Dec 44	:	26 Dec 44	:	Bn	:	Positions at Birgel, Germany.
26 Dec 44	:	28 Dec 44	:	Bn	:	Assembly area at St Fontaine, Belgium.
	:		:		:	
28 Dec 44	:	31 Dec 44	:	Bn (Less Sv Btry)	:	Positions at Hogue, Belgium.
28 Dec 44	:	31 Dec 44	:	Sv Btry	:	Position at Le Fourneau, Belgium.
31 Dec 44	:		:	Bn (Less Sv Btry)	:	Positions at Grand Pre, Belgium.
31 Dec 44	:		:	Sv Btry	:	Position at Weris, Belgium.

e. Marches: (Purpose, Length of daily march, Points between which marched, with dates, condition of roads and weather and remarks).

(1) Bn entrained at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky enroute to Staging Area, NYPE, at Camp Shanks, New York 30 March 1944, routed over NYC RR. Arrived at NYPE, Camp Shanks, N. Y., and detrained at 0110 hours, 1 April 1944. Distance traveled by rail 1118 miles. Weather: Clear and cold.

(2) Bn entrained at Camp Shanks, N. Y., NYPE for embarkation aboard USAT "GEORGE WASHINGTON" at 1715 hours, embarked aboard transport at Staten Island, N. Y., at 2030 hours, 5 April 1944. Distance traveled by rail approximately 5 miles, by ferry board 3 miles. Weather: Clear and cold.

(3) Departed New York, New York, aboard USAT "GEORGE WASHINGTON" at 0900, 6 April 1944 enroute Liverpool, England. Arrived Liverpool, England at 0600, 16 April 1944. Remained aboard ship at anchor until 19 April 1944.

(4) Disembarked from USAT "GEORGE WASHINGTON" at Liverpool, England at 1315 hours, 19 April 1944 at the Mercy Line Dock. Entrained at 1320 for Ruabon, Wales. Arrived at Ruabon, Wales at 1620 hours, detrained immediately and entrucked for Camp at Bryn-y-pys, England, arriving in camp at 1645 hours,

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19 April 1944. Distance traveled: By rail - 56 miles; by truck - 5 miles. Weather: Cloudy, intermittent light showers, cool. Roads: Good hard surface. Purpose: Permanent change of station.

(5) Bn departed Camp at Bryn-y-pys, England, at 0820/2 May 1944 enroute Camp at Aston Park, England. Arrived in camp at 1245 hours. Distance marched - 14 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cloudy and cool. Light showers throughout period. Purpose: Permanent change of station.

(6) Bn departed Camp at Aston Park, England on temporary change of station enroute to Senny Bridge Range, Wales for service practice at 0720 hours, 14 May 1944. Arrived at Ystrafeldt Bivouac Area, Wales at 1722 hours. Distance marched: 136 miles. Weather: Partly cloudy, cold. Roads: Good hard surfaced.

(7) Bn departed Ystrafeldt Bivouac Area for service practice on Senny Bridge Range at 0950 hours, 19 May 1944, arrived and established bivouac at 1241 hours. Distance marched: 27 miles. Weather: Clear and cool. Roads - 25 miles good hard surfaced; 2 miles good dirt roads.

(8) Bn departed bivouac and firing positions at Senny Bridge Range, Wales, enroute to new firing positions for VIII Corps firing tests to be held vicinity of Builth Wells, Wales at 02342 hours 20 May 1944, arrived in position area at 0113 hours, 21 May 1944. Distance marched: 13 miles. Weather: Clear, windy and cold. Roads: 11.5 miles good hard surface; 1.5 miles good all weather gravel, narrow.

(9) Bn departed positions vicinity of Builth Wells, Wales enroute to Senny Bridge Range, Wales for bore test firing at 1905 hours, 24 May 1944, arrived new positions at 2022 hours. Distance marched: 5 miles; Weather: Cloudy, windy and cold. Roads: 1 mile passable unimproved dirt road; 4 miles good hard surface.

(10) Bn departed firing positions at Senny Bridge Range, Wales enroute for return to permanent camp at Aston Park, England at 0620 hours, 27 May 1944, arrived in permanent camp at Aston Park at 1536 hours. Distance marched 120.5 miles. Weather: Warm and cloudy. Roads: Good hard surface.

(11) Bn departed permanent camp at Aston Park, England, enroute to Concentration Area for overseas movement at Stonehinge, England at 0502 hours 16 June 1944, arrived and established bivouac at 1927 hours. (Service Battery remaining at Aston Park, England for supplies and police work).

(12) Bn (less Sv Btry) departed bivouac at Stonehinge, England enroute to Staging Area at Long Bridy, England for movement overseas at 0320 hours, 17 June 1944. Arrived at Staging Area and parked along roadside at 0902 hours. Distance marched: 48 miles. Weather: Fair and clear. Roads: Good hard surfaced.

Sv Btry departed Camp at Aston Park, England to rejoin Bn at Staging Area at Long Bridy, England at 0120 hours. Rejoined Bn at 1915 hours, 17 June 1944. Distance marched: 211 miles. Weather: Fair and warm. Roads: Good hard surfaced.

(13) Bn departed Staging Area at Long Bridy, England enroute to embarkation point and assembly point at Weymouth, England at 1434 hours, 18 June 1944. Arrived at Assembly Area at 1548 hours. Departed Assembly Area for loading staging at Portland, England at 1858 hours. Arrived at

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loading stage at Portland, England at 1930 hours, 18 June 1944 and immediately began loading aboard ships. (Hq & Hq Btry, Btry A, Med Det and Btry Hq Btry B loading aboard LST 317), (Btry C, Sv Btry and Btry B (less Btry Hq) loading aboard LST 516). Distance marched: 20 miles. Weather: Clear and warm. Roads: Good hard surface.

(14) Departed Portland, England for channel crossing for beach landing on Omaha Beach, France for field operations in Normandy, France at 0430 hours, 19 June 1944. Dropped anchor off Omaha Beach, France at 2215 hours, 19 June 1944. Convoy unable to effect landing due to unfavorable tides. Debarking of convoy delayed due to terrific storm in channel until 22 June 1944. Distance in channel crossing 118 miles.

(15) Btry C, Sv Btry & Btry Hq, Btry B disembarked LST 516 on the Omaha Beachhead, France at 1434 hours, 22 June 1944, completing disembarking at 1720 hours, and proceeded to Concentration Area D, arriving thereat at 1843 hours, 22 June 1944, departed Concentration Area D for bivouac area 1 mile N of Bricqueville, France awaiting arrival of remainder of Bn, which was unable to disembark due to unfavorable beaching of LST in water too deep to permit disembarkation. Arrived in bivouac area at 2100 hours. Distance marched: from Beachhead to Conc Area - 3 miles, and from Conc Area to bivouac area - 15 miles. Weather: Fair and warm. Roads: Good hard surface.

(16) Hq & Hq Btry, Btry A, Med Det & Btry Hq, Btry B disembarked LST 317 at 0450 on the Omaha Beachhead, France, 23 June 1944, completing disembarkation at 0555 hours and proceeded to Concentration Area D, arriving thereat at 0708 hours, departed Concentration Area D for bivouac area 1 mile N of Bricqueville, France at 0859 hours, arrived in bivouac area at 1030 hours. Distance marched: from Beachhead to Conc Area D - 3 miles, from Conc Area D to bivouac area - 15 miles. Weather: Cool and cloudy. Roads: Good hard surface.

(17) Bn departed bivouac area 1 mile N of Bricqueville, France for front line positions in VIII Corps, I Army sector vicinity of Carentan, France at 0200 hours, 27 June 1944. Arrived in position area at 0636 hours.

(18) Bn departed position area vicinity of Carentan, France for new positions vicinity of Calot, France at 1620 hours, 11 July 1944, arriving at 1630 hours. Bn asgd VII Corps, I Army in direct support of 331st Inf. Distance displaced: .8 miles. Weather: Clear and warm. Roads: Improved dirt.

(19) Bn displaced from positions vicinity of Calot, France to new positions in vicinity of Bois de Grimot, France at 1530 hours, 18 July 1944, arriving at 1552 hours. Distance displaced: 3 miles. Weather: Warm and partly cloudy. Roads: Good hard surface. No change in assignment.

(20) Bn displaced from positions vicinity of Bois de Grimot, France to positions vicinity of Marchesleux, France at 0655, arriving at 0730, 28 July 1944. Displaced positions vicinity of Marchesleux, France at 1955 hours, 28 July 1944, arriving positions vicinity of Cardonniere, France at 2045 hours, 28 July 1944. Distance displaced: Bois de Grimot to Marchesleux, France 4.5 miles, Roads: Good dirt and hard surfaced. Distance from Marchesleux to Cardonniere, France, 11 miles. Roads, good hard surface. Weather: Warm and partly cloudy. No change in support mission.

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(21) Sv Btry displaced from vicinity of Bois de Grimot, France to new position vicinity of Moncuit, France at 1930 hours, arriving new positions at 2130 hours. Distance marched: 11.8 miles. Weather: Fair and warm. Roads: Good hard surface. No change in mission.

(22) Bn (less Sv Btry) displaced positions vicinity of Cardonniere, France to positions vicinity of Ponterson, France, assembly area for VIII Corps at 0010 hours 4 August, 1944, arriving at 1045 hours. Distance marched: 72.6 miles. Roads: .5 miles good dirt road, dusty - 72 miles good hard surface. Displaced from assembly area at Ponterson, France for positions vicinity of Cormer Ray, France at 1416 hours, 4 August 1944, arriving at 1420 hours. Distance marched: 17 miles. Roads: Poor unimproved newly opened detour 1.3 miles; Good hard surface for 1.5 miles; displaced from positions at Cormer Ray to positions vicinity of Daguer Pican, France. Distance marched: 14.8 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Departed positions at 1416 hours, arriving new positions at 1534. Bn again displaced from positions at Daguer Pican to positions vicinity of Dol-de-Bretagne, France at 2107 hours, 4 August 1944, arriving new positions at 2136 hours. Distance marched 3 miles. Roads: 2 miles good hard surface, 2 miles good all weather gravel. Weather: 0001 to 0430 cool, bright moonlight, remainder of period warm and clear. Total distance marched during day: 107.4 miles. Purpose: St Malo operations.

(23) Sv Btry displaced from positions vicinity of Moncuit, France at 0010, 4 August 1944 enroute to VIII Corps assembly area at Ponterson, France. Arrived positions at Lahaye, France at 1900 hours. Distance marched: 89 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: 0010 to 0430, cool, bright moonlight, thereafter warm and clear.

(24) Bn (less Sv Btry) displaced positions vicinity of Dol-de-Bretagne, France at 0545 AM for positions vicinity of Baguer Pican, France, arriving at 0735 AM, 5 August 1944, Distance marched: 2.3 miles; Roads: Good hard surface. Displaced from positions vicinity of Baguer Pican at 1035 AM, 5 August 1944, arriving new positions vicinity of La Folleville, France at 1205. Distance marched: 13 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(25) Sv Btry departed positions vicinity of Le Haye, France at 1130 hours, 5 August 1944 for positions vicinity of Mot Dol, France, arriving at 1200 hours. Distance marched 5.5 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(26) Bn (less Sv Btry) departed positions vicinity of La Folleville, France at 0905, 6 August 1944, arriving new positions vicinity of la Gousniere, France at 0935 hours. Distance marched: 4 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(27) Sv Btry departed positions vicinity of Mot Dol, France at 0330 hours, 6 August 1944, arriving new positions vicinity of Dol-de-Bretagne, France at 0359 hours. Distance marched: 1.5 miles; Roads: Good hard surface. Departed positions vicinity of Dol-de-Bretagne, at 1100 hours, 6 August 1944, arriving new positions vicinity of La Gousniere, France at 1130 hours. Distance Marched: 6 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(28) Bn (less Sv Btry) displaced from positions vicinity of La Gousniere, France at 0859 hours, by eschelon, arriving in positions vicinity of St Meloir des Ondes, France at 1800 hours. Distance marched: 6 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

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(29) Sv Btry departed position vicinity of LaGovesniere, France at 1600 hours, 7 August 1944, rejoining the Battalion in the vicinity of Meloir-des-Ondes, France. Arrived at 1630 hours. Distance travelled; 4 miles. Roads: Good hard surfaced. Weather: Clear and warm.

(30) Bn (less Sv Btry) departed position the vicinity of St Meloir-des-Ondes, France at 2210 hours, 9 August 1944, enroute to positions in vicinity of La Marchandais, France, arrived new positions at 0245 hours, 10 August 1944. Distance marched: 27 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Displaced at 1700 hours to new positions in vicinity of Pleslin, France arriving at 1715 hours. Distance marched: 2 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(31) Sv Btry departed position vicinity of St Meloir-des-Ondes, France at 2200 hours, 9 August 1944 enroute to positions in vicinity of Pleslin, France, arrived at new positions at 0030 hours, 10 August 1944. Distance marched: 27 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(32) Bn (less Sv Btry) departed position in vicinity of Pleslin, France at 2207 hours, 13 August 1944, arrived in new positions at vicinity of Tremereuc, France at 2229 hours. Distance marched: 2.5 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Warm and partly cloudy.

(33) Sv Btry departed position vicinity of Pleslin, France at 0930 hours, 17 August 1944, arrived at new position in vicinity of Plouer, France at 0945 hours. Distance marched: 5 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(34) Bn (less Sv Btry) departed position in vicinity of Tremereuc, France at 0900 hours, 17 August 1944, arrived at concentration area in vicinity of Ploer, France at 1005 hours. Distance marched: 7.3 miles. Roads: Good hard surface roads. Weather: Clear and warm. Btry B departed position in vicinity of Tremereuc, France at 1100 hours and arrived at new position at Launay, France at 1155 hours. Distance marched: 11 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(35) Btry B departed position in vicinity of Launay, France at 1005 hours, 19 August 1944, rejoined Bn at concentration area in vicinity of Ploer, France at 1055 hours. Distance marched: 12 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cool, light showers.

(36) Bn departed concentration area in vicinity of Ploer, France at 0805 hours, 20 August 1944, arrived at division concentration area in vicinity of Chantpie, France at 1141 hours. Distance marched: 48.5 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Warm and partly cloudy.

(37) Bn departed position in vicinity of Chantpie, France at 1410 hours, 21 August 1944, arrived at bivouac in vicinity of Grand Champ, France at 1734 hours. Distance marched: 62 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Light showers throughout day.

(38) Bn departed bivouac in vicinity of Grand Champ, France at 1500 hours, 22 August 1944. Bn Hq and Hq Btry and Med Det arrived in position in vicinity of Treilliers, France at 1540 hours. Btry A arrived in position in vicinity of Blain, France at 1515 hours. Btry B arrived in position in vicinity of Vigneaux, France at 1435 hours. Btry C arrived in position in vicinity of Nantes (at fairgrounds) at 1430 hours. Sv Btry arrived in position in vicinity of Curette, France at 1845 hours. Distance travelled at end of march: Bn Hq, Hq Btry and Med Det - 4.2

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miles; Btry A - 24.5 miles; Btry B - 12 miles; Btry C - 10 miles; Sv Btry - 1.5 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Warm and partly cloudy.

(39) Sv Btry departed position in vicinity of Curette, France at 0930 hours, 28 August 1944, arrived in position in vicinity of Heric, France at 1000 hours. Distance marched: 5.5 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Fair and warm.

(40) Bn Hq, Hq Btry and Med Det departed position in vicinity of Treilliers, France at 0845 hours, 31 August 1944, arrived at position in vicinity of Vigneux, France at 1043 hours. Distance marched: 8 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and cool.

(41) Btry C departed position at fairground in Nantes, France at 1500 hours, 31 August 1944, arrived in position in vicinity of Vigneux, France at 1600 hours. Distance marched: 13 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and cool.

(42) Btry A departed position in vicinity of Blain, France at 0920 hours, 17 September 1944, arrived in Bn assembly area in vicinity of Vigneux, France at 1030 hours. Distance travelled: 23 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(43) Sv Btry departed position at vicinity of Heric, France at 0820 hours, 17 September 1944, arrived in Bn assembly area in vicinity of Vigneux, France at 0910 hours. Distance marched: 17 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and warm.

(44) Bn departed assembly area in vicinity of Vigneux, France at 0750 hours, 18 September 1944, arrived at bivouac area in vicinity of Montargis, France at 2219 hours. Distance marched: 246 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Clear and cool.

(45) Bn departed bivouac area in vicinity of Montargis, France at 0720 hours, 23 September 1944, arrived at assembly area in vicinity of Leudelange, Luxembourg at 2000 hours. Distance marched: 236 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cool and cloudy. Intermittant light showers throughout day.

(46) Bn departed assembly area in vicinity of Leudelange, Luxembourg at 0730 hours, 25 September 1944, arrived at position area at 0845 hours, in vicinity of Rilsdorf, Luxembourg. Distance traveled: 15 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cool and cloudy.

(47) Bn (less Btries A and B) departed position area in vicinity of Rilsdorf, Luxembourg at 1300 hours, 30 September 1944, arrived at new position in vicinity of Mondorf, Luxembourg at 1500 hours. Distance traveled: 3 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cool, heavy mist and fog and light rain throughout day.

(48) Btries A and B departed position area in vicinity of Rilsdorf, Luxembourg at 0615 hours, 29 September 1944, arrived at new positions in vicinity of Canach, Luxembourg at 0715 hours. Distance traveled: 10 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Partly cloudy.

(49) Btries A and B departed position area in vicinity of Canach, Luxembourg at 0800 hours, 7 October 1944, arrived in positions in vicinity of Mondorf, Luxembourg at 0900 hours. Distance traveled: 15 miles. Roads: Good hard surface roads. Weather: Partly cloudy, warm.

(50) Bn departed position area in vicinity of Mondorf, Luxembourg at 1200 hours, 14 November 1944, arrived in positions in vicinity of Maxweiler, Luxembourg at 1620 hours. Distance marched: 23.5 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Rain, light sleet, cold.

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

(51) Bn departed position area in vicinity of Flaxweiler, Luxembourg, at 0850 hours, 6 December 1944, arrived at concentration area in vicinity of Eyanatten, Belgium at 1640 hours. Distance marched: 126 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cloudy, light intermittent rains throughout day.

(52) Bn departed concentration area in vicinity of Eyanatten, Belgium at 0830 hours, 7 December 1944, arrived in positions at 1440 hours, in vicinity of Schevenhutte, Germany. Distance traveled: 14 miles. Roads: 10 miles of good all weather roads; 4 miles of muddy improved dirt roads. Weather: Intermittent light showers throughout day.

(53) Bn departed position area in vicinity of Schevenhutte, Germany at 0630 hours, 17 December 1944, arrived at positions in vicinity of Birgel, Germany at 1510 hours. Distance marched: 7 miles. Roads: 6 miles of fair improved and maintained by US Engrs; 1 mile of poor very muddy newly constructed road. Weather: Cloudy, cold.

(54) Bn departed position area in vicinity of Birgel, Germany at 1000 hours, 26 December 1944, arrived at Div assembly area in vicinity of St. Fontaine, Belgium at 0130 hours, 27 December 1944. Distance traveled: 122 miles. Roads: 1 mile of very poor deep rutted dirt road; 7 miles of good improved all weather road; 114 miles of hard surface roads. Weather: Clear and cold.

(55) Bn (less Sv Btry) departed assembly area in vicinity of St. Fontaine, Belgium at 0800 hours, 28 December 1944, arrived at positions in vicinity of Högne, Belgium at 0930 hours. Distance marched: 24 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cloudy and cold. Light snow flurries in early evening.

(56) Sv Btry departed assembly area in vicinity of St. Fontaine, Belgium at 1300 hours, 28 December 1944, arrived in vicinity of Le Fourneau, Belgium at 1500 hours. Distance traveled: 19 miles. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cloudy and cold. Light snow flurries in early evening.

(57) Bn (less Sv Btry) departed position area in vicinity of Högne, Belgium at 0800 hours, 31 December 1944, arrived in position area in vicinity of Fisenne and Grand Pre, Belgium at 1030 hours. Distance traveled: 24 hours. Roads: Good hard surface. Weather: Cloudy and cold. Snow flurries during early morning hours.

(58) Sv Btry departed position in vicinity of Le Fourneau, Belgium, at 0815 hours, 31 December 1944, arrived in position in vicinity of Weris, Belgium, at 1030 hours. Distance traveled: 21 miles. Roads: Slippery and covered with ice. Weather: Cloudy and cold.

f. Campaigns:

- (1) a. Name of: Campaign No 1 - Normandy
b. Duration: 6 June 1944 to 24 July 1944
c. Purpose: The initial attack on the Continent of Europe
d. Authority ordering: Commanding General, SHAEF
- (2) a. Name of: Campaign No 2 - Northern France
b. Duration: 24 July 1944 to 14 September 1944
c. Purpose: Defeat of the German armies in France
d. Authority ordering: Commanding General, SHAEF
- (3) a. Name of: Campaign No 3 - Germany
b. Duration: 15 September 1944 to present date
c. Purpose: Final defeat of the German armies.
d. Authority ordering: Commanding General, SHAEF

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

g. Battles: No official release.

h. Commanding Officers in important engagements:

- (1) Normandy campaign - Lieutenant Colonel PAUL S. THOMPSON, O-17537
- (2) Northern France campaign:
 - a. Lieutenant Colonel PAUL S. THOMPSON, O-17537 until 1218 hours, 10 August 1944 (KIA)
 - b. Major GEORGE P. FOSQUE, O-377564 from 1218 hours, 10 August 1944 until 1430 hours, 10 August 1944
 - c. Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) ARTHUR M. BURGHUFF, O-336230 from 1430 hours, 10 August 1944 (Transferred from Hq 83d Div Arty)
- (3) Germany campaign - Lieutenant Colonel ARTHUR M. BURGHUFF, O-336230

i. Losses in action; officers and men:

(1) Normandy campaign:

a. Killed in Action:

- (1) Private WILLIAM F. JACKSON, 34446051, Btry C - 24 July 1944
- (2) Private First Class OATHER P. SIMMONS, 35740562, Btry C - 24 July 1944
- (3) Sergeant RICHARD F. MILLER, 33254213, Hq Btry - 26 July 1944

b. Wounded in Action:

- (1) Corporal GEORGE L. HAYES, 35422634, Btry A - 4 July 1944 (RTD 28 July 44)
- (2) First Lieutenant EDWARD J. TETLAK, O-1166630, Btry B - Oct 44)
- (3) Private First Class MICHAEL (NMN) FITCH, 33439849, Btry A - 4 July 1944 (RTD 12 Aug 44)
- (4) Private LYLE I. MUNDEN, 33442179, Btry B - 5 July 1944 (RTD 28 Aug 44)
- (5) Private KELSO T. THATCHER, 36749971, Hq Btry - 4 July 1944
- (6) Private JOSEPH (NMN) DREIZEN, 35916565, Hq Btry - 8 July 1944
- (7) Private MELVIN H. POWELL, 14065960, Btry C - 8 July 1944 (RTD 16 Aug 44)
- (8) Second Lieutenant DELMAR A. COBBLE, O-1176925, Btry C - 11 July 1944
- (9) Private ROGER S. NAEYAERT, 36879582, Hq Btry - 12 July 1944
- (10) Private WILBURN (NMN) CRAIN, 34377397, Btry B - 12 July 1944 (RTD 28 Aug 44)
- (11) Private GEORGE R. CALLENDER, 33464943, Btry B - 12 July 1944 (RTD 16 Dec 44)
- (12) First Lieutenant WILLIAM E. SMITH, O-464679, Btry C - 16 July 1944
- (13) Technician Fourth Grade WALLACE D. WARREN, 37511838, Hq Btry - 16 July 1944
- (14) Technician Fourth Grade JACK M. FOUNDOLIS, 35585909, Hq Btry - 18 July 1944
- (15) Private First Class HENRY F. SREDNIANA, 35516779, Btry C - 18 July 1944
- (16) Private First Class LLOYD A. EVANS, JR, 34377482, Btry A - 19 July 1944

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

(17) Captain CHARLES S. LYSAGHT, O-1166550, Bn Staff - 19 July 1944

(2) Northern France campaign:

a. Killed in action:

- (1) Lieutenant Colonel PAUL S. THOMPSON, O-17539, Bn Comdr - 10 August 1944
- (2) First Lieutenant JOHN B. GOETTKE, O-513639, Bn Staff - 10 August 1944
- (3) First Lieutenant PHILIP J. REICHERT, O-1180021, Btry C - 10 August 1944
- (4) Private First Class FREDERICK COLUMBIA, 35666291, Hq Btry - 10 August 1944

b. Wounded in action:

- (1) Captain GEORGE G. BRUZZA, O-439339, Med Det - 10 August 1944 (RTD 23 Aug 44)
- (2) Captain JOHN C. ROBINSON, O-1166594, Sv Btry - 10 August 1944 (RTD 23 Aug 44)
- (3) Technician RUSSELL C. WILLIAMS, 35328798, Hq Btry - 10 August 1944
- (4) Staff Sergeant JOHN H. HENDERSON, 34354519, Hq Btry - 10 August 1944
- (5) Staff Sergeant SAMUEL D. MILLER, 14140427, Hq Btry - 10 August 1944 (RTD 23 Aug 1944)
- (6) Private First Class JOHN L. COX, JR., 33229914, Btry C - 10 August 1944
- (7) Private RALPH S. ROBINSON, 31338809, Sv Btry - 10 August 1944
- (8) Private ACY N. ADCOCK, 34455541, Hq Btry - 10 August 1944
- (9) Private GERALD E. CALLAWAY, 35534919, Hq Btry - 10 August 1944
- (10) Private CHARLIE J. BUCHANAN, 35449426, Btry A - 10 August 1944

(3) Germany campaign:

a. Killed in action: Staff Sergeant BYRON O. KRUSE, 18033859, Hq Btry - 17 December 1944

b. Wounded in action:

- (1) Private First Class TODD L. McLAUGHLIN, 33391635, Btry C - 11 December 1944
- (2) Private THOMAS W. BULLER, 36302947, Btry C - 11 December 1944
- (2) Corporal THOMAS C. RAGONESE, 31197723, Btry A - 11 December 1944
- (4) Corporal WILLIAM E. DONAHUE, 11114614, Hq Btry - 17 December 1944
- (5) Technician fifth Grade RALPH V. STARKEY, 35591074, Hq Btry - 17 December 1944
- (6) Private First Class ALBERT P. LUMAN, 35671320, Hq Btry - 17 December 1944
- (7) Private First Class WILLIAM H. WORGAN, 33377828, Btry A - 21 December 1944

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

j. former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

(1) Silver Star Award:

- a. Captain HARRY C. FLEMING, O-1166480. For distinguishing himself by gallantry in action at Sainteny, France, on 10 July 1944. While acting as a forward observer he directed fire upon enemy installations while under terrific enemy shell fire, never thinking of his own safety until after the infantry had completed its move.
- b. Captain GEORGE G. BRUZZA, O-439339. For distinguishing himself by gallantry in action in marchandais, France, on 10 August 1944. Although wounded himself, Captain Bruzza continued to aid the wounded under intense enemy artillery fire.
- c. Sergeant LESTER J. BASTIEN, 31182794 (then Corporal). For distinguishing himself by gallantry in action at Le Canal, France, on 20 July 1944. Sergeant Bastien maintained important communications by making three trips on foot over two miles of wire while under intense enemy artillery and mortar fire.
- d. Technician Fourth Grade WALLACE D. WARREN, 37511838. For distinguishing himself by gallantry in action near Auvers, France, on 4 July 1944. While serving as radio operator in the liaison section, he realized the importance of maintaining communications and, although under intense enemy artillery and mortar fire, not thinking of his own safety, remained at his post while others remained under cover.
- e. Technician Fifth Grade ANDREW F. MCKENNON, 6295278. For distinguishing himself by gallantry in action at Le Canal, France, on 20 July 1944. Technician Fifth Grade McKennon maintained important communications by making three trips on foot over two miles of wire while under intense enemy artillery and mortar fire.
- f. Technician Fifth Grade LESLIE W. ADAMS, 37103645. For distinguishing himself by gallantry in action in marchandais, France, on 10 August 1944. Although wounded himself, Technician Fifth Grade Adams continued to aid the wounded under intense enemy artillery fire.

(2) Soldier's Medal: Private First Class JULES P. DESGAIN, 13131655. For heroism in 16 September 1944, near Vigneaux de Bretagne, France. He saved the members of his gun crew from possible death or serious injury when he picked up a smoking shell that had been hit on the fuze, loaded it into the gun and fired it before the shell could explode.

(3) Bronze Star Award (Posthumous):

- a. Lieutenant Colonel PAUL S. THOMPSON, O-17537. For distinguishing himself for meritorious service rendered from 4 August 1944 to 10 August 1944 in connection with military operations during the Northern France Campaign.
- b. Sergeant RICHARD F. MILLER, 33254213. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 10 July 1944, in Sainteny, France. Under heavy artillery fire he established overhead wire crossings, thus making possible communication with supporting artillery.

(4) Bronze Star Award:

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

a. Individual Acts of Heroism:

- (1) First Lieutenant HOWARD O. SWEET, O-1166627. For distinguishing himself by heroic action on 5 September 1944, near Elain, France. Lieutenant Sweet's daring leadership and coolness while in charge of a daylight reconnaissance resulted in his patrol bringing back valuable information from enemy territory, after having been outnumbered two to one.
- (2) Technical Sergeant GEORGE E. SITES, 15048383. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 10 August 1944, at Marchandais, France. The enemy was shelling our command post and succeeded in destroying a vital part of our communication line. Technical Sergeant Sites, working under constant enemy shell fire, quickly repaired our communications.
- (3) Sergeant JOHN H. CLEVINGER, 13126901. For distinguishing himself by heroic achievement on 12 July 1944, at Calot, France. When enemy counter-battery fire began falling on the area where Sergeant Clevenger and his men were located he left his shelter in order to find a safe place for all of his men. During the course of this action he was struck by a shell fragment but was not injured.
- (4) Sergeant EDISON B. CUTRIGHT, 35401830. For distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement on 10 August 1944, at Marchandais, France. While the enemy was shelling the battery area, Sergeant Cutright succeeded in moving all of the vehicles in the area to cover from the shell fire and thus prevented possible loss and damage to our transportation.
- (5) Sergeant THOMAS H. SMITH, 34455524. For distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement on 12 August 1944, at Plurtuit, France. While Sergeant Smith was restoring wire communication to the battalion, the enemy laid down a heavy barrage of artillery fire in this immediate sector. Despite the bursting shells around him, he continued servicing the line until full communication was restored.
- (6) Technician Fourth Grade RALPH J. MIKKONEN, 35516284. For distinguishing himself by heroic achievement on 10 July 1944, in Normandy, France. Technician Fourth Grade Mikkonen was a radio operator in a forward observer party when the enemy began to lay down heavy fire upon his position. Despite this heavy enemy fire, he succeeded to maintain communication until he, with great presence of mind, concealed his equipment in view of imminent capture by the enemy.
- (7) Technician Fourth Grade NELSON V. HETRICK, 35006819. For distinguishing himself by heroic achievement on 12 August 1944, near Plurtuit, France. While under heavy enemy fire Technician Fourth Grade Hetrick continued to transmit fire data on his radio, which aided materially the advance of the infantry.
- (8) Corporal BYRON O. KRUSE, 18033859. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 7 July 1944, near Baupte, France. Corporal Kruse, heedless of warnings given him by guards in the vicinity, and without regard for his personal safety, went out upon a bridge under intense artillery fire and repaired damage from shell fire to communication lines.

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- (9) Corporal RICHARD N. KELLY, 35585818. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 17 July 1944, near Chateau d' Auxais, France. When a telephone circuit to a forward observation post was broken by enemy artillery fire, Corporal Kelly exposed himself to heavy enemy shell fire without regard for his personal safety and succeeded in restoring the line.
- (10) Corporal RUSSELL E. DAVEY, 35399942. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 10 August 1944, at Marchandais, France. During intense enemy artillery fire directed at the command post area of his battalion Corporal Davey displayed complete disregard for his own safety to care for the wounded.
- (11) Corporal HERBERT C. FAIRCHILD, 33215350. For distinguishing himself by heroic action on 10 August 1944, at Marchandais, France. Corporal Fairchild exposed himself to enemy artillery fire in order to service wire communications. His normal duty at the time did not require him to leave the security of his fox hole, but realizing the importance of uninterrupted communications he checked several hundred yards of wire installation, reinforcing it where necessary.
- (12) Corporal GEORGE (NMN) FEDARKO, JR., 33391675, For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 10 August 1944 at Marchandais, France. The enemy, shelling the battalion command post, succeeded in severing communication at several points. Corporal Fedarko, not only repaired the breaks, but he kept a constant communication flowing between higher and lower echelons.
- (13) Technician Fifth Grade DON R. CORBIN, 35288009. For distinguishing himself by heroic action on 17 July 1944 near Culot, France. As a member of a forward observer party, Technician Fifth Grade Corbin efficiently maintained a steady flow of communication under severe enemy mortar and small arms fire. In between his duties, he found time to serve as ammunition bearer and assist in evacuating several of the wounded.
- (14) Technician Fifth Grade PAUL H. STURTEVANT, 31154039. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 10 August 1944 at Marchandais, France. During an intense enemy shelling in his immediate sector, Technician Fifth Grade Sturtevant continued maintaining communication at his battalion switchboard.
- (15) Technician Fifth Grade LEONARD L. DAIGNEAULT, 11106062. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 12 August 1944 near Plurtuit, France. Despite intense enemy fire, Technician Fifth Grade Daigneault, who was working on wire communication, continued his work and completed his wire communication line.
- (16) Technician Fifth Grade FRANCIS R. ROOD, 31212769. For distinguishing himself by heroic action on 9 December 1944 in Germany. Technician Fifth Grade Rood was slightly wounded by enemy shell fire while repairing communication wire but refused medical attention and assisted in the evacuation of those fellow men who were also wounded.
- (17) Private First Class WARREN J. BOUCHER, 11110928, For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 10 July 1944 in Sainteny, France. Disregarding his personal safety despite heavy enemy artillery fire Private First Class Boucher established overhead wire crossings in the town of Sainteny.

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

- (18) Private First Class RAYMOND HAWKINS, 35344036. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service on 10 July 1944 in Sainteny, France. Disregarding his personal safety despite heavy enemy artillery fire Private First Class Hawkins established overhead wire crossings in the town of Sainteny.
- (19) Private First Class LLOYD A. EVANS, Jr., 34377482. For distinguishing himself by heroic action on 17 July 1944 near Calot, France. Serving as forward radio operator, Private First Class Evans was performing under vicious enemy fire. He successfully transmitted accurate and vital firing data to his gun positions until he was wounded by enemy tank fire.
- (20) Private First Class RALPH V. STARKEY, 35591074. For distinguishing himself by heroic action near Gois Grimon, France. Private First Class Starkey, as a member of the liaison forward party, effectively assisted in maintaining communications to front line elements while undergoing intense enemy automatic and artillery fire. He transported wounded and carried ammunition to the infantry during an engagement with two enemy tanks.
- (21) Private First Class DOMINIQUE L. HAMEL, 31244145. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service at Marchandais, France, on 10 August 1944. During an intense enemy shelling, Private First Class Hamel discovered a fellow artilleryman laying seriously wounded not far from his position. Braving the enemy fire, he managed to reach the fallen man, administer first aid and evacuate him to a place of safety where he could be given proper medical care.
- (22) Private MARTIN BUTLER, 14065964. For distinguishing himself by heroic action on 27 September 1944 in Schwedsingen, Luxembourg. While driving a C&R car enroute to a forward observation point, Private Butler volunteered to evacuate a wounded infantryman who had met an enemy patrol while on an outpost guard. Without hesitation, he picked up the wounded soldier while subjected to direct rifle fire from an enemy patrol.

b. Meritorious performance of duty:

- (1) Captain WILLIAM E. SMITH, O-464679. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 26 June 1944 to 16 July 1944, during the Normandy Campaign.
- (2) Captain OLIVER E. GRIEST, O-393004. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 13 July 1944 to 15 July 1944, during the Normandy Campaign.
- (3) Captain JOEL L. OLIVER, O-1166578. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 26 June to 27 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (4) Captain HARRY C. FLEMING, O-1166480. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 26 June to 27 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (5) Captain CHARLES B. SQUIERS, O-1166617. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 26 June to 27 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

- (6) First Lieutenant JOSEPH F. BENDER, O-1176552. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 26 June 1944 to 27 August 1944 during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (7) First Lieutenant CLARENCE W. FORSYTHE, O-1180498. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 4 July 1944 to 27 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (8) First Lieutenant WILLIAM F. SCHRODER, O-1170965. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 10 July 1944 to 27 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (9) First Lieutenant MANLIUS R. GOODRIDGE, O-1170753. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 10 August 1944 to 27 August 1944, during the Northern France Campaign.
- (10) Second Lieutenant THEODORE ROESE, O-1183752. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 14 July 1944 to 15 July 1944, during the Normandy Campaign.
- (11) Second Lieutenant WINSLOW P. JOHNSON, O-887559. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 18 July to 27 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (12) Staff Sergeant LOUIS E. MINGRONE, 35136384. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 4 July 1944 to 1 October 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (13) Staff Sergeant FRANK WERNER, 35516864. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 6 July to 15 October 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- (14) Staff Sergeant DANIEL T. WHITT, 6954937. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 27 July to 14 October, during the Northern France and Germany Campaigns.
- (15) Sergeant NICK BERTOVICH, 33306277. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 27 June to 15 October 1944, during the Normandy, Northern France and Germany Campaigns.
- (16) Sergeant OTTIS H. HODGE, 35201174. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 27 July to 13 October 1944, during the Northern France and Germany campaigns.
- (17) Technician Fourth Grade JOHN KIRIAKOU, 35115080. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 14 July to 15 July 1944, during the Normandy campaign.
- (18) Technician Fourth Grade RICHARD D. SCHISLER, 35422579. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 14 July to 15 July 1944, during the Normandy campaign.
- (19) Corporal WALTER J. KOZAK, 33369194. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 27 June to 1 October 1944, during the Normandy, Northern France and Germany Campaigns.
- (20) Private First Class ARTHUR WAPLES, 11117665. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 4 July 1944 to 30 September 1944, during the Normandy, Northern France and Germany Campaigns.
- (21) Private WILBURN CRAIN, 34377397. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 27 June 1944 to 12 July 1944, during the Normandy Campaign.
- (22) Private VIRGIL V. PARKER, 35740436. For distinguishing himself by meritorious service from 24 July to 25 July 1944, during the Normandy Campaign.

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(Ltr Hq 908th FA Bn, dtd 28 Jan 45, Subject: Orgn History 1944, cont'd)

(5) Air Medal (Posthumous):

- a. First Lieutenant JOHN B. GOETTKE, O-513639, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 27 June to 25 July 1944, during the Normandy Campaign.
- b. First Lieutenant PHILIP J. REICHERT, O-1180021. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 27 June to 25 July 1944, during the Normandy Campaign.

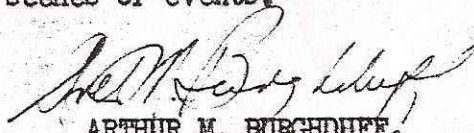
(6) Air Medal:

- a. First Lieutenant JAMES B. THOMAS, O-514278. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 15 August to 17 September 1944, during the Northern France Campaign.
- b. Second Lieutenant CHARLES I. HICKS, O-1179890. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 27 June to 10 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.
- c. Second Lieutenant CLARENCE E. STILLMAN, O-1180737. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 24 August to 17 September 1944, during the Northern France and Germany Campaigns.
- d. Staff Sergeant CARROL E. RAETHER, 16123392. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 27 June to 30 August 1944, during the Normandy and Northern France Campaigns.

(7) Oak Leaf Cluster (Air Medal):

- a. First Lieutenant CHARLES I. HICKS, O-1179890. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 11 August to 22 October 1944, during the Northern France and Germany campaigns.
- b. Staff Sergeant CARROL E. RAETHER, 16123392. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights from 1 September to 17 September 1944, during the Northern France and Germany campaigns.

k. Photographs of personnel, important scenes or events: No photographs are available of personnel, important scenes or events.


ARTHUR M. BURGHDOFF,
Lt. Col., F. A.,
COMMANDING

THE 908TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION IN COMBAT
(27 June 1944 - 5 May 1945)

N-O-R-M-A-N-D-Y

The first men of the 908th Field Artillery Battalion landed on the Normandy coast on D + 16, 22 June 1944. The trucks rolled up the coast and moved to a bivouac near Bricqueville. The days of waiting were spent in preparations for our move to the front and when we were finally called on the 26th of June we were ready. The battalion moved out in the dark of early morning on the 27th and proceeded to our first position area south of Carentan.

The hedgerows and swamps of Normandy proved to be a great obstacle in the path of our assault and on the 4th of July when the Infantry jumped off, our guns did much in helping the doughboys in the advance. The battalion maneuvered from position to position in its advance with the infantry. The town of Sainteny was one of our main targets and after blasting it day after day and after much bitter fighting, the town was ours. This was by no means the end of the fighting. There were swamps to be crossed and the Taute River stretched before us, heavily defended on the opposite shore. Time and time again fire was called for by our observers and the howitzers of the 908th sent a rain of fire crashing into the enemy lines.

On the 25th of July the Air Corps came in to lend a hand to our effort and after blasting the enemy positions, we were on the move again to force the issue. The end in Normandy was soon to come as the German's grip was weakening. On the 28th of July we followed the doughboys across the Taute river. We were moving without opposition and the enemy was on the run. The division was cut off by the flanking divisions and at long last we were out of contact with the enemy.

S-T MALO - D-I-N-A-R-D

On 4th of August the battalion moved forward from an assembly area and headed south into the Brittany peninsula. The battalion moved by way of Periers, Coutances, Avranches, Pontorson and arrived at a position area for the attack on St. Malo. The attack progressed rapidly and our guns were soon in position outside St. Malo, firing into the port and at the surrounding strong-points. Our observers picked out ships and boats off shore and these were effectively taken under fire. The German defenses crumpled under the cannoner's accurate fire and on the 9th of August we were ordered from our positions south of St. Malo and during the night of 9-10th August moved down around the peninsula by way of Dinan and across the Rance River to where the Germans were bottled up in Dinard.

On the morning of the 10th of August the enemy started shelling our positions, inflicting a great number of casualties. It was here that the Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Paul S. Thompson, was killed in action when struck by a fragment from one of the enemy shells. The enemy fire was so intense that it was necessary to move the battalion from its location to another position. Major Arthur M. Burghdoff (now Lieutenant Colonel) was sent from Division Artillery to take command of the battalion. Under his leadership the battalion moved forward and pounded the enemy to it's knees. On the 17th of August the battalion moved from its positions and encamped in a bivouac, ready for the call to go into action again.

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