

OPERATIONS REPORT OF THE
120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

Period 0001 1 May 43 to 2400 25 May 1943:

On 2 May 1943 the Battalion left to participate in a "Touchdown Exercise", dry landing assault tactics, which was held outside of the Camp Pickett, area. Co A was attached to the 157th RCT, Co B was attached to the 179th RCT, Co C was attached to the 180th RCT, and H&S Co and the Battalion were part of Division Troops. The exercise ended on 4 May 43 and the companies returned to camp. For the period 5 May 1943 to 25 May 1943 the entire battalion prepared for a move. Clothing, equipment and ordnance were checked and replaced; and all personnel records were brought to date. A drive was put on by the battalion to have the men avail themselves of all the insurance permissible and it brought very favorable results. At midnight of 25 May 43 the entire battalion was ready to move out.

Period 0001 26 May 43 to 2400 May 43.

At 0800 Cos A, B and C moved out with their respective RCT's, for a staging area. Moved by rail.

At 1000 H&S Co and the Battalion staff left with Division Troops by rail for staging area.

At 1330 Cos A, B and C arrived At Camp Patrick Henry and were assigned quarters in the same area as their respective RCT's.

At 1450 H&S Co and the Battalion staff arrived at Camp Patrick Henry, Va. and were assigned quarters with Division Troops.

Period 0001 27 May 43 to 2400 2 June 43:

All companies went thru the staging area to prepare them for overseas duty. Clothing, ordnance and equipment were checked and replaced if necessary. All personnel records were brought up to date. Personnel in excess of T/O strength were transferred and the Battalion was brought up to T/O Strength. 2nd Lt Gueritey of Co A, who had been hurt in a demolition demonstration several weeks before, was transferred to Special Troops, Second Army, Camp Pickett, Va. That brought the Battalion up to T/O strength in Officers and enlisted men.

Period 0001 3 June 43 to 2400 3 June 43:

The entire Battalion, Companies with their respective RCT's and H&S Co and staff with Division troops, left Camp Patrick Henry, Va. by rail and arrived at the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation and boarded ship. The morale of the men and officers was very high as they boarded the gangplank towards the ship.

Period 0001 8 June 43 to 2400 8 June 43:

Convoy pulled anchor, pulled out of harbor, went into formation and set sail.

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Period 0001 9 June 43 to 2400 22 June 43:

At sea, H&S Co and Battalion staff aboard USS James O'Hara. Co A: Co Hq aboard USS Susan B Anthony. 1st Platoon aboard USS Charles Carroll. 2nd Platoon aboard USS Thomas Jefferson. 3rd platoon aboard USS Biddle. Co B: Co Hq aboard USS Leonard Wood. 1st platoon aboard USS Henry Lee; 2nd platoon aboard USS Dorothy Dix. 3rd platoon aboard USS Florence Highingale. Co C: Co Hq and 1st platoon aboard USS Calvert. 2nd platoon aboard USS Neville. 3rd platoon aboard USS Frederick Funston. The trip was uneventful. No sign of enemy action to mar the voyage. Weather was excellent. Religious services held aboard ship. At 1230 21 June 43 the Rock of Gibraltar was sighted and the convoy entered the Mediterranean Sea. At 1100 the convoy anchored at harbor of Mers-el-Kebir the harbor of Oran Africa.

Period 0001 23 June 43 to 2400 9 July 43:

Harbor of Mers-el-Kebir. Major Buchanan, formerly of H&S Co boarded the USS James O'Hara and conducted services for the personnel. On 25 June 43 the entire Division participated in the "Camberwell Operation". Personnel disembarked by boat teams and with their respective RCT's. Co A landed with the 157th RCT; Co B with the 179th RCT; and Co C with the 180th RCT. H&S Co landed with the Division Troops. Division landed at the beach of St. Leu, North Africa and proceeded to their bivouac areas. During the duration of the exercise, troops participated in road marches, ordnance inspections and supervised swimming on the beach. On June 28, attended a demonstration given by the 19th Engineers of the 9th Division on the laying of hasty mine fields, clearing of mine fields and the clearing of a path through a mine field called the "Lambeth Drill". Left the bivouac areas on 1 July 43 and boarded ship. Approached and anchored off the coast of Southern Sicily around midnight of 9 July 43. During the previous all the personnel were informed of the mission of the task force: The invasion of the coast of Sicily. All personnel assembled equipment and prepared to disembark.

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OPERATION REPORT
of
120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
in
THE SICILIAN CAMPAIGN
July 10, 1943 - August 20, 1943

I. HISTORICAL

1. Organization at 0001 July 10, 1943

Staff:

C.O.	Lt Col	LEWIS G. FRANTZ
Executive	Major	GERALD H. HINES
Asst Div Engr	Capt	CHARLES O. ERWIN
S-1	Capt	OLLIE F. HOWELL, JR
S-2	Capt	BENJAMIN E. BILLUPS
S-3	Capt	JOSEPH W. LOWE, JR
S-4	Capt	PATRICK L. McCLERNON
Personnel Off	1st Lt	JOHN H. DISMANT

Headquarters and Service Company

C.O.	Capt	CLAYTON B. LYLE, JR.
Bn Motor O.	1st Lt	ALVIN L. FRANK
Asst Motor O.	WO (JG)	JIM M. FLANAGAN
Asst Bn Supply O.	WO (JG)	GEORGE A. FERGUSON

Company "A"

C.O.	Capt	JAMES F. BEZEMEK
Hq Section	1st Lt	HUGH T. McCULLOUGH, JR
1st Platoon	1st Lt	JAMES H. RICKBY, JR.
2nd Platoon	2nd Lt	ROY C. SMITH
3rd Platoon	2nd Lt	IRA D. COOPER

Company "B"

C.O.	Capt	RICHARD M. STRONG
Hq Section	2nd Lt	ALFRED S. INZERELLI
1st Platoon	1st Lt	JULIAN A. YOCOM
2nd Platoon	1st Lt	ARTHUR TAUSCHER
3rd Platoon	2nd Lt	MAX R. HARTNAGEL

Company "C"

C.O.	Capt	WILLIAM J. HERRMANN
Hq Section	2nd Lt	BERNARD GORDON, JR
1st Platoon	1st Lt	CHARLES H. DERR
2nd Platoon	2nd Lt	RAYMOND W. MEYER
3rd Platoon	1st Lt	ELMER S. PICKETT

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd

Medical Detachment:

CO	Capt	AUBREY E STOWERS
Ass't Med Off	1st Lt	HARRY E CHALSTROM, JR
Dental Officer	Capt	STEWART C HOWE

2. Strength at 0001 July 10, 1943	Off	WO	EM
Bn Hq	8	--	--
H&S Co	2	2	135 (1 EM BJU)
Med Det	3	--	20
Co "A"	5	--	194
Co "B"	5	--	192
Co "C"	5	--	193(1EM BJU)
Total	28	2	734

3. Tactical distribution of Units at 0001 10 July 1943

Bn Hq-----aboard U.S.S. AP 90 James O'Hara
 H&S Co-----aboard U.S.S. AP 90 James O'Hara
 Med Det-----aboard U.S.S. AP 90 James O'Hara
 %--WO Flanagan and 25 EM aboard U.S.S. AK 1
 7 EM aboard U.S.S. AK 15

Co "A" attached 157th Inf
 Co Hq-----Aboard Susan B Anthony AP 72
 1st Pl atchd 1st Bn 157 Inf AP 28 Charles Carroll
 2nd Pl atchd 2nd Bn 157 Inf AP 30 Thom Jefferson
 3rd Pl atchd 3rd Bn 157 Inf AP 8 U.S.S. Biddle
 3 EM aboard AK 2

Co "B" attached 179th Inf
 Co Hq-----Aboard AP 12 USS Harry Lee
 1st Pl atchd 1st Bn 179 Inf USS Leonard Wood
 2nd Pl atchd 2nd Bn 179th I. USS Dorothy Dix
 3rd Pl atchd 3rd Bn 179 Inf Florence Nightingale
 14 EM aboard AK 7

Co "C" attached 180th Inf
 Co Hq-----Aboard AP 32 USS Fred Funston
 1st Pl atchd 1st Bn 180 Inf USS Calvert
 2nd Pl atchd 2nd Bn 180 Inf USS Neville
 3rd Pl atchd 3rd Bn 180 Inf USS Fred Funston

1st Bn 19th Engr Regt (less Company C) attached, loaded in LST's to report upon landing.

1 Officer, 4 enlisted Men, Map Depot Company was to land on D Day from LST's. This group was never seen.

1 Officer, 2 enlisted men from 401 W. Sup. Bn. was to land on D / 1, to perform water reconnaissance

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd-

4. Period 0001 to 2400 July 10 (D Day)

Landing operations began at 0345 on the morning of July 10 in the vicinity of SCOGLITTI. The several attached platoons landed with the assault waves of their respective Infantry Battalions, with the mission of assisting the advance of the Infantry.

The first Platoon of Company "A" landed at 0430, and moved inland with the First Battalion 157th Infantry. Roads were found in good condition, and the only work required was clearing the roads of destroyed and disabled vehicles.

Lt RICKY and two (2) squads were pinned to the ground by snipers as they attempted to enter S. Croce Camerina along the road from Yellow Beach at 1400. Camerina had not been taken by our troops and Mortar Fire from our Infantry forced them to retreat. Later the other two (2) squads of the Platoon entered the town with the Infantry, clearing Bivouac and C.P. Areas of mines and cleaning out snipers. Complete consolidation of the Platoon was made by 1800 and the Platoon bivouaced at S. Croce Camerina.

Contact was made with the 1st Platoon in S. Croce Camerina at 1600. Contact party were strafed by Nazi Airplanes at this time.

The second platoon landed with the 2nd Bn 157th Infantry at 0430, cleared the beach of wire and mines, and worked on the exit roads from the beach until relieved by the Third Platoon at 0930, then moved inland behind the 2nd Bn 157th Infantry bivouacing for the night at H434033.

The Third Platoon landed at 0900, and took over the task of improving the road net behind the beaches from the second Platoon.

Company Headquarters landed at 1200, after being subjected to repeated aerial bombing, attacks and shore battery fire since 0430, established CP at H421021, gained control of the Third Platoon at 1400. Traffic control was established behind the beaches. The 1st Battalion beach was abandoned during the day, and the other beach was abandoned during the evening when the capture of Scoglitti and connecting roads to S. Croce Camerina made landing of equipment at Scoglitti feasible. The company, less 1st and 2nd Platoons moved inland, and bivouaced for the night at H430019 at 2030.

Company "B" landed approximately five miles North-West of Scoglitti, assembled, and operated thereafter as an integral unit. During the landing, 1st Lt JULIAN A. YOCOM and Pfc LYTOON J. OILLE attacked an enemy pillbox with hand grenades, and took nine (9) prisoners after killing two (2) wounding five (5) Italian soldiers. An exit was built from the beach to connect with the land road nets. They came under Battalion control at 1150. One man Pfc RUCKERT was killed in action.

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SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd-

Company "C" landed on the left flank on the right bank of the Fiumi Aceti about six (6) miles south-east of Gela. The landing operation started at 0245.

First platoon of Company "C" moved inland with the first Battalion 180th Inf. The second Platoon with the second Battalion. While both Battalions were still organized as boat teams the enemy counter-attacked with a reinforced armored battalion. Both Platoons functioned as infantry with their respective boat teams. Lt GORDON and four (4) of his men assisted the Infantry in reduction of pill boxes on beach. The Third Platoon and Company Headquarters landed in the afternoon and set up CP $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles inland from Red Beach. The CP was later moved back near the Beach. During the night the bivouac area was bombed and machine gunned.

Battalion Headquarters began landing at 0700 and immediately began a reconnaissance of the area. A CP was established at H333178 by 1030. Contact was made with "B" Company at 1150. A Water Point at H358168 was put in operation by 1800. Contact was made with Lt Col BROWNING, Commanding 1st Bn 19th Engrs in Scoglitti at 1600 and it was decided that the 19th Engineers would assist the 40th (Shore) Engineer Regiment until the fall of Comiso Airport. Company "B" demolished road blocks in Scoglitti and swept the roads to Vittoria, and between Scoglitti and the beach for mines.

5. 0001 to 2400 July 11

The Battalion, less Companies "A" and "C" moved to H404178 where the CP was opened at 1000. A dry water point was established with water hauled from the beach. Collection and sorting of maps got under way; and all the prominent roads were checked for mines. Comiso Airport was reported seized, and Lt MAUSCHER with the weapons section of 2nd Platoon of Company "B" was sent to examine the field. As he entered the Airport he was fired on by an enemy machine gun nest. The fire was returned, and the nest silenced after killing two and capturing eight (8) prisoners. Our men suffered no casualties. All available trucks were put to work hauling engineer equipment and supplies from the beaches. Contact was made with "C" Company late in the afternoon.

Company "A", following the Infantry advance moved at 0630 to H465065, and again at 1630 to H551144. Very little engineering work was required, as roads were found to be in good condition, and few mines were found. Most of the day was spent in recovering and repairing vehicles disabled in the landing operation. The 1st and 2nd Platoons were attached to their respective Infantry Battalions throughout the day, and cleared the roads of obstruction. 1st Platoon rested with 197th Infantry until 1530 and then continued in the attack with the 1st Battalion who were to take Ragusa. Pvt DAN ROMERO was shot in the hand by an American Paratrooper, while he was guarding an ammunition and Supply Dump in the Caserina Area.

"C" Company was organized at the old CP Water Point was set up in well near CP. Road reconnaissance was made on Highway 115. One of the half track crews shot down an enemy plane during a night bombing attack.

The 1st Bn 19th Engr moved to H494183 at 1330 and at 1800 commenced moving equipment to Comiso Airport.

6. Period 0001 to 2400 July 12.

The Battalion, less Co's "A" and "C" continued operations of the previous day. A new water point was established North of Vittoria. A Platoon of Company "B", while clearing the Comiso Airport runway of debris, was bombed and strafed by enemy planes, but suffered no casualties. Company "C" reverted to Battalion Control and moved into the Battalion Area at 2000. A cratered road SE of MANGARO was repaired by "B" Company. All available transportation was given to G-4 for use in hauling ammunition.

Company "A" Continued to follow up the advance of the 157th Infantry but found little work. They repaired and de-waterproofed their vehicles, which were just coming ashore. They also spent considerable time gathering and destroying captured enemy equipment. Lt RICKY and First Platoon checked and cleared a large German Motor Park and Headquarters building of Booby Traps. Numerous vehicles from this Park were put into-operation near Ragusa on the highway between Ragusa and Comiso.

Company "C" maintained water Point at old CP. Second Platoon, third Platoon and company headquarters rejoined the Battalion $\frac{1}{2}$ mile North of Vittoria. First Platoon remained in support of the 180th.

The 1st Bn 19th Engineers began operation on Comiso Airport.

7. Period 0001 to 2400 July 13:

The Battalion, less Company "A" continued the tasks previously reported. The trucks which had been put to hauling ammunition from the beach reported in the early morning, and the Battalion moved to H480195 at 1130. At 1230 Capt CLASSELL of Division G-3 Office reported that the bridge at 448273 was destroyed. Lt TAUSCHER and his platoon built a by-pass, and destroyed mines there. Lt YOCOM with his platoon checked a German Arsenal for booby traps. "C" Company moved up at 1500 to provide close support for the 180th Infantry in their attack on Biscari Airport.

Company "C" assisted one Platoon of Company "B" in the construction of by-pass over COUNSIA River North of Biscari. Repaired craters on road North of Biscari. Removed enemy demolition charges on Highway 115 bridge over Fiume Acate. Maintained Water Point at same place. Company set up CP one mile North of Biscari. Removed demolition charges on bridge $\frac{1}{2}$ mile South of Biscari Airport. This work was done in front of our own lines under enemy fire.

Company "A" spent the day in reconnaissance and sweeping roads, and in destroying captured enemy equipment. They moved up to H637249 at 0330.

1st Bn 19th Engineer continued operations on Comiso Airport.

8. Period 0001 to 2400 July 14:

The Battalion, less Company "A" moved to H510245 at 0800. It was decided to establish a semi-permanent dump one mile west of Vittoria, and the day was spent filling this dump with supplies both from the beach and from accumulated stocks. The S-2 Section began accumulating maps for the area Pietra Perzia - Westwards. The road from Comiso to Caltagirone was cleared of obstacles and mines.

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd -

Company "A", still attached to 157th Infantry, moved to H685328 at 0700 and again to H573334 at 1300. Reconnaissance was made for water in the vicinity of CHIARAMONTE without success. 51 Teller Mines were removed from under a bridge at H616398 after a German soldier was shot while trying to detonate them. The road from LICODIA to H573334 was swept for mines.

The 1st Bn 19th Engineers moved to Biscari Airport during the afternoon, repairing 3 road craters on Biscari Airport across road, and began repair operations there.

Company "A" Second and Third Platoons under Company control made Engineer reconnaissance. 1st Platoon stayed with 157th Infantry, moving from the Bivouac Area seven (7) miles South of Vizzini to the ridge over-looking Vizzini from the Southwest. Strong enemy Artillery, Mortar and Machine Gun fire were encountered along ridge. A member of the Engineers assisted the Infantry by carrying ammunition to M.G.S. and Mortars. During the evening the 1st Bn was relieved by 3rd Bn 157th. 1st Platoon was relieved and bivouaced on the outskirts of Laccodia.

Company "C" established CP 2 miles North of Biscari. Water Point set up in the town of Biscari. Repaired road crater $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Biscari airport.

The 1st Bn 19th Engineers continued work on Comiso Airport and reconnoitred Biscari Airport.

9. Period 0001 to 2400 July 15:

The battalion continued to build up the Engineer dump near Vittoria to support the Infantry. On this day the Infantry began withdrawal to a line 3 miles South of Highway 124 to permit passage of 1st Canadian Division across our front. Lt HARTNAGEL was sent on a road reconnaissance mission, via Charanonte - Mazzarino to determine the feasibility of this route for the 180th Infantry. He drove 127 miles in the course of this reconnaissance mission and made his report to G-3 at 1930.

Company "A" Capt BEZEMEK and two (2) Enlisted men proceeded from Licodia Area in early morning to vicinity of Pietra Persia on reconnaissance of area for 157th Infantry. Arrived in new area late afternoon and made contact with elements of Division on the right of our new sector. Bivouac areas were selected and water reconnaissance made.

Company "C" maintained water point in Biscari and moved CP to San Basilio. Road reconnaissance in 180th Sector to Caltagirone.

The 1st Bn 19th Engineers moved to Biscari Airport during the afternoon, repairing three (3) road craters on Biscari Airport across road, and began repair operations there.

10. Period 0001 to 2400 July 16:

The battalion began making preparation for movement. All Companies were attached to their respective combat teams for movement. H&S Company released all available vehicles to Division for the movement of the Infantry. The 157th CT, Company "A" attached moved to the vicinity of Pietra Persia. Company "B" moving separately.

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd -

Lt HARTNAGEL with 3rd Platoon Company "B" moved northward to Mazzarino behind 1st Canadian Division. Company "C" continued to support the 180th Infantry. Water Point set up 3 miles North of Biscari by Company "C". Road reconnaissance to Airport of Callajirone.

11. Period 0001 to 2400 July 17:

Company "B", less 3rd Platoon moved during the morning to the assembly area 3 miles South of Pietra Perzia. The Battalion followed suit in the afternoon and established their CP 8 miles South of Pietra Perzia at 2000. Company "C" also rejoined the Battalion at the same place.

Company "A", following 157th Infantry constructed two large by-passes North of Pietra Perzia, removed 25 Teller Mines from five miles of road swept.

The 3rd Platoon Company "B" rebuilt a bridge three miles north of Mazzarino, and rejoined the battalion in the late evening at the new bivouac area. Maintained Water Point and moved CP 2 miles South of Pietra Perzia. Cleared road block at railroad underpass, one blown bridge and one shell crater on road Caltagirone to Highway 117. Constructed two by-passes, removed one mine field and removed demolition charges from three bridges on road from Caltagirone to Messina.

Company "C" Lt FRANK and a detail of driver remained behind at Scoglitti to collect our vehicles from the liberty ships and to move equipment and supplies from the beach to the dump at Vittoria.

12. Period 0001 to 2400 July 18,

Company "B" moved forward through Company "A" in support of Company "A" along Highway through Pietra Perzia to Caltanissetta, filled several shell craters, cleared streets in Caltanissetta of debris and moved North. Received shellfire at Caterina, and bivouaced for the night 4 miles South of Caterina.

"A" Company moving forward came beneath the same shell fire and bivouaced near "B" Company. Little work was required of either Company, consisting mainly of filling occasional shell craters and checking the road for mines. All available vehicles were turned over to G-4 for hauling troops forward and prisoners to the rear.

Contact was made with the newly organized Corps Map Depot in Gela and arrangements to turn over 45th Division maps still on beaches in return for right to draw on depot.

13. Period 0001 to 2400 July 19:

Battalion CP opened $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles Southwest of Caltanissetta at 0630. Notified of activation of Seventh Army. Companies "A" and "B" continued to follow the Infantry advance, clearing the roads of obstacles and checking for mines. Company "C" remained in bivouac as reserve.

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd-

14. Period 0001 to 2400 July 20:

All available trucks released to G-4 for use in hauling troops forward and prisoners to the rear.

"B" Company moved to 907972, prepared turnaround at Water Point in vicinity. Checked enemy arsenal for Booby Traps. Cleared road junction at Comiso of destroyed enemy tanks.

Companies "A", "B" and "C", generally followed close behind the Infantry advance, clearing roads of obstacles.

15. Period 0001 to 2400 July 21:

Battalion less Companies "A" and "B" established CP at H967957 at 0330. "B" Company constructed by-pass at B901002 (?)

16. Period 0001 to 2400 July 22:

Battalion moved to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile Northwest of Vallalunga at 0030.

"B" and "C" Company supported their respective combat teams, 179th Infantry attacking Northward along Staz di Valledolmo - Caltavuturo road, and 180th Infantry continuing the drive to Palermo.

"B" Company constructed by-passes at B900065 (?) and at B9212. Their CP was established at a point 2 miles Southwest of Valledolmo. Company "C" cleared a minefield at Bivio Manganaro (B6611) and performed engineer reconnaissance in that area. Large stores of Engineer Supplies were found at Staz di Roccapalumba.

Capt BILMUPS with a small party reconnoitered Highway 121 as far Northward as Bologuetta. On this evening of this day the direction of attack was deflected to the right, and the new objective became the Termini Imerese - Cefalu road. "C" Company constructed a by-pass at B- one mile South of Montemaggiore. This by-pass is of peculiar interest, as advantage was taken of an old Roman road which ran along the crest. The demolition site had been well selected, and had it not been for this ancient via, which apparently had been overlooked by the Germans, passage would have been extremely difficult. The Road Junction at Staz di Valledolmo was widened to permit traffic from the Southeast to turn right towards Caltavuturo.

17. Period 0001 to 2400 July 23:

Company "C" constructed by-pass on Alia - Montemaggiore - Cerda Road at B8422 (?) Passed entire RCT with attached 155 mm GPF Battalion before dawn.

Company "B" constructed by-pass 2 miles East of Scillata. Capt STRONG and 3 Enlisted Men, on reconnaissance East of by-pass site attacked by Machine Gun and Mortar Fire. Vehicle destroyed, no casualties.

Company "A" constructed by-pass at B8324 (?) and by-pass over F Torto at B 8227?

Company "C" reverted to Battalion control at 0800 and was held in working reserve at by-pass (B8422?) which they continued to maintain and improve.

Battalion CP opened at 2045 $\frac{3}{4}$ mile Southeast of Cerda.

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd-

Company "A" attached 157th RCT at 1930

Company "B" attached 179th RCT at 1930

Capt BEZEMEK relieved of Command Company "A" and temporarily assigned Assistant S-4 on Water Supply. Lt McCULLOUGH assumed Command of Company "A".

18. Period 0001 to 2400 July 24:

Battalion less Companies "A" and "B" moved at 2050 to B992368, approximately 2 miles West of Cefalu.

Company "A" attached to 157th RCT followed Infantry advance, clearing road of obstacles and minefields.

Company "B", attached to 179th RCT, cleared roads, constructed by-pass $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles East of Isnello (C060265). CP established 2 miles East of Isnello at 1400. Two by-passes constructed by "B" Company two miles east of Isnello.

Company "C" improved detour at Junction of Highways 120 and 113. The Battalion was alerted by Division at 2050 to be prepared for possible enemy landing attempt. No sleep at Headquarters tonight.

19. Period 0001 to 2400 July 25:

Battalion CP unchanged.

Companies "A" and "C" constructed two by-passes at C050360. (Demolished RR overpass and blown bridge) "B" Company filled a large crater on the main road between Cefalu and Castelbuono.

Capt BEZEMEK, while scouting for water at Stazione di Castelbuono, was pinned down one hour by exploding ammunition from a burning ammunition train.

Mr ERNIE PYLE, War correspondent, joined the Battalion for the purpose of securing data for a series of articles about Engineers. }

Unidentified ships seen at sea.

20. Period 0001 to 2400 July 26:

Company "A" and "C" built by-passes by two large craters near C121221 and both companies established CP's at Finale. Company "A" removed concrete of obstacles and A-T ditch at C090352.

Company "B" cleared road of mines from Castelbuono to Staz di Castelbuono, and filled crater at C066343, and performed reconnaissance for $\frac{1}{2}$ ton vehicular trail from S. Mauro Castelverde to Castel di Lucio. CP moved in late evening to 3 miles East of Castelbuono.

Mr Pyle visited Company "B".

21. Period 0001 to 2400 July 27:

Company "B" continued reconnaissance for truck trail. Moved CP to 4 miles North of S. Mauro Castelverde.

Company "C" followed the advance of the Infantry. Company "C" improved by pass near Finale and swept neighboring beaches for mines.

Capt BILLEPS and Lt PICKETT, while on reconnaissance near Castel di Tusa came under artillery fire. Capt BILLEPS $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton Amphibian was destroyed, and Lt PICKETT's $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton was damaged. There were no casualties. }

Mr. PYLE was evacuated to a field hospital during the morning. *Illness*

22. Period 0001 to 2400 July 28:

Battalion CP moved to Finales (G141359) at 1745;

Company "A" remained attached to 157th Infantry Company "C" reverted to Battalion control.

Company "B" remained attached to 177th Infantry.

Company "A" and "C" built by-pass over Fuime di Tusa, and cleared Minefield in same area Company "A" followed the 157th Infantry Southward into the mountains. Company "C" remained behind and improved the by-pass across F di Tusa. A total of 890 Teller mines was removed by 1st Platoon "C" Company in this field.

Company "B" constructed five miles of trail passable by $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton vehicles.

23. Period 0001 to 2400 July 29:

Company "C" continued working on minefield at F Di Tusa. CP in Castel di Tusa.

Company "B" constructed nine (9) miles of $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton truck trail.

24. Period 0001 to 2400 July 30:

Company "A" cleared trails for 157th Infantry.

Company "B" widened truck trail to make it passable for all organic vehicles.

Company "C" constructed by-pass at (G2435) ?

Capt HERRMANN and Lt PICKETT, while on reconnaissance of demolished bridge, were seriously wounded by German S-Mine. Lt DERR assumed command of Company "C".

Minefields were sown indiscriminately along road and berms, and in likely turnouts. These were cleared by Company "C".

25. Period 0001 to 2400 July 31:

45th Division relieved by 3rd Division.

Company "B" moved to $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles South of Mistretta checked demolished bridge site 2 miles North of Mistretta for mines, and began construction of by-pass.

26. Period 0001 to 2400 August 1:

Battalion less Company "B" moved to 1 mile West of Campo Felice in reserve. Organized for beach defense.

Company "B" continued operation at bridge site. Two bulldozers destroyed by Teller Mines. Relieved at 1700. Began movement to Battalion assembly area.

27. Period 0001 to 2400 August 2:

Company "B" joined Battalion. Day spent in cleaning and repairing equipment.

28. Period 0001 August 3 to 2400 August 13:

Cleanup and repair activities.

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August 4: Capt BEZEMEK and four (4) Enlisted Men went to Mistreets with a four ton wrecker and after a days work managed to salvage the two mine-disabled bulldozers. One 8-Ton bulldozer was raised out of a fifty foot deep gorge by use of block and tackle.

General MIDDLETON addressed the assembled officers of the Battalion at 0800 August 4, in very commendatory terms, and thanked the Battalion for its services.

Company "C" attached 180th Infantry and moved to 0358364 on August 6, 1943. General mission protect rear of 3rd Division.

Two replacement tractors loaned by 7th Army arrived on August 7th.

Company "C" swept areas in vicinity of Coronis for mines on August 8th.

School for Infantry and Artillery in mine detecting and removing begun August 8th terminated August 14.

Division caused mine removal detachments to be formed in each Infantry regiment and Division Artillery, which are made responsible for clearing their own roads and bivouac area.

Capt HOWELL relieved of duty as S-1, transferred to Seventh Army Headquarters on August 11. Capt BEZEMEK assumed duties of S-1.

August 13 Capt ERWIN transferred to G-4 section as Asst G-4. Capt LOWE from S-3, Lt YOON to Command of "B" Company. Capt STRONG relieved of Primary Duty as Commanding Officer of "B" Company and assigned to Battalion Staff with Primary Duty as S-3.

29. Period 0001 to 2400 August 14:

Battalion less Company "A" moved to 0633490 Company "A" attached 157th Infantry, preparing for amphibious operation. One additional bulldozer given to Company "A".

Company "B" cleared bivouac area for 120th Medical Battalion.

30. Period 0001 to 2400 August 15, 1943:

Capt BEZEMEK to hospital for dysentery.

Company "A" loaded for amphibious operation.

31. Period 0001 to 2400 August 16, 1943

157 RCT landed behind own lines due to fact that enemy retirement was so rapid that operation as planned would be useless.

Company "A" in bivouac with 157th Infantry after clearing beach exits of mines. Italian "box" type mines were found. Pvt DIEHL narrowly escaped drowning when a landing craft sank. He was hospitalized. A Water Point was placed in operation at 1100 B at $\frac{1}{2}$ mile North of Calamaria.

Purple Heart medal awarded to Cpl ARTHUR MOLINE, Pvt's DAN J. ROMERO, FERNANDO ALVAREZ, ROSS J. PERRY, LUCIANO OTERO.

32. Period 0001 to 2400 August 17:

1st Platoon Company "A", Lt RICKEY in command entered the city of MESSINA, Sicily with the 1st Battalion, 157th Infantry. They were

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN Cont'd -

among the first Allied Troops to enter this city. This assault marked the closing of the Campaign of Sicily. The route used was through Messina heights and entry was made to the city proper.

Balance of Company remained in bivouac.

Capt BEZEMEK returned to duty at 1200.

Beach adjacent to CP cleared of mines by Company "B".

33. Period 0001 August 18 to 2400 August 22:

Battalion less Company "A" moved to B634368. Company "A" 1st Platoon reverted to Company control. No activity this day.

August 19: Company "A" re-embarked on L.C.I.s and landed at Palermo in the late evening. During the transport of troops by truck from Palermo to 157th Infantry bivouac area near Trabia a truck carrying men of the 2nd Platoon rolled down a steep embankment. Sgt EARSEL J. CHAPMAN, Cpl ARTHUR McCANN, Pfc JOHN KLEFFNER, and First Aid Man Pvt KENNETH A. FERGUSON, Med. Det. were killed outright. Pvt FELIPE GODINEZ died enroute to the hospital. Thirty one (31) other men were injured, twenty eight (28) being hospitalized. Of these Cpl CHARLES TINSLEY and Pvt FLOYD NORTHCUTT later succumbed to their injuries.

Silver Star awarded on August 21 by General MIDDLETON to Lt YOCOM and Pfc OILE of Company "B" for gallantry in action on July 10.

All units engaged in checking, cleaning, repairing and requisitioning of equipment.

BOB HOPE, FRANCES LANGFORD and TONY ROMANO entertained the Division on August 22 with a variety show from a platform provided by Engineers.

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN (cont'd)

Period from 23 August 1943 to 2400 31 August 1943

During this period The Battalion and Companies' CP remained the same. All companies underwent training schedule as prepared by the Battalion S-3. On August 24, Company "A" constructed a five mile road from Division Artillery CP to the Division CP. On 25 August 1943, all officers and non-commissioned officers of the Division attended a speech by Lt Gen Patton, Commanding General of the 7th Army. Lt Gen Patton complimented the officers and men of the Division for the fine showing made during the Sicilian campaign. On 26 August the entire Battalion left, under supervision, for a trip to Palermo. On 30 August 1943, Lt Col Frantz left for Division Headquarters to receive a silver star medal on behalf of Lt Tauscher, who is at present in the hospital. On 31 August 1943 a seventh Army motor vehicle inspection was held, and all the vehicles of the Battalion were found fit for any future use. During this period Company "A" completed the "Black Buck" staging area at Termini Immersi.

Period 1 September 1943 to 2400 6 September 1943.

On 1 September 1943 a Purple Heart Medal was presented to T/4 Joseph Compagnone of Co "B", Pvt Drape of Co "B" and Pvt Garland Anderson of Co "C" for wounds received in action during the Sicilian campaign. During this period Co "C" prepared and maintained a port area in Termini Immersi. All Engineer Supplies were hauled to ports at Palermo and Termini Immersi. All companies making preparations for future operation. On September 5, the Battalion received nine (9) new officers as replacements. 2nd Lt Simmons, assigned to Co A, Lts Williams and McKinnon, assigned to Co B, Lts Richey and Clodfelter, assigned to Co C, Lt Burger assigned to H&S Co, Lt Meyers assigned to Bn Staff as Ass't S-4 Lt Wehrenberg assigned to Bn Staff as Ass't S-3 and Lt Bridges assigned to Bn Staff as Ass't S-2. Co C constructed 600 yards of Sommer Felt matting along the beach area at Termini Immersi Port. 10 Ballards placed on beach to provide anchorage for ships. During this period Capt Strong and Capt McClernon supervised operations of the companies in hauling Class IV engineer supplies to the Ports Areas and preparing the companies for a future move. *Italy*

Period 0001 7 Sept 1943 to 2400:

Lt Col Frantz and the entire staff spent the entire day at Termini Immersi port supervising loading of LST's. *For attack Italy*
H&S Co continued to haul Engineer supplies to the Port.
Co "A" left their bivouac area at 1700 and embarked aboard the LCI No 11 with the 157th RCT. 5 Officers and 182 EM.
Co "B" embarked aboard LST's as part of the 179th RCT with 185 EM and 5 Officers. Capt Strong accompanied 45th Division Staff.

Co C still in bivouac area sent bulldozer to work on beach road at Termini transporting the 45th Div to LST'S. Also dis-assembled Bailey Bridge and loaded it aboard trucks for transportation to the port.

Period from 0001 8 Sept 1943 to 2400 8 Sept 1943.

H&S Co continue hauling Engineer Supplies to Termini Port.
Co "A" aboard LCI No 11 underwent enemy bombing attack at
midnight without any casualties.
Co "B" aboard LST with the 179th RCT. Afloat all day.
Co "C" aided in loading of landing craft at Termini Port.

Period from 0001 9 September 1943 to 2400 9 Sept 1943

H&S Co engaged all day in hauling lumber from Dump to Palermo.
Co A and B enroute for debarkation beaches underwent bombing by
enemy aircraft. No casualties.
Co C continue preparations for movement.

During the period 10 July 1943 to 29 August 1943 there was a
total of 2,247,300 gallons of water put out from a total of
twenty-seven (27) water points. For location of water points
see appended overlay.

Sicilian Campaign Losses

	KIA	Wounded
Officers	0	2
Enlisted Men	*17	15/15
* 7 EM killed in accident		
Prisoners of War		1 EM

Period 0001 10 Sept 43 to 2400 10 Sept 43:

H&S Co completed preparations for embarkation and awaited arrival of LST to transport them toward their destination.

1st and 3rd platoons of Co A landed as part of the 157th RCT, 1st platoon upon landing, was immediately attached to the 157th Inf, 3rd platoon assembled at N862109.

Co B landed as part of the 179th RCT on the beach of Italy. Prior to debarkation the company underwent an enemy bombing attack. S/Sgt Quintana and T/5 Gonzales were wounded by shrapnel and taken off the ship and transported to a field hospital. Company organized upon landing and the 2nd and 3rd platoons moved out to construct a ford over the Fiume Calore. Co CP was set up at Il Barizzo.

Co C left the bivouac area in Sicily and accompanied the 180th RCT to Palermo to board embarkation boats.

Period 0001 11 Sept 43 to 2400 11 Sept 43:

H&S Co still awaiting arrival of LST.

Co Hq and 2nd pl of Co A landed at 1000, 13 kilometres north of Agripoli and marched to assembly area at N862109.

Co B CP moved from Il Barizzo at 2000 to three miles south of Persano by the Calore River. 1st platoon moved out at 0800 to assist the 2nd and 3rd platoons on work on the river front. 1st Lt Julian A. Yocom CO of Co B was killed in action two miles north of Persano as a result of being hit by shrapnel from an enemy 88mm gun. He was buried in the 179th cemetery No 2. T/5 Joe Navra, driver for Lt Yocom was also wounded and evacuated to a field hospital. Pvt Bartlett was wounded by the same burst but did not require hospitalization. 2nd Lt Hartnagel assumed command of the company. Work on the river ford was completed and the third platoon remained to maintain the by-pass. The first platoon moved out and joined the company at Persano.

Co C bivouaced with the 180th RCT awaiting LCI from transportation to beaches.

Period 12 Sept 43 to 2400 12 Sept 43.

H&S Co still awaiting arrival of LST.

Co A CP located at N856132. 1st platoon relieved of assignment to 157th Inf. During this day the 1st platoon acted as left flank guard for 1st Bn 157 Inf which was expecting a strong flank attack from the north.

Co B CP located 300 yards across the Calore River. The 1st platoon helped the 179th Inf to hold the line of resistance. They reported back to the Co CP at 1800. The third platoon moved out to maintain ford on River Calore for the 36th Div. They reported back to CP and bivouaced for the night.

Co C embarked at Palermo with the 180th RCT aboard LST No 381.

Period 0001 13 Sept 43 to 2400 13 Sept 43:

H&S Co less Mr Flanagan and a guard for the Engineer Dump left the bivouac area enroute for Port of Termini at 2300.

Co A in bivouac. At dusk two men from Co B located 1000 yards east reported their company pinned down by machine gun fire. Co A organized as part of line established by the 179th Inf about 1 and one half mile east of company bivouac area. Remained at the line from 2000 on. Little action was encountered because of the Calore River, a natural barrier. Friendly chemical mortars fire fell dangerously close to troops at this point. No casualties.

Co B CP three miles south of Persano until 1700 when it moved to N874139. Second and third platoons moved into the area and was attacked by a German patrol which was wiped out by half-track crews. Companies A and B formed a defensive line along the Sele River. The first platoon of Co B was pinned down all night by enemy artillery fire. No casualties.

Co C aboard LST No 381. Sailed at 1900.

Period 0001 14 Sept 43 to 2400 14 Sept 43.

At 0915 H&S Company, the Battalion staff and Medical detachment, less Capt Strong, he accompanied the Division staff, boarded the LST No 20 at Termini.

Co A at dawn was still holding line of defense, and was relieved by Co K of the 157th Inf. Went into bivouac area at N856132 west of RR parallel to main highway. Co prepared to move out and was shelled by enemy artillery. Pvt John B Castillo was killed as a result of being struck by enemy shrapnel. Trucks and troops were evacuated in 15 minutes to new area at N835124. 1st and 2nd platoons moved out to hold part of front line to prevent possible breakthrough by enemy. Co Hq and third platoon remained at CP as Division Reserve.

Co B CP at N130840. Relieved from defensive line at 0500. Co B organized across Highway 18 on an open field and were caught and pinned down by 88mm fire. The company was called upon by Col Hutchins of the 179th Inf to help the Regiment the first, second, and third platoons moved out from the company CP at 1800.

Co C debarked from LST at Salerno and the Co underwent an attack by enemy bombers. They unloaded, assembled and the Co CP was established 2½ miles NE of Paistum.

Period 15 Sept 43 to 2400 15 Sept 43.

H&S Co debarked from LST 20 and landed on the beach in the vicinity of Paestum. Trucks went to a de-waterproofing area and all the vehicles were de-waterproofed. Underwent enemy bombing attack prior to debarkation. No casualties. Established CP at N835124, one mile west of the Sele River.

Co A third and headquarters platoons bivouaced same location as part of Division Reserve. 1st and 2nd platoon holding the line and infantry from the junction of Sele and Calore Rivers to the junction of Torrente Lacosa and Fiume Calore. Platoons shelled heavily intermittently throughout the day.

Co B CP same location. Company attached to 1st Bn 36th Engrs as infantry holding the line at N815177 to N836174.

Co C moved into bivouac area with the 180th Inf at N879059. CP was opened at 1500 by company to furnish the 180th Inf.

Period 17 Sept 43 to 2400 17 Sept 43.

Bn CP same location.

At 0400 1st and 2nd platoons of Co A moved out to hold sector and act as support to the 141st Inf of the 36th Div. 3rd platoon joined them at 2000. Co Hq sent a squad of men to H&S Co as part of a provisional platoon to work on a bridge.

Co B. All platoons still holding the defensive positions at front lines as support of the 36th Engrs. Co Hq sent a squad of men to H&S Co to construct bridge as part of a provisional platoon.

Co C same location. Co still attached to 180th Inf. Received an alert to move out but the alert was called off at 2200.

Two water points established at N823120 and N804140.

Period 0001 16 Sept 43 to 2400 16 Sept 43

Bn CP no change.

H&S Co hauled ammunition and Engr Supplies to various Engr Dumps.

Co A CP N835124. 1st and 2nd platoons relieved from front line duty at 1900. and control of the platoons reverted back to the company. At 1500 the third platoon moved out and constructed a bridge at N804093 across the Sele River. At the completion of this task, Co A was attached to 141st Inf of the 6 Inf Div.

Co B CP same location. All platoons still holding defensive positions on front.

Co C still attached to 180th NCT. In bivouac area and no Engineer duties performed.

Bn water point opened at N805140. To be ready at dark.

Period 0001 18 Sept 43 to 2400 18 Sept 43:

Bn CP same location.

Capt Lyle and 35 EM of a provisional platoon from all companies, moved out to construct a trestle bridge across the Fiume Calore at N871133. There was little enemy activity during the day.

Co A on the defensive line with the 141st Inf. 3rd platoon moved out to effect a road block in and around RS.

Co B still in support of the 1st Bn 36th Engrs. On the line.

Co C attached to the 180th Inf as Div Reserve.

From 0001 19 Sept 43 to 2400 19 Sept 43:

Bn CP moved to N866171. at 1630.

Co H&S, provisional platoon replaced ponton bridge across Fiume Calore with a six ton timber trestle bridge at point N870133.

Co A relieved of attachment with 141st Inf and reverted to Bn Control at 1800. CP moved to 835125. 2nd platoon in support of the 180th Inf. CP moved to 835125. 2nd platoon in support of the 180th Inf and cleared road of obstacles and filled in bomb craters in vicinity of Eboli from N9124 to N940275.

Co B relieved from support of the 36th Engrs and reverted back to Bn. control moved to new CP at N880229. T/5 Alberto Lopez was wounded by enemy shrapnel when the Co CP area was shelled during the day.

A and B Co bulldozers constructed a road from N825170 to N825120.

Co C repaired road from N885200 to N9124 and also cleared and repaired roads along N888169. Constructed two small by-passes by 2400. 1st platoon went on a burying detail at Persano. 3rd platoon reconstructed by-pass at N889232. and also improved road 1500 yards on each side of the by-pass. 2nd platoon cleared blown bridge in under pass at Eboli RR station.

At 1330 the command car of Lt Col Frantz with driver T/5 Archuletta and radio operator Pfc Hartge struck a land mine on the outskirts of Eboli. T/5 Archuletta was killed and the Colonel and Pfc Hartge was slightly wounded, and required only on the spot medical treatment.

Two new water points opened at N889203 and N835236.

Period 0001 20 Sept 43 to 2400 20 Sept 43.

New Bn CP opened at N935273 at 1700.

Co CP moved to N955264. 1st and 3rd platoons in reserve. 2nd platoon finished a by-pass at N2794, and constructed new by-pass at N275970.

Co B CP moved to 2 1/2 miles south of Compagna. Sgt McKinney and five enlisted men swept the Div CP area for mines, none found. Rest of Company inactive.

Co C CP located at N934263. 2nd platoon cleared one way by-pass thru Eboli and constructed by-pass at blown bridge at N906243. Filled in shell craters on highway 19 and 91. 3rd platoon constructed by-pass at blown bridge at N889204. 1st platoon constructed by-pass at N941271 at blown bridge. Lt Derr and detail of men removed mines and shells from bridge at N940280.

Water point at N804140 closes at 0800. Points now in operation at N823120 N890203 and N833237.

Period 0001 21 Sept 43 to 2400 21 Sept 43:

Bn CP same location.

Co A CP at 990284, 1st platoon built by-pass at 997293. 2nd platoon still on by-pass built yesterday, 3rd platoon built by-pass at 988295.

Co B CP same location until 1800 when new CP opened at N985281. No Engineer duties performed.

Co C CP same. 1st and 3rd platoons widened by-pass at 971271. CP moved forward at 2130 to N85234.

Period 0001 22 Sept 43 to 2400 22 Sept 43:

Bn CP same location.

Co A CP moved to 985291. In support of the 157 Inf. 1st platoon built by-pass working all day and night at 038284. 3rd platoon joined them at 0800. Subjected to mortar fire during this work. 157th Inf were held at this point and tried to drive the enemy from their positions. By-pass required three hours wait until work would be resumed. Second platoon in reserve.

Co B CP Same location. 1st platoon cleared road from highway 91 to 951272 to Oliveto. Third platoon moved out at 1600 to help the first platoon. 2nd platoon inactive. Lt Wehrenberg while on a foot reconnaissance for Col Cookson of the 180th Inf in the 1st Bn area of the 180th Inf, surprised three German foot soldiers in the act of putting up a machine gun emplacement. He was armed with a .45 cal revolver which he fired at them at a point blank range of 29 yards. He seriously wounded one, captured the other and the third escaped.

Co C CP same location. No Engineer activity. Prime mover disabled as a result of enemy fire.

Period 0001 23 Sept to 2400 23 Sept 43.

New Bn CP located at 049298.

Co A CP 372287. 1st and 3rd platoons continued to work on Sele River by pass while the 2nd platoon followed in support of the 157th Inf, repairing shell holes and clearing road of mines. Advance was along main road to Oliveto Citra. Company placed a trestle trestway bridge to replace by-pass across Sele River at Contursi.

Co B CP at 003313. 3rd platoon built a by-pass on highway 91 east of Oliveto 1st platoon following 179th Inf and withstood a tank attack north of Oliveto. Also cleared road of obstacles.

Co CP located at 039282. 2nd platoon in support of the 157th Inf in Oliveto area. Lt Derr was lightly wounded by shrapnel in left foot and Tech 5 Williams lightly wounded by shrapnel in right hand.

Period 0001 24 Sept to 2400 24 Sept 43.

Bn CP no change

Co A CP at 313304. Company carried out road maintenance in forward area at 1400 one squad moved out to work at by-pass at 328058 and returned at 2200.

Co B same. In support of the 179th Inf up highway 91 north of Oliveta. Only work consisted in clearing road of tanks, trucks and debris as a result of yesterdays tank battle.

Co CP no change. Advanced up right of Oliveta towards Valva. No engineer work required. Only slight enemy resistance encountered.

Period 0001 25 Sept 43 to 2400 25 Sept 43.

At 1400 Bn CP moved to 043367.

H&S Co worked all day hauling lumber from Engineer Dump to site of blown bridge where a timber trestle bridge is being built.

Co A CP at 037382. Co in support of two Infantry Regiments, the 157 and the 180th Inf. A squad of the first platoon worked all day at bypass at 328058. All platoons and Co Hq platoon inactive at 1800 when the entire company moved into new CP area.

Co B CP moved to 1 mile north of Quadrilla. 3rd platoon built a bypass two miles north of Quadrilla on Highway 91. 1st platoon cleared road of obstacles from Oliveta to Quaglietta and then built a bypass at 045456. Co Hq and 2nd platoon remained at the CP and underwent an enemy bombing attack. One pole type trailer was damaged. No other casualties.

Co C CP located at 072434. 2nd platoon cleared road of debris from Valva to 043463. 2nd platoon strengthened breached culvert at 022435 and constructed a bypass over Sele River at 095450.

Period 0001 26 Sept 43 to 2400 26 Sept 43

Remainder of H&S Co arrived in CP area at 0830.

Class 40 Timber trestle bridge under construction at 058328 by Co A and a provisional platoon from H&S Co. Also a heavy trestle bridge to carry heavy and tank traffic.

Co A 2nd and 3rd platoons moved out in the morning to work on bypass at 328058. 3rd platoon worked all night and 2nd platoon returned at 2000. 1st platoon in reserve.

Co B CP located one mile northeast of Calabrito. Lt Williams and 2nd platoon and Lt Inzerelli and the 3rd platoon cleared road from Calabrito to Teora of demolished enemy vehicles also filled bomb craters on the same road.

Co C CP located at 093470. 1st platoon filled bomb craters at crossroads 099493. 2nd and 3rd platoons filled in bombed bridge at 084450.

Water points now in operation at 049286, 058327, 045358, 082448. Water Point at 935266 closed at 1200.

Period 0001 27 Sept 43 to 2400 27 Sept 43.

Bn CP same location.

Co A CP same location. 1st and 3rd platoons followed in support of the 157 Inf. 2nd platoon worked on blown bridge and bypass at 328058. 1st and 3rd platoons hauled gravel to fill in road bomb craters along highway No.7.

Co B CP same location. 3rd platoon constructed bypass and maintained same one mile south of Lioni on highway 7. 2nd platoon maintained bypass at 045457 and filled bomb craters from bypass to Lioni 2 1/2 miles southeast of Calabrito.

Co C CP same location. 2nd and 3rd platoons worked on blown bridge at 085450. 1st platoon maintained and filled craters at cross roads 099493.

Period 0001 28 Sept 43 to 2400 28 Sept 43:

Bn CP no change.

H&S Co set up new Engineer dump at Teora.

Co A new CP set up at 105474, and then moved to 988538. 1st and 3rd platoons gravelled muddy roads and filled bomb craters along highway No. 7. 2nd platoon still on Sele River wooden structure bridge.

Co B CP two miles north of Lioni by RR station of S Angelo. 3rd platoon maintained bypass one mile south of Lioni. 1st platoon cleared road of vehicles and filled road craters from S Angelo through Guardia Lombardi to highway No 9. Cpl Tafona, Pvt Bartlett and T/5 Alberto Lopez awarded the Purple Heart.

Co C CP located at 061509; 1st platoon constructed bypass at 026506 and 052508. 2nd platoon constructed bypass at 028508. 3rd platoon constructed bypass at ~~098492~~ 098492 and also improved by pass 026506.

Period 0001 29 Sept 43 to 2400 29 Sept 43

Bn CP no change.

H&S Co hauling Engineer equipment to new Engr Dump at Teora.

Co A CP at 030512. 1st and 3rd platoons worked along highway No 7 from Teora to 100493 filling road craters. This road is bombed beyond recognition. 2nd platoon in reserve.

Co B CP no change. 1st and 3rd platoons inactive. 2nd platoon maintaining bypass one mile south of Lioni.

Co C CP same location. 1st platoon improved bypass for two way traffic at 076506. 2nd platoon improved bypass for two way traffic at 028507. 3rd platoon constructed bypass at 098457.

Period 0001 30 Sept 43 to 2400 30 Sept 43

New Bn CP opened at 971579 at 1800.

Co A CP at 780587. Co in rest. Cleaning equipment.

Co B CP same location. 1st platoon built bypass at 994617. 1st squad of 2nd platoon maintained bypass one mile south of Lioni. rucks hauled gravel for the maintainance of the above bypass.

Co C CP same location. No Engineer duties performed.

Purple heart awarded to 1st Lt Derr, Pvt Madziars and Pfc Miller of Co C and Pfc Hartge of H&S Co, and Pfc Kromer of Co A.

Two new water points opened at 998532 and at stax di S Angelo

Period 0001 1 Oct 43 to 2400 1 Oct 43:

Bn CP No Change.

H&S Co in rest for day.

Co A CP No change. Held supply check and brought in barracks bags.

Co B in rest. No engineer duties performed.

Co C same location. 1st platoon widened by-passes at 076506 and 052508, and put in guard rails. 2nd and 3rd platoons widened and improved by-pass at 028508.

Water point truck of H&S Co containing Pvt GOERGEN, driver, T/4 LIGHTBODY, and Pvt's O'CONNOR and DUFFY were strafed by enemy planes in the vicinity of Teora. T/4 LIGHTBODY was lightly wounded by machine gun fire.

Period 0001 2 Oct 43 to 2400 2 Oct 43:

Bn CP no change.

Co A CP moved to 795729. 3rd platoon built a by-pass in the vicinity of 682913 in support of the 180th Inf. 1st and 2nd platoons inactive.

Co B CP moved to 877698. 1st Lt TAUSCHER returned from the hospital and assumed command of the company. 1st Platoon worked on by-pass in the vicinity of 998607.

Co C CP same location. Co improved and maintained by-pass 2 and one half miles north of Co CP.

Period 0001 3 Oct 43 to 2400 3 Oct 43:

Bn CP no change until 2100 when H&S Co and staff left to establish new CP.

A Co CP remained at 795729, where company remained to complete work on by-pass.

B Co CP moved to 705787. 2nd platoon worked on by-pass at S. Girogio also at 610995 and 800675. 1st platoon built culvert and by-pass on blown out bridge at Highway 7, 2 miles S of Benevento.

C Co CP at crossroads $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of S Girogio. Co cleared streets of Benevento of debris. Gravelled by-pass and put in guard rail 2 miles north of Co CP.

Period 0001 4 Oct 43 to 2400 4 Oct 43:

At 0130 new Bn CP set up at 805727 on the outskirts of Benevento. H&S Co hauled Engr supplies from Corps dump to H&S Engr dump.

Co A CP moved to 799728. Co still working on by-pass at 795729. Deep mud through a cornfield made this job difficult.

Co B CP moved to Benevento on Highway No 7. 3rd platoon helped armored force construct a ponton bridge at 657813. 1st and 2nd platoons worked clearing two main supply routes leading from Benevento. T/5 JOE J. WAVRA awarded the Purple Heart.

Co C CP moved to Benevento. Cleared streets of debris and filled in bomb craters. 3rd platoon removed approximately 800 pounds of demolition from bridge north of Benevento.

Period 0001 5 Oct 43 to 2400 5 Oct 43:

Bn CP set up in building in Benevento.

A Co compelled and maintained by-pass at 795729 over the Calore River.

Co B CP same location. 3rd platoon under Lt INZERELLI maintained bridge and by-pass on the outskirts of Benevento. Lt WEHREBERG and 1st Lt WILLIAMS and 2nd platoon assisted another Bn of the 157th Inf on two roads leading out of Benevento.

Co C CP same location and still working clearing the streets of Benevento and filling bomb craters and shell holes.

Period 0001 6 Oct 43 to 2400 6 Oct 43:

Bn CP still in building at Benevento.

The 3rd platoon of Co B, under Lt INZERELLI, while beginning work on a bridge at N599896, were fired upon with small arms and machine guns from the vicinity of points N597897 and N596892. This small arms fire continued for at least 20 minutes and was followed by an artillery bombardment along the road from bridge N599896 to stream crossing N607888 which was still going on at 1030. Sgt DALE T. SUNLEY was killed; Lt INZERELLI and Sgt GILLESPIR were wounded. Two 2½ ton trucks were destroyed and one half-track damaged. 1 squad, under Sgt ARAUJO maintained armored force ponton bridge at Benevento. 1st Platoon under Lt WEHREBERG filled craters on road leading from Benevento.

H&S Co still the same. Hauling Engr equipment to Benevento.

Co A CP at 669793. 1st platoon went forward to support Co B. of the 120th Engrs. 2nd and 3rd platoon went to work on road and by-pass on the North side of Benevento.

Co C CP moved to ½ mile SW of Pretrecina. 1st platoon built by-pass ¼ mile SW of Pretrecina. 2nd and 3rd platoon repaired road and filled in bomb craters on road from Benevento to Pretrecina.

Period 0001 7 Oct 43 to 2400 7 Oct 43:

Bn CP same location.

1st Lt INZERELLI died of wounds received on 6 Oct 43.

2nd and 3rd platoons of Co A continued to work on by-pass started the day before. 1st platoon went forward to work on by-pass at 643858.

Co B CP no change. 2nd platoon under Lt WILLIAMS constructed by-pass at 607891. Other platoons inactive.

Co C CP no change. 1st platoon gravelled and improved by-pass ¼ mile SW of Pretrecina. 3rd Platoon constructed two by-passes 2½ miles North of Pretrecina. 2nd Platoon hauled gravel to these by-passes.

Temporary water point set up at N706909. Water points now in operation at 676799, 652817.

Period 0001 8 Oct 43 to 2400 8 Oct 43

Bn CP same location.

Co A CP moved to 605888. All platoons inactive.

Co B CP same location. Lt WEHREBERG and 1st platoon constructed by-pass outskirts of Ponte; also maintained same. Filled craters on road leading from CP to Ponte. 3rd platoon under Lt HARTNAGEL relieved 2nd platoon on maintenance of by-pass at 607891.

Co C CP moved to Pescolamazza RR Station. 1st platoon repaired road at Frontemonte Forte. 2nd platoon worked on by-pass 1 mile NE of CP. 3rd platoon improved by-pass Pietrecino. New water point opened up at 576903 (Ponte).

Period 0001 9 Oct 43 to 2400 9 Oct 43:

Bn CP moved at 1325 to town of Ponte.

1st Platoon Co A built by-pass 533909. 2nd platoon worked on RR bridge at same point to take care of traffic in case of high water. After dark 2nd platoon moved up to work on and rebuild 180 ft of side hill road that was blown out; job was completed at 0130 10 Oct but platoon could not return. They remained there all day under fire by enemy and friendly artillery fire. 3rd platoon moved up under darkness and rebuilt road which was cratered at 528929.

Co B CP moved 582914. Sgt McKINNEY and squad of men maintained by-pass at 599895. Lt WEHREBERG and 1st platoon cleaned town of Ponte for possible roads leading through town. Sgt GILLESPIE awarded Purple Heart.

Co C repaired culvert $\frac{1}{2}$ mile South of Frontemonte. 3rd platoon maintained road from 2 miles S Of Pescolamazza RR Station to 2 miles North of Benevento.

Period 0001 10 Oct 43 to 2400 10 Oct 43:

Bn CP still in town of Ponte.

New Water Point opened at N533911.

Co A CP at 626923. 1st platoon in reserve. 2nd platoon unable to move on account of artillery fire. 3rd platoon repaired 189th supply road and built by-pass at 494956. 3rd platoon pinned down during most of the day by artillery and mortar fire. No casualties but several trucks were hit by shrapnel.

Co B located at N547907. Lt HARTNAGEL and third platoon hauled gravel for by-pass at 599895. 1st and 2nd platoons in support of the 189th Inf to perform needed Engineer repairs.

Co C CP moved to three and one half miles West of Ponte. No engineer work performed.

Period 0001 11 Oct 43 to 2400 11 Oct 43:

At 1600 Bn CP moved to Staz di Solopaca.

1st Platoon Co A in reserve. 2nd platoon went forward on road North from 492910. 3rd platoon built by-pass under fire at 496953 and maintained

the road during the night. At this point the bulldozer was hit by two pieces of shrapnel. 1st Platoon built by-pass at 493957 during the night and maintained the road during the day. Shell fire during the work was very heavy.

Co B CP located at 479899. Lt WILLIAMS and 2nd platoon constructed at 469896. 1st and 3rd platoons still following the 179th Inf.

Co C CP no change. Constructed Bailey Bridge one mile east of Ponte also repaired the road. 1st squad from the 3rd platoon laid anti-personnel mines at Caspalatoo. Also maintaining MSR from Bailey Bridge to Stas di Solopaca.

Period 0001 12 Oct 43 to 2400 12 Oct 43:

Bn CP still at Stas di Solopaca.

H&S Co completed hauling equipment to new Engr Dump. Serviced Battalion tractors with servicing crew from Company.

Co A CP at 523945. 1st platoon built a by-pass 478962. 2nd platoon moved up and built very difficult cross-country road during the night from 457923 to 446925. 2nd platoon also maintained two by-passes at 495957 and 446925.

Co B same location at Stas di Solopaca. Lt HARTNAGEL and 3rd platoon constructed two by-passes at 448909 and 454490. 3rd platoon maintained above passes all day.

Co C maintained Bailey Bridge one mile east of Ponte. In support of Co A and B maintained MSR from Ponte to front. MSR begins at Ponte, runs through Telese, San Salvatore, Faicchio and Gioia. 2nd Bn 36th Engrs takes over maintenance of MSR at 0001 13 Oct 43.

Period 0001 13 Oct 43 to 2400 13 Oct 43:

Bn CP still at Stas di Solopaca.

1st and 2nd platoons Co A maintained MSR for 179th Inf. 3rd platoon built by-pass at 454967. In maintenance of MSR Co built trails from 471965 to 462966 and from 464966 to 461461.

Co B CP same location. St Montoya received Purple Heart. Lt HARTNAGEL and 3rd platoon constructed by-pass at 448907. Lt WEHRENBURG and 1st platoon constructed 2 by-passes in vicinity of 455920. Lt WILLIAMS and 2nd platoon constructed by-pass at 426920.

Co C CP $\frac{1}{2}$ mile East of Telese. 1st platoon constructed by-pass 1 mile NW Telese. 2nd platoon repaired and cleared bridge at Telese. Also constructed a piling and stringer bridge at Telese. Maintenance of MSR taken over by 2nd Bn 36th Engrs.

Water point at Ponte closed. New water point to be opened at Telese. Points now in operation at Benevento, 532914, 489910 and 679943. Lt TAUSCHER reported that he was fired upon with small arms and machine guns while working on by-pass. He estimated the distance to be 600 yards.

Period 0001 14 Oct 43 to 2400 14 Oct 43:

Bn CP still at Staz di Solopaca.

H&S Co completed hauling Engr supplies to new Engineer Dump. T/4 LIGHTBODY awarded the Purple Heart.

Co A CP no change. 1st platoon built by-pass at 454925. 2nd platoon built by-pass at 450964. 3rd platoon maintaining MSR for the 179th Inf.

Co B CP moved to N427928. Lt WILLIAMS and 2nd platoon maintained by-pass at N425921. Lt WEHREBERG and 1st platoon built three wooden culverts to have on hand ready for any future use. Also patrolled roads in vicinity of Telese. Co Hq and 3rd platoon inactive.

Co C CP same location. 1st platoon constructed two by-passes one, two miles and the other three miles north of Telese. 2nd and 3rd platoons completed piling and stringer bridge at Telese. Lt GORDON and detail of six men reconnoitered fords west of Puglianello and laid six mines at road fork 100 yards East of Volturmo River.

Water points now in operation at Benevento, 532913, 489910, 679943, 435905.

Lt MYERS reported that Water Point at Ponte had been shelled by enemy artillery.

Water Point at Telese being installed today.

Period 0001 15 Oct 43 to 2400 15 Oct 43:

CP still at Staz di Solopaca.

Co A CP at 457955. 1st platoon built by-pass at 448918. Also hauled gravel for Co B working on by-pass at 400972. Co engaged in repair of 179th Inf Supply road.

Co B CP unchanged. All platoons inactive.

Co C CP unchanged. 1st platoon worked on by-pass and repaired bridge at Puglianello. Pfc GROVE wounded by falling flak and evacuated to aid station.

Water Point at 679943 closed. Points now in operation. Benevento Telese, 532913, 489910.

Period 0001 16 Oct 43 to 2400 16 Oct 43:

Bn CP moved at 1530 to N413927.

Co A CP at 412923. At 1800 2nd platoon began work on by-pass at 411921. 1st and 3rd platoon inactive. Co is in support of the 179th Inf advance now.

Co B CP moved to 407937. 1st Platoon under Lt WEHREBERG constructed by-pass at $\frac{1}{2}$ mile South of Faicchio. All other platoons helped by hauling gravel. By-pass was completed and during operation Co underwent shelling by enemy artillery. Co B is in support of Co A.

Co C CP moved to 1 mile SE of Puglianello. 1st platoon constructed by-pass at Puglianello. 2nd and 3rd platoons cleared and repaired road from Amorosi to Puglianello.

Water Point for $\frac{1}{4}$ ton vehicles only opened at S Salvatore.

Period 001 17 Oct 43 to 2400 17 Oct 43:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Continued to maintain Division MSR. 1st platoon hauled gravel and gravelled by-pass at 411921. Other platoons inactive.

Co B CP located at 378895. Lt WILLIAMS and 2nd platoon constructed two (2) by-passes at N368002 and N368003. Platoon was under fire during the performance of this work but there were no casualty. Other platoons inactive.

Co C CP same location. 1st and 3rd platoons constructed Regimental Supply road from two miles NE Pugianella and proceeded two miles in a Northwest direction. 2nd platoon constructed culvert and road six miles North of Pugianello.

Water Point at Benevento closed. New Water Point opened at 423914.

At 1800 Capt STRONG and Lt TAUSCHER in a reconnaissance for a possible by-pass route under went shelling by enemy 6 barrel mortars.

Period 0001 18 Oct 43 to 2400 18 Oct 43:

At 1130 Bn CP moved to building at San Salvatore.

0800 Co C Area shelled by 14 rounds of enemy artillery.

W&S Co sent five trucks to Army Dump to pick up lumber for Engineer Dump. T/5 FREEMAN was hit with shrapnel while operating D-7 tractor, clearing the streets of Gioia.

Co A CP unchanged. 1st and 2nd platoons worked on by-pass at 411921. 3rd platoon maintained Div MCR and repaired by-pass that the Germans had used in the evacuation of Faicchio.

Co B CP same. Lt HARTHAGEL and 3rd platoon cleared debris in town of Gioia. They also widened road to water point in Gioia. Sgt CHAVEZ and squad of men from 2nd platoon maintained by-passes at 368002 and 368003. 1st platoon inactive.

Water Point at S Salvatore closed.

Co C same location. Three and one half miles of new constructed road 2 miles north of Pugianello gravelled and improved by entire Co.

New Water Point opened at Gioia.

Period 0001 19 Oct 43 to 2400 19 Oct 43:

Bn CP still at S. Salvatore.

Co A CP moved at 1100 to 394967. 1st and 2nd platoons worked on by-pass and road at 411921. 3rd platoon gravelled and improved road from 394967 to Titero River. Co maintained MSR from S Salvatore to Piedivonte

Co B CP same location. Lt HARTHAGEL and 3rd platoon constructed five by-passes from Gioia to S Potitio. Sgt KOLODZIEYCYSK and squad of men left at 2000 to construct four more by-passes along road from above S. Potitio.

Command Car of Lt Col PRANTZ were the first Americans to enter S. Potitio.

Co C CP same location. Company graveling and improving road two miles North of Pugianello.

Period 0001 20 Oct 43 to 2400 20 Oct 43:

Bn CP at S. Salvatore.

Co A CP at 392972. Co Engaged in widening of Division MSR. 1st platoon built a bridge at 307052. 2nd and 3rd platoons maintained MSR from Faicchio to Piedimonte.

Water Points now in operation. Telese, Gioia, N532913, N489910, N353925.

Co B CP same location. Lt BURGER and 1st platoon constructed two by-passes on MSR in vicinity of S. Potitò. Entire Company assembled in CP area.

Co C CP moved to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile North of S. Salvatore. 1st and 3rd platoons constructed culvert two miles east of Puglianello. 2nd platoon improved and maintained road.

The 45th Division went into a rest area, as Corps Reserve, effective upon receipt of Division Field Order No 19 dated and effective 19 Oct 43.

Period 0001 21 Oct 43 to 2400 21 Oct 43:

Bn CP no change.

Co A continued to work on Division MSR. CP moved to 412928. Two bridges in Piedimonte 308054 and 309056; repaired with box culvert and fill. Timber trestle bridge completed just south of Piedimonte and open for traffic.

Co B and Co C Are now assembled in Bn area. No Engineer work performed.

Water Points closed at N532913, 489910, 353925. Points now in operation at Telese and Gioia.

Corps Engineers now maintaining all roads North to Piedimonte.

Period 0001 22 Oct 43 to 2400 22 Oct 43:

Bn and Co's CP no change.

1st platoon Co A built by-pass and bridge at 307051. Lt SMITH made 100 mile reconnaissance for possible division travel.

Co B. No Engineer duties performed.

Co C 3rd Squad of 2nd platoon improved Gioia Water Point.

Water Point opened ~~at 433914~~ at 433914.

Period 0001 23 Oct 43 to 2400 28 Oct 43:

Bn and Co CP's unchanged.

All line companies conducting road reconnaissance for possible future division travel route.

Battalion in Division rest area.

Four Officers and 21 Enlisted Men received as replacements.

Period 0001 29 Oct 43 to 2400 29 Oct 43:

Bn CP unchanged. Making preparations to leave rest area.

Co A move out of rest area and established CP at 2 miles N. of Alife.

Co B and Co C remain in rest area and are making preparations to move out.

Period 0001 30 Oct 43 to 2400 30 Oct 43:

Bn CP closed at 1400. New Bn CP established at H209048 at 1615.

Co CP of Co A moved up to 205057. Reconnaissance made in areas to determine work necessary to fix bridges. 1st platoon unable to move forward to work on bridge 145086 because of a 5 mile traffic jam. 2nd platoon built by-pass at 197145, completed at 2100. 3rd platoon in reserve. Lts COOPER and SIMMONS and squad of men made extensive road, river and terrain reconnaissance boat and pack mules.

Co B CP moved to H228049. No engineer work performed. Lt WILLIAMS made a road reconnaissance to forward areas.

Co CP C Co moved to 213063. No Engineer work performed.

Water Point opened at 310800 and H180057. Water Point at H933914 closed.

Co A at 2100 2nd platoon squad was enroute back to CP when squad truck overturned at 190057. Pvt WALTER W. JONES was killed and Pvt EDMUND KOMPERDA and Pvt LESLIE POWERS were injured.

Period 0001 31 Oct 43 to 2400 31 Oct 43:

Bn CP same location.

H&S Co completed hauling Engr Supplies to new Engineer Dump.

Co A CP same. 1st platoon built by-pass and four span trestle bridge at 145086. 2nd and 3rd platoons truck hauled gravel to 1st platoon. Lt COOPER and squad made extensive reconnaissance of Volturno River from 090110 to 130070. 3rd platoon worked at night on above by-pass.

Co B CP same. Lt WILLIAMS and second platoon moved out at 1600 to construct bridge at H103111. Other platoons inactive.

Co C CP same. Co constructed by-pass at 4 miles NE S. Angelo.

Water Point at Telese closed. Total amount of water issued in October was 1,224,040 gallons; average of 2 gallons per man per day. Total amount of water issued from September 10 to October 31 was 1,773,135 gallons from a total of 26 water points.

See Operations Memorandum No. 1, Hq 120th Engr C Bn, dated 29 Oct 43, for information of Engineer work performed by this Battalion during period September 10 to Oct 21, 1943, appended.

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION COMMANDER

RMS/jag

APO 45,
In the Field
Near S. Salvatore, Italy.
29 Oct 43

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM)

NUMBER 1)

1. This summary covers the operations of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion from 10 September 43 to 21 October 1943.
2. Following is a list of bridge demolitions and other obstructions encountered and overcome.
 - a. Bridges and culverts repaired or by-passed: Seventy-two (72). This type of obstacle was most readily overcome by placing a culvert in the original alignment, blowing down the abutments or approaches and finishing the grade with a bulldozer. Four timber trestle bridges were placed. Two standard trestle trestway bridges were placed and one ponton bridge erected.
 - b. Fourteen (14) bomb craters were filled on the four roads in the vicinity of O-100493.
 - c. Six cities and towns, Eboli, Benevento, Amorosi, Gioia, S. Potito and Sepicciano were cleared to enable traffic to move forward.
 - d. A road and trail was opened North of Amorosi.
3. a. Battle casualties were considered extremely light when the time and enemy dispositions during work was considered.
 1. Killed in action:
 - 2 Officers
 - 3 Enlisted Men
 2. Wounded in action:
 - 2 Officers
 - 14 Enlisted Men
4. There were no serious equipment losses or breakdowns. This is attributed to the fact that a maintenance section visited each job and company daily and made adjustments on the spot.

For the Battalion Commander:

RICHARD M. STRONG
Capt CE
S-3

ROSTER OF OFFICERS
ITALIAN CAMPAIGN
0001 10 Sept 1943

STAFF

Lt Colonel	LEWIS G. FRANTZ	C.O.
Major	GERALD H. HINES	E O
Capt	JOSEPH W. LOWE JR	ADE
Capt	JAMES F. BEZEMEK	S-1
Capt	BENJAMIN E. BILLUPS	S-2
2nd Lt	WAYNE W. BRIDGES	Asst. S-2
Capt	RICHARD M. STRONG	S-3
2nd Lt	ROBERT C. WEHREMBERG	Asst. S-3
Capt	PATRICK L. McCLERNON	S-4
2nd Lt	EARL R. MYERS	Asst. S-4
1st Lt	JOHN H. DISMANT	Personnel Officer

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY

Capt	CLAYTON B. LYLE JR	C.O.
1st Lt	ALVIN L. FRANK	Bn. Motor Off.
2nd Lt	JOHN M. BURGER	Co.Off.
WO J6	JIM M. FLANAGAN	Asst Bn. Motor Off
WO J6	GEORGE A. FERGUSON	Asst S-4

COMPANY "A"

1st Lt	HUGH T. McCULLOUGH JR	C.O.
2nd Lt	SYDNEY L. SIMMONS	Hq. Section
1st Lt	JAMES H. RICKEY JR	1st Platoon
2nd Lt	ROY C. SMITH	2nd Platoon
2nd Lt	IRA D. COOPER	3rd Platoon

COMPANY "B"

1st Lt	JULIAN A. YOCOM	C.O.
2nd Lt	ALFRED S. INZERELLI	Hq. Section
2nd Lt	CLARK E. WILLIAMS	1st Platoon
2nd Lt	HARRY A. McKINLEN	2nd Platoon
2nd Lt	MAX R. HARTMAGEL	3rd Platoon

COMPANY "C"

1st Lt	CHARLES H. DERR	C.O.
2nd Lt	BERNARD GORDON JR	Hq. Section
2nd Lt	JOHN A. RICHEY JR	1st Platoon
2nd Lt	RAYMOND W. MEYERS	2nd Platoon
2nd Lt	KIETH G. CLODFELTER	3rd Platoon

Period 0001 to 2400 Nov 1/43

Bn CP at H209048.

H&S Co sent nine trucks back to pick up lumber to restock Engineer Dump. One truck went to Naples to pick up oxygen.

Co A CP moved to 196086. 1st Platoon working on bypass at CP location. Forward reconnaissance made throughout the day. Lts RICHIEY, SMITH and SAFIR and 2 squads of EM made extensive reconnaissance of roads and Volturne River from 090074 to 088110. Terrific shellfire encountered from 2000 to 0930 from batteries of the Third Division Artillery. No casualties. 2nd platoon continued graveling same bypass. 3rd platoon no activity. 1st and 2nd platoons sent out reconnaissance parties with the 180th Inf to look over bridge crossing at 092092.

Co B CP moved to 152083. Lt Hartnagel and 3rd platoon worked improving road from CP location to village of MISTRATI. Road was built over old trails and over open fields. Lt POSTAS and Lt FIELDS and 2 EM made reconnaissance of roads from CP to 080150. T/5 THIGPEN and Pvt KUSKE wounded but not hospitalized. Enemy planes over area twice, bombing and strafing.

Co C CP 1 mile SW of S. ANGELO. Lt GORDON on reconnaissance in area of GRESCI PRESENZANO and Mt AITA. 2nd platoon swept River near Mt NICOLA for mines at ford on VOLTURNO.

Five new officers received as replacements. Lt PORTER asgd as Ass't S-2. Lt SANDRIDGE asgd to H&S Co as Bn Motor Officer. Lt JOHNSON asgd to Co A. Lt COHEN asgd to Co B. Lt LIPSCOMB asgd to Co C.

Period 0001 to 2400 2 November 1943:

Bn CP same location.

H&S Co returned from SALERNO with lumber. Turned in flame thrower equipment at Chemical dump at St. MARIA.

Co A CP same location. Assisted 16 Engineers in throwing a steel trestle bridge across the VOLTURNO RIVER at 092092 which was done at night. 1st platoon furnished protection. 3rd platoon built a bypass and filled crater at 087104.

Co B CP same location. Lt POSTAS and 1st Platoon constructed a bypass at 095130. Lt HARTNAGEL and Sgt McKinney made reconnaissance with leading Infantry Regiment to obtain information on bridge site at 065162.

Co C CP 1 mile SW of S. ANGELO. Lt FRANK & LT RICHIEY on reconnaissance in PRESENZANO area. Lts BRIDGES & GIBSON in area south of GRESCI. 2nd platoon constructed 2 miles of road from ford of VOLTURNO river west of highway near Mt AITA. 3rd platoon constructed bypass on road east of PRESENZANO.

Water point at GIOIA to be closed. Points new in operation at ALIFE and 180057.

Period 0001 to 2400 3 November 1943:

Bn CP same location.

Co A CP moved to 080078. 2nd platoon built 2 culvert bypasses at 087139 and 081120. 1st and 2nd platoons inactive. 1 squad of the 3rd platoon maintained bypass at 146086.

Co B CP moved at 1800 to 095135. Lt WILLIAMS and 2nd platoon constructed simple stringer bridge at 088133 and maintained MSR all day. Regimental MSR extended from 100093-104097-099107-103111-154100-080159.

Co C CP moved to 113070. Co maintained bridge across Volturne River and built three miles of road.

Period 0001 to 2400 4 November 1943:

New Bn CP opened 1500 at 087086.

Co A CP moved to 084114. 1st and 3rd platoons working on bypass at 05145. 2nd platoon completed work on bypass at 071128. 1st platoon removed 50 Teller Mines at site of bypass. 1st platoon built six bypass around blown culverts and bridges.

Co B CP same location. Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained ford on VOLTURNO River at 066162. Platoon was under artillery fire during the day. Pvt Wille was struck by shrapnel and hospitalized. Lt FIELDS and Pvt Dryzanowski were lightly wounded by shrapnel and not hospitalized. Lt WILLIAMS and 2nd platoon cleared debris and logs from Regimental MSR between 089157 and 070150. Lt POSTAS and CPL Tafuya made reconnaissance of roads across VOLTURNO river into VENAFRO.

Co C CP moved to 2 miles NE of PRESENZANO. Co Moved up Venafro Highway and improved bypasses constructed by other units.

At 1700 Capt BILLUPS and Lt DERR accompanied by Pvt ROBERTS, peep driver, were on a reconnaissance on the outskirts of VENAFRO. The peep was parked at 040199 and the reconnaissance started on foot. Immediately they were fired upon by German tank from a distance of 100 yards. Lt DERR and Capt BILLUPS sought shelter and made their way back to the Bn CP. Pvt ROBERTS has as yet not returned.

At 1000 a truck bearing a squad from Co A was following the leading elements of the 180th Inf. A prime mover left the road and damaged a bridge. The squad immediately went to work and the bridge was repaired in one hour.

Received a notice from the 47 QM Co. GRS Officer giving the location of the burial place of Lt YOCOM. Mt. SOPRANO cemetery. Grave 5-Row 1-Plot E.

Period 0001 to 2400 5 November 1943:

Bn CP same location.

Co A CP moved to a building in Venafro. Pvt GLICK wounded by shrapnel and hospitalized. 1st and 2nd Platoons inactive. 3rd platoon worked on by-pass at 040207 and 043209. 3rd platoon also had reconnaissance parties from VENAFRO northward to POZZILLI. Co in close support of the 180th Inf. the 3rd platoon of Co A removed 2400 pounds of explosives from buildings and bridge in VENAFRO.

Co B CP located at H065182. 2nd platoon cleared road of obstacles at 062213 and constructed by-pass at H062188. Road obstacles was trees and debris. 1st Lt TAUSCHER captured one wounded German soldier and turned him over to MP's. Co in close support of the 179th Inf.

Co C moved to 077132. 3rd platoon constructed by-pass $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles SE of VENAFRO. CP moved to 042206. 1st platoon and 2nd squad of 2nd platoon maintained and improved by-pass on road south of VENAFRO. Maintaining MSR north to VENAFRO.

New water point opened at H090104. Points now in operation at 284024 and 180057. Pvt ROBERTS returned this morning without incurring any injury.

Period 0001 to 2400 6 November 1943:

New Bn CP opened 1430 at 072129.

New water point opened west of VENAFRO at 1930.

Capt LYLE, WO FLANAGAN, and three EM of H&S Co were on a reconnaissance for a bivouac area, when WO FLANAGAN tripped an S-mine. There were no casualties. Mr FLANAGAN was struck in the back with a small piece of shrapnel but required only slight medical attention.

Co "A" CP moved to 064183. Co continued to clean up Venafro. Two bombing and strafing attacks without casualties. Constant shelling of Co CP. CP moved out town due to the intensive shelling.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt HARTNAGEL made a road reconnaissance above VENAFRO into POZZILLI for condition of roads. No other Engr work performed as all work has been completed as far ahead as the leading Infantry elements.

Co "C" CP 1/8 of a mile northeast of VENAFRO. Co maintained road and by-pass south of VENAFRO. Removed 200 pounds of explosives from buildings in Venafro. 1st Platoon of the 48th Engr C Bn attached to this Battalion for mine-sweeping work.

Period 0001 to 2400 7 November 1943:

Bn CP same location.

Water Point at Alife closed.

Treadway bridge at 122067 removed.

New Engineer Dump located 643243.

Co A CP unchanged. No Engineer duties performed.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt HARTNAGEL and third platoon cleared town of POZZILLI of debris. Platoon from the 48th Engrs swept MSR for mines thru POZZILLI. None encountered. Other platoons inactive.

Co C CP same location. Lts GORDON and LIPSCOMB and 11 EM patrol, reconnoitered road to Pozzilli and found two mine fields, anti-tank booby traps and Anti-personnel mines. Other platoons inactive. Platoon from the 48th Engrs reported for duty with Co C as a mine sweeping detail.

Period 0001 to 2400 8 November 1943:

Bn CP no change.

Co A CP unchanged. 1st platoon cleared mines at 065185 for tank unit bivouac area. 2nd platoon assisted 1st platoon and then built a two way by-pass at 050210. 3rd platoon gravelled by pass at 050210.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt HARTNAGEL and third platoon laid culverts on blown bridge two miles north of POZZILLI. Work not yet completed. Bridge was under artillery fire and work had to stop. Sgt CHAVEZ and squad hauled gravel for by-pass on MSR. 1 mile south of Venafro. Lt CLODFELTER asgd to Co from Bn Hq. to 2nd platoon.

Co C CP unchanged. 3rd squad of the 1st platoon traced and marked mine field in the vicinity of POZZILLI. Half track, 1st platoon reconnoitered road north of POZZILLI. 3rd squad gravelled road and by-pass 1 mile north of VENAFRO. 1st platoon cleared the streets of POZZILLI. Patrol reported S-mines in the vicinity of trail at 045230.

Water Points now in operation at 1800057, 090194 and west of Venafro.

Period 0001 to 2400 9 November 1943:

Bn CP same location.

H&S CP same location. M/Sgt FOSTER took seven trucks to Army dump to pick up Somerfeld Mats.

Co A CP same location, until 2000 when it moved to 094132. 1st platoon hauled gravel to road at 051174. Improved by-pass at 046197. Cleared mines and repaired craters from 065163 to 076128. 2nd platoon maintained DGR. 3rd platoon laid in Somerfeld matting and gravelled road at 064168. At about 1500 Company area was shelled and Pvt CISCO was killed and Pfc BRUNO was wounded. One half track was slightly damaged.

Co B CP moved to 094093. Lt POSTAS and first platoon widened by-pass at 062216 for two way traffic. Other platoons inactive due to heavy rains. Company underwent shelling all day. No casualties.

Co C CP unchanged. 2nd platoon constructed 1 mile of road thru mountains for trail from POZZILLI in a Northeast direction. One German prisoner captured and turned over to the 180th PW. 1st and 3rd platoons continued work on road at 1900. Were forced to stop due to heavy enemy shell fire. Suffered two casualties at POZZILLI. Pvt RICHARD ROMERO struck by shrapnel in left thigh and hospitalized. Pvt POGRATSIK struck in left cheek by shrapnel and not hospitalized.

Period 0001 to 2400 10 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. All platoons worked on maintenance of DSR from by-pass at 094132 to 107090. At 2200 3rd platoon and eight $1\frac{1}{2}$ ton trucks hauled gravel for road 094132 to 126083. One squad attached to 4th Ranger Bn to clear mines and perform Engineer work.

Co B CP same location. Entire company working maintaining road from 110080 to 143079. Gravel is being hauled and spread on road.

Co C CP unchanged. 3rd platoon maintained road Northeast of POZZILLI. Captured two prisoners and an 88mm gun. 2nd platoon and attached platoon of the 48th Engr C Bn, swept four miles of road for mines from POZZILLI northwest. Pfc STEPHEN KOTLARZ seriously wounded in right leg by an S-mine and sent to the hospital. T/5 GABRIK wounded by shrapnel in right foot and required only on the spot medical attention.

Period 0001 to 2400 11 November 1943:

Bn CP no change.

Co A CP unchanged. Entire company hauling in support of Co B maintaining Div MSR.

Co B CP unchanged. Entire company maintaining MSR from H143079-110080.

Co C CP unchanged. 1st platoon widened gravelled bridge at 240048. Attached platoon of the 48th Engr C Bn removed eleven anti-personnel mines from 250058 to 265048. Sent patrols to outskirts of FILGENCO to reconnoiter roads.

Period 0001 to 2400 12 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP moved to 060213 due to intensive shelling. 1st platoon built by-pass over stream at 018184. Cleared road of obstacles from VENAFRO to this by-pass. 2nd and 3rd platoons hauled gravel to Div MSR. Co in support of the 157 and 180 Inf.

Co B CP unchanged. Entire company still maintaining road from 110080-143079.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt BURGER and patrol swept road for mines north of FRIGANELLO. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon removed 500 pounds of explosive from bridge north of FRIGANELLO, also removed wire and camouflage from road.

Water supply no change.

Period 0001 to 2400 13 November 1943:

At 1500 Bn CP moved to a building in Venafre (041203)

Co A CP unchanged. 1st platoon conducted road reconnaissance from VENAFRE to SEPAGNA. 2nd platoon inactive. 3rd platoon had squads working clearing mines in bivouac area located at 060209. Entire company continued work on MSR.

Co B CP unchanged. Entire company still maintaining road from 110080-143079.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt BRIDGES and 2 man patrol on road reconnaissance vicinity of FIGNELLO. Sgt BELCHER and squad marked road and placed signs north of FIGNELLO

Letter received from 94th Evacuation Hospital awarding Purple Heart to Pvt KOTLARZ. of Co C for wounds received in action.

Period 0001 to 2400 14 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co restocking Engr dump with Sowerfeld mats and sand bags.

Co A CP unchanged. Four (4) 1½ ton dump trucks worked with Co B hauling gravel. Co A maintained DSR. 3rd platoon cleared possible bivouac area of mines. 3 S-Mines removed. Company in support of the 157th and 180th.

Co B CP unchanged. Entire company still maintaining road from 110080-143079.

Co C CP unchanged. No engineer activity. Heavy rains have made any activity impossible.

No change in water supply.

Period 0001 to 2400 15 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Capt LYLE took one squad of men and a rubber raft to the VOLTURNO River to attempt to rescue a group of men from the 71st FA Brigade who were stranded on an island. Also moving mines and tracing tape to infantry units at the front lines.

Co A CP unchanged. Lt RICHIEY Lt SAFIR and 1st platoon worked on ponton bridge at 064172 and 178056. Lt SMITH and S/Sgt PASOWICZ made reconnaissance of all bridges between VENAFRE and CAPUA. Lt COOPER, Lt JOHNSON and 3rd platoon and six 1½ ton Trucks worked with Co B hauling gravel. 2nd platoon inactive. 3rd platoon furnished 2 trucks to pull trucks around by-passes at 051210 and 060217.

Co B CP moved across road 500 yards from old CP. This move was necessitated by the rising of the VOLTURNO River to a high level. Entire company still maintaining same road.

Co C CP unchanged. Entire company maintained roads and bridges vicinity of VENAFRE.

All bridges across VOLTURNO River upstream from ALIFE have been washed out by high water. Trestle bridge near ALIFE still open but roads leading to it are badly jammed with traffic. By-pass at 053145 is under water and impassable. A trestle bridge being installed. By-pass at 023128 partly washed out.

Period 0001 to 2400 16 November 1943:

Bn CP moved to another building in Venafre.

Co A CP unchanged. 2½ ton G&R were used by Co C During day for reconnaissance. At nite reconnaissance patrols was on bridge to all bridges and by-passes from POZZILLI to 092092. Worked on maintainance of Div MSR.

Co B CP same location. Sgt ARAUJO and squad maintained penton bridge at VOLTURNO River two miles south of VENAFRO. No other Engineer work done due to bad weather.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon maintained road north of POZZILLI. Lt MEYER and 2nd platoon placed anchor cable for ferry across the VOLTURNO River. Lt BRIDGES and patrol placed about 50 AP mines in 4th Ranger Bn area. Pvt PRISTOW was wounded in both legs by shrapnel during the work. It was performed under constant enemy shellfire. Sgt GARCIA was wounded in right hand and leg, Pfc J.B. DAVIS wounded in both legs and Pfc WOODWARD wounded in both legs when an artillery shell made a direct hit on a 1 ton truck in the Company bivouac area.

Period 0001 to 2400 17 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Mr FLANAGAN awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in action.

Co A CP unchanged. 1st platoon had one squad maintaining road west of VENAFRO as far as CEPPAGNA. 2nd platoon had one squad maintaining by-pass near POZZILLI. 3rd platoon built by-pass at 063214.

Co C CP unchanged. No Engineer Activities performed.

Co B CP moved to 2½ miles east of VENAFRO. 2nd Lt FIELDS, Pvt Kryzawuski and T/5 Sexton awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in action.

A trestle trestway bridge being installed by Corps Engineers to replace penton bridge built by us that was washed away by rising water at 067166.

Period 0001 to 2400 18 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP same location. 1st platoon inactive. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon maintained 180th Inf MSR. Lt COOPER and 3rd platoon placed culvert and improvised around by-pass at 060222.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon worked constructing a foot bridge over the VOLTURNO River 3 miles south of VENAFRO. 1st and 3rd platoons maintaining and overhauling their vehicles and equipment. Lt COHEN assigned to the 3rd platoon and Lt HARTNAGEL assigned to Company Headquarters platoon.

Co C CP unchanged. Area shelled intermittently throughout the day and night. A 2½ ton truck was lightly damaged. Pvt CLARK slightly wounded in left shoulder but not hospitalized. No engineer work performed.

Cameouflage of the Division area was checked by the S-2 section. For full report see Battalion Engineer Intelligence Report #53 dated 19 November 1943.

No change in water supply.

Period 0001 to 2400 19 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged:

Four trucks from H&S Co left for Santa Maria for lumber for the Engr Dump.

Co A CP unchanged. Lt RICHIEY and 1st platoon inactive. Lt RICHIEY made contact with the 34th Division with reference to bridges across the VOLTURNO RIVER. Lt SMITH and the 2nd platoon maintained the 180th MSR. Lt COOPER and the 3rd platoon completed gravelling of by-pass at 060222.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon constructing foot bridge across VOLTURNO River 3 miles south of VENAFRO. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon improved entrance to the 120th Medical Clearing Station.

Co C CP unchanged. 2nd platoon improved turnaround at VENAFRO. Other platoons inactive.

Camouflage of the Division area conducted by the S-2 section of the Battalion.

Period 0001 to 2400 20 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Lt RICNEY and 1st platoon, Lt COOPER and 3rd platoon hauled gravel for the 180th Inf MSR.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon still constructing a footbridge across the VOLTURNO River 3 miles south of VENAFRO. Other platoons overhauling their equipment.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon maintained road on Mountain side of VENAFRO to POZZILLI. Lt MEYER and 2nd platoon gravelled road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon filled in shell holes and craters on VENAFRO Road.

Period 0001 to 2400 21 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Lt RICNEY and 1st platoon, Lt COOPER and 3rd platoon hauled gravel for the 180th Inf MSR. Area shelled throughout the day and night.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon finished constructing footbridge across the VOLTURNO River 3 miles south of Venafro. Other platoons inactive.

Co C CP unchanged. CP area shelled during early morning. Pfc DURKIN struck by shrapnel in left hand and hospitalized. Lt FRANK and 1 squad from the 3rd platoon picked up Teller Mines that had been removed from the road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI.

Received word from the 94th Evacuation Hospital that Pfc WOODWARD of Co C had been awarded a Purple Heart Medal #293902.

Lt Stephens AFTC attached to the Battalion as observer.

Total water delivered from water points from Sept 10 - Nov 20 - 2,684,040.

Period 0001 to 2400 22 November 1943:

Bn CP no change.

Co A CP unchanged. Entire company maintaining and hauling gravel for 180th Inf MSR.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon maintained and improved road from PRESENZANO to Division Headquarters and made new entrance to 120th Medical Bn Collecting Station. Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained road from 2½ miles west of VENAFRO to MASTRATI. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon helped the 189th FA to place their guns in position.

Co C CP same location. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon cleared rubble from VENAFRO and cleared road from POZZILLI to TRAVERECCE. Lt MEYER and 2nd platoon maintained mountain road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon collected and destroyed Teller and S-Mines in area of POZZILLI. Platoon from the 48th Engrs swept for mines in area near POZZILLI, and removed 6 S-Mines.

Received a letter of commendation from the Commanding General of the 71st FA Brigade for the efforts of H&S company in attempting to rescue a platoon of men from an island in the VOLTURNO River. The men cited were Capt LYLE, T/Sgt HARVEY MOORE, S/Sgt ALEX OGAS, Cpl MIKE MENDOZA, Cpl KARLAN, and Pvt CORBIN.

Period 0001 to 2400 23 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged:

Co A CP unchanged. All platoons continued maintenance of the 180th Inf MSR. Lts COOPER & JOHNSON on road reconnaissance all day.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon, Lt McKINNON and 2nd platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to MASTRATI. Sgt HOMES and 3 EM patrolled all roads around the vicinity of VENAFRO. 2nd Lt FIELDS made reconnaissance for Bn S-2. All motor vehicles prepared for winter driving.

Co C CP unchanged. 2nd squad of the 1st platoon cleared rubble from VENAFRO. 3rd squad cleared 80 Teller mines in area just east of VENAFRO; approximately 20% of them were beebie-trapped. Lt MEYER and 2nd platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI. Platoon from the 48th Engr cleared mines in POZZILLI area. Pvt ANTONIO GALLEGOS wounded but not hospitalized by a Teller mine that he was neutralizing.

Received notice from Division Headquarters that Brig. Gen. WILLIAM W EAGLES assumes command of the 45th Inf. Div.

Period 0001 to 2400 24 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Continued maintenance of 180th Inf MSR.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to MISTRATTI. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon prepared site for construction of a foot-bridge across the VOLTURNO River near PRESENZANO. 1st platoon inactive.

Co C CP unchanged. One squad of 1st platoon cleared remains of mines in area $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of VENAFRO. Remainder of platoon cleared debris from VENAFRO. Lt BURGER and 2nd platoon maintained mountain road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI. Swept road for mines from VENAFRO to CEPPAGNA and constructed 300 yards of bypass. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI, clearing drains. Lt BRIDGES made reconnaissance from TRAVEREOCE to ST. MARIE OLIVETO. 48th Engr Platoon cleared mines in draw near POZZILLI and encountered one casualty. Cpl METCALFE injured by an S-Mine.

Period 0001 to 2400 25 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Entire company maintained the 180th MSR.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon working on foot-bridge over the Volturno River near PRESENZANO at 093093. Lt CLODFELTER maintaining road from VENAFRO to MISTRATTI.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to CEPPAGNA. Lt MEYER and 2nd Platoon built a 15 foot single span E-10 wooden bridge on road from VENAFRO to CEPPAGNA. Lt GIBSON and 3rd platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI. 48th Engr Platoon repaired equipment. Lt GIBSON with patrol from the 157th Inf made road reconnaissance from approximately four miles on road from APZILLI to ACQUAFONDATA.

Period 0001 to 2400 26 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co D-7 bulldozer aiding the 71st FA Brigade in setting up their gun positions.

Co A CP unchanged. Entire company continued maintenance of the 180th MSR.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon built a road entrance to the 120th Medical Battalion Clearing Station. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon working constructing a foot-bridge across the Volturno River at 092093.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to CEPPAGNA, and suffered two casualties. S/Sgt ERNEST PADILLA was struck by shrapnel in right leg and left arm. Pfc KOVAREBASICH struck by shrapnel in right leg. Both men were evacuated. Lt BURGER and 2nd platoon finished bridge and maintained road from VENAFRO to CEPPAGNA. Shelled throughout the day. Lt GIBSON and 3rd platoon improved culvert and main road intersection into POZZILLI. Also improved drainage ditch on road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI. Platoon from the 48th Engrs cleared mines at POZZILLI. Lt MEYER on reconnaissance to ISEGNIA.

Period 0001 to 2400 27 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged:

Co A CP unchanged. Company completed maintenance of the 180th MSR. Lt SMITH and squad made reconnaissance of road between RJ H036260 and O15263.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt GLODFELTER and 2nd platoon constructed simple stringer bridge two miles below PRESENZANO. Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon built a new road to the approaches to the bridge that the 2nd platoon built. Lt COHEN and the 3rd platoon constructing a foot bridge across the Volturno River three miles south of VENAFRO.

Co C CP unchanged. Company constructed a road for $\frac{1}{2}$ ton vehicles from VENAFRO northwest up the mountain. To be used by the 1st Ranger Bn and 83rd Chemical Bn. CP area was shelled at 1700 and Pvt CASTMIRO GARCIA was lightly wounded in right shin but not hospitalized.

Water point at 180057 closed. Points now in operation at 080105 and 033200.

Period 0001 to 2400 28 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Lt SAFIR and 1st platoon hauled gravel for H&S Co area. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon inactive. Lt COOPER and Lt JOHNSON and 3rd platoon improved approaches to bridge at 095043. 1st platoon also repaired road between CEPPAGNA and H008150, thereafter furnished protection for the 16th Engrs who erected a Bailey Bridge at CEPPAGNA.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon still working on foot bridge over the Volturno River three miles south of VENAFRO. Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon cleared minefield for the 939th FA Bn at 180070.

Co C CP unchanged. Company worked on mountain road from VENAFRO to bridge at 053143. Road is used by the 180th Inf.

Period 0001 to 2400 29 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged:

Co A CP location unchanged. Lt SAFIR and 1st platoon maintained road for the 45th QI Co at 088045. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon worked with the 1st platoon. Lt COOPER and 3rd platoon maintained road from 088157 to town of MASTRANI.

Co B CP unchanged. No Engineer work performed. Lt GLODFELTER keeping contact with the 179th Inf and Lt COHEN keeping contact with the 157th Inf. for any possible engineer work that may be required.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon improved road from POZZILLI to TRAVERECCE. Lt GORDON, Sgt CORNELIA and Pvt DUGGER made reconnaissance of enemy fortifications and prepared the area for demolition. Placed 300 lbs of TNT. 1st and 2nd platoon dried and repaired their equipment.

Received a letter from the 33rd Field Hospital notifying of the death of Pvt J.B. DAVIS of Co C on 19 November 1943.

Period 0001 to 2400 30 November 1943:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Lt SAFIR and 1st platoon, Lt SMITH and 2nd Platoon improved road to ~~VAIRANO~~ VAIRANO and maintained 45th QM Road. Lts COOPER & JOHNSON and 3rd platoon repaired two culverts and improved road on east side of the VOLTURNO River between Mark Clark Bridge and MASTRANI.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon, Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon, finished footbridge at 093093. Work was accomplished under very difficult constructions. Co also cleared and marked minefields north of POZZILLI. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon kept in reserve in the event they are needed by the 179th Inf.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt RICHEY and 1st platoon fixed approached to bridge at CEPPAGNA. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon maintained road from VENAFRO to CEPPAGNA. Lt GORDON, Sgt CORRELLA, Pfc HAYES and Pvt SMOUSE set off demolition in 1st Ranger Battalion area in an effort to eliminate enemy observation post.

Camouflage discipline of the Division area conducted by S-2 section.

1st Lt ELMER S PICKETT, who was wounded during the Sicilian campaign, and transferred to a hospital, returned and joined this Battalion.

Total output of water, from a total of six (6) water points was 1,298,870 gallons.

Period 0001 to 2400 1 December 43:

Bn CP no change.

Co "A" CP same location. Lt SAFER and 1st Platoon continued on maintenance of 180 MSR. Lt SMITH and 2nd Platoon worked on by pass at 049239. Lt COOPER and 3rd Platoon worked on maintenance of road to Mastrati. Also improved bridge at 048240. Widened road at foot of mountain from Venafro to Pozzilli.

Co "B" CP same location. Lt COHEN and 3rd Platoon started to clear minefields North Of Pozzilli. And together with Lt POSTAS and 1st Platoon completed suspension foot bridge at 093093. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd Platoon maintained contact with the 179 Inf and also maintained MSR from 061213 to 040250 in support of 157 and 179 Inf.

Co "C" CP same location. 1st Squad of 1st Platoon cleared minefield $\frac{1}{2}$ miles East of Pozzilli. 2nd and 3rd Squad widened mt. road from Venafro to Pozzilli. Lt MEYER and 2nd Platoon cut road for Btry. "C" 158 FA. Lt GIBSON and 3rd Platoon cleared debris at Pozzilli and Venafro. Also maintained Mt. Road from Venafro to Pozzilli.

Period 0001 to 2400 2 December 43:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Lt SAFER and Lt RICKEY and 1st Platoon continued gravelling and maintaining 180 Inf MSR. Lt SMITH and 2nd Platoon repaired culverts on Pozzilli road. Lt COOPER and Lt JOHNSON & 3rd Platoon continued work on 45 QM Dump.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt COHEN and 1st squad of 3rd Platoon maintained bridge at 093093. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd Platoon maintained MSR for 157 and 179 Inf. Lt POSTAS & 1st Platoon marked off mine fields in vicinity of Pozzilli.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Lt RICKEY and 1st Platoon maintained road used by 180 Inf from Venafro to bridge at 053143. Lt BURGER and 2nd Platoon with bulldozer maintained mountain road from Venafro to Pozzilli. Lt GIBSON and 3rd platoon maintained road used by 180 Inf from Venafro to Pozzilli.

Total water output and figures for the month of November see 120 Engr Intelligence Summary #67 dated 3 Dec 43.

Received notice of a Purple Heart Award to Pvt Pristow from Co "C". Sent from 38 Evac Hosp. Medal #417547.

Period 0001 to 2400 3 December 43:

Bn CP no change.

Co "A". Lt SAFER & Lt RICKEY and 1st Platoon continued gravelling and maintenance of the 180th MSR. Lt SMITH and 2nd Platoon repaired culverts of Pozzilli Road. Lts JOHNSON & COOPER continued improvement of 45 QM Road. Improved by-pass at 048240.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd Platoon repaired and filled blown bridge in Pozzilli.

Lt COHEN and 3rd Platoon maintained footbridge at 093093. Also maintained and improved trail north, out of Pozzilli. Lt POSTAS and 1st Platoon maintained by-pass 1 mile west of Pozzilli. Lt FIELDS and one squad cleared a path thru a Swine field 2 miles North of Pozzilli.

Co "C" CP unchanged. 1st and 3rd Platoons worked on road used by 180 Inf. Also maintained road from Venafro to bridge at 053143. Lt BURGER and 2nd Platoon worked on Mt. road from Venafro to Pozzilli.

Period 0001 to 2400 4 December 43:

Bn CP no change.

Co "A" CP same location. Lts SAFER, RICHMY and 1st Platoon, Lts COOPER & JOHNSON & 3rd Platoon maintained Mastrati road from 093140 - 088157. Lt SMITH and 2nd Platoon improved by-pass at 048240. Heavy rains endangered this by-pass, but it was made possible. Also constructed roads as Class I dump at Vairano.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt McKINNON and one squad maintained footbridge at 093093 until bridge washed out. Lt COHEN and 2 squads of 3rd Platoon maintained and patrolled main road from 050174 to Pozzilli. Mountain Road from Venafro to Pozzilli maintained by Lt CLODFELTER. Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained road for 180 Inf and Ranger Battalion. Conducted mine removal school for 180 Inf, and maintained by-passes at 021178 - 024183.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Entire Co. maintained mountain road from Venafro to bridge 053143.

Received 31 new Replacements.

Period 0001 to 2400 5 December 43:

Bn and all Companies CP's unchanged.

H&S Motor officer contacted Engr maintenance platoon at Dragoni in regards to having Bn tractor repaired. Maintenance crew servicing and repairing Bn tractor.

Co "A" - Entire Company building trestle bridge at 049241. Mud sills were placed and approaches improved. Also maintaining and improving road 053143 - 024178.

Co "B" - Lt COHEN and Sgt McKinney constructed footbridge for 157 Inf at 013207. Pack mules were employed to carry Supplies to bridge site. Lt McKINNON and 2 squads of 3rd Platoon maintained MSR West of Pozzilli. Lt POSTAS and 1st Platoon maintained road from Pozzilli to Highway 85. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd Platoon hauled rocks for bridge which Co "A" constructed.

Entire Co "C" maintaining and improving 180 Inf MSR 053143 - 024178.

Period 0001 to 2400 6 December 43:

All Companies & Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co - Lt MYERS went to Santa Maria for Water Supply Equipment.

Co "A" - Entire Co still constructing bridge at 049241. One platoon assisting Co "C" in maintenance and improvement of road 052143 - 023178.

Co "B" - Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon cleared streets of Filignano. Constructed by-pass at 031254. Removed road charges at same location. Lt FIELDS and first platoon, Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon hauled rock for Co "A" bridge at 049241. Swept road for mines along east embankment of canal to Pozzilli. Walking patrol maintained road from Venafro to Filignano. Improved drainage system and filled shell holes.

Co "C" - worked maintaining and improving 180 MSR from 052143 - 023173. Lt BRIDGES made reconnaissance for 1st Ranger Bn and planned demolition into mountain for aid station site.

Period 0001 to 2400 7 December 1943:

Bn and all Co's CP's same location.

M&S Co. maintenance crew servicing and repairing all the Battalions tractors.

Co "A" - Lt SMITH and 2nd Platoon, Lt COOPER and 3rd platoon completed a Class 40 steel stringer bridge at HO49241. Lt RICHNEY and 1st Platoon maintained and improved road at HO53134 - 023178. Aiding Co "C".

Co "B" - Lt FIELDS and 1st Platoon maintained roads from 062213 to Filignano. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon constructed road for 45 Co vicinity of Vairano.

Co "C" - Company and 1st Platoon from Co "B" maintained and improved road 053143 - 023178. Lt BRIDGES and one squad prepared a position in 1st Ranger Area for an aid station at Mt. Corneo. Suffered one casualty. Pfc Hejl wounded in stomach by shrapnel. Bulldozer helped the 36 Div Artillery to set up gun position.

Period 0001 to 2400 8 December 1943:

Bn Hq and all Companies CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - D-7 tractor and crew working for 977 PA, repairing roads and preparing gun emplacements for them.

"A" Company - Lt's RICHNEY and SAFIR with 1st platoon completed placing galvanized and wooden culverts at bridge site - 048241. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon with Lt's COOPER & JOHNSON hauled gravel and maintained road to Mastrani and beyond east of bridge 065163.

"B" Company - Lt COHEN constructing road for Quartermaster near Vairano. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon assisting 3rd platoon on Quartermaster road. Lt FIELDS and 1st platoon maintained main road - Filignano - Pozzilli - Venafro. Removed dud from road South of Pozzilli.

"C" Company - Entire company worked on 180th Infantry road Venafro to bridge at 053143. Lt BRIDGES and six (6) men continued work on aid station for 1st Ranger Bn.

1st Lt McCullough appointed Capt.
Major HINES sent to hospital.

Period 0001 to 2400 9 December 43:

Bn Hq and Company C.P. 's unchanged.

Hq & Serv CO - Building roads within own bivouac area. Continuous rains have made the countryside a mire of mud.

"A" Company - Lt's SAFIR and RICHY and 1st platoon hauled gravel and completed work on bridge site at Pozzilli. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon maintained Mastrani road. Lt's JOHNSON & COOPER and 3rd platoon put up barbed wire in areas cleared of mines, west of Venafro.

"B" Company - Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon and Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon working on Quartermaster Road in vicinity of Vairano. Lt FIELDS and 1st platoon acted as trouble shooters for Venafro - Pozzilli - Filignano road. Lt FIELDS and three (3) men made a night reconnaissance for condition of bridge at 023252.

"C" Company - Entire company improved road used by 180th Infantry Venafro - bridge 053143. Lt BRIDGES and six (6) men continued work for 1st Ranger Bn. Their job is blasting rock in making aid station shelters.

1st Lt PICKETT assigned primary duty as Asst Div Engr. Capt LOWE assumes primary duty as Asst Exec Officer.

Period 0001 to 2400 10 December 43:

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

H&S Co maintenance crew servicing letter Co vehicles. Motor officers meeting held at H&S CP.

Co "A" - Lts RICHY and SAFIR and 1st platoon, Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon continued maintenance of Mastrani road. Lt's COOPER & JOHNSON and 3rd platoon in morning continued wiring of areas cleared of mines. In afternoon made repairs on bridge at Pozzilli.

Co "B" - Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon, Lt FIELDS and 1st platoon still working on QM road in vicinity of Vairano. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon acting as trouble shooter platoon on Venafro - Pozzilli - Filignano road. T/5 Sexton, Cooke, Feachen; Pfc Guth; Pvs Baldwin, Farrissey, Pennington, Gardner & Reed each donated 1 pint of blood for battle casualties at 33 Gen Hosp.

Co "C" maintained and improved road H053143 - 023178. Finished blasting shelter for Ranger Aid Station.

1st Lt HARTMAGEL Co "B", awarded a Silver Star Medal #35921. By General order #37 Hq 45 Inf Div dated 6 Dec 43. The Citation reads "For Gallantry in action! When a strong German force broke through the right flank of the division, the only troops running between the enemy and the beach were Lt HARTMAGEL and two platoons of his company. Deploying his men in a defensive position he personally directed them in repelling the enemy, destroying two machine guns and causing a third to withdraw.

Period 0001 to 2400 11 December 1943:

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

Co "A" - Lt's RICHY & SAFIR and 1st platoon, Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon continued maintenance of Mastrani road east of Mark Clark Bridge. Marked off mined area at 027195. Lt's COOPER & JOHNSON and 3rd platoon repaired bridge at 048241.

Also maintaining and improving road net between Venafro & Velturco River.

Co "B" - 1st Lt TAUSHGER appointed Capt. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon maintained Venafro - Pozzilli - Filignano road. Lt FIELDS and 1st platoon, Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon, aiding Co "C" in the maintenance of road 053143 to 023178.

Co "C" - Maintaining and improving road 053143 to 023178. Made a turn around at Bn CP in Venafro.

H&S Motor Section cleared road junction in Venafro of two vehicles that had collided.

Period 0001 to 2400 12 December 1943:

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

Co "A" - Lts RICKY, SAFIR and 1st platoon maintained and improved road H062213 to Pozzilli and maintained and improved canal road H053210 to Pozzilli. Lt COOPER, Lt JOHNSON and 3rd platoon cleared and widened road in Pozzilli.

Co "B" - Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon maintained and improved road from Pozzilli to Filignano. Lt POSTAS and 1st Platoon, Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon aiding "C" Co; maintaining and improving road 053143 - 024185 by hauling gravel.

Co "C" - Baire Co. maintained and improved road H053143 - 024185.

Capt LOWE reported into Bn CP to assume primary duty as Asst Exc. Off.

Period 0001 to 2400 13 December 1943:

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

H&S Co building roads in Co CP area. Maintenance crew servicing Bn vehicles.

Co "A" - Lt RICKY, Lt SAFIR and 1st platoon continued maintenance of road from CP to 048241. Lts COOPER & JOHNSON, 3rd platoon in A.M. wired off mined areas and areas already cleared of mines. In P.M. maintained road from Venafro to 180th CP.

Co "B" - Lt COHEN, 3rd platoon hauled rock for Co "C" in maintaining road 053143 - 024185. Also cleared and swept Div CP area for mines. None found. Lt CLODFELTER, 2nd platoon, hauled rock for Co "C". Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained road Venafro - Pozzilli - Filignano.

Co "C" - maintained and improved road 053143 - 024185. Bulldozer used to clear Mt. road for 178th FA.

Period 0001 to 2400 14 December 1943:

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

Bn Field order #5 issued.

Co "A" - Lts COOPER & JOHNSON and 3rd platoon worked on road from Venafro to former 180 CP. Also maintained road from Co CP to 048241. One squad from 3rd platoon attached to Rangers, returned to duty. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon remained in Co Area cleaning Equipment & tools. Lts RICKY, SAFIR and 1st platoon worked with 3rd platoon. Road runs from 050174 to Pozzilli.

Co "B" - Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained and improved road Pozzilli - Filignano. Other platoons inactive.

Co "C" - Lt MEYER and 2nd platoon, Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon, maintained and improved road 053143 - 023185. 1st squad, 1st platoon, filled crater at Class I dump at Vairano.

Period 0001 to 2400 15 December 1943:

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

H&S - D-7, Bulldozer and crew out working with line companies.

Co "A" - Lt RICHKY and 2 E's from 1st platoon made reconnaissance for a possible peep trail from Pozzilli West. 3rd platoon maintained road from CR H039250 to Pozzilli.

Co "B" - Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon, Lt COHEN, 3rd platoon, started construction of a peep trail from Filignano to Logona. $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles constructed. Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon maintained and improved road 039250 to Filignano.

Co "C" - 1st platoon maintained road from Venafro to Pozzilli, also aided the 158 FA in extinguishing a blaze around one of its guns. 2nd platoon improved road from intersection of the main highway to Pozzilli. 3rd platoon maintained road from Venafro to intersection of road maintained by 2nd platoon.

Period 0001 to 2400 16 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co - 1st platoon, less 1 squad, with Lt RICHKY improved mule trails above Venafro, converting them into Peep trails, near 157 CP. 2nd and 3rd platoons inactive. Lumber was secured for truck beds.

"B" Co - Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon and Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon working on Peep trail from Filignano to Logona. Work being done night and day.

"C" Co - Lt GORDON and 1st Platoon maintained road along mountain from Venafro to Pozzilli. Lt MEYER and 2nd Platoon and Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon maintained road from Venafro to Pozzilli. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon assisted "B" Co in constructing road suitable for tanks on trail of the valley North of Filignano. 2 squads worked until 0100 and 1 squad worked till 0700.

Period 0001 to 2400 17 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

H&S Co - Wrecker and crew called upon to clear wreckage from streets in Venafro.

"A" Co - 1st platoon, Lt Rickey and Lt Safir, completed Peep road near 157th Inf CP. 2nd platoon inactive; Lt Cooper and 3rd platoon improved drainage at Bridge at 048241.

"B" Co - Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon, Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon still working on peep trail. Work completed and traffic going over two miles of trail from Filignano to Logona.

"C" Co - Lt BRIDGES and 3rd Platoon inactive. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon maintained mountain road from Venafro to Pozzilli. 2nd platoon maintained road from Main road intersection, into Pozzilli. They were caught by artillery fire; the first shell landing on the road where they were working. Five enlisted men were wounded. Pfc Velarde, Ernest 38010210 WIA right shoulder; Pvt Anderson WIA right leg; Pvt Madziars, Joseph W. 31072306 WIA chest; These men were wounded seriously and hospitalized. Pfc Eggleston, Melvin E. 37256494 and Pvt Clark, Francis J. WIA on back; not hospitalized.

Period 0001 to 2400 18 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co - Lts RICKEY & SAFIR with 1st platoon swept road vicinity O11258 for mines. They uncovered and pulled out unknown type demolition charge; believed to be cratering charge. Teller Mines were also found. Lts JOHNSON & SAFIR, together with five men, were WIA while working on a crater fill at night. The tractor ran over a mine; Lts JOHNSON & SAFIR receiving facial injuries. Lt SAFIR was not hospitalized. The men WIA were S/Sgt Ambrose Chavez, Pfc Kwapianski, Pvs Leonard Chappell, Raymond Alderson, Anthony Tomaszewski. Tractor demolished beyond repair.

"B" Co - All three platoons maintaining Peep trail - Filignano - Lagone.

"C" Co - Lt GORDON and 1st platoon improved road used by 178 FA. Lt BURGER and 2nd platoon maintained road - Venafro - Pozzilli. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon maintained Venafro - Pozzilli road.

Period 0001 to 2400 19 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - Details out cutting sapling trees to be used as bridging rails and markers.

"A" Co - 1st platoon cleared road of mines and charges at O11258; placed culvert $\frac{1}{2}$ mile beyond O11258. One squad was sent on bridge maintenance job at No. 100. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon swept road vicinity O11258 for mines and did general maintenance work. Lt SIMMONS and 3rd platoon maintained road above O11258.

"B" Co - Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained and improved trail from Lagone to Filignano. Trail extended $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

"C" Co - 1st and 2nd platoon maintained road East of Casale. 3rd platoon cleared mines and inspected craters on same road after dark. 1st and 2nd platoon filled craters by hand.

Period 0001 to 2400 20 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - Details finished cutting about 1000 sapling trees into poles and painted them white. Distributed between "A" and "C" Companies. Capt LILES experimented with 4 ton wrecker on hauling and placing trestle bridge. The plan worked on has been tried and proved to be efficient and practical.

"A" Co - 1st, 2nd and 3rd platoons all worked on road vicinity 024260, filling in shell holes; clearing debris off road; stacking enemy ammo. and general maintenance and road widening.

"B" Co - Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon & Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon maintained Peep trail Filignano - Lagone; constructed road - Lagone - Mastro Giovianni and surrounding high ground for supplies to get to Infantry units. 2nd Lt CLODFELTER & 2nd platoon made trail for 120th Med Bn near Venafro, Italy.

"C" Co - 1st platoon placed road signs and post markers on road - 0116260 - 001270. 3rd platoon widened by pass 20' x 43# at 002268. 2nd platoon started on by-pass at 995274. Entire company worked under intermittent artillery fire. A patrol under Sgt McQuaid went into the town of Casale. Three EM were KIA and one officer and five EM were WIA as result of S-mine explosion about 1/2 mile South of Casale at about 2400. Chavez, Fred; Dobson, James; Patterson, Chas. KIA; Lt RAYMOND MEYER; Sgt Pacheco, Pete 20841919; Cpl Bernal, Louis 20841837; Cpl Gallegos, Clemente 20841857; Taylor, Leslie; Pvt Gallegos, Pedro 20841851, WIA.

Period 0001 to 2400 21 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - D-7 Dozer working with crew on roads of Pozzilli.

"A" Co - The whole company worked on improving and widening road from cross roads H039250 - 010261. Placed white post markers on road to Casale.

"B" Co - Lts CLODFELTER & COHEN with 2nd and 3rd platoons maintained and improved road from Filignano to H020266. Extended road from H020266 on through to road at H015262.

"C" Co - Maintained and improved road H010261 - 995273.

Period 0001 to 2400 22 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - Usual shop maintenance duties.

"A" Co - Improved and widened road from Cross Roads H039250 to H010264.

"B" Co - Extended Filignano - Lagone road on thru to road at H015262.

"C" Co - Constructed road for 171 FA from H024251 to H028250.

Period 0001 to 2400 23 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - Maintenance crew working with line companies servicing bulldozers.

"A" Co - 1st and 2nd platoons maintained and improved road from cross roads H039250 to H006265. 3rd platoon placed guide poles on gravelled by-pass at 011258. Hauled gravel for bridge H048240.

"B" Co - Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon and Lt COHEN with 3rd platoon maintained road Filignano - Lagone to road at H015262. Cut trail to 180th Inf Cannon Co bivouac area.

"C" Co - Maintained and improved road from H039250 to H006265 (with Co "A") Swept road for mines from H006265 to Casale. Temporary repair on bridge

HO52209 (complete bridge repair effected by 39th Engrs) Repaired
bridge 0995274.

Period 0001 to 2400 24 December 1943:

Ba Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co - Maintained road RJ HO39250 - forward of RJ HO15262.

"B" Co - Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon, Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon maintained road from HO30250 to Filignano thru Lagone into Acquafondata road at HO15262. Lt COHEN and 2 EM made reconnaissance for bridge bypass location at edge of town of Casale.

"C" Co - Lt GIBSON and 3rd platoon with deser constructed Peep trail to be used by 180th Inf and 120th Med. This trail to be improved so that ambulances can be used. Constructing trail for 171 FA from HO24252 to 027250.

Period 0001 to 2400 25 December 1943:

Ba Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co - Maintained road from RJ HO39250 to 180 Inf Aid Station at HO11264. One officer and 2 EM sent with 180th Inf patrol to Casale. Swept and probed road for mines behind patrol. Main mission was to probe for wooden box mines.

"B" Co - Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained newly constructed road - Filignano thru Lagone to HO15262.

"C" Co - Completed trail for 171 FA and are extending it for use of 157 Inf Mule Headquarters. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon with bulldozer continued work on Peep trail East of Casale which is to be used by 180 Inf and 120th Med.

Period 0001 to 2400 26 December 1943:

Ba Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq and Serv Co - Lt MIERS setting up hot shower unit for Division at Venafro. When completed will accommodate 32 men at one time.

"A" Co - Lt RICKNEY, 1st platoon & 2 squads continued maintenance road from 024260 to 016260. Lt SANTR, 2nd platoon placed grates over culverts (5) from 032254 to 011258. Third platoon sent 2 trucks to haul gravel with Co "C". 1st platoon also gravelled Mule Trail at 012257.

"B" Co - Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon maintained road - Filignano to Lagone thru to HO15262.

"C" Co - 1st platoon maintained and improved road used by 180th. 2nd platoon constructed covers for manholes on road - Fozzilli - Casale. 3rd platoon under cover of darkness filled road craters with rock. Work was held up due to enemy artillery. Lt GORDON with 2 EM went with Infantry Patrol approximately 2 miles West of Casale. They stayed on the road; encountered no enemy.

Period 0001 to 2400 27 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co - Continued clearing rock and debris from barrow pits and berms of road from RJ H039250 to H011264. Improved and gravelled turnout at H008263 to Mule Head dump.

"B" Co - Maintained and improved trail Filignano - Lagone RJ H015262.

"C" Co - Lt BURGER and 2nd platoon constructed covers for drains at 015262. Also constructed turn around for 1st Bn 180th Inf Dump. Filled shell craters in road 200 yds southeast of Casale. Repaired the revetment in by-pass at 0995274 damaged by artillery fire. Continued construction of trail. H024252 - 028243.

Period 0001 to 2400 28 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co - 1st platoon sent out 1 squad to continue widening road at 016253 with bulldozer. 2nd platoon acquired lumber from Engr dump for pole type trailers. 1 squad out placing signs on all mined areas and shoulders of road. 3rd platoon inactive.

"B" Co - Maintained and improved road, Filignano - Lagone RJ H015262. Constructed trail for $\frac{1}{2}$ ton traffic Lagone - Maestro Giovanni connecting with above mentioned road.

"C" Co - Lt BURGER and 2nd platoon worked during day covering man-holes and gutters on road leading into Casale. 1st platoon cleared rubble in Casale. Lt GORDON and 1st platoon after dark prepared and blew abutments on blown bridge at Casale. Used hand labor in improving by-pass, but were unable to continue because of enemy artillery. 3rd platoon was used as security having outposts in and near Casale.

Period 0001 to 2400 29 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - Building gravel road in bivouac area.

"A" Co - Maintained and improved road RJ H039250 to H011264. One platoon cleared debris from streets in Casale during night.

"B" Co - Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon & Lt CLODFELTER maintained and improved road Filignano - Lagone to RJ H015262. Opened trail for $\frac{1}{2}$ ton Lagone - Maestro - Giovanni connecting with above mentioned road.

"C" Co - Lt GORDON, 1st Platoon; Lt BURGER and 2nd platoon completed by-pass around blown bridge on road leading into Casale. Lt BRIDGES and 3rd platoon provided local security. This by-pass will carry single lane traffic for $\frac{1}{2}$ ton and tanks.

Period 0001 to 2400 30 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co - Completed shower unit set-up for Division. Location Water Point at Venafro.

"A" Co - At night 1st platoon worked at Casale and South, placing white pole markers on road; also maintaining and improved road. 2nd platoon (1 squad) painted white line at critical points along road 040250 to 008263. 1 squad with mine detectors swept road 008264. This road was made for possible Arty. position. 3rd platoon cleared debris in streets of Casale.

"B" Co - Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon, Lt CLODFELTER and 2nd platoon maintained Filignano - Lagone road; also constructed road for 180th Cannon Company.

"C" Co - Improved by-pass at Casale. Bivouac area was shelled at about 2115. A few scattered shells landed in vicinity of area; no damage.

A dud shell struck the Bn CP bldg glanced off and buried itself in the S-2 map truck.

Period 0001 to 2400 31 December 1943:

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co - Constructed trail from H007264, to G998253. Maintained and improved road RJ H039250 to H011264.

"B" Co - Maintained and improved road Filignano - Lagone RJ H015262. Improved turn around at RJ H015262.

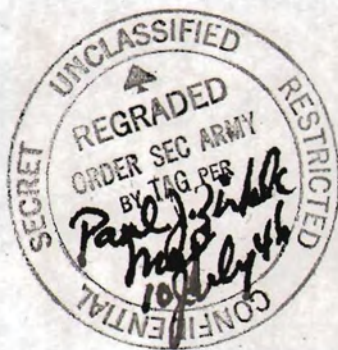
"C" Co - Improved by-pass at Casale. Maintained and improved roads, in vicinity of Casale.

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345-ENG-0.3
Opera Rpt - Italian Campaign - 120th Engineer Bn - 45th Inf Div
1-31 Jan 44
Master

OPERATIONS REPORT
OF THE
120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

JANUARY 1944



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Period 0001 to 2400; 1 Jan 44.

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co: Maintained and improved road RJ H039250 - H011264. Improved pack trails for 157 Inf.

"B" Co: Improved Y curve at RJ H015262. Assisted French regiment to move into position.

"C" Co: Improved turn-in at WP in Venafro.

Period 0001 to 2400 2 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged (except Co "C").

Hq and Serv Co: Repair Section installing new radios in Company vehicles. Two truckloads of lumber sent to Co "C" at Gioia, Italy, for bridgework.

"A" Co: 2nd platoon constructed and cleared 300 yds of trail for peeps at 038247.

"B" Co: Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon, Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon maintained and improved road Lagone - H015262.

"C" Co: The company moved out from Venafro in early morning to precede the division and make roads, bridges and by passes open for movement to rear area and rest period.

Period 0001 to 2400 3 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Companies "A" & "B" remain unchanged.

"A" Co: Maintained road from RJ H039250 to Casale.

"B" Co: Maintained road Filignano - Lagone - RJ H015262.

"C" Co: New CP established 1½ miles South of Gioia, Italy. 1st platoon constructed by pass in San Salvatore. 2nd platoon continued work on by pass North of Gioia. 3rd platoon maintained road and cleared rubble in Gioia. Also constructed 5 culverts for by passes in San Salvatore area.

Water Point opened at Gioia at 022200A. All by passes on road Piediamonte - Fiachio (incl) repaired and passable to all vehicles.

Period 0001 to 2400 4 Jan 44

Bn Hq and "A" & "B" company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co: Capt LYLE went to San Salvatore, Italy on bivouac area reconnaissance. Lt PICKET worked with the French on our Engr Dump preparatory to our turning over a part of it to the French.

"A" Co: Maintained and improved road RJ H039250 - Casale. Maintained and improved trail from Filignano - to near Lagone.

"B" Co: Maintained and improved trail from near Lagone to RJ H015262. Assisted Bn of FA from 3 DIA into position on highway South and West of Lagone. Pvt McCarty LWIA by shrapnel from enemy artillery. (Not hospitalized).

"C" Co: New CP at 1½ miles South of Gioia. Repaired roads and by passes on road net Piedimonte - S. Salvatore - Telese - Amorosi.

Hq & Serv Co: Operated shower unit in Venafro. More than 600 men put through today.

Period 0001 to 2400 5 Jan 44

Bn Hq and "A" & "B" company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co: Lt RIGKEY and 1st platoon cut wood for company & continued maintenance of Pozilli - Casale road. Lt SMITH & 2nd platoon worked on trail Filignano across to Acquafondata road. Lt COOPER & 3rd platoon worked with 2nd platoon.

"B" Co: Lt COHEN & 3rd platoon, & Lt CLODFELTER & 2nd platoon maintained mountain road from Filignano - Lagone - into crossroad at H015262.

"C" Co: CP 1½ miles South of Gioia. Company improved by passes North of Gioia; improved culverts & by passes in vicinity of San Salvatore.

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Period 0001 to 2400 6 Jan 44

Bn Hq and "A" & "B" company CP's remain unchanged.

"A" Co: Lt RIGKEY and 1st platoon maintained road running across from Filignano to Acquafondata. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon cut wood for company all day. Lt COOPER & 3rd platoon worked on trail Filignano - Lagone.

"B" Co: Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon and Lt CLODFELTER & 2nd platoon maintained road from Filignano to Lagone into H015262.

"C" Co: CP $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles South of Gioia. Improved by passes Potito - Gioia. Worked on by passes, San Salvatore - Amorosi - Telese.

Period 0001 to 2400 7 Jan 44

Bn Hq and "A" & "B" CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co: Dismantled Shower unit at Venafro.

"A" Co: Maintained road Filignano - Lagone - RJ H015262.

"B" Co: Lt COHEN & 3rd platoon left for new area in S. Salvatore. Rest of company preparing to move tomorrow.

"C" Co: Maintenance and repair roads in road net S. Potito - S. Salvatore - Telese - Amorosi.

Period 0001 to 2400 8 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Co "A" CP's - Venafro.

Bn Hq ~~forward~~ forward CP established in S. Salvatore.

Hq & Serv Co: opened new CP 2 miles South of San Salvatore. Water Supply Shower Unit opened in Telese.

"A" Co: Maintained road Filignano - Lagone - RJ H015262 until noon. Turned over work to French Engineers.

"B" Co: Moved to S. Salvatore by motor convoy. Left Venafro and arrived in S. Salvatore 1200. Distance travelled - 49 miles. Lt COHEN and 3rd platoon working improving roads for 180th Inf area.

"C" Co: Maintained and repaired road net S. Potito - S. Salvatore - Telese - Amorosi.

Period 0001 to 2400 9 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Co "A" CP - Venafro.

Hq & Serv Co; "B" & "C" at S. Salvatore.

Co "B": Lt COHEN & 3rd platoon improved and made new roads for 700th Ord and 180th Inf. Lt POSTAS & 1st platoon worked improving by passes vicinity S. Salvatore. Lt CLODFELTER 2nd platoon improved bivouac area.

Co "C": CP moved to S. Salvatore.

Period 0001 to 2400 10 Jan 44

Bn Hq CP in S. Salvatore.

Hq & Serv; "A", "B", "C"; CP's vicinity San Salvatore.

Hq & Serv Co: M/Sgt Foster using Bn trucks hauling Bailey Bridge from Vairano to Amorosi.

Bn Hq closed at Venafro at 1000. Opened at S. Salvatore at 1330.

"A" Co: Closed CP at Venafro 0945. Opened at S. Salvatore.

"B" Co: Lt POSTAS & 1st platoon moved from Company area to 2 miles East of Chiazzio. Improving main road Caserta - Amorosi - Chiazzio. Lt CLODFELTER & 2nd platoon repaired by pass near Amorosi and unloaded Bailey Bridge equipment at bridge site West of Amorosi.

"C" Co: Maintenance of road net vicinity S. Saalvatore.

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Period 0001 to 2400 11 Jan 44

Bn Hq CP - S. Salvatore
 Rest of Bn - Vicinity S. Salvatore.
 Hq & Serv Co: Preparing for re-equipping and servicing Bn vehicles.
 D-7 tractor and crew working at Amorosi on Bailey Bridge site.
 "A" Co: Routine duties.
 "B" Co: Lt POSTAS, 1st platoon still separated from company; working on road net - Amorosi - Caiazzo.
 Lt COOPER, 3rd platoon repaired by pass between S Salvatore - Telese.
 "C" Co: Company began construction of Bailey Bridge over Volturmo R. at Amorosi.

Period 0001 to 2400 12 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged. Hq & Serv Co: Hauling Bailey Bridge material to site West of Amorosi.
 "A" Co: Maintained and improved road from by pass - Faichio to S. Potito.
 "B" Co: Lt POSTAS still (and platoon) separated from company; improving Caiazzo - Amorosi road. Constructed wooded culvert between Caiazzo - Amorosi.
 Lt CLODFELTER, 2nd platoon gravelled 4 by passes in Amorosi & Telese triangle.
 "C" Co: Installing Bailey Bridge at N377880. (West of Amorosi)

Period 0001 to 2400 13 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.
 Hq & Serv Co: Usual bivouac duties. Water Point pulled at Venafro.
 "A" Co: Usual bivouac duties. 4 day clean up period started today.
 "B" Co: Lt POSTAS & 1st platoon still maintaining & improving road Caiazzo - Amorosi. Rest of company cleaning up. Inspection held by company officers.
 "C" Co: Installing Bailey Bridge at N377880 (West of Amorosi)

Period 0001 to 2400 14 Jan 44

Bn Hq - San Salvatore
 Hq & Serv Co & Letter Co's vicinity S. Salvatore.
 All ~~companies~~ companies following prescribed training schedule.

Period 0001 to 2400 15 Jan 44

Bn Hq & Company CP's remain unchanged.
 Hq & Serv Co: Servicing and repairing Bn. vehicles. Operating shower unit at Telese W.P. Held inspection in ranks in afternoon. General EAGLES was present and spot checked.
 "A" Co: 2nd platoon constructed footbridge across Volturmo River below Faicchio. Balance of company cleaning up.
 "B" Co: Day spent in cleaning up. Held small arms inspection in afternoon.
 "C" Co: Continued installing Bailey Bridge West of Amorosi.

Period 0001 to 2400 16 Jan 44.

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.
 Hq & Serv Co: Continuing servicing and repairing Bn vehicles. Each Section cleaning up and checking its needs.
 "A" Co: Usual bivouac duties.
 "B" Co: Lt FIELDS and 3rd platoons improved by pass West of S. Salvatore.
 "C" Co: Completed installing Bailey Bridge West of Amorosi

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Period 0001 to 2400 17 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Co CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co: Preparing shortage of Engr dump. Brought D-7 from Engr contact platoon.

Co "A": 2nd platoon continued work on foot-bridge at Faicchio. 1st platoon had 1st squad constructing stage platform at San Salvatore behind school house. 3rd platoon - no activity.

Co "B": Lt CLODFELTER & 2nd platoon maintained by pass in Amorosi, Telese, S. Salvatore Triangle. Sgt Oranjo & Squad constructed stage for 180th Inf.

Co "C": Company loaded extra parts of Bridge & transported to Engr. Dump.

Period 0001 to 2400 18 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co: Co. hauling bridge timber back to E27, not used for Bailey Bridge.

"A" Co: Co. carried out training schedule.

"B" Co: Platoons following schedule published by Bn S-3. Sgt Staton & 1 squad maintained by passes, in Telese, Amorosi, S. Salvatore triangle.

"C" Co: Company cleaned & repaired equipment. 1st platoon rehearsed for award ceremony.

Period 0001 to 2400 19 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Company CP's remained unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co: 1st Platoon attended citation ceremony at San Salvatore. Radio section installing radios in Bn command cars.

Co "A": No activity. Co. carried out training schedule.

Co "B": Sgt Oranjo & squad repaired timber bridge at Telese. Rest of company training as per Bn schedule. Lt HARTNAGEL & T/5 Hauer, Mat L. - were presented the Silver Star Medal at Bn ceremonies by Division Commander.

Co "C": Silver Star awarded to S/Sgt Corella & Pvt Smouse by General EAGLES. Personnel inspection by staff at 1330. Street of Faicchio cleared of debris by squad of 1st platoon.

Period 0001 to 2400 20 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Company CP's remains unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co: Part of company attended sex morality lecture given by Capt STOWERS.

Co "A": Company carried on training schedule.

Co "B": Lt COHEN, Lt FIELDS and 58 EM departed from Company to join 179th RCT in Naples staging area. 1st & 2nd Platoon training per Bn schedule.

Co "C": Rest & clean-up personnel & ordnance inspection by staff at 1600.

Period 0001 to 2400 21 Jan 44

Bn Hq & Company CP's remain unchanged.

Hq & Serv Co: Co. alerted for movement. All of company packing and loading Engr dump. Site for barracks bags to be stored designated at Bn Hq.

Co "A": No activity.

Co "B": No Engr duties preformed. Entire company training per Battalion schedule.

Co "C": Physical exercise, Sex morality, Articles of War, close order drill. Co. alerted & prepared for movement.

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Period 0001 to 2400 22 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Co CP's remain unchanged.
 Hq & Serv Co: Company preparing for movement. Engr dump loaded & part being stored in San Salvatore. Barracks bags stored at San Salvatore. Motor Pool completed servicing Bn vehicles. Shower at Telese pulled out.
 "A" Co: Co. prepared for movement.
 "B" Co: Co. prepared for movement.
 "C" Co: Co. alerted. Prepared for movement.

Period 0001 to 2400 23 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Co CP's remain unchanged.
 H&S Co: Co standing by preparing for movement.
 "A" Co: No change.
 "B" Co: Co. ready to depart by motor. Orders not yet received as to what hour we depart.
 "C" Co: Co. in alert. Standing by for orders to move. 3rd platoon is attached to 180th Inf.

Period 0001 to 2400 24 Jan 44

Bn Hq and Co CP's moved by motor to approximately eight miles north of Naples and 4 miles south of Marcianese.
 H&S Co: Company passes IP at 19:10, arrived in new area at 21:30 located in staging area.
 "A" Co: Company moved to new area at 1900; entire company, less half tracks and Bulldozer. Camp set up.
 "B" Co: Company moved to new area, by motor approximatedly 35 miles. Usual bivouac duties performed. Left old CP at 1930, arrived new CP at about 2130.
 "C" Co: Prepared for movement. Moved by convoy at 1920, arrived at 2130 at new area. Established C.P.

Period 0001 to 2400 25 Jan 44

Bn Hq & Company CP's remain in staging area. Coor. N229640.
 H&S Co: Company getting equipment together. Vehicles being serialized.
 "A" Co: No report, but left this area to join 157 Inf in their area to prepare for a move to the loading area at the docks.
 "B" Co: Entire company less 3rd platoon in staging area awaiting to embark for destination unknown.
 "C" Co: Established bivouac area in staging area. Getting equipment together.

Period 0001 to 2400 26 Jan 44

Bn CP closed at S. Salvatore and moved out at 1700 to Assembly Area on the outskirts of Bagnolia.
 All companies closed CP's and moved to forward assembly area.
 Co "A": Left Bn Control and attached to 157 Inf.
 1 Platoon Co "C" attached to 180 Inf.
 1 Platoon Co B attached to 179 Inf.
 Remainder of Company under Bn Control.

Period 0001 to 2400 27 Jan 44

Advance elements of Bn Staff & Co "B" left forward assembly area at 1400 for Staging area located at Nisidia. Rear Element of H&S Co & Co "C" less one platoon located at staging area outskirts of Part of Pozzvoli.

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By MG/NARA Date 1/16/10

Period 0001 to 2400 28 Jan 44

Bn Staff & Forward Element Boarded LST #4515 at 1430. Rear Elements under Capt LYLE boarded LST #4519 at 1830.

Period 0001 to 2400 29 Jan 44

Aboard LST's. No unusual activity. Unmolested by Enemy aircraft. Co "A" debarked at Port of Ausio with the 157 Inf and bivouaced 3 miles North of Nettuno.

Period 0001 to 2400 30 Jan 44

Forward Element debarked at 0300 and marched to CP area set up at 905190. Rear element of H&S Co debarked at 1100 & found Bn Staff in CP area. Co "B" debarked with forward element & Co "C" with rear element. CP's set up and usual duties performed. Water Point set up 913199. Lt MYERS hurt in an automobile accident and Hospitalized on Jan 28, 1944. Lt PICKET, H&S Co, assumes temporary duty as Bn Water Supply officer. Co "B" leaves Bn control and is attached to the 179th Inf ROT.

Period 0001 to 2400 31 Jan 44

Bn CP same location.
H&S Co CP same location. Opened W.P. at 982148 in A.M. and closed again in the evening. Now maintaining two W.P.'s at 918205 and 873238. Co. encountered much difficulty in moving into area, which was in the center of the Pontine marshes. Sent 3 trucks out to haul mines and wire for the infantry.
Co "A": CP moved at 1400 to 848261. Entire Company attached to the 157 Inf. Corduroyed three bad spots in road 835263 to 813250 and improved road. Also improved road 857240 to 848271.
Co "B": CP moved to 988153. Entire Company attached to 179 Inf. 3rd platoon rejoined Company. P/5 Carson KIA by flak on Jan 28 while manning a .50 Cal M.G. and hospitalized. P/5 Thigpen awarded a purple Heart Medal.
Co "C": CP same location. 1st and 2nd platoons unloaded ammunition at Port of Ausio. Two platoons under Bn Control. 1 Platoon, Lt BRIDGES, attached to 180 Inf. Lt BRIDGES called at 2030 for 150 AP mines and 6000 yards of Concestina to be placed in 180th area, center of the beach head area on a 2000 yard front.

OFFICIAL:

Lewis G. Frantz
LEWIS G. FRANTZ
Lt Col CE
Commanding

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Authority NND 735017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10C O N F I D E N T I A LHEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION COMMANDER

CHD/dlw

APO 45,
US Army
5 Feb 44

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM)

Number

4)

1. Following is a summary of operations of this Battalion for January 1944:

I. Period: January 1st to January 7th.

Co A maintained the Casale road and constructed peep trail for 157th Inf.

Co B maintained and improved the Filignano-Casale road.

Co C improved 16 by-passes and constructed a three span timber bridge in the vicinity of San Potito-Telese area in preparation for movement of Division to rest area.

H&S Co maintained Engr Dump and water points; operated a shower unit in Venafro; performed usual service functions.

II. Period: January 8th to January 17th:

Co A was relieved of duties in Casale sector by the French Engrs of 3rd DIA. Maintained road from Piedimonte to San Salvatore; constructed two stages for Division shows; constructed foot bridge at Flacchio by-pass; 4 day period of rest and clean-up.

Co B was relieved of duties in Casale sector by French Engrs; maintained roads and bridges in San Salvatore-Telese-Amorosi sector; constructed stage for the 180th Inf; four day period of rest and clean-up.

Co C constructed 200 ft. two-span triple single Bailey bridge across the Volturno River near Amorosi. The difficulty problem of a center pier was solved by the construction of a 26 foot timber tower on the partially destroyed stone pier in the center of the river.

H&S Co performed usual service functions with stress on the maintainance of the Battalion vehicles; operated two shower units near Telese and Gioia for the use of the Division personnel.

III. Period: January 18th to 20th:

Co A training according to Division directive.

Co B same as above.

Co C resting and cleanup of equipment.

H&S Co continued with work of previous period.

IV. Period January 21st to January 31st:

Co A prepared and moved by sea to Nettuno-Anzio sector; attached to the 157th Inf for the move and following operations; moved with the 157th Inf into defens sector on left flank of beach-head line.

Co B prepared and moved by sea to Nettuno-Anzio sector; one platoon attached to 179th Inf for move and subsequent operations; planned to establish barrier line for 179th Inf along right flank of beach-head along Mussolini Canal.

Co C preparation and movement by sea to Nettuno-Anzio sector; one platoon attached to 180th Inf for move and subsequent operations; provided ammunition handling detail for the VI corps at Anzio.

(1)

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OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM NO. 4 (cont'd)

H&S Co: preparation and movement by sea to Nettuno-Anzio sector; TBA engr dump in Battalion area; extra Engr supplies drawn directly from Corps dump; performed usual Battalion service functions.

V. Water Supply summary:

- a. Production for month: 1,223,235 gallons
- b. Production to date : 6,156,275 gallons (In Italy)

VI. Casualties incurred:

Two enlisted men wounded in action.

VII. Summary of work performed:

- a. Miles of road constructed: 4 miles
- b. Miles of road maintained : 12 miles

For the Battalion Commander:

Charles H Derr

CHARLES H DERR

1st Lt CE

S-3

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Authority NND 735017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10**C O N F I D E N T I A L**HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION COMMANDER

JFB/dlw

APO 45,
US Army
2 Feb 44

SUBJECT: Battle Casualty Report

TO : AGO, 45th Inf Div, APO 45, US Army

1. Following is a list of casualties incurred by this Battalion
For the month of January 1944:Wounded In ActionTechnician 5th Grade BEN GERSON 36046069
Private MARTIN J McCARTY 32257762Killed In Action

None

For the Battalion Commander:

James F Bezemek
JAMES F BEZEMEK
C apt CE
Adjutant**C O N F I D E N T I A L**

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Authority NND 735017
By MGT NARA Date 1/16/10**C O N F I D E N T I A L**HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION COMMANDERAPO 45,
US Army
5 February 44

SUBJECT: Water Output Report

TO : AGO, 45th Inf Div, APO 45, US Army

1. Following is a summary of the total amount of water distributed from five (5) water points for the month of January 1944:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Point 27</u>	<u>Point 28</u>	<u>Point 29</u>	<u>Point 30</u>	<u>Point 31</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Jan 1	0	73435				73435
2	1935	81600				83535
3	13965	67355	1555			82875
4	785	62935	2935			66655
5		60500	5010			65510
6		56155	5650			61805
7		62195	8570	1285		72050
8		60365	8155	3370		71890
9		56555	12650	4880		74085
10		59405	18710	8890		85005
11		43155	15290	12175		70620
12		30465	14050	9910		54425
13			17755	9315		27070
14			17450	10335		27785
15			18460	13270		31730
16			18235	9230		27465
17			20810	13515		34325
18			20345	13690		34035
19			15710	11410		27120
20			16395	14625		31020
21			14220	9925		24145
22			10980	12810		23790
23			11150	6410		17560
24			18470	7450		25920
25			4580		18690	23270
26						
27						
28						
29						
30						
31				6110		6110

Point No 32.

Point No	27.	16685		
	28.	714120		
	29.	295135		
	30.	172495		
	31.	18690		
	32.	6110		
Total			1223235	1223235

For the Battalion Commander:

WILLIAM C PICKET
2nd Lt CE
Act'g Water Supply Officer

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Authority NND 735017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION COMMANDER

GAF/dlw

APO 45,
US Army
2 Feb 44

SUBJECT: Materiel Issued From Engineer Dump

TO : AGO, 45th Inf Div, APO 45, US Army

1. Following is a list of materiel issued from the Engineer Dump
120th Engineer Combat Battalion for the month of January 1944:

Ammunition Cal .50 AP M-2 & tracer M-1 linked	530 rounds
Axe, chopping	9 each
Acetylene	3 tanks
Bolt machine sq. hd. sq nut 5/8 x 18	80 each
Bangalore, torpedoes	305 each
Bags, sand	11,550 each
Caps, electric	6376 each
Caps, non-electric	740 each
Concertinas	331 Rolls
Cord, detonating	6030 ft.
Cable, wire 1/2"	1000 ft.
Cable, wire 5/8"	500 ft.
Device, firing, release type M1, complete	80
Device, firing, pressure type M-1 complete	3125
Device, firing, pull type, M-1 complete	645
Device, firing, delay type, M-1 complete	1110
Fuse, time	1800
I beams 6" x 8" to 20"	54
Lumber, 2 x 4 x 14	100 pcs
2 x 12 x 12	52 pcs
3 x 12 x 12	250 pcs
3 x 12 x 16	432 pcs
3 x 8 x 12	410 pcs
6 x 6 x 16	162 pcs
6 x 8 x 16	14 pcs
6 x 6 x 8 plus	6 pcs
8 x 8 x 20	40 pcs
Grenades, hand, incendiary	15 ea
Grenades, HE, AT	176 ea
Grenades, hand, frg, MKii w/fuse	99 ea
Lighters, fuse	140
Mines, AT	4795
Mines, AP	68
Machine, blasting, 10 cap capacity	1
Mattock, picks	8
Matting, steel, summerfelt	20 rolls
Nails, 8d	115 lbs.
10 d	117 lbs.
16 d	100 lbs.
20 d	20 lbs
30 d	120 lbs
40 d	700 lbs
60 d	900 lbs
Nitrate	880 lbs
Oxygen	5 tanks
Pins, drift	200 each

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By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

Materiel Report (cont'd)

Pickets, screw, anchor	2250 each
Pickets, screw, long	1150 each
Pipe, corrugated, 24" x 20'	1
Rope, manilla 3 3/4"	2300 ft
Rope, manilla 1"	500 ft
Reel, wire, portable	1
Saw, crosscut, 36" one man	2
Shovel, rd pt. g.p. d-hdl	11
Terneplate	25
Tape, tracing	26 rolls
TNT	4200 lbs
Wire, barbed	82 rolls
Wire, #9	4 rolls
Wire, #16	2 rolls

For the Battalion Commander:

George A. Ferguson
 GEORGE A. FERGUSON
 WOJG,
 Ass't S-4

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Authority NND 135017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

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/jwh(AG)

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO #45 U S ARMY

: **SECRET**
:Auth: CG 45 Div
:Initials: DBK
:Date: 16 Mar 44
: : : : : : : : :

314.7

16 March 1944

Subject: Transmittal of Organization History.

To : Commanding General, VI Corps, APO 306, U. S. Army.

Transmitted herewith operations report of the 120th Engineer Battalion, this command, for the period 1 February 1944 to 29 February 1944, inclusive.

For the Commanding General:

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
CANCELLED
BY 105 24/46
OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND GRADING COMMITTEE

Donald B Konoover
DONALD B KONOVER
Capt AGD
Asst Adj Gen

- Operations rpt, 120th Engr Bn
- 1 Feb 44 - 29 Feb 44 (in quad)
- Annex #1 to rpt- S-2 Journal
- Annex #2 to rpt- Water Supply rpt (in quad)
- Annex #3 to rpt- Engineer Dump Rpt (in quad)
- Annex #4 to rpt- Casualty rpt (in quad)
- Annex #5 to rpt- Operations Memorandum #5 (in quad)
- Annex #6 to rpt- Demolition preparations Overlay (in quad)
- Annex #7 to rpt- Reserve Line Organization Overlay (in quad)
- Annex #8 to rpt- Intelligence Summaries W/overlays (in quad)
- Annex #9 to rpt- Overlays.

AG 314.7 (120th Engr Bn)
(16 Mar 44) 1st Ind.
HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS, APO 306, U.S. Army. 18 March 1944

WEH/ag

TO: Commanding General, Fifth Army, APO 464, U. S. Army.

1 Incl: (Trip)
Copy withdrawn

S E C R E T

W.E.H.

*345-ENG-0.3
Open Rpt - Italian Campaign - 120th Engr C Bn - 45th Inf Div
1-29 Feb 44 made*

173-19-35

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Authority NND 735017

By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

STAFF JOURNAL AND

BATTALION HISTORY FOR

FEBRUARY 1944.

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Authority NND 135017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

Period 0001 to 2400 1 February 1944:

Bn CP same location.

H&S Co CP same location. Serviced and repaired vehicles of the Battalion. Improved road in CP area. Sent two trucks and one squad of men to haul AT and AP mines to troops in forward areas.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Attached to the 157th Inf. Improved and maintained 157th road net - 856240-848271-813150. Lt Gordon made reconnaissance to 812273.

Co "B" CP moved to 902196. Relieved from attachment to the 179th Inf. Lt Postas and 1st platoon and Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon maintained road and improved it by filling shell holes from 935270-914283.

Co "C" CP unchanged. 1st and 2nd platoons improved the division road net. the third platoon attached to the 180th Inf, placed concertinas on the 180th Inf front.

Period 0001 to 2400 2 February 1944:

Bn CP same location.

At 0830 Capt Lowe left for Div Hq and 3rd Div Hq to ascertain the tactical situation and inquire if any Engineer work was required.

H&S Co CP same location. Lt Picket left on a water reconnaissance to discover possible sites for water points. Enemy shells landed in area during the night. Crew maintained road leading in the Co Bivouac area.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Area suffered heavy bombardment during the night. Pvs Nelson and Martas wounded by shrapnel and hospitalized. Pfc Lowrey suffered severe concussion in same attack and was also hospitalized. Co attached to the 157th Inf. Lt Rickey and the 1st platoon continued maintenance of the 157th Inf road net. Lt Smith and the 2nd platoon constructed 40 yards of Sommerfelt matting, detoured road and cut a new one all on the 157th Inf road net. Lt Cooper and the 3rd platoon carried on maintenance of road net from CP to 851256 thru to Cisternia Highway.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Postas and 1st platoon and Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon gravelling and improving roads from 916283-940270 and 910197-903204. Road in very poor condition and can only be worked on at night due to enemy observation.

Co "C" CP unchanged. 1 platoon, the third, attached to the 180th Inf. Aided in constructing defensive line along line 942279-920287. Other two platoons improving road net in area 910197-923210-895230.

Water point opened at 815247.

Period 0001 to 2400 3 February 1944 :

Bn CP Same Location

H&S Co CP unchanged. Sent four trucks to haul concertinas for the Inf. One squad maintaining road into bivouac area. Lt Picket made water reconnaissance down to airport on coast road.

Co "A" CP unchanged. At 1000 moved to new area at 834260. Company maintained and improved 157th Inf road net. Co still attached to the 157th Inf.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon hauled gravel for road 935270-914283 during the day. Lt Postas and 1st platoon, Lt Clodfelter and the 2nd platoon maintained and improved the above road during the night.

Co "C" CP unchanged. 3rd platoon reverted back to Co Control at 1900. Assisted in laying defenses in the 180th Inf sector by placing concertinas. Other two platoons improved division road net and maintained road 924210-903227.

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By MGT NARA Date 1/16/10

Period 0001 to 2400 4 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Motor maintenance crew servicing battalion vehicles.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Lt Rickey and 1st platoon assisted 1st Bn 157th Inf in laying concertinas and barbed wire during night. Lt Smith and 2nd platoon, Lt Cooper and 3rd platoon carried on maintenance of 157th Inf road net. Co remained attached to 157th Inf.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Postas and 1st platoon, Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon worked on maintenance of road 935270-914283. Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon maintained road at 936267 and constructed a treadway bridge at 925262 to assist the Field Artillery.

Co "C" same location. Repairing and surfacing road running NW from Erecancelli. 1 platoon assisted the 179th Inf in laying concertinas in front of the 179th positions.

Period 0001 to 2400 5 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Hauling gravel and repairing road in CP area.

Co A CP unchanged. During day, all platoons aided the 157th Inf to set up defensive positions by laying barbed wire concertinas. During the night, continued maintenance of 157th Inf road net.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon maintained and improved road 915261-935269. Lt Postas and 1st platoon and Lt Cohen and 2nd platoon assisted the 179th Inf in wiring in positions: Laid concertinas. Also laid treadway over existing bridge at 927263.

Co C CP unchanged. Continued improvement of road 904228-917245-940270, leading into 180th Inf CP.

Period 0001 to 2400 6 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Bn CP area underwent enemy air attack at 0500. No casualties. One squad maintaining road into area.

Co "A" CP unchanged. 1st and 3rd platoons inactive. Lt Smith and the 2nd platoon continued maintenance of the 157th Inf road net. Company still attached to 157th Inf.

Co "B" CP same location. Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon maintaining and improving road 915261 to 935269. Lt Postas and 1st platoon, Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon, maintaining road net in vicinity of Campeviarte.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Company improved and maintained road 904228-917245-940270 leading into the 180th Inf CP. 3rd platoon maintained road during the night. Also assisted the 451st AA into position.

Period 0001 to 2400 7 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged

H&S Co CP unchanged. Co sent four trucks to haul concertinas to forward areas.

Co A CP unchanged. Lt Rickey and 1st platoon repaired roads from 815240-857242. Lt Smith and 2nd platoon repaired roads 812250-842267. Lt Cooper, 3rd platoon built shell proof shelter for 157th Inf Hq. All roads in 157th sector. Co still attached to 157th Inf.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Postas and 1st platoon maintained and improved road

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By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

from 915261-935260. Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon, Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon, maintaining and improving road net in vicinity of Campomarto.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Lt Bridges and detail of 6 men assisted the 179th Inf in preparation of switchback position at 8231-8629. Rest of company continued improvement of road 904228-917245-940279, 180th Inf road net.

Period 0001 to 2400 8 February 1944:

Bn CP remains unchanged.

CP area shelled all day. S-4 tent struck by shell and demolished. There were no casualties.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Still attached to the 157th Inf. Lt Rickey and 1st platoon continued repairs on road 815240-857242. Lt Smith and 2nd platoon continued repairs on road 812254-842267. Lt Cooper and 3rd platoon finished bomb-proof shelter for 157th Inf Hq.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon maintained and improved road 935270-914283. Lt Postas and 1st platoon worked with Co C in maintaining and improving road from 936267-925262. Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon did general maintenance work on road net near Campomarto. Pvt Burke wounded but not hospitalized. Enemy planes over area all day dropping bombs, but there were no casualties.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Company continued improvement of road 904228-917245-920252.

Period 0001 to 2400 9 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged.

Co A CP unchanged. Co attached to 157th Inf. Continued maintenance of roads and trails in 157th Inf sector.

Co B CP unchanged. Company continued improvement of road net in Campomarto area.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Company continued improvement of road 904228-917245-940270. 3rd platoon attached to 180th Inf at 1800.

Period 0001 to 2400 10 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Normal Service functions.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Company continued maintenance of 157th Inf Road net. Area raided by enemy airplanes which dropped anti-personnel bombs. Pfc Livingstone and Pvt Griego wounded and hospitalized.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Cohen and 2 MM made reconnaissance for bridge in vicinity of Campomarto. Lt Fields and third platoon hauled gravel during the night for road 915261-935269. Lt Clodfelter and 2nd platoon worked on above road. Lt Postas and 1st platoon set up a simple stringer bridge in 171st FA Bn area.

Co C CP unchanged. Co continued maintenance and improvement of road in 180th Inf sector.

Period 0001 to 2400 11 February 1944

Bn CP same location.

CP area shelled intermittently during the day. No casualties.

H&S Co CP same location. Provisional platoon constructing road and turn-around into Quartermaster dump.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Still attached to 157th Inf. Lt Smith and 2nd platoon Lt Cooper and 3rd platoon maintaining 157th Inf road net.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon, Lt Williams and 2nd platoon maintained road from 941269-916283. This road is of the utmost importance as it is the only lateral road that extends all along the MLR. Lt Postas and 1st platoon maintained road from 936269 to treadway bridge at 926262.

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By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

Co "C" CP unchanged. 1st and 2nd platoons maintaining same road in the 180th Inf sector. 3rd platoon furnished 16 man detail to guard 4 bridges in the forward areas, which have been prepared for demolition. Remainder of platoon assisted Co "B" in maintaining road along railroad bed.

Capt McClernon, S-4 for the Battalion, is relieved of duty and assigned to Fifth Army City Administration Section. Capt Lyle takes over duty as Bn S-4. Lt Picket assumes temporary command of H&S Co.

Period 0001 to 2400 12 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged. Area underwent severe enemy air attack at 2100 and was shelled intermittently throughout the day. There were no casualties.

H&S CP unchanged. The provisional platoon under M/Sgt Foster repairing and maintaining road in QM area. Another crew maintaining road in CP area.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Lt Rickey and 1st platoon maintained 157th Inf road net during the night. Also assisted 1st Bn to lay barbed wire. Lt Cooper and 3rd platoon also continued maintenance of road net.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon prepared three bridges for demolition in the 179th Inf sector. Lt Williams and 2nd platoon maintained road 941269-916282 by placing rock on road. Improved trail 926263-909250. Lt Postas and 1st platoon blasted rock at rock quarry to maintain the above roads.

Co "C" CP unchanged. 1st and 2nd platoons and part of the 3rd platoon improved trails at 909250-903258-918282-910271-926253. Assisted Co B in graveling road 918282-940270. 3rd platoon attached to the 180th Inf drained road 918282-940270 preliminary to graveling operation by Co B. Provided bridge guard to 180th Inf.

Period 0001 to 2400 13 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged. Bn area shelled intermittently during the day. No casualties.

Co A CP unchanged. Attached to 157th Inf. Lt Rickey and 1st platoon aided the 157th Inf in laying wire during the night. Maintained roads and trails in the 157th Inf sector during the day.

Co B CP unchanged. Lt Postas and 1st platoon, Lt Williams and 2nd platoon maintained and improved road 946235-935269. Lt Hartnagel and Co Hq section, hauled gravel and road matter for the above road.

Co C CP unchanged. 1st, 2nd and 25 men from the 3rd platoon maintained road 910271-926273-940270. 16 men from the 3rd platoon attached to the 180th Inf, furnished a bridge guard for them.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Provisional platoon gravelled trails in QM area vicinity 889183. Also gravelled access road to WP at 916202.

Period 0001 to 2400 14 February 1944:

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S CP unchanged. Provisional platoon improved entrance to WP at 919202.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Lt Smith and 2nd platoon maintained roads in 2nd Bn 157th Inf area. Lt Cooper and 3rd platoon maintained road net in 157th Inf area.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt Postas and 1st platoon, Lt Williams and 2nd platoon, Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon maintained and improved road from 936268-945234. Brush and debris is being thrown on road and Summer Felt matting are laid.

Co C CP unchanged. Lt Meyers, Pvt Gallegos awarded the Purple Heart. Company continue work on 180th Inf road. Also worked on road into the 143rd FA area. Lt Bridges and 3rd platoon constructed foot bridge over canal for 180th Inf. 3rd platoon maintained guard at bridges prepared for demolition.

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By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

Period 0001 to 2400 15 February 1944

Bn CP unchanged.

Area shelled all day. Planes over at 1700 and shelled the area heavily for 30 minutes. Enemy plane crashed in H&S CP area. Sporadic Artillery fire throughout the day.

H&S CP same location. Provisional platoon from Co. blasting rock on road 906191 - 902189. Enemy plane crashed 50 yards from CP at 1820. Identified as a JU-88.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Relieved from attachment to 157 Inf. Reverted to Bn Control. Aided the 158 & 180 FA to move guns into position. Lt SMITH and 2nd platoon maintained road net vicinity of 845285. Lt SMITH made road reconnaissance of road net 875268 - 888283. Lt COOPER & 3rd platoon built shell proof shelter for 157 Inf CP. Co area immediate vicinity bombed & anti-personnel bombs dropped beginning 0400. No casualties.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt POSTAS & 1st platoon, Lt WILLIAMS & 2nd platoon, Lt COHEN & 3rd platoon, less one squad, maintained & improved road from 936268 - 945234. More of the road was improved by laying Sommerfelt Matting on it after brush had been spread on road bed. Platoons working on road were strafed twice by enemy planes but no casualties were inflicted. Also prepared bridges at 877318, 886306, 892318 for demolition.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Co less 3rd platoon improved trail 910271 - 926263 - 940270. 3rd platoon attached to 180 Inf furnished bridge guards to 180 Inf.

Period 0001 to 2400 16 February 1944

Bn CP unchanged.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Provisional platoon placed rock on road 906191-902189. Area of CP shelled and Pvt Barbalinaldo struck by shrapnel in left leg.

Co "A" CP unchanged. 1st platoon assisted 157 Inf in digging in new positions. Remainder of Co opened trail from 835263 - 847271 - 854289 for possible use as supply route.

Co "B" CP same location. Entire Company, maintained & improved road from 936268 - 945234. Lt WILLIAMS demolished bridge 898318. Capt TAUSCHER and five EM demolished two bridges 899296 & 911288. More Sommerfelt matting was spread on road. Company working under fire and being strafed by enemy planes.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Co. less 3rd platoon, improved trails 910271 - 926263 - 940270 and 904227 - 926263. 3rd platoon attached to 180 Inf furnished bridge guard; also assisted Co "C" on road work. T/5 Burress and T/5 Smith wounded by shrapnel on back, arms & legs and hospitalized. Pfc Salinebene & Pvt Zyskowski struck by shrapnel in back but not hospitalized.

Period 0001 to 2400 17 February 1944

Bn CP unchanged.

Area shelled all day and raided by enemy planes at 0500 and 1500.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Co Area under almost constant artillery shelling during early part of morning. Lt JOHNSON, Lt RICKEY & 1st platoon continued maintenance of 157 Inf road net 847271 - 854289. Lt COOPER and 3rd platoon maintained road 857241 - 890233.

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By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

Co "B" CP unchanged. Lt WILLIAMS & 2nd platoon, Lt COHEN & 3rd platoon, Lt POSTAS and 1st platoon maintained & improved trail 936268 - 945234. While platoons were working on road the enemy laid down a heavy concentration of Artillery. No casualties. Enemy planes also strafed working platoons. Lt WILLIAMS & 1st platoon demolished bridges at 836306 - 905290. Also furnished bridge guard to 179 Inf.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Continued improvement of trail 904227 - 926263. Third platoon attached to 180 Inf, furnished bridge guard to 180 Inf. Pvt. J. Miller wounded in cheek by shrapnel but not hospitalized.

H&S Co CP unchanged. Provisional platoon placed rock on road 906191 - 902189.

Period 0001 to 2400 18 February 1944

Bn CP unchanged.

At 1000 a Special Order and overlay was received from Division committing this Bn to set up defenses on the front. A Forward Engineer dump was set up 896249. We are to coordinate with 1st Bn 157 Inf.

H&S CP unchanged. Provisional platoon completed hauling concestina, mines and sand bags to forward Engr dump at 896249. Furnished 28 man detail for security Patrol in front of 179 Inf Reserve positions. Provisional platoon also placed rock on road 906191 - 902189. This was the first occasion that H&S Co was ever called upon to function as Infantry patrol.

Co "A" CP moved at 1600 to 898197. All platoons worked on maintainance of 157 Inf road net 891241 - 867260. At 2200 3rd platoon sent out a 20 man security patrol behind the 179 Inf Reserve line to prevent enemy infiltration and stragglers.

Co "B" CP same location. All platoons worked constructing a secondary line of defense for a Battalion. Concertinas were laid and gun emplacements dug. Wire was hauled by company. All Company heavy weapons were put in a dump in rear of MGR to be ready if needed. Company worked all night under constant enemy shelling. One 2½ ton truck received a direct hit.

Co "C" CP same location. Co. less 3rd platoon continued improvement of trail 904227 - 926263. Constructed treadway bridge at 926261. 3rd platoon attached to 180 Inf furnished bridge guard to 180 Inf.

Period 0001 to 2400 19 February 1944

Bn CP same location.

H&S CP unchanged. Provisional platoon maintaining security patrol for the 179 Inf.

Co "A" CP same location. Lt RICHKEY and 1st platoon maintaining road 853241 - 854289 at 0700. Lt SMITH & 2nd platoon were preparing to move to present bivouac area when they were caught in an enemy bombing raid. S/Sgt Pasowicz and T/5 Lucero were seriously injured & hospitalized. After bombing platoon moved to present CP area. Lt SMITH & 2nd platoon laid barbed wire for AA reserves on front lines. Lt COOPER & 3rd platoon in support of 179 Inf helped evacuate wounded for the 157 Inf.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Pvt Aragon killed in action; Cpl Aguirre, Pfc Lindiner wounded in action from shrapnel hospitalized. Pvt Sawyer attached from 504 Prochte Regt wounded & hospitalized & Pvt Colwell attached Medic wounded but not hospitalized. S/Sgt Kolodziejczyk hit by shrapnel on 18 Feb but not hospitalized.

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By MGT NARA Date 1/16/10

All platoons moved during the night to prepare defense positions 1 and 2 behind 179 Inf Sector (see attached overlay). A 2½ Ton truck destroyed from enemy shellfire.

Co "C" CP same location. Co. less 3rd platoon, continued improvement of trail 904227 - 926263. Third platoon furnished bridge guard to 180 Inf remainder of platoon helped company on road work.

Lt Col FRANTZ returned from Engr VI Corps. 120 Engrs Bn will prepare all reserve defense positions behind 179 & 180 sectors. 400 men from AA units available for labor. Co "A" to lay out positions 3 and 7. Co "B" positions 1, 2 and 4.

Period 0001 to 2400 20 February 1944

By CP unchanged.

Enemy air attack during the morning and in the evening. No casualties.

At 1530 ~~Company~~ ^{Battle group} was alerted to occupy position #4 by dark to-night.

At 1600 all companies were notified to abandon all Engineer work, except one platoon of Co "A" working on road 853241 - 854289 & bridge guards from 3rd platoon Company "C", and move into defensive position #4. Forward Bn CP opened at 909250. Forward element left for CP. All staff except S-1 & wire crew & phone operators.

H&S CP unchanged. Provisional platoon furnishing security patrol in front of 179 Inf reserve positions.

Co "A" CP moved forward to defense position #2. Lt RICHKEY & 1st platoon improved & maintained trail 853241 - 854289. Rest of Co. furnished officers & NCO's as supervisors on construction of defensive position 3 and 4. These two platoons moved at dark with Bn to occupy position #4.

Co "B" CP moved to 913259. During daylight prepared defensive positions 1, 2 & 7. Company released from Normal Engineer duties. Assumed defense in rear of 179 Inf. Company moved by truck to within one mile from where the positions were dug. Company is covering about a 400 yard front. Occupied position #4 at dark.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Lt BRIDGES demolished bridge at 914310. Furnished bridge guard to 180 Inf. Maintained 180 Inf road. Moved at dark and occupied defensive position #4.

Period 0001 to 2400 21 February 1944

Bn CP same location. Bn area suffered its heaviest air attack to day. Planes started coming over at 2000 and bombed the area until 2100. A parachute was seen to fall and upon investigation was found to be a flare.

H&S CP unchanged. Provisional platoon from Co. Relieved from duty as security patrol.

Work on defensive positions 3, 4 & 7 were turned over to the 39 Engrs and Bn was relieved from occupying position No. 4 at 0930. Then ordered to prepare defensive positions 1, 2 & 5. Positions were assigned as follows: #1 to Co "B", #2 to Co "A" and #5 to Co "C". These positions are to be occupied at dark to-night.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Lts RICHKEY & JOHNSON & 1st platoon maintained & improved road 848277 NE to Highway for 157 Inf. Occupied defense position #2 at dark.

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By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

Co "B" CP moved at 1000 in Vicinity of defense position #1. One squad from each platoon laid another strand of Concertina wire in front of position. T/5 Barrett and T/5 Ake were lightly wounded by shrapnel and not hospitalized. Occupied defense position #1 at dark.

Co "C" CP moved to 868253 Vicinity of defense position #5. Detail from 2nd platoon demolished a windmill tower at 902260 which the enemy had been using as an aiming point. General EAGLES had called previously in the evening and had requested the tower to be demolished. Lt BRIDGES and detail worked with the 180 Inf. Pvt Mastinez wounded in right foot by shrapnel & hospitalized.

Period 0001 to 2400 22 February 1944

Both the Forward & Rear Bn CP's unchanged.

Co "C" CP unchanged. Occupied position #5 until noon when it moved into position #6 and prepared it. At 1530 Company occupied position as Infantry. The third platoon of Co "C" still maintaining road 853241 - 854289 in support of 157 Inf. One platoon furnished bridge guards to the 180 Inf. Lt BRIDGES and squad laid a minefield in Vicinity of 915285.

Advance & Rear CP's of Co "B" unchanged. Entire Company occupied position #1 during the day. A minefield was laid about 200 yards in front of wiring. Orders received at 1900 to abandon positions # 1 and take up position #2. Company occupied new position and improved same by improving gun positions and clearing fields of fire. Enemy laid down an Artillery barrage in front of positions, (All night, but there were no casualties incurred). The company is being moved from one position to another to give close support to our MLR in case of an enemy break-through.

Co "A" CP's unchanged. Lt RICKEY & JOHNSON and 1st platoon continued improvement of road in 157 Inf sector in support of 3rd Bn 157 Inf. Other platoons occupied defensive position #2 during the night.

Bn CP area was quiet through out the day and night. There were no air attacks and little artillery. The Companies occupying the defensive positions were shelled heavily through-out the day & night.

Capt CHALSTROM was placed on TD with the third Bn 157 Inf Med Det.

Period 0001 to 2400 23 February 1944

Bn Forward & Rear CP's unchanged.

H&S CP same location. Provisional platoon under Lt SIMMONS from Co "A", built two culverts for the 645 TD Bn.

Co "A" CP unchanged. Lt RICKEY and 1st platoon continued maintainance of road in support of 157 Inf from 848277 NE to Highway. 2nd & third platoons remained in defensive position #2. During an enemy barrage, Pvt Della Grotta was wounded and hospitalized.

Co "B" CP unchanged. Entire Company still occupying defensive position #2. The enemy laying down a heavy mortar and Artillery barrage all day but there were no casualties.

Co "C" occupying defensive position #5 all day.

The 39th Engineers are taking over all work on the other positions.

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By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

Period 0001 to 2400 24 February 1944

Bn & Co CP's same location.

At 1200 Bn was relieved from occupation of defensive positions and ordered back to old area to continue normal Engineer duties. Work up front taken over by 39th Engineer Regt. Bn moved back at 1300 to former rear CP.

H&S Provisional platoon completed constructing culvert for 645 TD.

Co "A" - During the morning, Company continued clearing fields of fire in front of positions. Co. relieved from right half of defense position #2 and returned to original bivouac area.

Co "B" - Released from left half of defense position #2 and returned to original CP area. During the time Co. was committed as Infantry Reserve, they changed positions three times supporting the MLR. As company pulled out, the enemy threw up a heavy barrage, but no casualties were suffered.

Co "C" released from reserve position #5 (reserve for position #2. and returned to original bivouac area.

There was little Air or Artillery activity in the Bn Area.

Period 0001 to 2400 25 February 1944

Bn & Co CP's remain unchanged.

H&S - 3 dump trucks helping the 180th Inf haul rock for roads. Provisional platoon helping maintain & improve road in CP area.

Co "A" - Lts RICKEY & JOHNSON & 1st platoon began repairs of Div. Road net. From Nero Turnpike to 179th CP, 2nd and 3rd platoons maintained & improved road from Blacktop to intersection with Truscott Blvd.

Co "B" - All platoons maintaining and improving road from Truscott Blvd. NE three positions 3 & 4 to 180 Inf CP. Trucks hauled rock for this road from Rock Quarry and were loaded with a power shovel. All extra trucks in Bn being used to haul gravel. Detail of 2 NCO's and 4 men laying wire and AP mines in front of positions for 179 Inf.

Co "C" - One platoon attached to 180 Inf. Co. backdragged road around Div. CP. Co. maintaining and improving road running NE past right flank of Position #4.

Battalion coordinating with 39th Engineers to secure all data on position for Division use.

Period 0001 to 2400 26 February 1944

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

H&S Co - Provisional platoon working in Le Ferriecce quarry, blasting rock. Co. furnishing all available trucks to letter Companies for rock hauling.

Co "A" - Furnished one platoon to Co "B" for work on road. Rest of Company maintaining same road as previous day.

Co "B" - 1 officer & 2 NCO's assisting the 179th Inf to wire in forward position. All platoons maintaining and improving road 902238 - 909251. Rock bottom placed on road Company was supplemented with 7 extra trucks from H&S Co. Rained all day.

Co. CP same work as previous day. Continued work on road 902230 - 908266.

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By MG/NARA Date 1/16/10

Period 0001 to 2400 27 February 1944

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged.

H&S Co provisional platoon blasted rock in quarry at Le Ferreece. Also improved road in Co CP area.

Co "A" - Lt RICKEY and 1st platoon. Lt SMITH & 2nd platoon repaired road from 890241 - 878752 - 880260. Also repaired road 918220 - 906231. Lt COOPER and third platoon attached to Co "B", repaired road 898230 - 918265.

Co "B" - Lt POSTAS and 6 EM worked with the 179 Inf positions. Putting up barbed wire in front of positions. Also laid AP mines. Lt FIELDS also aided the 179th to lay wire & mines. Lt COHEN & 3rd platoon, Lt WILLIAMS & 2nd platoon maintained & improved road 898230 - 918265.

Co "C" - Furnished bridge guard detail attached to 180 Inf. Repaired road 904228 - 940270 also road 926262 - 910271. Also constructed 24 ft span, 2 bents, Class 12 bridge at 920267.

There were no Enemy planes over the area, but several shells landed very close to the C.P.

Period 0001 to 2400 28 February 1944

Battalion & Co CP's unchanged.

H&S Co - Provisional platoon maintaining road in bivouac area. Also blasted rock in quarry at Le Ferreece.

Co "A" - (less third platoon). Drained and placed rock on road 887245 - 879252 - 880260 and road 918220 - 906231.

Co "B" - Repaired road 898230 - 918268. 250 Corduroy base with rock cover of 8 inches laid at 905243. Drained road from 904241 - 905244. Officer and detail furnished as technical adviser and Supervisor for wire laying in front of 179 Inf Positions.

Co "C" - Furnished bridge guard for and attached to the 180 Inf. Laid a one way 150 ft plank road at 920265. Put a culvert in at 919243. Maintained and improved roads 902228, 926262, 940270 and 926262 - 910271.

Period 0001 to 2400 29 February 1944

Bn and all Co CP's unchanged. Area underwent severe enemy air attack from 2010 to 2245. Four enlisted men were killed as a result and one EM injured. Two EM suffered severe shock. The men killed were Pvt Gomella, Pvt Murray, Pvt Smith and Pvt Brooks. The man injured was T/4 Drummond. Pvt Savage & Sgt Debney suffered severe shock. The provisional platoon blasted rock from the Le Ferreece quarry.

Co "A" - Continued work on Div Road 887245 - 879252 - 880260. Lt COOPER and 3rd platoon attached to Co "B". Lt JOHNSON LO at Div as Parachute Alert Officer.

Co "B" - Repaired road 904241 - 905244. Lt WILLIAMS & 2nd platoon prepared bridge at 920267 for demolition. Prepared three craters on roads for demolition at: 904264 - 917265 - 926263.

Co "C" - Repaired road 902228 - 926262 - 940270 and 926262 - 910271. Lt BRIDGES, Lt GIBSON attached to 180 Inf with the third platoon. Lt BRIDGES and detail laid mines on both flanks of crater 919307. Blew crater on road Vicinity 919307. Lt GIBSON and detail prepared bridge at 910288 for demolition. Blew crater in road 909289.

Bn CP Area shelled all day & underwent severe air attack during the evening.

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Authority NND 735017

By MGT NARA Date 1/16/10

OFFICIAL:

Joseph W Lowe Jr.

JOSEPH W LOWE JR

Capt CE

Commanding

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Authority NND 735017
By MGT NARA Date 1/16/10HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
A. P. O. #45, U. S. ARMY

6 March 1944

SUBJECT: Water Supply Report, February 1944

TO : AGO, Historical Record Office, 45th Inf Div, APO 45, US Army.

1. Following is a report of the water dispensed by this Battalion from a total of two (2) water points; for the month of February 1944:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Point #32</u>	<u>Point #33</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Feb 1	9270		9270
Feb 2	11005	860	11865
Feb 3	5025	10970	15995
Feb 4	8000	5295	13295
Feb 5	8050	7115	15165
Feb 6	12735	9325	22060
Feb 7	9305	13105	22410
Feb 8	15660	7385	23045
Feb 9	12870	8710	21580
Feb 10	10110	6790	16900
Feb 11	2550	9055	11605
Feb 12	9815	11825	21640
Feb 13	11120	12825	23945
Feb 14	14080	13295	27375
Feb 15	15565	12995	28560
Feb 16	13625	9615	23240
Feb 17	13835	11445	25280
Feb 18	15300	5670	20970
Feb 19	8010	5880	13890
Feb 20	18275	9835	28110
Feb 21	17750	10855	28605
Feb 22	17090	13545	30635
Feb 23	16710	9525	26235
Feb 24	17640	9385	27025
Feb 25	17780	10465	28245
Feb 26	16600	8530	25130
Feb 27	18260	6120	24380
Feb 28	21605	5730	27335
Feb 29	20455	5480	25935
			<u>645935</u>

For the Battalion Commander:

WILLIAM C PICKET
2nd Lt CE
Water Supply Officer

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Authority NND 735017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO # 45, U. S. Army

2 March 1944

SUBJECT: Battle Casualty Report

TO : AGO, Historical Record Office, 45th Inf Div, APO 45, US Army

1. Following is a Battle Casualty Report for this Battalion from D Day of the Sicilian Campaign up to February 29, 1944:

February 1944KILLED IN ACTION

ARAGON, ALFREDO	Pvt	Co "B"	19 Feb 44
BROOKS, JOHN R	Pvt	H&S Co	29 Feb 44
GOMOLKA, THEODORE M	Pvt	H&S Co	29 Feb 44
MURRAY, JOSEPH M	Pvt	H&S Co	29 Feb 44
SMITH, JACK R	Pvt	H&S Co	29 Feb 44

WOUNDED IN ACTION

NELSON, FRED	Pvt	Co "A"	2 Feb 44
MARTAS, EDWARD	Pvt	Co "A"	2 Feb 44
BURKE, FRANCIS J	Pvt	Co "B"	8 Feb 44
LIVINGSTONE, CHARLES	Pfc	Co "A"	10 Feb 44
GRIEGO, D'AMACIO	Pvt	Co "A"	10 Feb 44
LOWREY, BRUNNER E	Pfc	Co "A"	2 Feb 44 & 23 Feb 44
BARBALINALDO, JOSEPH	H&S	Pvt	16 Feb 44
BURESS, WILLIAM	T/5	Co "C"	16 Feb 44
SMITH, REEFORD N	T/5	Co "C"	16 Feb 44
SALIMBIENE, JAMES	Pfc	Co "C"	16 Feb 44
ZYSKOWSKI, ANTHONY J	Pvt	Co "C"	16 Feb 44
MILLER, JAMES R	Pvt	Co "C"	16 Feb 44
AGUIRRE, JOSE A	Cpl	Co "B"	19 Feb 44
LINDNER, ADOLPH	Pfc	Co "B"	19 Feb 44
KOŁODZIEJCZYK, JOSEPH	S/Sgt	Co "B"	19 Feb 44
COLWELL, OZON	Pvt	Med Det	19 Feb 44
PASOWICZ, EDWARD	S/Sgt	Co "A"	19 Feb 44
LUCERO, HERACLIO	T/5	Co "A"	19 Feb 44
MARTINEZ, JOE M	T/5	Co "C"	21 Feb 44
AKE, JOSEPH	T/5	Co "B"	21 Feb 44
BARRETT, JAMES	T/5	Co "B"	23 Feb 44
DRUMMOND, ARTHUR	T/4	H&S Co	29 Feb 44

SICILIAN CAMPAIGN

KILLED IN ACTION	- - - - -	10	EM
KILLED NOT IN ACTION	- - - - -	7	EM

TOTAL

17 EM

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Authority NND 735017

By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

PRISONER OF WAR - - - - - 1 EM

WOUNDED IN ACTION - - - - - 15 EM
2 Off

Totals: Killed in Action 10 EM
Killed not in " 7 EM
Prisoner of War 1 EM
Wounded in Action 15 EM
2 Off

ITALIAN CAMPAIGN

KILLED IN ACTION - - - - - 9 EM
2 Off

KILLED NOT IN ACTION - - - - - 1 EM

WOUNDED IN ACTION - - - - - 50 EM
7 Off
1 WO

TOTALS FOR THE THE BATTALION IN ALL CAMPAIGNS:

KILLED IN ACTION - - - - - 24 EM
2 Off

KILLED NOT IN ACTION - - - - - 8 EM

PRISONER OF WAR - - - - - 1 EM

WOUNDED IN ACTION - - - - - 87 EM
9 Off
1 WO

For the Battalion Commander:

JAMES F BEZEMEK
Capt CE
S-1

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Authority NND 735017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO #45, U.S. ARMY

2 March 1944

SUBJECT: Engineer ^Dump Report

TO : AGO, Historical Record Office, 45th Inf Div, APO 45, US Army.

1. Following is a list of Engineer supplies issued from the Engineer Dump, 120th Engr C Bn, for the month of February 1944:

Axe, Chopping	109
Bags, Sand	128,465
Crimpers, cap	2
Caps, non-electric	77
Concertinas	5000 rolls
Cord, detonating	200 feet
Fuse, Time	300 feet
LUMBER:	
3 x 6 x 12	244 pieces
3 x 8 x 14	75 pcs
3 x 12 x 12	80 pcs
3 x 12 x 16	215 pcs
2 x 12 x 12	1,020 pcs
Cross ties	900
Lighters, fuse	40
Mattocks, pick	32
Matting, summerfelt w/accs	150 rolls
Nails	
8 d	100 lbs
10 d	100 lbs
30 d	200 lbs
40 d	1500 lbs
60 d	500 lbs
Pickets, screw anchor	500
Pickets, screw, long	300
Saw, crosscut 36" one man	1
Shovels, D-handled gen prup	432
Wire, barbed	151 rolls
Tracing tape	61 rolls
TNT	5,522 lbs
Oxygen	2 tanks
Mines, A.T.	4150
Mines, A.P.	764

For the Battalion Commander:

GEORGE A. FERGUSON
WOJG
ASS'T S-4

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Authority NND 735017
By MG NARA Date 1/16/10HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO #45, U. S. ARMY

7 March 1944

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM)

NUMBER

5)

1. This summary covers the operations of the 120th Engr C Bn from 1 February 1944 to 29 February 1944 inclusive.
2. Roads and bypasses:
 - a. Maintained and improved twenty-six (26) miles of road all through marshy terrain.
 - b. Bridges: Two timber-trestle bridges and two armored treadway bridges were constructed in the vicinity of Campemorto.
 - c. Culverts: Twenty-five (25) culverts were placed in the Division Road Net.
3. Demolitions:
 - a. Two (2) bridges were destroyed in the vicinity of Padiglioni.
 - b. Two (2) road craters were blown in the same sector.
 - c. Five (5) bridges and three (3) craters were prepared for demolition in the same sector.
4. Mines:

Minefields were laid on either side of the craters of 3a.
5. Reconnaissance:

Continuous engineer reconnaissance was maintained on the Division road net.
6. Defense Positions:
 - a. Prepared 7 battalion defensive positions by erecting triple concertina entanglement, preparing M.G. emplacements and clearing fields of fire.
 - b. Occupied parts of the above positions for 3 nights.
7. Battle Casualties:
 - a. Killed in Action:

Five (5) EM
 - b. Wounded in Action:

1 Officer
24 EM

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Authority NND 735017

By MG NARA Date 1/16/10

8. Water Supply:

- a. Two Water points operated at 923205 and 817246. The latter was operated at the request of Corps for the use of Corps troops.
- b. 645,935 Gallons of water was distributed during the month.

For the Battalion Commander:

Charles H Derr
CHARLES H DERR
1st Lt CE
S-3

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VNO 735017
By RP NARA Date 6/27/07

* S-1 JOURNAL AND OPERATIONS REPORT *
* * * * *
* FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1944 *
* * * * *

Supporting Documents:

- S-2 Journal
- S-4 Report (Water)
- Medical Report
- S-3 Operations Report
- Battle Casualty Report
- Engineer Intelligence Summaries
- Minefield Location overlay
- Report on Class II & Class IV Supplies issued from Engineer Dump

345-ENG-0.3



Master

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Authority *VNO 735017*By *RP* NARA Date *6/27/69*

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

1 May 1944

BATTALION: CP at F-901203, 1½ miles northeast of Nettuno.

H & S CO: CP at F-901203. Constructing water tower for shower unit in hospital.

COMPANY A: CP at F-911217. Opened road 911211 - 902228. Began construction of a trail for trucks from 900258 - 909250. Made reconnaissance of assigned road net.

COMPANY B: CP at 909200. Second platoon working party did maintenance work on Paschal Pike and Darby Road, and also laid wire concertina for Second Battalion, 179th Infantry, in front line position. First platoon working party composed road patrol on Nero's Pike and Padiglione by filling shell craters. Private Baldwin awarded Purple Heart for being MIA on 3 March 1944.

COMPANY C: CP at 913210. First platoon placed bridge guards at bridges 11 and 12. Prepared bridge 11 for demolition and made repairs. Second and third platoons filled shell craters in vicinity of Carano. Revetted and filled shoulders on gravel road. Blew building at 946235. Bulldozer dug in 45th Air Support Command and 977th FA - 155 MM rifle.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

2 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Rickey and the 1st platoon marked out minefield layed by Headquarters, 7th Infantry. This consisted of finding minefield and stringing high wire on friendly side. Lt. Cooper and third platoon worked on 157th road net, draining and filling ruts. Enemy air raid at 2200. Bulldozer dug in ammunition for AA Battery. Private first class Dellagrotta, Kwapinski, Livingston, and Private Griego awarded Purple Hearts.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. First platoon composed road patrol along Nero's Pike, Darby Road, and Paschal Pike. Excavated POW Dugout in MP area. Cleaned up old Division area by filling old pits. Lt. Cohen and 3rd Platoon laid concertina wire for 1st Battalion, 179th Infantry. Also laid 42 AP mines in front of position.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Relieved bridge guards. Checked minefield at bridge 13. Removed eight mines north of Bridge 11. Made reconnaissance of stream bed at Fosso de Carano. Filled two shell holes at Carano. Revetted shoulders on gravel road. Checked bridge near 3rd Battalion CP, 180th Infantry. Bulldozer worked with the 191st Tank Battalion.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

3 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

345-ENG-0.3

Opno Pkt - Italian Campaign - 120th Engineer Bn - 45th Inf Div - 1-31 May 44

- COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Rickey and 1st Platoon continued work on identification and marking of friendly minefield in forward areas. Lt. Smith and 2nd platoon worked on Frantz' Parkway and 157th Infantry road net. Lt. Cooper and 3rd platoon worked on RR bed, filling craters and ruts. Bulldozer backdragged Division CP road. Also dug in 977th FA Battalion. Two squads working with Lt. Myers on malaria control.
- COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon prepared to lay AP mines and wire, but attempts to lay wire were frustrated by small arms fire. Sergeant McKinney and 3rd platoon composed road patrol over our assigned roads and repaired three shell craters in the vicinity of Padiglione. The 1st platoon provided engineer supervision to the 2nd Battalion, 179th Infantry in concertina wire erection. 2nd platoon composed road patrol during day light hours over assigned road net.
- COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Bridge guards maintained guard over assigned bridges. The company maintained road to Carano. Built up and revetted shoulders of gravel road. Cleaned debris from culverts on gravel road. Repaired roads around the 180th Infantry Regiment CP. Bulldozer dug in tanks for 191st Tank Battalion.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

4 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Detail of enlisted men screening kitchen for the 120th Medical Clearing Company.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Rickey and 1st platoon working during the night marking and tracing out mine fields. Lt. Smith and 2nd platoon worked on malaria control program. Lt. Cooper and 3rd platoon sand-bagged and improved General Eagles quarters. Dragged road 901221 - 899221 - 902228. Dug in ammunition for 977th FA.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. The 3rd platoon furnished two NCO's as engineer advisers for 179th Infantry in erecting barbed wire obstacles. During the night, Lt. Fields and the 1st platoon composed road patrol to patrol road net assigned to this company. Minefield (16 APM 2 A1) laid at 922313. Demolition charges in road at 931274 - 917265 - 902260 removed.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Maintained bridge guards. Removed 400 lbs of TNT from vicinity of bridge 12. Filled craters on Carano road and revetted shoulders on gravel road. Dug in 216th AAA radio trucks. Constructing road 929252 - 931253 - 936259 - 938259. Also road at 931255 - 940249.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

5 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Rickey and 1st platoon in rest. Lt. Smith, 2nd platoon, and two squads from 3rd platoon, worked on malaria control. One squad, 3rd platoon, built 1/4 mile of road in forward area with D-7.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. One reinforced squad from the 3rd platoon composed road patrol of assigned road net. Lt. Williams with 1st and 2nd platoons worked on malaria control.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Maintained bridge guards. Built and camouflaged pill box at 95431 for 1st Battalion, 180th Infantry. Filled shell holes on the road to Carano. Bulldozer dug in Radar equipment for the 216th AAA, and a gun position for the 977th FA Battalion.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

6 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. First platoon worked on maintenance of Division roads. Second and third platoons worked on malaria control. Lts. Smith and Rickey conducted mine school for infantry personnel.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon working on camouflaging Nero's Pike along 965264 - 966265. First and second platoons worked on malaria control. Rebuilt Division incinerator. Started to dig gun emplacements for the 160th FA.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Sprayed Division road net. Filled shell craters on Carano road. Filled and revetted shoulders of gravel road.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

7 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Picket and detail of 22 men left at 2030 to build Regimental CP for 180th Infantry.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. 2nd Lt. Johnson appointed 1st Lieutenant.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon, with bulldozer, dug gun emplacements for the 160th FA and 158th FA. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon constructed camouflage screens along road 965264 - 966265.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Second platoon relieved 1st platoon bridge guards. Sprinkled Division road net. Repaired craters on road to Carano. Bulldozer dug in 189th FA.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

8 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Helped dig in the 160th FA. Trained all day in passage of minefields.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon worked digging in 160th and 158th FA Battalions. Lt. Fields and 1st platoon worked on malaria control. One squad of the 2nd platoon maintained road net assigned by filling shell holes on roads. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon maintained Darby's road and dug in two batteries of the 158th FA Battalion. During the night, Company Headquarters section worked with the 160th FA Battalion cutting and splitting logs. Also constructed ball field for the 179th Infantry Regiment.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Relieved bridge guards. Filled shell craters on road to Carano. Bulldozer dug in guns and trucks for the 189th FA. Also dug in 180th Infantry equipment. First and third platoons worked on malaria control.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

9 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Picket and detail from H & S Company working at night, building forward CP for Division Headquarters.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Entire company carried out training in preparation for attack.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Staff Sergeant Peralta and 2nd platoon completed digging in 160th FA Battalion and AA attachments. Also constructed crossing of Mussolini Canal on Darby's road at 913265, which consisted of constructing and placing wooden culvert 2' x 2' x 40". Lt. Fields and 1st platoon worked on malaria control. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon composed road patrol on assigned road net. Also built 300 yards of road for British 96th FA Battalion. Lt. Cohen and one squad of the 1st platoon made a reconnaissance during the night for bridge sites of bridges to be constructed tomorrow. Sergeant McKinney and one squad of the 3rd platoon dug in positions for the 157th Cannon Company. Sergeant Araujo accidentally injured and hospitalized while assisting Lt. Williams in conducting mine school. A delayed TNT charge exploded while he was trying to neutralize charge.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Corporal Stumpf and Private first class Harmon awarded Purple Hearts per Division GO #91, Headquarters 45th Division, dated 30 April 1944. Bridge guards relieved. Bulldozer dug in pits for 106th AAA. Also dug gun pits for 189th FA and British Royal Artillery. Improved road 925273 - 925277. Trained on mines and booby traps.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

10 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Colonel Frantz sent to 11th Evac. Hospital.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Picket and detail building forward CP for Division Headquarters.

- COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Entire company in special training.
- COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon, reinforced, worked on malaria control. Lt. Postas and 1st platoon put in treadway bridge at 936278, and constructed road from 942272 to 936279. Bridge is 30 feet long, class 40 loading.
- COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Relieved bridge guards. Repaired culvert on road to 158th FA. 1st and 3rd platoons in special training. Bulldozer dug in guns for 189th FA, 216th CA, and the British Royal Artillery.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

11 May 1944

- BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.
- H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Sergeant Debney conducting flame thrower school for personnel from letter companies. Operations section continued digging in forward CP for Division Headquarters.
- COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Company trained in use of flame thrower. Detailed two dozers, one chain saw and operators to the 157th Infantry Regiment. Detail to clear overheads of road in Division sector.
- COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon, Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon on malaria control work. Second platoon repaired foot bridges at 936280 - 935280. Also repaired abutment on treadway bridge at 920289. Sergeant Dykens and squad repaired culvert on Eagles Airline. Also checked our assigned road net for debris, excess wires and overhanging brush.
- COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Relieved bridge guards. Bulldozer dug in 106 AAA Also the 160th FA Bn. Maintained CampoMorte-Carano road. Sprinkled Div Road net. Prepared treadway bridge at CampMorte for demolition. Power saw cut trees for Div Artillery. Patrol cut trees and helped in work in Div Artillery area. One squad assisted H&S Co in digging in advance Division CP.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

12 May 1944

- BATTALION: CP remains unchanged. During Lt Col Frantz' illness, Major Lowe assumes command of the battalion. Captain Billups acting Executive Officer.
- H&S CO : Operation section building Forward CP for Battalion. Bulldozer dug in positions for 1st Armored Division. Sgt Debney conducting flame thrower school for personnel of Company "B".
- "A" Company Entire company participating on special training. Headquarters section started work on forward CP.
- COMPANY B : 1st platoon reinforced on malaria control. Company bulldozer dug pits for for Division headquarters Co trucks. Constructed British foot bridges and put them in at 933280 - 933281. Done by second platoon. Lt Cohen made reconnaissance from RR bed into Mussolini Canal for possible road for 180th Inf. One squad, 3rd platoon, filled shell holes on road at Padiglione. Road Patrol of assigned road net maintained.
- COMPANY C: Maintained bridge guards. 2 platoons maintained Div Road net.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

13 May 1944

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Two bulldozers dug in 160th FA. Entire company taking special training.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Sergeant Kolodziejczyk and 1st platoon on malaria control work. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon constructed road for the 180th Infantry from 932274 to 933280. Sergeant Chavez and squad composed road patrol of assigned net. Bulldozer dug in gun positions for British artillery. Company detail put in pipe culvert for road that runs through company area.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Sprinkled Division road net. Bulldozer dug in Division CP. Maintained road from Campo Morte to Carano. First and third platoons on special training.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Detail constructing Battalion forward CP.

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

14 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged. Preparations made to occupy forward Battalion CP. Communications laid in forward areas.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Detail constructing Battalion forward CP.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Company on special training. Lt. Cooper made reconnaissance with 191st Tank Battalion for tank approaches near Carano. Lt. Smith with 10th Engineers located possible gap sites near Carano.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Postas and 1st platoon worked on malaria control. Second platoon furnished detail for road patrol of assigned road net. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon marked 1/4 ton trail from 932274 - 933280. Road was marked by stretching tracing tape along both sides of road to facilitate night driving.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Sprinkled Division road net. Maintained bridge guards. Maintained road from Campo Morte - Carano. Put in pillbox for 180th Infantry. Helped 240 MM gun change positions. Two platoons on special training.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

15 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Colonel Charles L. Monnier reported for duty from the 540th Engineer Regiment and assumes command of Battalion.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Entire company on special training. Lt. Rickey and 1st platoon trained with 1st Battalion, 157th Infantry, and the 191st Tank Battalion.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon working on malaria control with Lt. Postas and 1st platoon. Corporal Smith and squad composed patrol of assigned road net. Lt. Postas and one squad constructed road from 941272 to 936283. Company bulldozer dug ammunition pits for Service company, 179th Infantry.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Maintained Campo Morto road. Sprinkled Division road net. Rest of company on special training.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400 16 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged. Usual service functions performed.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Continued special training. One squad of 1st platoon cleared 1/2 mile patch south of Carano, AT F 939307 to F 944315, of mines for tank approach. One squad of 3rd platoon put in tank approach at 934302.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Postas and 1st platoon on malaria control work. One squad on road patrol of assigned road net. Lt. Williams and one squad of 2nd platoon completed and widened bridge for armored traffic near Padiglione. Sergeant Staton and squad finished cross country road from 941272 to 936283 during the night, with help of company bulldozer.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Relieved bridge guards at Carano. Sprinkled Division road net. Maintained Campo Morto to Carano road. Dug in 171st FA guns. First and third platoons on special training.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400 17 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Entire company on special training.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Cohen with the 1st and 3rd platoons worked on malaria control. Sergeant Chavez and squad hauled gravel for bridge approaches which was constructed near Padiglione night of 16 May. Company bulldozer dug in Division incinerator. Two squads engaged in road patrol over assigned road net.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Relieved bridge guards. Sprinkled division road Net. Bulldozers dug in 160th FA. First and third platoons on special training.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400 18 May 1944

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: GP remains unchanged. Entire company on malaria control.

COMPANY B: GP remains unchanged. Lt. Postas and 1st platoon with Lt. Williams and the 2nd platoon worked on malaria control. Sergeant Jojola and squad worked on road patrol of assigned road net. Dug in guns of 175th FA, 34th Division. Lt. Williams checked assault treadway bridge above Padiglione, also marked ford below the bridge. Maintained cross country road from RR bed to Padiglione.

COMPANY C: GP remains unchanged. Sprinkled Division road net. Maintained Campo Merto to Carano road. Two platoons are on special training.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

19 May 1944

BATTALION: GP remains unchanged. Chaplain Pridgen relieved of duty and assigned to the 536th AAA AW Battalion.

H & S CO: GP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: GP remains unchanged. Entire company engaged in malaria control.

COMPANY B: GP remains unchanged. Lt. Williams and the 2nd platoon with Lt. Cohen and the 3rd platoon engaged in malaria control. One squad from the 3rd platoon improved cross country road by 171st FA. Third platoon composed road patrol of assigned road net. Sergeant Riskall and squad with bulldozer worked during night improving and maintaining road for the 180th Infantry from RR bed through Mussolini Canal to 933280. T/5 Haynes and Private Dalkert WIA but not hospitalized, by enemy artillery barrage on 18 May 1944.

COMPANY C: GP remains unchanged. Sprinkled Division road net. Relieved bridge guards. Maintained Campo Merto to Carano road. First and third platoons worked on malaria control. Second platoon constructed pillbox for the 180th Infantry.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

20 May 1944

BATTALION: GP remains unchanged.

H & S CO: GP remains unchanged. Private Broussard died of undetermined cause.

COMPANY A: GP remains unchanged. Company on special training. All platoons trained with respective RCT battalion of 157th Infantry.

COMPANY B: GP remains unchanged. Lt. Postas and the 1st platoon with Lt. Williams and the 2nd platoon worked on malaria control, and also ~~removed~~ wrecked German plane from stream, which had caused block-up of stream. Sergeant Dykens and squad composed day and night patrol of assigned road net. Squad filled large crater 100 yards south of cross road on Nero's Pike. Assisted in getting ambulance out of ditch on Eagles airline. This squad ran into heavy mortar fire from House 1. No casualties.

COMPANY C: GP remains unchanged. Dozer backdragged Division road net. Maintained Campo Merto to Carano road. Dozer dug in 1st Armored Vehicles. Second platoon constructed pillbox.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

21 May 1944

MED. DET.: Captain Chalstrom left for special duty with the 160th FA.

BATTALION: CP remains unchanged.

H & S GO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP remains unchanged. Company on special training with the 157th Infantry RCT.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Postas and 1st platoon on malaria control. One squad of 1st platoon composed road patrol of assigned road net.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Bridges and 3rd platoon attached to the 180th Infantry. Removed 31 AT and 6 AP mines at 92603195. Bulldozer dug in guns for 977th FA. First platoon on malaria control. Second platoon maintained Campo Morto to Carano road. Also filled shell holes on paratroop road. Relieved bridge guards.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

22 May 1944

BATTALION: Battalion forward CP established at F-926240. Rear CP unchanged. Colonel Monnier, Major Lowe, Captain Billups, and Lt. Hartnagel set up advance CP.

H & S GO: CP remains unchanged.

COMPANY A: Advance CP set up at 938258. Rear CP unchanged. Lt. Rickey and 1st platoon moved out with the 1st Battalion, 157th Infantry, attached to them for operations.

COMPANY B: CP remains unchanged. Lt. Postas and 1st platoon on malaria control. One squad from 2nd platoon on road patrol of assigned road net.

COMPANY C: CP remains unchanged. Relieved bridge guards. Maintained road from Carano to Campo Morto. Sprinkled Division road net.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

23 May 1944

MED. DET.: Private Chiarelli LWIA by artillery, but not hospitalized. Captain Howe transferred to the 56th Evacuation Hospital.

BATTALION: CP's unchanged.

H & S GO: CP unchanged. Bulldozer sent to put wall around PW enclosure.

COMPANY A: CP's unchanged. Lt. Rickey and 1st platoon cut gaps in wire and cleared mines for 1st Battalion, 157th Infantry. Lt. Cooper and 3rd platoon did same type of work for the 3rd Battalion, 157th Infantry. Lt. Johnson and two squads from the 2nd platoon left to repair culvert and treadway bridge near Carano.

COMPANY A: The following casualties were suffered by Company: Sergeant Safko, Private Sabol, and Private Nekola missing in action. Sergeant Hiller, Corporals Brown and Loiselle, Private First Class C. Wilson and Private First Class Tom Stewart, Privates Dick Romero, R. Jaramillo, Arthur Miller, and John Tomaski, wounded in action and hospitalized.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. Sergeant McKinney and squad composed road patrol of assigned road net, and also fixed culvert at 927254. Also made detour for damaged bridge near Campo Merto. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon dug emplacements in Advance CP area for personnel and vehicles. Private First Class Lindh awarded Purple Heart for wounds received 2 March 1944.

COMPANY C: CP unchanged. Maintained bridge guards and sprinkled Division road net. Second platoon filled shell holes and craters in vicinity of Carano. First platoon removed 50 mines in vicinity of house 70. Third platoon removed 120 teller mines, 3 mines M1, 8 Hawkins mines, and 3 AP mines from NS road above Carano.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

24 May 1944

BATTALION: CP's unchanged. Lt. Colonel Frantz evacuated to 52nd Station Hospital.

H & S CO: CP unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP's unchanged. First and third platoons attached to 157th Infantry. Assisted in advance and began wiring in position for the companies. Repaired culvert east of treadway bridge at 934288. Swept for mines and cut barbed wire obstacles.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon moved out to advance area. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon dug emplacements for vehicles and personnel in preparation for moving. Sergeant Jojola and squad composed road patrol and did maintenance work on Lowe's Lane. Patrolled assigned road net. Bulldozer levelled road in vicinity of 180th Advance CP. Lt. Cohen and 3rd platoon levelled road from RR bed to Mussolini Canal.

COMPANY C: CP unchanged. Maintained bridge guards. Sprinkled Division road net. Platoons unable to work due to enemy artillery action. T/5 Gabrik LWIA, but not hospitalized. Private Nelan Smyrl LWIA and hospitalized (near Carano sector).

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

25 May 1944

BATTALION: CP's unchanged.

H & S CO: CP unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP's unchanged. First and third platoons attached to 157th Infantry. Assisted in wiring in positions. Finished sweeping road and marking it from Carano across stone arch bridge past the cemetery to the RR. Bulldozer dug in positions for the 171st FA.

COMPANY B: CP moved 6-1/2 miles NE of Nettuno at 920251. Company bulldozer and detail from 2nd platoon dug in positions for 158th FA. Second platoon composed road patrol of assigned road net. Bulldozer also dug in positions for 171st FA. Detail checked ford crossing near Padiglione and made repairs on same.

COMPANY C: CP unchanged. Maintained bridge guards and sprinkled Division road net. First platoon cleared mines from Carano road to 50 yards beyond point 69 and to houses 76 and 77. Third platoon laid wire for Company G, 180th Infantry and cleared mines for 2nd Battalion, 180th Infantry. Privates Miller and Gabrik WIA. Private Smyrl WIA.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

26 May 1944

BATTALION: CP's unchanged.

H & S CO: CP unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP's unchanged. Second platoon attached to 2nd Battalion, 157th Infantry at 0230. Assisted in attack which started at 1100. Bulldozer dug in positions for 160th FA Battalion. During operations, three mine detectors were lost. Made paths north along RR tracks for trucks. Cleared gaps through minefields for infantry.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon swept road for mines from 935314 to 915326, and filled shell holes that were on the same road. The gravel was loaded prior to departing for work site. One squad from 3rd platoon dug in CP for 45th Division Signal Company. During the night, bulldozer dug in gun positions for 160th FA.

COMPANY G: CP unchanged. Maintained bridge guards. Sprinkled Division road net. Second and third platoons cleared mines on road from house 69 to 200 yards beyond point 62. Cleared 30 mines from point 62 to road junction of Padiglione. First platoon started construction of Bailey Bridge at Point 62. Sergeant McQuaid and Private First Class Gallegos WIA. Private Jones WIA. There was a 45 minute enemy artillery barrage at 3rd platoon area.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

27 May 1944

BATTALION: CP's unchanged.

H & S CO: CP unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP unchanged. First and second platoons relieved of attachment to infantry and returned to company control. Third platoon attached to 3rd Battalion, 157th Infantry. Swept and cleared road from Carano north and up dead end road. Filled craters in 157th Infantry road net. Bulldozer dug in positions for 160th FA Battalion.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. Sergeant Staton and squad composed road patrol of assigned road net. Company bulldozer and crew completed digging in gun positions for 160th FA Battalion. Filled shell craters on Padiglione road. Lt. Postas and one squad of 1st platoon maintained Carano road from 939310 - 905333.

Also swept for mines from 915325 - 942360. Sergeant Jojola and squad cleared paths in mine field in vicinity of Carano to enable tank retrievers to pick up disabled tanks. Three lanes were cleared during day light, picking up about 160 wooden anti-tank mines.

COMPANY C: CP moved to 1/4 mile NW of Campo Morto. Bulldozer constructed bypass at 918330. Swept road for mines from 918330 to 863914. Filled shell holes in Padiglione road from 921291 to 918336. Second platoon in support of of 3rd Battalion, 180th Infantry. First platoon finished constructing Bailey Bridge at Point 62.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

28 May 1944

BATTALION: Battalion CP moved to 926266, 1 mile SE of Campo Morto.

H & S CO: CP moved to 926266, 1 mile SE of Campo Morto.

COMPANY A: CP unchanged. All platoons in company control repaired road and swept mines from bypass above Bailey Bridge to RR tracks. First and second platoons being re-organized due to heavy casualties.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. Lt. Williams and 2nd platoon swept road for mines from 891335 to 915343. No mines found. Work done during daylight and encountered heavy mortar fire. Private Sellers KIA during work. Sergeant Chavez and squad repaired wooden culvert in vicinity of 936290, and did maintenance work on treadway bridge at 940299. Bulldozer dug in gun positions for 160th FA. Lt. Postas and 1st platoon swept road for mines from 901388 to 897360. Also maintained roads in same sector. Sergeant Riskall and squad maintained assigned road net.

COMPANY C: CP unchanged. First and third platoons swept road and filled craters from 922338 to 880331, and from there north to 880358; Second platoon in support of 3rd Battalion, 180th Infantry.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

29 May 1944

BATTALION: CP unchanged.

H & S CO: CP unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP moved to woods south of Campo Morto. Continued repair of dirt road north from bypass to RR tracks. Bulldozer also widened Bypass.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. Bulldozer constructed landing strip for observation planes of Division Artillery. Sergeants Staton and Hagglund WIA while working on bulldozer in vicinity of Carano. A mine was detonated by dozer and mine fragments struck men.

COMPANY C: CP unchanged. Cleared vehicles from road at 877344 to 878375. Filled shell holes on road from 897365 to 880365; also swept for mines. Swept for mines at 87800382.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

30 May 1944

BATTALION: CP unchanged.

H & S CO: CP unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP moved to 914340. Bulldozer dug in guns of 106th AAA. Continued repair of dirt road.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. Bulldozer constructed another landing strip for observation planes of Division Artillery.

COMPANY C: CP moved to 933270. Bulldozer dug in gun positions for 171st FA. First platoon removed mines at 873385 and 870385.

PERIOD 0001 - 2400

31 May 1944

BATTALION: CP unchanged.

H & S CO: CP unchanged.

COMPANY A: CP unchanged. Bulldozer dug in tents for Division forward CP. Continued maintenance of roads in sector.

COMPANY B: CP unchanged. No engineer activity. Road maintenance in sector.

COMPANY C: CP unchanged. No engineer activity.

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45,
U S Army
2 June 1944SUBJECT: Class II and Class IV Engineer Supplies issued from 45th Division
Engineer Dump for period 1 May to 31 May 1944, inclusive:

CLASS II

ITEM	UNIT	AMOUNT
Axes, chopping	each	44
Acetylene	Tank	10
Ammonium Nitrate	lbs.	1360
Cord Detonating	feet	8500
Caps, blasting, electric	each	640
Caps, blasting, non-electric	each	880
Cable, flexible, 5/8" dia.	feet	600
Compass, lensatic, w/case	each	60
Compass, watch	each	105
Compass, wrist	each	195
Forks, stone, w/handle	each	4
Fuse, time	feet	2922
Hooks, brush, strap-eye pattern	each	22
Lighters, fuse	each	786
Mattocks, pick, handled	each	20
Nails, common, wire 3 d	lbs.	12
8 d	lbs	627
10 d	lbs.	1050
16 d	lbs.	450
20 d	lbs.	30
30 d	lbs.	130
40 d	lbs.	125
60 d	lbs.	815
80 d	lbs.	50
Nets, camouflage, garnished		
12 x 12	each	89
22 x 22	each	94
30 x 30	each	43
36 x 44	each	201
45 x 45	each	49
Nets, shrimp, 36 x 44	each	4
Oxygen	tanks	13
Paint, enamel, yellow	qts.	19
red	qts.	27
Black	qts.	46
White	qts.	47
Paint, camouflage, Green	gallons	155
OD	gallons	35
Black	gallons	25
Paint, OD, lustreless	gallons	4

ITEM	UNIT	AMOUNT
Picks, Railroad, handled	each	54
Plywood, 3 ply 4 x 8	pieces	9
Masonite, 4 x 8	pieces	30
Rope, manilla, $\frac{1}{4}$ " dia	feet	300
$\frac{1}{2}$ " dia	feet	1000
1" dia	feet	300
Shovels, GP, RP, D-handled	each	245
Shovels, GP, RP, long handled	each	28
Sprayers, insect	each	16
TNT, explosive	lbs.	3961
Tape, tracing, white $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide	rolls	635
Tape, friction, $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide	rolls	40
Tacks, carpet, 100 per box	boxes	42
Wire, glv, 10 BWG, 100# coils	coil	5
Wire, glv, 16 BWG, 100# coils	coil	3
Bags, sand, burlap	each	463,100
Bars, linking	each	120
Barbed, wire	rolls	33
Bangalore torpedoes	each	492
Beehive charges	each	47
Burlap, 36" wide	yards	6100
Concertina	rolls	1124
Culver, corrugated 24"	feet	15
Dunnage	tr loads	2
Devices, firing pull type	each	462
Devices, pressure type	each	229
release type	each	88
delay	each	538
Device, firing, for launchers, flare	each	70
Garnish, dk green	rolls	534
lt green	rolls	148
earth brown	rolls	109
Hooks, grappling	each	41
Iron corrugated, 18 gage 26" by 8'	pcs.	43
Lumber, 1 x 4 x 12	pcs.	9
2 x 4 x 16	pcs	28
2 x 6 x 14	pcs	30
2 x 12 x 14	pcs	6
3 x 8 x 16	pcs	20
3 x 12 x 12	pcs	30
3 x 12 x 13	pcs	90
3 x 12 x 14	pcs	261
3 x 12 x 16	pcs	25
4 x 8 x 12	pcs	38
6 x 6 x 14	pcs	9
6 x 10 x 14	pcs	6
8 x 12 x 16	pcs	4
Markers, lum dial, radio active	each	456
Matting, summerfelt	each	28
Mines, AT (M1A1)	each	373
Mines, AP (M2A1)	each	188
Mines, AP (M3)	each	30
Pins, drift	each	228

ITEM	UNIT	AMOUNT
Pipe, iron 7/8" dia	feet	20
Pickets, steel, drive long	each	874
Pickets, steel, screw, long	each	3308
Pickets, steel, screw, short	each	2026
Signs, mine, marking	each	35
Terneplate	each	330
Treadway (British) complete	each	7
Wire, chicken	rolls	19
Wire, screen	rolls	36

CLAYTON B LYLE JR
Captain, CE
S-4

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45,
U S Army
4 June 1944

MEMORANDUM:

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT MAY 1944

KILLED IN ACTION:

1.	Sgt JOSEPH SAFKO	COMPANY "A"	May 23
2.	Pvt ROBERT LE ROY GROVES	COMPANY "A"	May 23
3.	Pvt ALVIN F NEKOLA	Company "A"	May 23
4.	Pvt DELMER K SELLERS	COMPANY "B"	May 28
5.	Pvt LEONARD T GADWOOD	COMPANY "A"	May 26

MISSING IN ACTION:

1.	ALFRED A DELLA GROTTA	COMPANY "A"
----	-----------------------	-------------

WOUNDED IN ACTION:

1.	Pvt CARL E DALKERT, JR	COMPANY "B"	May 14
2.	Pvt DAVID J EDWARDS	COMPANY "C"	May 5
3.	Pvt DOMINICK F CHIARELLI	MED DETACH	May 23
4.	Pfc JOHN C TOMASKI	COMPANY "A"	May 23
5.	Pvt ANTONIO DOMINGUEZ	COMPANY "A"	May 23
6.	Pvt ARTHUR M MILLER	COMPANY "A"	May 23
7.	Sgt CALVIN P HILLER	COMPANY "A"	May 23
8.	Cpl JOHN D BROWN	COMPANY "A"	May 23
9.	Cpl RICHARD E LOISELLE	COMPANY "A"	May 23
10.	Pfc CALVIN WILSON	COMPANY "A"	May 23
11.	Pfc IVY L FRYAR	COMPANY "A"	May 23
12.	Pfc TOM STEWART	COMPANY "A"	May 23
13.	Pvt DICK ROMERO	COMPANY "A"	May 23
14.	Pvt REMIJIO JARAMILLO	COMPANY "A"	May 23
15.	T/5 DONALD R GABRIK	COMPANY "C"	May 24
16.	Pvt NOLAN B SMYRL	COMPANY "C"	May 24
17.	FRANK P MAZURKIEWICZ	COMPANY "A"	May 26
18.	PVT JAMES JONES	COMPANY "C"	May 26
19.	Sgt FRANCIS MCQUAID	COMPANY "C"	May 26
20.	Pfc HARRY A TUSTIN	COMPANY "A"	May 26
21.	Pvt EDUARDO SARABIA	COMPANY "A"	May 26
22.	Pvt LESLIE POWERS	COMPANY "A"	May 26
23.	ERNESTO CABALLERO	COMPANY "A"	May 26
24.	Pvt LAURENCE JOHNSON	COMPANY "A"	May 26
25.	Pvt ROBERT TORREZ	COMPANY "A"	May 26
26.	Pvt JOHN C HOLUBAR	COMPANY "A"	May 26

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Authority *NND 735017*By *RP* NARA Date *6/27/09*

27.	1st Lt	IRA D COOPER	COMPANY "A"	May 26
28.	Pvt	EDWARD MARTAS	COMPANY "A"	May 26
29.	T/5	EMRA L ALFORD	COMPANY "A"	May 26
30.	Pfc	VIRGIL TUTTLE	COMPANY "A"	May 27
31.	Pfc	CHARLES LIVINGSTONE	COMPANY "A"	May 27
32.	Pvt	JOHN LAVERTY	COMPANY "A"	May 27
33.	Pvt	RICHARD HOPKINS	COMPANY "A"	May 28
34.	Pfc	PETER MONSULIK	COMPANY "C"	May 28
35.	T/5	FRANCIS VILLACORTA	COMPANY "A"	May 23
36.	Pfc	FERGUS BRACKENBURY	MED DETACH	May 24
37.	Pvt	FREDERICK HENDERSON	COMPANY "A"	May 24
38.	Pvt	RICHARD W HOPKINS	COMPANY "A"	May 24
39.	Pvt	JAMES C LA BUE	COMPANY "A"	May 24
40.	Pvt	CHARLES WHITNEY	COMPANY "A"	May 24
41.	Sgt	WOODROW BEAUREGARD	COMPANY "A"	May 26
42.	Pfc	HOWARD OSETH	COMPANY "A"	May 26
43.	T/5	JAMES J CHERRY	COMPANY "A"	May 26
44.	Sgt	MELVIN STATON	COMPANY "B"	May 28
45.	Sgt	ALGOT HAGGLUND	COMPANY "B"	May 28

For the Battalion Commander:

JAMES F BEZEMEK
 Captain, CE
 Adjutant

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Authority VNO 735017By RP NARA Date 6/27/69

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45,
U S Army
3 June 1944

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM)

NUMBER

7)

1. This report covers the operations of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion for the period 1 May 1944 to 31 May 1944.

2. Roads maintained, bridges constructed and new constructions:

a. Maintained all roads in the division sector, filling shell holes and pot holes.

b. Roads in rear division area were sprinkled daily, using tow (2) prime movers with 3000 gallon canvas water tanks mounted in the trucks.

c. Bulldozers from all companies in the battalion were exceptionally busy during this period digging in trucks, guns and ammo pits for: 13th Armored Regiment (1st Armored Division), 175th FA Bn (34th Infantry Division), 19th FA Regt (1st British Division), 157th Infantry Regiment, 179th Infantry Regiment, 180th Infantry Regiment, 158th FA Battalion, 160th FA Battalion, 171st FA Battalion, 189th FA Battalion, 645th Tank Destroyer Battalion, 191st Tank Battalion, 106 AAA Battalion, 216 AA Bn, 977 FA Battalion (Long Toms), Division Air Support Group, 45th QM Company and 45th Signal Company. Dozers also dug two incinerators, two garbage pits, two Forward Division CP's and constructed ~~two~~ (2) airfields for 45th Division Air OP.

d. Built a 30' treadway bridge across the Mussolini Canal, 300 yards west of bridge 13 on the main blacktop road running north from Campomorto to Carano.

e. Constructed two 30' long foot bridges across the Mussolini Canal between Campomorto and Padiglione.

f. Built a bypass around bridge at rear of buildings at Campomorto.

g. Constructed a ford site, 50 yards east of treadway bridge at Padiglione for tanks and TD's.

h.

3. Mines and explosives:

a. on 3-4, 6-7, 12-13, 15-16, 18-19, May 1944, schools on barbed wire construction, passage of wire obstacles, mine laying, mine removal, and the use and operation of flame throwers, were conducted by this battalion. These schools were attended by replacements of our Infantry Regiments and a total of 150 men attended from each Regiment.

b. Bridge guards were stationed at Treadway bridge at Padiglione and at Bailey Bridge at Carano. Rest of demolitions on bridges in rear area were removed.

c. Roads from Carano north to Railroad tracks, from Bailey Bridge at Carano northeast to Railroad tracks and road north from factory to Campoleone station were cleared of mines; so numerous that an accurate account was not kept. Area to our immediate division front was very heavily mined at the time of the attack, May 23.

Operations Memorandum Number 7 (cont'd)

Hq 120th Engr C Bn 6/3/44

4. Water Supply:

See S-4 Report on water distribution for month of May 1944.

5. a. Other operations:

During the period, stress was made on malaria control in the Division sector. Drip cans were placed on all stagnant pools of water and on running stream, all foliage was cut out of the bottom and the sides were cut down sharply to avoid water becoming stagnant. All streams were worked on and the majority were finished.

b. In preparation for the offensive, a 30' dummy treadway bridge was built of burlap and wood. The purpose of this bridge was to distract the enemy at D-2 and make him think offensive was to be in this sector. Bridge was never used, due to lack of knowledge of D Day.

6. Battle Casualties:

Wounded in Action:

⁴⁴⁶⁰⁷
45 EM 1 Officer

Killed In Action :

5 EM

Missing in Action:

1 EM

For the Battalion Commander:

MAX R HARTNAGEL

1st Lt CE

S-3

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Authority VND 735017
By RP NARA Date 6/27/07HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE DIVISION SURGEONAPO #45,
US Army
8 June 1944

MEMORANDUM:

MEDICAL REPORT FOR MAY 1944

Number of men sent to hospital.....	72
Battle casualties.....	46
K.I.A.....	5
Purple Hearts certified by this Detachment.....	26
Number of men receiving Dental treatment.....	54
New Venereal cases.....	1
Malaria cases.....	1
Self inflicted wound resulting in death.....	1

1. Malarial discipline remains to be good also Venereal rate. Casualties were above average due to offensive action against the enemy.

2. The aid men of C and A Companies Black, Brackenbury, Brennan, Braselton and Mutchler were in with the assault parts of the companies and had plenty of work to do. Some of these men had to have their aid kits refilled after the first day of the offensive. These men did a remarkable job under fire.

3. The whole battalion was brought up to date on immunizations. Everyone received Typhus and a small percentage of the battalion received the other immunizations. T/4 Maccagnan did a fine job on this.

4. We have done more work on our 2½ ton truck in the way of fixing it into an aid station on wheels. During our many moves of the present offensive we have been able to have an aid station open and ready for operation in 15 minutes time after reaching new locations.

5. Capt. Howe, our dental surgeon, was sent to the hospital for a sprained ankle with a possible chip fracture, a soft ball casualty on the beachhead before the offensive. Incidentally we won 2 soft ball games against 2 lost. Our defeated opponents, (1) The S one section, (2) and the Water supply section.

AUBREY E. STOWERS
Capt. M.C.
Bn. Surgeon

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Authority *VND 735017*By *RP* NARA Date *6/27/69*

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45,
US Army
8 June 1944

MEMORANDUM:

WATER DISTRIBUTION FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1944

DATE	WP No 34 699204	WP No 38 923211	WP No 39 896231	WP No 40 935263	WP No 41 950296	Totals
May 1	46895	3960				50855
2	47170	10120	520			57810
3	46165	10605	1935			58705
4	44380	9830	2710			56920
5	49500	3055	2305			54860
6	46320	8215				54535
7	47720	8380				56100
8	52590	7995				60585
9	53395	8090				61485
10	77675	7815				85490
11	62875	7445				70320
12	68405	8100				76505
13	69270	10765				80035
14	78665	8210				86875
15	72820	6850				79670
16	89365	6470				95835
17	84105	8480				92585
18	74090	6440				80530
19	54840	8450				63290
20	50780	7610				58390
21	93185	9065				102250
22	83185	14105				97290
23	90640	10255				100895
24	119040	10490				129530
25	98695	9765				108460
26	69575	9115		3345		82035
27	68980	9500		3900		82380
28	55830			9830	1875	67535
29	58380			9840	12335	80555
30	42455			11365	20665	74485
31	52580			12120	28660	93360
Totals	2049570	229180	7470	50400	63535	2400155
Total for Anzio to April 30						2983025
Total for Anzio to May 31 (122 days)						5383180
Total for Italian Campaign (264 days)						11553330

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Authority VNO 735017

By RP NARA Date 6/27/07

OFFICIAL:

C. S. Monnier

C. S. MONNIER
LT COL., CE
COMMANDING

S-2 and S-3

STAFF JOURNAL AND HISTORY

OCTOBER 1944

OP 0001-2400 1 October 1944:

Capt Billups reports: Last night Co A swept roads DESTORD-RJ V182676-RJ V182693-185728 (Rambervillers); road DESTORD-PADOUX; road DESTORD-BULT; road BULT-RJ V182676-175717-177713; road V 185728-191728 Road RJ V182724-190731. Co C swept road RJ V205663-212635; also re-swept road DESTORD-PADOUX. Co B swept road V175615-RJ 195607-195602-Vimenil. Co C yesterday afternoon had one man killed and four wounded by artillery fire. Co A, in moving to area just of Rambervillers this afternoon

Tel from 117th Recon Sqdrn to S-3: The following message is from Special French Forces: "243839 mined. Enemy in woods northeast of that point. Road 244850 probably mined. Enemy radio car at 219816. Enemy patrol from 219842 is on S37 line. Two AT guns at 243839. 300 enemy in BACCARAT. Enemy expects attack from northeast (?)". The following message is from troop C, 117th Recon Sqdrn. "2nd platoon has section at 210747. Infantry in this area getting sniper and occasional artillery fire but is still moving.

Tel from Col Arnote, Div Arty to S-3: Wants positions for medium artillery battalion swept for mines in vic of Rambervillers.

PERIOD 0001-2400 2 October 1944:

At 0800 Co A swept gun areas for the 189th FA Bn.

Lt Rickey: Swept the following roads last night, and cleared road blocks:

Rambervillers - 205738

Rambervillers - 190721

211712 - 217712

185720 - blown bridge at 176724.

Sgt Munson, S-2 Div Arty, by tel: 189th FA bn reports area mined at 167591. Area has piano wires all over the place. Several casualties have been inflicted.

Lt Olsson, Recon Co, reports: Bridge at 777725: span 40', gap 34'. Road 14' wide, 9' to water, water 5 feet deep. Road block on west approaches. Bridge at 183725: span 68', gap 56', road 12' wide, 6' to rubble, no water. Five locomotives in Rambervillers, four with damaged cylinders, one intact, but on damaged turntable. Two saw-mills in Rambervillers, side by side. One is bandsaw, other jigsaw. Stock of 3 x 8, 10 x 10, 3 x 12, and 1" stuff.

Col Arnote, S-3 Div Arty: 405 Arty gp would like to have landing strip area swept for mines, vic PADOUX.

PERIOD 0001-2400 3 October 1944:

Capt Tauscher: Div Hq is moving to GIRECOURT, and will need some work. Col Frantz will need an @ to see what is needed.

Lt Olsson to tell Cos B and C each to furnish three trucks to S-4 to move dump.

Tankdozer and crew from 6617 Engr mine clearing Co arrived and unloaded. Crew of five men with tank.

Lt Picket to Co A to check on bridge at Rambervillers. In answer to radio request from Lt Rickey which was sent late yesterday and not received because of transmission trouble.

Tankdozer with crew from 6617 Engrs sent to Co C.

Radio from Co A: Bridge is blown at 183725; is out. 45' gap. Is this 36th Engrs Job?

Radio from Capt Billups to Co A: Bridge will not be built by us;

Lt Cohen, Co B: 1 EM, killed, 2 EM wounded yesterday at 1630, by "R" mine. Mine had been pulled, and killed man who went back to untie the rope, before he touched mine, it exploded. We cleared road from 196606 to 220806, and from RJ 213606 north to edge of woods at 210613 to connect with Co C job. Also cleared trail 2086060212600, and small dirt road to bypass RJ 213606. We are continuing work on trail.

Lt Picket: Co A extended road clearing 211711-215706-215705 and along RR track near 215705.

PERIOD 0001-2400 4 October 1944:

Capt Frank Co C: Road cleared NW from Fremifontaine (225260) to join our previous work at 220654. Fremifontaine to Perrpont cleared. Trimmed trees on blocks previously cleared in 180th Infantry sector. Destroyed "R" mines along roads. Began clearing road west from 216635 to 219635.

Capt Billups: Co A reports 157th Infantry drew 400 AT mines from Engineer dump. Sgt Jones, 1st Bn pioneer Sgt is in charge of mine laying detail.

Tel Capt Tauscher to Capt Billups: Minefield sketch from 157th Infantry was incomplete. Have requested revised sketch.

Capt Billups: Co B today cleared roads RJ V220606-233613; east along road Grandvillers-Bruyeres to 225603; mountain trail 213600-220600-224592.

Co C cleared road 219634-232628

Lt Col Monnier: Lt Hardies and Sgt Belcher both of Co C, have been missing since 1830. Disappeared on trail 230631-233633. Combat patrol sent to find them had to turn back because of small arms fire.

PERIOD 0001-2400 5 October 1944:

1st Sgt Trujillo, Co B: Pfc Grant Chavez was killed yesterday by "R" mine at V233611. Yesterday Co B cleared trail 232613 to road block at 237610. This road block is being removed today, and Co will continue clearing road to east. Was unable to clear trail 208600-218602-223592 because of intense enemy artillery fire.

Lt Simmons Co "A": Last night, found "R" mine booby trapped with egg grenade. Grenade had button removed and pull cord was tied to handle of mine.

Lt Picket: Co A clearing mines out of fields south west of Rambervillers. Co B clearing trails and small roads east of Grandvillers. Co C built two entrances to 180th Inf bivouac area, cleared bivouac area for 645th TD Bn.

1st Sgt Trujillo, Co B: Two of our men, Hanson Jones and Pvt Jeff Campbell were killed when pile of "R" mines exploded prematurely while being destroyed. Another man, Pvt Watson, was wounded by sniper fire while engaged in mine sweeping.

Lt Bridges: Am sending Lt Gordon in to Senfer with you.

Lt Gordon: The men were destroying "R" mines which had been previously recovered. On the west side of Deyvillers, there was a pile of approx 15 mines near a building. The men were moving them out in the open and blowing them up in lots of six. Approximately nine mines were left in the pile, when an explosion occurred, killing two men. One of the men, apparently had one mine in his hands at the time.

JD 0001-2400 6 October 1944:

Notice given to S-1 for inclusion in the Daily Information Bulletin: All personnel are cautioned not to move "R" mines. They will be pulled with a rope from a safe distance.

Lt Riekey: Co A performed no work during the night:

Lt Col Monnier: Germans reported to have brought train into Bruyeres during the night. There was also considerable motor activity in Les Rougesaux area. It is believed that the enemy task forces in this sector are being relieved by a regular division. Enemy in 180th and 179th Inf sectors was considerably more aggressive, using infiltration tactics and counterattacking on 179th Inf Sector.

Co B reports that a few "R" mines found in vic of Grandvillers had one of the shear wires removed. Rigged in this manner, the mine would hang by the igniter pin only, and might detonate even with a slight shock.

Lt Bridges, by tel, reports that Infantry wants to use tank dozer in defensive position at road block. Also desires to use one squad riflemen from Engineers to support tank. Possible that entire company may be requested in line at early time.

Capt Tauscher: Division wants B Co to clear road blocks at 192580 and 205571. Cav Ren troop will furnish security and will contact Co B at Co B CP.

Capt Billups to Lt Bridges: You will clear roadblocks along road 192580-205571. Cav Ren will provide security and will contact you at your CP.

Lt Gordon, Co B: One man wounded today, bullet wound in left shoulder. No further progress during the day. 179th S-3 called up and ordered one platoon to reinforce F Co, then cancelled the request several moments later.

PERIOD 0001-2400 7 October 1944:

We just completed the job with Cav Ren. It was rather difficult but we could not have used the tank dozer. The cavalry were very good people to work with and provided us with exactly what we wanted for security.

Lt Bridges of Co B gave version of troubles with 179th Inf as follows: Yesterday, in the early afternoon, S-3 179th Inf ordered one of my platoons to remove the road block at 225603. Knowing that the block was not tenable, due to enemy observation and fire, I refused to commit any troops to that job until infantry gained possession of hill at 233603, from which we had been receiving fire, and had already caused casualties to my company. When the enemy counterattack came later in the day, and Co Myers was wounded, Lt Col Murphy ordered Lt Cohen to take his men (1 squad re-inforced, and, later told by S-3, his tank dozer,) and hold in vic of road block at 225603 until relieved by Co B 179th Inf. I heard the order and told the Colonel I'd have to notify my battalion that part of my company was being committed. He informed that he was commanding and that I would follow his orders. without any argument. I sent Lt Cohen out, then telephoned battalion.

When I left and came back about an hour later and was informed that Lt Cohen was to be relieved. Lt Cohen then brought his men back to the Company area, where they were fed. At about 1900 last night, Lt Cohen was ordered by S-3 179th Inf to move his men out and re-inforce Co C 179th Inf at the same roadblock at 225603. I was absent at the time, so he alerted his platoon. A few minutes later, S-3 179th Inf called to tell him that the proposed commitment was cancelled."

Co C prepared bridge at Autrey for demolition. 350 lbs TNT were placed. Guard of four BM were posted. Bridge to be blown on order of 180th Inf. Co C drew 120 AT M1 mines for disposition of 180th Inf.

2nd Bn 36th Engrs was notified that 1/4 ton belonging to them with two dead nearby, had been located at 212608.

Co A exploded 67 "R" mines previously removed. Tel from 3rd Bn 180th Inf: GRS of that unit have found bodies of Lt Hardies and Sgt Belcher of Co C.

PERIOD 0001-2400 8 October 1944:

Capt Tauscher: Cav Ren will not move down the road Co B cleared due to the effect of the enemy counterattack on 179th Inf. It was felt that it would be impossible to exploit gains.

S-4: 1st Bn 157th Inf wanted to draw pull type igniters. They were told it would be necessary to clear thru Division and Bn S-3.

G-3: I will have to inquire into the matter of anti personnel mines. I do not anticipate any movement for the next few days and think this would be an excellent time to relieve and retrain your companies.

Capt Tauscher: Co C putting in roadblock consisting of abatis and anti tank mines at V 230639 on order of 180th Inf. Sketch follows.

Capt Billups: Co B preparing defensive positions for 3rd Bn 179th Inf and maintaining trails still in sector. Plans made out and orders given for Co C to relieve Co A of support 157th Inf tonight. Co A will relieve Co B of support of 179th Inf in the morning. Co B will move to vic Sercoeur tomorrow to begin three day rest and training period. Co C laying two mined roadblocks near Fremifontaine. Co C burying horses near Beyvillers. Co B has inspected masks and submitted shortage lists, but as yet has held no mask drill. Co A is complete with both mask drill and inspection and has submitted shortage list. Policy on minefields: No extensive AT fields without Division approval. No AP mines or devices at all without Division approval.

G-3: Major Lord: Co B will clear blocks for 45th Cav Ren troop and will be prepared to support Cav Ren Troop in defending ground gained.

Capt. Billups to Lt Gordon, Co B: One platoon will go behind Cav Ren troop to sweep roads and clear blocks. Remainder of Co will remain in present area, prepared to move in support of Cav Ren with defensive fires. Continue to support 179th Inf in minor missions. Call Bn for aid from Co A for missions requiring one platoon or more.

Capt Billups to Lt Picket, Ass't S-3: Notify Co A to be prepared to assist Co B in support of 179th Inf.

Capt Billups to Capt Frank: Relief will take place as originally planned. You will relieve Co A of support of 157th Infantry

Radio to Co A: You will relieve Co B as originally planned. Have at least one platoon in position by 0900.

Capt Billups to CO Co A: You will relieve Co B as originally planned. Move as early as possible. Have at least one platoon at Co B CP by 0800. B Co will move to Sercoeur as soon as relieved. Co C will relieve you now. They have been notified. Also send liaison to 179th CP early in the morning.

PERIOD 0001-2400 9 October 1944:

Tel Lt Bridges to S-3: Co A has completed relief of Co B. New Co B CP will be at V132615 (Dompierre). Co A took over old Co B CP at Vimenil.

Lt Thuring, Co C: Lt Safir's platoon laid mined roadblock of abatis and 20 AT mines at V232639 last night. Another mined road block is being laid this morning at V230635. Sketch is submitted of first block and sketch will be submitted of second when it is finished.

Cav Ron Trp to S-3: Co B 120th Engrs has quit work on roadblock at V228577. Capt Baker wants to know when block will be cleared.

T/S Lamphere, Tankdozer crew: Lt Simmons platoon, Co A, which relieved Co B platoon, clearing road block at V228577. Winch was attached to roadblock when enemy machine gun opened fire on truck of Cav Ron troop. Repeated attempts to recover truck have failed because of enemy fire. There are also two mine detectors with the truck.

Lt Lipscomb: Sketch of mine roadblock is submitted, which was laid by Lt Safir's platoon, Co C at V230635.

Capt Billups: Co A lost 2 1/2 ton truck and two mine detectors on roadblock at V229579. The roadblock at V228577 was as yet not secured and Cav Ron Troop had told Lt Simmons that roadblock at V229579 was secure and could be removed. The block consisted of heavy trees, and when winch truck failed to move it, engineers attempted to cut it out with hand tools. The noise of chopping, drew enemy fire from front and to the right, and they were forced to withdraw, leaving truck and tools there. When they attempted to return, they drew fire from both left and right sides, as well as front. Later, mortar shells began to fall in the area, and they were forced to withdraw entirely.

Co B, before being relieved by Co A this morning, completed clearing trails V224604-228609, and 225606-233610. Co A is now clearing, trail (not on map) V221606-225615.

Tel Capt Tauscher: Co A reports having recovered truck, not badly damaged, and two mine detectors from roadblock V229579.

Lt Oleson reports: Quarry at V184597 (Vimenil) has not been worked for 20 years, has soft stone only. Quarry at 195598 (near Grandillers) has some gravel, but is 40-50% dirt. It is sandstone quarry for tile. Razed building at Dompierre large stone suitable for sub-grade. At 075572 (Jeuxey) is some crushed rock along side of road. There is also quarry here from which some gravel can be obtained.

PERIOD 0001-2400 10 October 1944:

Capt Billups: Co 179th Inf is to attack south from V228586. 45th Cav Ron Troop will attack east from V225578. One platoon of Co A 120th Engrs will secure right flank of Cav Ron, and another platoon will be in reserve for support. Other platoon of Co A will follow 179th Inf for engineer support. The above plan was proposed by G-3

Co C maintaining four man patrol to bridge at Autrey.
Tel from Col Martin (Chief of Staff) to Lt Col Mennier: Gen
disapproves of plan to have Co A support Cav Recon troop as
infantry. Engineer troops are not to be used as infantry unless
necessary.

Lt Oleson: Road Epinal to Nancy via N 57 is all A2 except for two
bridges north of Epinal and a bypass to N413, from Crevechamps, Benney,
and two span Bailey Bridge at Flavigny. From Nancy to Pont A Mousson.
Route 413 from Flavigny to Mirecourt is A2. From Mirecourt to Epinal
(N 66) is all A2 except for bypass at Uxegney. There are no bridges
left intact over Moselle River between Epinal and Nancy, but one way
class or two way class 40 timber bridge has been built at Chatel Sur
Moselle. At Vincey there is no bridge, but civilians are building one.
Just south of Langley the railroad bridge over Moselle is blown, 230
to 250 foot gap. Four spans blown, (stone arch bridge) and only one
pier is left intact. There are 60 carloads coal at Essagney. One loco-
motive with left driver rods removed at same place. At Charmes, they
have two single lane class 50 bridges. The original bridge has two
gaps, with total of 210 feet to be spanned. Bridge 50 ft above water.
Bailey bridges at Flavigny are being replaced with steel trestle
bridges. At Vincey there is a large foundry and wire factory. At Pompey
is a large steel mill and one at Pont A Mousson still operating. Best
route to Nancy from Epinal is by way of Mirecourt. There is an airport
being constructed at Clery by aviation battalion.

PERIOD 0001-2400 11 October 1944:

Tel from Lt Col Frantz: Start work on job immediately. See
Col Frantz before work begins. This job had been discussed with Capt
Billups earlier today.

Tel G-3 to Major Lowe: Thinks road block at 224560 can be cleared
now. Cav Recon far enough advanced to permit clearing without danger
from small arms fire.

Lt Col Mennier: Tomorrow morning Co B will relieve Co A. Co A
was unable to finish clearing roadblock at V226581 before dark tonight
so Co B will do the job in the morning.

Capt Billups: Co A, upon relief by Co B in the morning, will
relieve Co C. Co C, upon relief by Co A, will begin job of graveling
entrance road and building duckboard walks at Div CP at Mirecourt.

PERIOD 0001-2400 12 October 1944:

Capt Billups by tel reports: Roadblock on road east of Grand-
villers at V228602 removed by tank dozer. Job completed at 1030 hours
and road appears to be clear of mines as far forward as can be seen
from place roadblock was removed. Roadblock at 224560, south east
of Grandvillers should be completely removed by 1200 today. Graveling
job underway at Division.

Co A cleared mines from roadblock on side trail at V183711,
south of Rambervillers. Found three "R" mines 43. There were strands
of barbed wire strung low over trail to simulate trip wires.

Capt Tauscher: Enemy counterattack in progress at 228588.

Capt Tauscher: Enemy counterattack beaten off. Estimated str-
ength was two tanks and 100 men. One tank KO'd.

PD 0001-2400 13 October 1944:

Lt Cohen, Co B: I just got my men and equipment on the job yesterday, when the 179th Infantry called it off, as they were moving a battalion there today (13 Oct) and did not want the enemy's attention drawn to that area. Instead, I cleared a trail 220578-220579-213580-213576, then took over Lt Dayton's job in the afternoon, and improved the entire road 181546-213576.

Pvts Gille and Dutton, Ren Sect. report: RR is blown at St Laurent. Approx. 100 yard gap. RR bridge at Jarmentil blown. Repairs are now underway. Trees felled across RR between Jarmentil and Chemineil. Telephone and telegraph lines are destroyed. Decelles RR yard switches blown, crossover blown on main line. Can be replaced at Lepanges, crossover blown on main line. 30 to 40 pieces of rails in yard at Lepanges. Also at Lepanges lumber yard: 2" x 6" x 10" lumber and reinforcing steel and angle iron. Also 40 pcs 8" x 40' I beams. Between Decimont and Lepanges there is a rail blown on each of numerous curves. Intervals of about 400 yards. Enough rails in Decimont to replace those blown. No cars or locomotives along road. Road Condition: Epinal, St Laurent, Archettes, Jarmentil, Decelles, Deycemont, Lepanges - Good. One way bypass between Jarmentil and Chemineil at present time.

PERIOD 0001-2400 14 October 1944:

Tel from Capt Tauscher, ADH: Lt Cohen, Co B, has removed road-block at V224580. Heavy logs were removed last night, but work was stopped because of machine gun fire. Remainder of block was cleared out this morning. There are two more blocks ahead on this trail (to northeast) which cannot be reached as yet. Co A in support of 157th Inf: Co B in support of 179th Inf: Co C in support of 180th Inf, as per orders from Capt Billups.

Capt Billups: Co A cleared road 204742-206737-204733-198733. This trail is a soft dirt, one lane road, which is requiring extensive maintenance. Co B cleared blocks at 224579, RR road swept first

Lt Col Monnier: Co A is relieved as Division Reserve. Will clear road from 157th Inf from Rambervillers to Bru.

Capt Tauscher to S-3: Earlier information is all wrong. Road Rambervillers to Bru not to be touched. Road from Grandvillers to Bruyeres is the one to be opened. Capt Tauscher will take care of getting correct information to Co A, Capt Billups and Co B.

Lt Gleason reports jeep wrecked by tank across river.

Tel from Capt Tauscher: Contacted Lt Bridges, Co B, and plan is set for Co B tomorrow to perform work as follows: 1st platoon will clear main road from Grandvillers to Bruyeres, when advance of infantry permits. 2nd platoon will clear trail from V224579 to north east as tactical situation permits. 3rd platoon will work on five trails to 1st and 3rd battalion, 179th Infantry.

PERIOD 0001-2400 15 October 1944:

Tel from VI Corps Engr to S-3: PW reports mines and booby traps on both sides of RR tracks in grid square V2686.

Capt Tauscher: G-4 wants us to build incinerator in vic 45th Div Clearing Co.

Lt Col Mennier reports: Everything going okay on road Grandvillers to Bruyeres. Engineers keeping road clear behind 179th. Clearing company 120th Medics needs few loads of gravel. No truck available from Co B just now. A Co may be able to take care of this job.

Lt Olesen reports picking up, in Spinal, member of French Police Force at 0930 today and taking him to VI Corps Engr Section. He has information on roads in area east of line between Rambervillers and Bruyeres and in southerly direction toward Plainfaing.

Capt Billups reports: Co B cleared trail from 224579 to 226585. Hand work on road block at 227583 stopped by small arms fire. Removal of block completed by tank dozer. A Co will dig incinerator tomorrow morning in vic 075855 and will begin hauling gravel to 45th Div clearing station.

PERIOD 0001-2400 16 October 1944:

Tel Capt Tauscher to S-3: 1st Bn 36th Engrs is being committed as infantry to reinforce the 2nd Bn vic of Autrey. The Bailey and treadway at Rambervillers will still be maintained by rear echelon 1st Bn, but any construction work will have to be done by us.

Lt Fields, Co B to S-3: Lt Cohen's platoon yesterday cleared trail V223574 to 229585. Today, providing infantry secures ground, he will clear from 229585 to 226590. Lt Pickett's platoon will clear trail 21959--224586, and will build trail from 224586 to 226588. Lt Dayton's platoon is maintaining trail 213690-219601-226590 and trails northwest of Grandvillers-Bruyeres road, and is prepared, with tank dozer to clear further on Grandvillers-Bruyeres road.

S/Sgt Debney, Co B: One R mine found yesterday at roadblock 227583. Two prisoners were taken by security patrol at this block.

Capt Wins, S-3 179th Inf: There is a Col from an AA unit here, who wants some one to dig in a radar near Gagnecourt. He will require a dozer for about 2 hours.

Capt Frank: Needs 150 loads of rock bad. There are buildings near Fremifontaine of which only the walls are standing. G-3 does not believe we have authority to tear them down. They are needed at 220623.

Lt Dayton, Co B: Trail V229585-226590 has been cleared by Lt Cohen's platoon. There were no roadblocks on trail.

ADR to S-3: Corps Engr reports that 36th FA Bn had some casualties from mines at V190607. At least one more mine has been found. Want Engineers to sweep area.

PERIOD 0001-2400 17 October 1944:

S/Sgt Debney, Co B, reports mine removed yesterday at 220598. One of our trucks was disabled by a mine and the mine removed had been covered by the truck.

Capt Billups reports road Ste Helene to Destord is very muddy. Road Ste Helene to Bult is now open all the way. West of Ste Helene a small usable quarry was located. Located at 188662. This quarry is about 8 feet deep with one to one and a half feet of limestone rock. Bridge at Ste Helene needs new decking. A Co will do this tomorrow.

Capt Billups: Bridge at Ste Helene will be closed to traffic tomorrow from 0800 to 1200 while new decking is placed.

Tel from Col Martin, Chief of Staff: Gen Eagles will like to have someone from Co B start work on road east from Grandvillers at once. Have officer from Co B contact 179th Inf about road conditions.

Tel Lt Bridges, Co B to S-3: Have cleared Grandvillers-Bryeres road to point 100 yards short of house at V233597. Have cleared trees from roadblock to this point, have 15 left to clear. Tank Dozer hit an R mine at this point, knocking off one tread and one bogey wheel. Tank dozer has been retrieved, and is being repaired by 191st Tank Bn. Will be in operating order again sometime tomorrow. Request Co C dozer to finish road clearing job in morning.

Capt Billups to CO Co C: Have your tank dozer meet Lt Bridges at cross road in Grandvillers tomorrow morning at 0800.

PERIOD 0001-2400 18 October 1944:

1st Sgt Debney, Co B: Mine that tank dozer exploded last night at 233597 was an R mine 43, and was only mine encountered in the block. Lt Bridges pulled 12 R mines out of road just north of this before starting to clear block.

Lt Col Monnier: Co B has now cleared Grandvillers-Bryeres road as far south as V233592 to F, 179th Inf has crossed the road from west to east at this point.

Lt Lipscomb: While clearing roadblock today at V233612, northeast of Grandvillers, one man was killed and four men lightly wounded by a mine in the block. Mine was probably a tree charge with trip wire in the block. The man killed was Pvt Lupe Turley. This was the only mine found in the block.

PERIOD 0001-2400 19 October 1944:

Capt Billups to Co B: Destroy all R mines that you have pulled.

Policy: All R mines found by units of this Battalion will be destroyed as soon as the situation permits. They will not be left alongside roads.

Lt Col Monnier sent instructions to Capt Frank to help 92nd AAA dig in power plants and other equipment to morrow if possible. This is not to be done if Infantry needs entire company and equipment support.

PERIOD 0001-2400 20 October 1944:

1st Sgt Debney, Co B: Co B has cleared road Grandvillers-Bryeres as far south as RJ V243586. There is a roadblock just north of the UF. 10 R mines 43 were removed from the road during the day. Lt Pickett's platoon is clearing and improving trail northeast from V233597.

Lt Pickett, Co B: Have cleared trail northeast from V233597. Removed roadblock at V233598. Trail is not wide enough for tanks.

Tel Lt Bridges: Removed roadblock at RJ V243586. 442nd Inf reported to 179th Inf that they have cleared road from Bryeres north to RJ 243586. There were R mines both in front of and behind this block. Block was constructed of logs buried end up, back by horizontal logs, supported from behind by diagonal timbers. Block was removed with one sweep of tank dozer. Have had one squad demolishing piles of removed mines in rear areas, and this project will be completed in 179th Inf sector by tomorrow.

Tel Capt Carroll, S-3 157th Inf to Major Billups: Enemy shown much activity tonight in vicinity of Bru. We have no reserves present in vicinity of Rambervillers, and would like to move Co A of the engineers to the east of the town as reserves in case of an attack from Bru.

PERIOD 0001-2400 21 October 1944:

Lt Burke, ASST S-3, 157th Inf: Everything remained quiet during the night. We do not think it probable that anything new will develop.

1st Sgt Debney, Co B,: 1st platoon reconnoitered with tank dozer for a road or trail 243586-241593. 2 platoons with 1st battalion, 179th Infantry.

Capt Tauscher: Gen Butler wants to know possibility of obtaining snake for use against wire and similar objects.

Capt Lee, Corps Engr Supply Co: There is one snake demolition M-1, less bolts, at Epinal. 10 are on order, and supposedly on the way. Use is under control of Corps G-4.

Tel from Lt Col Monnier to S-3: One squad of Co A with mine detectors is to reinforce Co B, although Lt Bridges did not think he would need them. One platoon Co A alerted to reinforce roadblocks east of Rambervillers. Are not moving from area yet. Opening trail from RJ V248585 to vic 244590 for tanks. Roads in back part of Division sector are in need of drainage and gravel. Co A will probably be assigned job tomorrow. 48th Engrs, supporting 3rd Div, will take over maintenance of road Bruyeres-Grandvillers-Gugnecourt-Cirecourt-Aydoilles. 3rd Battalion of 36th Engrs has been committed as Inf to support rest of regiment. 10th Engrs OP east of Viminal. They will take over maintenance of road Grandvillers-Ste Helene-RJ V187687.

Lt Lipscomb, Co C, to S-3: Co C has not been able to clear trails northeast of Grandvillers beyond points previously reported.

Maj Hanson, 10th Engrs to S-3: Co B, 10th Engrs has cleared road RJ V243586-RJ248585. Co A 10th Engrs has cleared road Bruyeres-RJ248585 (one tree was left across road). Co B, 10th Engrs has opened trail from RJ V248585 to V242593. It is intended to develop this trail down into Brouvelieures as the tactical situation permits. 10th Engrs have also opened trail V241585-238588-233579-Bruyeres.

Lt Oleson, Ren O: Contacted M. Andre, French Forest Service, in Rambervillers for road information east from Rambervillers to Raon L'Etape and Etival. The Brigadier of forest service in St Benoit is M. Gros.

Tel Maj Hanson, 10th Engrs: Elements of 15th Inf have come north from Brouvelieures to vic bridge at V254613. Would like to know if we have cleared trail Grandvillers to V251618 for use of tank destroyers tomorrow. Do not know as yet if foot troops of 15th Inf have contacted 3rd Bn 180th Inf, in this sector.

Maj Billups to Maj Hanson: Trail in question is not yet cleared beyond V237613. Inf has not yet made contact. We will have Co C start clearing this trail early in the morning if the tactical situation permits.

PERIOD 0001-2400 23 October 1944:

Tel from Col Reynolds, G-3: Force consisting of recon and one battalion of 180th Inf is to cross bridge at V241643 and secure high ground on east bank. Want engineers to build bridge if necessary. Elements probably 2nd Bn 179th Inf which is near Brouvelieures, will be withdrawn. Remaining elements of 45th Div in that sector will clean up any scattered resistance and will then be withdrawn.

Tel from S-3 to Co C: Be ready to install bridge if necessary, at V241643. If you need treadway it can be obtained from 36th Engrs bridge train in Rambervillers.

1st Sgt Debney, Co B: Co B yesterday removed roadblock on main road to Brouvelieures. Entire road into town is clear. Co B also destroyed 108 "R" mines yesterday in division rear areas.

Lt Foster, Ass't S-3: Co B's tank dozer is in repair at 191st tank Bn shop at Aydoilles for motor repairs, will not be serviceable until tomorrow.

Major Lowe called and rpts that Lt Simmons reported one platoon of Co A manning roadblocks near Rambervillers. Festions were taken over during night.

Lt Col Monnier reports by phone: 180th Inf is reaching river at 241645. Bridge train at Rambervillers alerted to furnish materials for bridge at that point. Also reports that he does not know yet whether or when we will move. Another river crossing is being considered in 36th Engrs sector northeast of Autrey.

Capt Frank: Bridge at 241643 not totally destroyed. personnel recon to bridge was not possible right down to bridge but as nearly as he could ascertain the Germans have been trying to repair the bridge and it will take approximately three sections of treadway to make crossing.

Lt Simmons's platoon will relieve 3rd platoon this afternoon on outposts and roadblock guard positions.

Lt Col Monnier ordered Capt Rickey to begin work laying matting on Div Arty OP and to maintain contact with 36th Engrs for information on proposed river crossing north of Autrey. Co B can relieve Co A on one of the jobs if the river crossing is definitely decided upon.

Tel from S-3 179th Inf: Wan liaison officer from Engineers to report to them this afternoon. Operations may necessitate engineer assistance.

Tel from Sgt Dykens, ADE sect: Message from Maj Billups: Inf has not crossed river at 241643 as yet. Only damage done to bridge is a shell hit (240mm, large crater) at the approach of bridge. Will use treadway. All arrangements completed. Waiting for infantry.

Major Billups: Co C has treadway ready to install at bridge 241643. Trail 240637-240643 has been cleared, also trail 226648-233544. Infantry has not crossed bridge 241643. One man of Co C lightly wounded by rifle fire. Co B CP moved to 208620.

Pvt Dutton: Recon Section: Made recon to bridge at 229654. RR overpass just west of bridge is intact. Bridge is blown, has total span of not more than 30 feet, with firm abutments. Area is heavily mined, 36th Engrs are starting to clear mines.

Lt Col Monnier: 180th Inf was not successful in attempt to cross bridge at 241643. Will try tonight to cross south of this point, 48th Cav Ren to the north. Lt Cohen's platoon, Co B, will open trail 236614-251618. Trail to bridge at 241643 had been swept for mines twice (once by the Infantry and once by Co C), yet first tank down road hit a mine in center of road. Evidence seems to show that "R" mines are being laid from 18 to 24 inches deep, making them difficult to pick up with detector. 36th Engrs report far approach to Autrey bridge needs filling.

Major Billups to Maj Darling, Engr VI Corps: Is it possible to assign 48th Engrs to maintenance of any of the following roads: Girecourt-Rambervillers; Grandvillers-Girecourt; Aydoilles-Rambervillers-Padoux-Epinal; Grandvillers-Rambervillers; Destord-Pierepont.

Answer: 48th Engr Bn is now supporting all three regiments in VI Corps. They have already been assigned road Bruyeres-Grandvillers-Girecourt-Aydoilles.

Lt Picket and Lt Dayton, Co B: Trail east from V234597 is cleared to 241601, and trail north west from RJ 248385 is cleared to same point. There is a roadblock just north of this point.

Tel ADE to S-3: 180th Inf will not attack via bridge 241643 until 0530 tomorrow morning.

PERIOD 0001-2400 23 October 1944:

Tel Capt Tauscher: 180th Inf attacked this morning at 0830 at bridge 241643. No report as yet as progress of attack. G-3 says that bridge at 229654 will not be used.

Tel Capt Tauscher: Capt Frank, Co C reports infantry has crossed bridge 241643. Impossible at present to install treadway bridge because of heavy artillery fire, but brockways are ready in Fremifontaine to install treadway when artillery lets up. Will keep us informed. Co A, 48th Engrs, in in general support of 45th Div. Capt Snyder is in command. CP is south of Girecourt. Will take over maintenance of road Girecourt-Destord-Rambervillers.

1st Sgt Debney, Co B: Tank Dozer is still in repair shop. Would like to get Co C's tank dozer to clear large roadblock from trail north west of Brouvelieures.

Lt Col Monnier: Chief of Staff reports 179th Inf has advanced north to vic 252650. There is a roadblock at 252626 which we want removed.

Tel from ADE: Capt Rickey has laid 150 ft of single Sommerfeld mat for air strip at Berceour and 100 ft of second row of mat.

Co B has cleared road Brouvelieures-253613-255165-253612. Are now clearing roadblock at this last point, and will work north to roadblock 252626.

Lt Col Monnier: Trail 233620-259624 cleared, work continuing. Tank dozer working on paved road north at about 233622. I am going up to see Capt Frank and then to landing strip.

Lt Thuring, Co C: Co C has cleared trail 232613-239609 and trail 232613-236615.

Tel from ADE: 36th Engrs report gap in bridge at 229654 to be 45'.

Tel from Lt Oleson: Lt Col Monnier wants road maintenance immediately on road 205632-Fremifontaine-240643.

Lt Oleson, reported to Lt Safir at 179th CP (by tel) that bridge at 241643 was secured. It would require 60' of treadway. Troops in vic of bridge still receiving small arms fire.

Lt Col Monnier: 157th Inf will take sector next to 180th Inf, vic of Autrey. 36th Engrs and 117th Ren will take sector between VI Corps and XV Corps, vic Rambervillers. Treadway bridge being installed at bridge 241643 (60'), will have to be trestled up to take heavy traffic. Co B was clearing trail 236614, east, last night and this morning, but job was called off by 179th Inf as unnecessary. 2nd Bn 36th Engrs is alerted to put in bridge at 229654, but due to change in sector, we may have to do this job.

Major Billups: Co B has swept road from 253621 north as far as 251630, and are continuing to work this road to the north. Also cleared road 254620 to 268629.

ADE to S-3, tel: Bridge at 241643 is open for light traffic, will be ready for heavy traffic in about 2 hours.

Tel S-3 to Maj Darling, VI Corps Engr: Request assistance in maintaining and improving road Fremifontaine-241643.

Answer: Will try to get at least one platoon from Corps Engr to help with this job.

PERIOD 0001-2400 24 October 1944:

Tel from Capt Gilbert, VI Corps Engr Sect: 48th Engrs will take over road Co A has been maintaining, as far as Fremifontaine.

Tel from Col Dulaney, CO 180th Inf: Bridge at 241643 was completed last night and tanks were passed over it.

Lt Lipscomb: Treadway bridge at 241643 was completed at 1900 last night for light traffic. Trestles were put in by 2400 and tanks crossed immediately after. Road 241643-244644-249649 was swept for mines.

1st Sgt Dehney, Co B: About 800 yards of abatis was removed from road between points 254620 and 251635. 2 "R" mines found on road 254620-268629.

Col Reynolds, G-3: Corps has approved use of 36th Engrs to build bridge at 229655.

Capt Tauscher: We need a mine sweeping detail for Div CP vic of Fremifontaine. Lt Col Monnier reports that bridge at 241643 has deteriorated to where only 1/4 tons can cross. Co C's tank dozer is still on near side. Want Co B tank dozer, which is working vic of Morgagne, to come around to 251635 to work north toward bridge.

Messenger, Co B: One truck 2 1/2 tons hit mine in front of our present bivouac area 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers. One squad of 3rd platoon was going out on job. T/4 Shedd was seriously wounded, his right leg being badly mangled. Lt Dayton has gone to medical aid sta with him. Am sending Brown (ren driver) in with T/5 Butler, driver of the truck which was blown up, and Pvt Haroian who at the present are both suffering from shock. Lt Bridges and Lt Fields are out hunting a new bivouac area.

New Bn CP established at V208617, 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers.

Lt Col Monnier: Co's B and C have met each other on road sweeping job on east side of Mortagne river, Co B working north from Bourvelieures and Co C south from bridge V241643. Bridge at 241643 had part of fill wash away during the morning, making bridge unsuitable for anything but 1/4 ton traffic. An extra 30 ft of treadway with an extra trestle was used to strengthen it, and is now passing tanks.

Lt Ricker, Co B. Today we cleared trails 253620-267629 is actually trail 253621-254626-267629. Today we cleared trails V267629-279635; V270631-271639-273644-273646-270650; and V274634-273640-271639. Also cleared road V273644-268643. Infantry cleared trails V272644-270646-270650-, and V274644-273646.

Pvt Roberts, Co B, tank man: Tank dozer cleared road V230636-256641. Hit a mine at this last point and tank is disabled. One track is blown off and one suspension system is probably wrecked. Lt Bridges will contact 191st Tank Bn to have them pull out tank dozer and take it back for repairs.

Major Billups reports Co A, 48th Engrs was asked to improve and maintain road Brouvelieures north toward Autrey.

PERIOD 0001-2400 25 October 1944:

Capt Tauscher: 36th Engrs reports bridge south of Autrey, and road from Autrey to Bridge, swept for mines.

Major Billups: Road Autrey to bridge 241643 is now open also road has been cleared from Autrey to 230674.

Capt Tauscher: Div CP now moving to new area. Capt Frank called and said road open 251637-261642. Road has box mines found at 254627. Marked off and left in place.

By radio from Co C: Tank dozer, threw track at 256640. Co CP moving to 229635.

Major Billups reports road from 250637 to 272644 now open. Road from Autrey to 239664 also open. Co A improving approaches at Autrey bridge. Given orders to continue and to put in more gravel. Co B, Lt Cohen, working road from 250637 toward treadway bridge 241643.

Lt Bridges, Co B: The following trails have been cleared: V268629-255635, V268631-270635, V226652-263653, V262642-262647-264648-263644. This last trail was cleared by Co C, the rest by Co B.

Tel ADE: 36th Engrs are no longer maintaining Bailey Bridge at 230654, and there is no maintenance crew at the bridge.

Lt Gleason: There is some lumber available at sawmill at V246642, mostly one inch stock, but also some 3" x 9". There is also a little lumber at sawmill at V250634.

Major Lows: Mr Flanagan reports that our tank dozer, which hit a mine last night, will be repaired by tomorrow afternoon. Tank dozer detached from 6617 Mine Clearing Co, which threw a track today is back in operation now.

Lt Sanderlin, 180th Inf: Minefield at V239625 (VI Corps No. 7) was removed by Co C 120th Engrs. 179th Inf reportedly laid two minefields, one north of road junction V233613 and one south of same Junction. 180th Inf removed 10 AT mines from north field, but south field has apparently not been removed.

Capt Rickey: 191st Tank Bn had two tank Retrievers damaged by mines on road V233655.

Tel from Capt Rickey: Request tank dozer for job in morning. Have it meet Lt Smith at Autrey at 0530 in the morning.

Tel to Capt Frank: Send tank dozer with you (6617 Mine C1 Co) to meet Lt Smith at Autrey at 0530 in the morning.

Answer: Tank dozer is still in shop. Track is replaced but tank needed maintenance and won't be operating until tomorrow afternoon

PERIOD 0001-2400 26 October 1944:

Tel Capt Frank to Lt Col Monnier: Bridge at 241643 had transom damaged. Will be closed for repairs for about two hours.

Pvt Dutton, Ren Section: Road V240665-252661 has been cleared by Co A. Co C cleared road 251655-252661. Bridge at 252661 is blown, but is only a small job. Will be repaired by Co A this afternoon. Road 243662-Housseras will be cleared this afternoon by Co A. Road V240665 to 238660-251655 is a better road than V240665-252661, but is heavily blocked and has one weak stretch of about 100 yards.

Major Billups: Co A is clearing road V222668-220664 this afternoon. Have cleared road V235676-242680-Housseras, and road V242680-250670.

Tel Lt Bridges: Will clear road V269652-251655. Will also carry equipment across valley to start clearing road from V264660 west toward bridge 253662. Co C is clearing east from this bridge, and two parties will meet. Also clearing north from 264660-264668.

Tel Maj Billups to Capt Riskey: Has Lt Smith finished bridge at V253662. Answer: Bridge is finished, class 20. Have also cleared road from V222668 north to 220683. American mined roadblock at 222672 (VI Corps No. 8) has already been removed, and mines were on ground beside road.

Major Billups: Have Lt Smith reinforce bridge 253662 to class 40.

Tel Lt Fields: Co B today cleared roads V269652-251655; V253662-264660-263667; V262663-261668.

Major Billups: Bridge at V253662 is class 40. Co B cleared roads (in addition to those previously reported): 264660-269661; 261668-263667-268673; 240664-239660-251655. Co A cleared road Housseras-268687, and completed clearing road 243680-253662.

Tel Capt Tauscher: Minefield RJ 229669 (VI Corps No. 10) has been removed, mines are stacked near road.

Pvt Hirschman (G-2 Sect): 157th reports piles of wood booby trapped on both sides of road, between 240678 and 265686.

PERIOD 0001-2400 27 October 1944:

Tel S-3 to G-3: Request permission to pull trestle bridge at 241643.

Major Billups: Co A moved to 213604, west of Autrey. Co A has cleared and swept the following roads: Housseras, north to 244688, 258687-269698 and road 219683-218690.

Major Billups: Road reported (at 1145) cleared from 266687 to 269696 (100 yards short of road west of Jeanneil) should have been reported 258687-278694. Co C has been maintaining road Autrey-Sté Helene since noon. Lt Smith is rocking road 240668-253661. Co A is clearing trail 260679-270778-279683-277687. Co B cleared trail 269661-280667-291666-295683-295676-287676-285674-277675. Lt Oleson reports road 269652-294658 is open, also road 294638 south to Les Rougesaux (3rd Div MER). Co C had maintenance crew on bridge 241643, and Co A maintained bridge at 229654.

Maj Billups to Co C: Remove burned out tank destroyer from road 227648.

Tel 10th Engrs to S-3: Request to use some of our trucks to help haul gravel from pit via 265625 on to road 278655-294638.

el Capt Billups to Capt Rickey, (Co A): Drain roads via 229671
243664. Clear road 218690-214706 and Housseras-217703.

Capt Rickey: Lt Peak's platoon finished clearing trail 260679-
270678-270675.

Tel 645th TD Bn to S-3: Request to have road from Housseras
northeast toward RJ 216703, cleared. There are four roadblocks on
this road.

PERIOD 0001-2400 28 October 1944:

Capt Frank by tel: CP moved to 245656. Want to use tank dozer
tomorrow morning.

Maj Billups: Co B gravelling and improving trail 264660-291666-
295677-287676-286673-270674-263667-264660. Three of Co B trucks are
hauling gravel for the 10th Engrs on road 270632-284636. Co A is
clearing trail 270677-278684 and north and is improving same trail
and trails 770677-260679-266686-274695.

Lt Gleson, Ren: Quarry reported yesterday at 250683 is actually
at 279678.

Capt Sonnenhsen, Adj, 2nd Bn 36th Engrs: 2nd Bn 36th Engrs
expected to be in support of 45th Div. 48th Engrs will follow the
3rd Div.

Maj Billups to VI Corps Engr: Verify report of Capt Sonnenhsen.
VI Corps rear boundary will run along line Padoux-Cirecourt.

Lt Col Monnier: The following roads are clear and being used:
265643-287652, 278675-278692.

Capt Rickey reports Co A now clearing the northwest entrance to
town of Housseras for TD's.

Capt Rickey, by phone: Believe good quarry or gravel pit can be
opened at 271683. Reports road closed 278688 to 278691. Capt Rickey
was ordered to maintain road Autrey to Housseras and Autrey to bridge
253661. Also to maintain roads Housseras to 260680 and from 260680
to 278694 and 278691.

Maj Billups by tel to VI Corps reported: Location of gravel pit
in vic 271683 was informed that Corps now has light equipment co
attached with following equipment on hand: 4- $\frac{1}{2}$ yd shovels, 6 compressors
2 Quickaway cranes, 6 graders (road patrol) 2-8 yd carryalls, 4-D7's
2-D4's, 3 dump trucks.

Major Billups requested one shovel be allotted for our use at
an early date pending examination of quarry and determining need
for gravel on roads we are now maintaining. Request was approved and
investigation in quarry will be made tomorrow and corps notified if
shovel is needed and when.

PERIOD 0001-2400 29 October 1944:

Lt Bein (3617 Mine Clearing Company): Our tank dozer cleared road
blocks near Housseras (vic V234687-236686) last night.

Tel Lt Col Monnier: Co C is installing two culverts at V243700
and is bringing up tank dozer to start clearing main road east (and
south) out of Jeanmenil. 157th Inf has cut other road east out of
Jeanmenil at V260711 and at 269709. Patrols are supposed to be in
Jeanmenil now, and as soon as situation permits, 2nd Bn 36th Engrs,
will be assigned maintenance of these two roads. Road V289669-229673

s is open to ambulance traffic only during daylight.
oster (ass't S-3): Co C during night cleared roads V24689-
698, V244888-280698. Tank dozer was guided to Housseras where it
turned over to Capt Frank at 1000. Capt Frank will use it to help
putting in culvert at V243700, and then will use it to clear road V
243701-280699. Bridge at V280699 is reported intact by infantry.
Infantry also reports roadblock via 257699.

Lt Beine (6617 Mine Clearing Co): We would like to bring another
tank dozer of ours up tomorrow to work with the 120th Engrs to pull
the present dozer back for two days to give the crew further training.
We also expect to get more tank dozers from rear soon, including an
M-4A1 (similar to the present one) and would like at that time to train
a reserve crew for the 120th Engr tank.

Pvt Dutton, rcn sect: Trail V278891-277895 is open, and also main
road from V288898. Trail V277888-286676 is open, but is good for
1/4 tons only.

Maj Billups: Good gravel in quarry at V273683.. Co A is to build a
approach road into quarry this afternoon.

Tel from Chief of Staff to Maj Lowe (Exec C): A bn of 36th Engrs
is now in support of 48th Div. Assign them job of clearing main road
east and west of RJ V243701 now, and of maintaining same road from
Rambervillers east as it is opened. This will be the Division MTR.

Tel Major Lowe to Lt Col Monnier: Msg from Chief of Staff con-
cerning 2nd Bn 36th Engrs: 36th Engrs Regt probably has patrols in
Jeanmenil now. If that is true, tell 2nd Bn to start work on road east
out of Jeanmenil. If that is possible, have them start working on road
243701.

Mj Flanagan, Mot O: Culvert at 243700 has been installed and is
passing traffic.

Lt Col Monnier: Co C has cleared road V243701-280699. The tank
dozer is at this last point and is ready for Co A to clear from there
to east in 157th Inf sector.

Tel from Gen Eagles to Maj Lowe: Open Jeanmenil-La Salle road as
far east as 29 grid line as soon as possible. Have seen Col Boatner
(36th Engrs) and instructed him to start work on road out of Jeanmenil
with the 2nd Bn 36th Engrs.

Capt Tauscher (AMB) to Maj Lowe: 938th FA wants about 15 trees
cut out of firing positions at 266676. Need power saw and men to do
job. Have party report to Capt Ratchof at 935th FA CP in Autrey at
0800 tomorrow morning.

Capt Riskey, Co A: Lt Smith's platoon is clearing Jeanmenil-La
Salle road west from RJ V277694 toward Co C. Can get tank dozer from Co
B to use working west on same road if I need it.

Ans: Co C has cleared road west to 28 grid line. Gen Eagles wants
us to clear entire road west to 29 grid line tonight if possible.

Maj Billups: Co A is maintaining and improving road Housseras-
280679-277687-270876.

Tel from S-3 to Capt Scennichsen, (Adj. 2nd Bn 36th Engrs): Want
your battalion to clear road from Jeanmenil east to 243701. Inf reports
no blocks in that part of road. We are clearing road as far west as
29 grid line tonight, and want you to take over maintenance of that
road to that point. You will also open road V211713-Housseras
and road V216703-Autrey, and road Jeanmenil-245716.

Maj Billups: Co C, using tank dozer, is clearing trail V243701-
245716. On this trail this afternoon they found "R" mines tied in
trees with trip wires.

Radio S-3 to Co A: Send power saw and six men tomorrow morning to 938th FA CP in Autrey to saw trees. Also look for new Company area in sector.

Lt Col Monnier: Tank dozer (180th Engrs) which has been in Autrey for minor repairs since 1700, is now back in operation and is being sent to Co A:

PERIOD 0001-2400 30 October 1944:

CO Co C: CP moving to 243697.

CO Co A: New CP at 270687.

Tel, 2nd Bn 36th Engrs to S-1: Power shovel will not be available until about 1300.

Lt Foster: Road Jeanmenil-253901 is now open. 36th Engrs are now clearing shoulders and side streets in Jeanmenil. Tank destroyer hit mine last night on road from Jeanmenil to Bru.

Lt Fenstermacher (6617 Mine Clearing Co) reports to Bn CP to replace our tank, which will return to rear to tr-train crew.

Maj Lowe: Capt Frank, Co C, reports work for today will include clearing the following roads: V227713-257717-263718-257735 (St Benoit) V235714-236719-240718-246728-257735.

Tel Capt Frank, Co C: Field of Schu Mines found at V245716. Has been properly wired off and posted with signs. Roads listed in message to Major Lowe this morning, have been cleared, but northern part of loop is still subject to enemy fire.

Maj Billups, S-3: Co A today cleared roads V261699-277711-277712 and V277711-280707-273698. Co B cleared roads V277712-292707-293605 and V290705-293705-207694-293690.

Lt Foster: Gravel Pit now established, with shovel in operation, at 274683.

Lt Col Monnier: Co C swept roads V240718-246719-251727; and V246722 250726. Infantry encountered "Schu Mines", and suffered several casualties from them, in and around buildings at 247745. One mine was in a hay stack, another under rubble.

Tel ADE to S-2: 158th FA reports booby trapped and mined road block at 248676. There is also much explosives scattered around area.

Lt Bridges, CO Co B: Co B today installed roadblock at 311686, consisting of six felled trees and 10 "T" mines.

T/Sgt McAlarnis: Provisional platoon from H&S Co today took our four strips of landing mat for cub planes at Sercoeur. These will be used for new landing strip at Ste Helene tomorrow. Remaining strips at Sercoeur (about 10) will be removed and used as they are needed

PERIOD 0001-2400 31 October 1944:

Maj Lowe to Capt Frank, Co C: Use disciplinary squad for burying cattle via Housseras.

T/Sgt Russby to Lt Sandelin, S-3, 160th Inf: Request information on mine fields No 6 (Vic 232674) and No. 9 (vic 232657), laid by 160th Inf. No report has been received as to whether they have been removed.

Maj Billups to ADE: Co C is now working clearing streets in Bru. 36th Engrs, 2nd Bn were told to open road Rambervillers-Bru-St Benoit-also to open road from Bru to Jeanmenil.

Major Lowe: Sgt McAlarnis is going to remove all of landing strip at sercoeur to complete field at Ste Helene. He will need six more men in provisional platoon to do the job.

Lt Bridges: 1st Bn 179th Inf wants us to lay AP devices, with handgrenades and AT mines, in front of their positions. This has not yet been cleared by Gen Eagles. A hasty roadblock is to be placed in front of 1st Bn by mine platoon. Correct coordinate of block, consisting of six trees and 10 AT mines, laid yesterday by Lt Picket, in V312694.

Tel Gen Eagles to Maj Lowe: 157th Inf reports road St Bencit V289730 is good gravel road. Want this cleared as soon as possible.

Tel - Col Welcher, CO 2nd Bn 36th Engrs: Road 200693-St Gorgen has been closed.

Lt Leyer, 120th Med Bn to Maj Lowe: Request engineer aid in gravelling 120th Med Clearing Co area. Have been doing some gravelling ourselves, getting one or two loads of gravel a day from 7th Army quarry near Spinal. Cannot do this any more until permission is obtained from 7th Army Engineer to draw gravel.

Maj Billups: 180th Inf 1st Bn turned their minefields over intact to 36th Engrs when they were relieved. Roads reported yesterday as cleared by Co A, should be corrected to read 274695-278706-2847070 285710. And 284708-284710-; and 288708-288700. Co A today cleared roads 2807120-292722-; 291308-290729; 284710-272715.

Lt Col Monnier: 2nd Bn 36th Engrs are still clearing shoulders of road Rambervillers-Bru.

Tel Capt Frank, Co C to Maj Billups: Co C has cleared road Bru-St Bencit-273731. Also road 258735-St Bencit.

Maj Billups: Co A hauled rock from quarry at 273693 for gravel road from 274695 to 286710. Built gun platform for a battery of 158th FA guns in vic of 274695. Opened and maintained trail from 288699 to 289708. Opened road 293705-292708-272715. Opened trail 28071- to 292723. Opened road 291708, 289712, 292723 and 290728. And were removing block at 290728. Also maintained road Housseras to 260679 to 275695. Co B cleared road 293705-298698 to CR 307703 and road 297701 to CR 307704. Maintained trails in 179th Inf sector. Cleared from CR 293705 along the main road to CR at 307703 and then parallel road to the north which begins from 297701 to 307704. Also maintained road to 179th Inf from 277695 to 278698 to 283690 and trail from 293705 south to 298694 to 294690 to 286674 to junction of main road at 295674. HAS Co removed somerfeld matting from air strip at Sercoeur and laid six rolls on new strip at Ste Helene.

Maj Billups: Road block extending from 278713 to 268717 cleared and swept by Co A. Deeply buried charge damaged 1 truck and injured three men. Road will be reswept before opening for traffic. From 290725, road opened to 289730 to 278730. Installed a road block as a counter attack was in progress.

Co A will complete work to join with Co C at 273372 and will open trail beginning at 290730 east to 295732 and north to 294737 tomorrow.

Gen Eagles to Lt Col Monnier: Want improvement on road Jeanmenil to La Salle. Also would like to have Bru-Jeanmenil road open now. Road from Autrey east to here no longer of importance.

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO # 45, US Army
10 November 1944

OPERATIONS SUMMARY)

NUMBER 1)

I. General: a. This summary covers the period 1-31 October 1944.

b. This period was characterized by slow and difficult advances against desperate enemy resistance through the Rambervillers Forest, and extensive enemy use of timber abatis and mines in the wooded portions of the Division sector, causing the tasks performed by engineer troops to be both difficult and dangerous. Bobby traps in abatis were frequent, and were a primary source of casualties.

c. The increase in barrier defenses caused a larger proportion of engineer work than usual to be performed in forward areas, resulting in greater demands upon supporting Corps Engineers.

d. The bulk of work done by the battalion consisted of reducing enemy barriers and construction and maintenance of trails through the Rambervillers forest.

e. Throughout most of the month, rainy weather increased the difficulty of keeping roads open. Even paved roads became coated with a layer of mud which caused the highways to become dangerous.

II. Tabulation of work performed:

<u>Job</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>No.</u>
a. Roads and trails swept for mines (road surface plus three (3) feet)	miles	135
b. Abatis or other barriers removed	each	55
c. Bridges constructed	each	3
d. Bridges repaired	each	2
e. Culverts installed	each	2
f. Bypasses constructed	each	1
g. Mines removed (approximately)	each	750
h. Minefields laid	each	2
i. Minefields removed (friendly)	each	2
j. Airstrips (200 yard Somerfeld Mat) for Air CP	each	2
k. Bridges prepared for demolition	each	1
l. Abatis constructed	each	3
m. Road corduroyed	yard	200
n. Company as infantry	days	4
o. Battery positions for FA (includes platforms)	each	3
p. Access roads in Div CP gravelled, 750 lin ft board walk laid		1
q. Signs painted by H&S Co		875
r. Water supplied to troops	gals.	896,220
s. Division Shower operated	days	15
t. Road repaired for the 120th Medical Clearing Station		

III. Training

a. Tank dozer crew was trained by the 191st Tank Battalion. Crew functioned and performed well in action during latter part of the month.

b. 45 EM trained in use of infantry assault boat by VI Corps

a. Gas mask drill by all personnel

IV. Miscellaneous:

a. Casualties:

	<u>Off</u>	<u>EM</u>
KIA	1	6
WIA		14

b. Tank dozers proved to be invaluable for the reduction of road blocks. Their weight and size enables them to move large logs with ease, and armor protects the crew from blast of mines and charges. Four (4) AT mines were exploded under tank dozers. In every case the track was broken, one or more bogie wheels damaged. Occasionally, Bogie suspension or dozer arm was damaged. Only one casualty was suffered by the tank crew, a ruptured ear drum by the tank commander. Without tank dozers, at least twenty (20) men would have been killed or seriously wounded, gauged by the casualty rate before tank dozers were utilized, (9 WIA, 5 KIA). In every case, the tank was back in action within 36 hours.

c. Status of materiel destroyed:

- 2 trucks, 2½ ton cargo - Traffic Accidents
- 2 trucks, 2½ ton cargo - Mines
- Mine Detector SCR 625 - Artillery Fire

d. Company A was committed as infantry for a four (4) day period, manning road blocks in the Rambervillers area, behind the MLR.

For the Battalion Commander:

Benjamin E Billups
 BENJAMIN E BILLUPS
 Major, CE
 S-3

S E C R E T

EPN/jwh

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO #45 U S ARMY

: : : : : SECRET
:Auth: CG 45 DIV
:Init: EPN
:Date: 13 Nov 44
: : : : : : : : :

314.7

13 November 1944

Subject: Transmittal of Organization History.

To : Commanding General, 7TH ARMY, APO 758, U. S. Army.

Transmitted herewith operations report of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, this command, for the period 1 October 1944 to 31 October 1944, inclusive.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL P MAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

- 1 Incl:
Opns rpt, 120th Engr C Bn
1 Oct 44 - 31 Oct 44 (in tripl)
Annex #1- Unit Journal
Annex #2- Opns Summary
Annex #3- Sign rpt
Annex #4- Casualty roster
Annex #5- Supply rpt
Annex #6- Medical rpt
Annex #7- Water supply rpt
Annex #8- Opns memo #3
Annex #9- Intelligence Bulletin #2

Q 4148

DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 US Army
Date 14 NOV 1944

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO #45 U S ARMY

EPN/jwb
: : : : : SECRET :
:Auth: CG 45 DIV :
:Init: EPN :
:Date: 13 November :
: : : : : : : : :

314.7

13 November 1944

Subject: Transmittal of Organization History.

To : Commanding General, VI Corps, APO 46, U S ARMY.

1. Transmitted herewith copy of operations report of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, this command, for the period 1 October 1944 to 31 October 1944, inclusive.

2. Original and two copies of report, with supporting documents, have been transmitted to the Commanding General, SEVENTH ARMY, per letter this headquarters, 13 November 1944, copy of which is attached.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL P KAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

2 Incls:

- #1- cpy opns rpt, 120th Engr C Bn
1 Oct 44 - 31 Oct 44
- #2- cpy ltr, Hq 45th Inf Div,
13 Nov 44

DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 US Army
Date 4 NOV 1944

AH148

S E C R E T

OFFICIAL:

C. S. Monnier
C. S. MONNIER
Lt Col CE
Commanding
120th Engr C Bn

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: CP moved to 175700. 1st platoon cleared road block at 180179, which consisted of trees across a bridge, booby-trapped with box mines. In the afternoon, the 1st platoon cleared a road block at 180736, made up of trees, barbed wire, concertina and trip wires, but no charges. The 3rd platoon cleared a road block at 180676. Also cleared a road from 180676 to Rambervillers. A road block at RJ 187729 was also cleared. The road from 187729 to 204736 was swept for mines. 2nd platoon swept for mines from RJ 191730 to 210712.

Co B: CP $\frac{1}{2}$ mile NW of Vimenil. Lt Dayton and two squads of the 2nd platoon worked with the 2nd Bn 179th Inf and cleared roads to Grandvillers, to enable tanks to enter the town. Pfc D Peralta and one squad worked during the night sweeping the same road to enable Co I, 179th Inf to advance. The road was swept from $\frac{1}{2}$ mile E of Grandvillers to about 210530. No mines were found in the days operations.

Co C: CP at 130615, south of Dompierre. The 1st and 3rd squads of the 3rd platoon cleared a supply trail from 205643 to 215645. 16 trees were removed from the trail and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mines. Sgt Stumpf and a detail cleared three S mines from the road block in the vicinity of Maminil, for the 171st FA Bn.

PERIOD 0001-2400 2 October 1944D/48Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: The 2nd platoon cleared roads for mines from 210712 to 215703, and west to the railroad tracks. No other work performed.

Co B: CP $\frac{1}{2}$ mile NW of Vimenil. Lt Fields and the 1st platoon worked with the 179th Inf clearing the town of Grandvillers. The main road through town was swept for mines and several AT mines were picked up. Pvt Sandoval was killed in action as an R mine, which he was deactivating, detonated. The platoon worked part of the time under enemy small arms fire. Cpl Burch was wounded by the same mine that killed Pvt Sandoval. Lt Thuring and one squad of the 3rd platoon swept road from Grandvillers to one mile north of town. All the above action took place vic of Grandvillers.

Co C: CP south of Dompierre. Two squads of the 1st platoon completed supply trail from 216646 to Fremifontaine, started by the 3rd platoon on 2 October.

PERIOD 0001-2400 3 October 1944D/49Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: No engineer work performed.

Co B: CP $\frac{1}{2}$ mile NW of Vimenil. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon worked with the 179th Inf clearing main road leading northwest out of Grandvillers. A road block was removed, consisting of trees piled into the road. Also swept road for mines on road leading southeast out of Grandvillers. Lt Thuring and one squad from the 3rd platoon removed mines from the road extending from Grandvillers to Bruyeres.

Co C: CP south of Dompierre. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon constructed six culverts and gravelled entrance, for Div Hq #1 Pierrepont. Circourt. 2nd platoon destroyed 25 R mines in the vic of Pierrepont. These mines had been previously removed. 3rd platoon cleared roads vic of Fremifontaine.

0001-2400 4 October 1944

D/50

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: No engineer work performed.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile northwest of Vimenil, France. Lt Fields and 1st platoon worked with the 179th Inf clearing road of mines from about 1/2 mile east of Grandvillers to 605720. Platoon worked under enemy artillery fire and cleared eight R mines. Pfc Grant Chavez killed in action, while sweeping the above road. A peep passed over a mine which exploded. Lt Thuring and one squad of 3rd platoon tried to sweep a trail leading east out of Grandvillers towards Bruyres but were unable, because of intense enemy fire. Lt Bridges assigned to Company from Co C to assume command of the company.

Co C: CP moved to 1/2 mile north of Destord, France. Sgt Blackmer and one squad of 1st platoon swept area for mines at 231631, for the 645th TD Bn. Cpl Gray and 1 squad of 2nd platoon repaired road for the 180th Infantry. Sgt Belcher and one squad of 3rd platoon swept road from 221639 to 229611 and from 229631 to 236619, vic of Fremifontaine. Lt Hardies and Sgt Belcher went on an engineer reconnaissance patrol vic of Fremifontaine and are missing in action.

PERIOD 0001-2400 5 October 1944

D/51

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: 3rd platoon removed 23 R mines and 40 Box mines, and seven assorted AP mines from road 181705, and destroyed them. No other engineer work performed.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile northwest of Vimenil. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon worked with the 179th Infantry, and cleared and swept road for mines, vicinity of Grandvillers. A road block was partly removed from trail at 240600. While sweeping road for mines, Pvt Watson was wounded in the chest by sniper fire. Sgt Gillespie and one squad detonated AT mines that had previously been removed. At this location, a mine exploded, killing Pvs Jones and Campbell.

Co C: CP at 649177, 1/2 kilometer north of Destord. Lt Frestwood and 2nd platoon continued to clear roads in vic of Fremifontaine. S/Sgt Ross and one squad of 3rd platoon searched woods in vic of Fremifontaine in an effort to locate Lt Hardies and Sgt Belcher but were unsuccessful.

PERIOD 0001-2400 6 October 1944

D/52

Bn CP in Epinal, France

Co A: CP unchanged. No Engineer work performed

Co B: CP 1/2 mile NW of Vimenil. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon worked with the 179th Inf and made a bypass around a road block east of Grandvillers. Attempts were made to sweep the road for mines but it could not be done on account of enemy small arms fire. One mine detector was lost in the attempt to sweep the road. Pvt Cofer was wounded by small arms fire as he tried to recover the mine detector and was evacuated under fire. Lt Fields and first platoon removed road block east of Vimenil. The block consisted of trees of large dimension and were interlocked, making it difficult to remove.

Co C: CP 1/2 mile north of Destord. 2nd platoon removed road block at 218608 and also removed a partial road block at 211610. The 1st platoon prepared bridge at Autrey for demolition, with 250 pounds of TNT. A guard was placed on the bridge.

PERIOD 0001-2400 7 October 1944

D/53

Bn CP in Epinal, France

Co A: No engineer work performed.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile northwest of Vimenil. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon worked with the 179th Inf and cleared one road block east of Grandvillers. A trail leading out of Grandvillers to the southeast was put in shape to be used as a supply trail. The tank dozer was used to clear debris, caused by enemy shelling, from around the 3rd Bn 179th Inf CP.

Co C: CP north of Destord. 1st platoon maintained bridge guard at Autrey.

PERIOD 0001-2400 8 October 1944

D/54

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: No engineer work performed.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile northwest of Vimenil. Lt Fields and 1st platoon in support of the 1st Bn 179th Inf. Dug defense positions for the 1st Bn. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon removed small road block 1/2 mile east of Grandvillers. Also maintained a supply trail for the 3rd Bn and filled craters in main road near Grandvillers. While doing this, Pfc Knight was wounded in the right knee by shrapnel and was hospitalized. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon worked with the 45th Cav Ren clearing a road leading into Bruyeres. One road block and four R mines were removed and destroyed.

Co C: CP north of Destord. 2nd squad of 3rd platoon put up a road block for the 180th Inf at Fremifontaine. Block consisted of abatis and twenty AT mines.

PERIOD 0001-2400 9 October 1944:

D/55

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: At 0800, company moved into the 179th Inf sector, taking over Co B's duties in engineer work. Co now in support of the 179th.

CP moved to 178984. 1st platoon at 225580 but were unable, because of heavy enemy gun fire. 1 - 2 1/2 ton truck was abandoned at the site, but later retrieved, undamaged. 2nd platoon maintained trail for 1st Bn 179th Inf, from 223593 to 225585. 3rd platoon maintained trail 1/2 mile northeast of Grandvillers. 3rd platoon swept for mines on trail from Grandvillers leading north.

Co B: CP 1 1/2 miles southeast of Dompierre, France. Co was relieved from duty with the 179th Inf Regt and moved back to battalion reserve to re-organize.

Co C: CP north of Destord, France. 1st platoon maintained bridge guards at Autrey. One squad of 3rd platoon placed 15 AT mines and a road block at 230635. Co in support of the 180th Inf.

PERIOD 0001-2400 10 October 1944

D/56

Bn CP in Epinal France.

Co A: 2nd platoon continued maintenance of trail for 2nd Bn 179th Inf vic of Grandvillers. 3rd platoon maintained trail also in the vic of Grandvillers.

Co B: CP 1 1/2 miles SE of Dompierre France. Co in battalion reserve.

Co C: CP 1/2 km N of Destord. 1st platoon maintained bridge guards at Autrey. 2nd platoon gravelled roads in 180th Inf sector.

PERIOD 0001-2400 11 October 1944:

D/57

Bn CP in Epinal, France. Presentation ceremonies were held in Co B area and the following awards were made:

1st Lt Fickett, William C	Co B	Silver Star
Pfc Philp, Joe Dan	Co B	Silver Star
T/S Brackenburg, Fergus B	Med Det	Bronze Star
1st Lt Smith, Roy C	Co A	"
S/Sgt Balog, William	Co A	"
Sgt Mastny, Emil	Co A	"
T/S Merithew, Maurice	Co A	"
Pfc Squire, Glen	Co A	"
Pfc Thompson, Frederick	Co A	"
1st Lt Cohen, Howard M	Co B	"
S/Sgt Kolodziejczyk, Joe	Co B	"
T/4 Phillips, Edwin S	Co B	"
Capt Frank, Alvin L	Co C	"
S/Sgt Drop, Joseph	Co C	"
T/S Dugger, Joe	Co C	"

(Ribbons for the Bronze Star not awarded----ribbons will be issued to personnel concerned when they become available)

Co A: 3rd platoon maintained trails in woods in vic of Grandvillers, by putting brush in ruts and holes. 2nd platoon continued maintenance of trails also in vic of Grandvillers.

Co B: Co in battalion reserve.

Co C: 1st platoon maintained bridge guards in Autrey

PERIOD 0001-2400 12 October 1944:

D/58

Co B: CP $\frac{1}{2}$ mile NW of Vimenil. Company back from battalion reserve and in support of the 179th Inf. Lt Picket and two squads of 1st platoon maintained supply trails in vic just east of Grandvillers for 1st and 3rd battalions 179th Inf. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon repaired a road south of Vimenil. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon repaired road vic of Vimenil, for the 2nd Bn 179th Inf, and also swept and cleared new trail for the 2nd Bn 179th Inf. Trail used by the 45th Rcn troop was also maintained by the 3rd platoon. Tank dozer removed road block on the main road east of Grandvillers. Several AP mines were exploded in the process of removing the road block. It took only two attempts at the road block by the tank dozer to remove it. The dozer was pulled back from this vicinity in time to escape an enemy artillery barrage.

Co C: 3rd platoon gravelled road leading into Division CP.

PERIOD 0001-2400 13 October 1944:

D/59

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: 3rd platoon maintained road in vicinity south of Fremontaine. 2nd platoon worked on highway, cutting down trees. Trees had been half cut by the Germans preparatory to establishing a road block. This work was performed on the highway from Serocour, leading north.

Co B: CP $\frac{1}{2}$ mile NW of Vimenil. Lt Picket and 1st platoon maintained the 1st and 3rd Bn 179th Inf supply road southeast of Grandvillers. Lt Dayton and one squad of 2nd platoon tried three times to remove an enemy road block about 5 kms east of Vimenil. Only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the block was removed. Enemy machine gun fire was directed down the middle of the road toward the block, making it impossible to remove it all. Two "R" mines were removed.

Co C: 2nd platoon constructed 500 feet of walk for Division CP.

PERIOD 0001-2400 14 October 1944:

D/60

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: No engineer work requested by the regiments.

Co B: Lt Picket with the 1st and 3rd platoons maintained supply roads east of Grandvillers for the 1st and 3rd Bn 179th Inf. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon maintained supply road south and then east of Vimenil for the 2nd Bn 179th Inf. The tankdozer removed the road block which was approximately 5 kilometers south of Vimenil. No enemy fire was received.

Co C: 1st platoon constructed 250 ft of boardwalk for Division CP.

PERIOD 0001-2400 15 October 1944:

D/61

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: Maintained trail 204741-206737-204733 west to 199733, for the 157th Infantry supply roads. -5-

Lt Picket and 2 squads of 1st platoon made a reconnaissance supply trail for 2nd Bn 179th Inf and opened this trail, sweep-mines, cutting overhanging brush and removing debris from a distance of one mile was swept for mines, but none were found. Two prisoners were captured on this trail and turned over to the 179th Inf. One squad of 3rd platoon maintained supply trail for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf. Lt Dayton with the 2nd platoon and tank dozer removed a road block of 16 felled trees for the 2nd Bn, south east of Grandvillers, men working under small arms fire. One R mine was found and destroyed.

Co C: 1st platoon removed 2 minefields of SS AT mines, previously laid and reported by this company. 2nd platoon constructed a road into the 2nd Bn CP. 3rd platoon was alerted but was not called.

PERIOD 0001-2400 16 October 1944:

D/62

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: All platoons worked hauling and spreading gravel for a road into the 48th Division Clearing Company.

Co B: Lt Picket with the 1st platoon extended and improved supply trail for the 2nd Bn 179th Inf, SE of Grandvillers. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon improved supply trail for the 1st and 3rd Bn 179th Inf and also removed one R mine that was beneath a tank, SE of Grandvillers. Lt Cohen and one squad of the 3rd platoon made a road reconnaissance on foot on main road out of Grandvillers towards Bruyeres, looking for any minefields and reported none found.

Co C: CP North of Destord. 2nd platoon gravelled road for the 2nd Bn 180th Inf. 3rd platoon constructed a corduroy road for the 3rd Bn 180th Inf.

PERIOD 0001-2400 17 October 1944:

D/63

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: All platoons worked hauling and graveling supply trail for the 1st and 2nd Bn 157th Inf, 3 1/2 kilometers NE of Rambervillers.

Co B: Lt Picket and 1st platoon maintained road to 1st Bn 179th Inf and later, with one squad, they opened trail for the 1st Bn parallel to main road and removed six felled trees across the highway. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon assisted in maintenance of road to 1st Bn. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon maintained an extension of 2nd Bn road and assisted on the 1st Bn road. One squad of the 3rd platoon removed eight R mines in bivouac area for the 59th Arm'd FA Bn, near Bruyeres. Lt Bridges made a foot recon of main road out of Grandvillers towards Bruyeres, and removed 13 R mines and 12 US AT mines, by hand. During the night, Lt Bridges and part of the 3rd platoon worked on part of road block on main road. The tankdozer, after removing approx 250 yards of felled trees, was disabled when it ran over an AT mine. Another 100 yards of road block was removed by hand. 100 yards of road block remain to be removed.

Co C: CP north of Destord. 1st and 2nd platoons hauled tile and rock from Grandvillers to construct a supply road for 2nd Bn 180th Inf.

PERIOD 0001-2400 18 October 1944:

D/64

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: 1st platoon continued maintenance of supply trail for 1st Bn 157th Inf. 2nd platoon worked on repair of a 24' span, single trestle bridge in the 180th Inf sector. Work consisted of stripping off old deck and re-decking it entirely.

Co B: Lt Picket and one squad of 1st platoon, with the tank dozer from Co C, removed approx 150 yards of road block, consisting of felled trees, on the main road from Grandvillers to Bruyeres. They also removed a road block on a new trail for the 3rd Bn. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon maintained 1st Bn supply road. Lt Cohen with two squads of the 3rd platoon opened and cleared a new trail for the 2nd Bn and assisted Lt Dayton in maintenance of the 1st Bn trail. T/S Romano struck in the head by artillery shrapnel while seeking shelter from an artillery barrage. T/4 Hauer with the aid of the D-7, pulled several half tracks out of the mud in the 179th Inf sector. Sgt McKinney was cutting overhead branches when some phosphoreous, which was clinging to the trees, fell on him burning him severely. The remainder of the company improved road in the company bivouac area.

Co C: CP north of Destord, France. The 2nd platoon continued hauling gravel and tile to construct supply trail for the 2nd Bn 180th Inf. One squad of the 3rd platoon removed a road block at 238612. Pfc Turay killed in action by artillery shell.

PERIOD 0001-2400 19 October 1944:

D/65

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: 3rd platoon checked an area for mines for Division motor pool, north of Cirecourt. No mines found. Maintained main road from Rambervillers through Cirecourt to Epinal.

Co B: Lt Picket and 1st platoon maintained and opened trail running 600 yards north of 2nd Bn 179th Inf CP. Also removed a road block on the above trail. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon maintained 1st and 3rd Bn supply road. Lt Cohen and one squad of 3rd platoon, with the tank dozer, removed 10 R mines on the main road from Grandvillers towards Bruyeres and widened the road for two way traffic. They removed a road block approximately 100 yards long, consisting of felled trees. Another road block, consisting of German "88" ammo was removed from the vic of regimental CP by the 3rd platoon. The 3rd platoon also demolished 20 R mines which had been previously pulled in the rear.

Co C: CP north of Destord. 1st platoon hauled rock and tile from Grandvillers for the 2nd Bn 180th Inf, supply road. One squad of the 2nd platoon cleared road from Pierrepont to Grandvillers. One squad of 3rd platoon worked on the 3rd Bn supply road.

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: CP south of Rambervillers. All platoons engaged in hauling rock for maintenance of supply road of the 2nd Bn 157th Inf.

Co B: CP NW of Vimenil. 1st Lt Picket and 1st platoon maintained and improved road running north of 2nd Bn 179th Inf CP. Pfc Webb seriously wounded by mortar fragments. Pfc Lopez missing in action. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon maintained and improved road east of Grandvillers for the 3rd Bn. Lt Cohen and one squad of the 3rd platoon cleared main road from Grandvillers to Bruyeres, of mines, removing six R mines. The tank dozer removed road block on this road, consisting of buried logs. The remaining two squads of the 3rd platoon worked in rear areas demolishing approximately 150 R mines which had been previously removed. Co Hq section maintained and improved road in Brouvelieures.

Co C: CP north of Destord. 1st platoon continued to maintain 2nd Bn 180th Inf supply road.

PERIOD 0001-2400 21 October 1944

D/67

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: CP south of Rambervillers. 1st platoon cleared a road block for the 179th Inf near Bruyeres. 3rd platoon assisted the 157th Inf during the night by outposting friendly road blocks in the 157th sector north of Rambervillers.

Co B: Lt Picket and 1st platoon blew up 75 R mines that had previously been removed. Also removed a road block on main road from Grandvillers towards Brouvelieures and made a road reconnaissance into Brouvelieures reporting the road clear. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon maintained and improved a road for the 1st Bn 179th Inf. Lt Cohen and one squad of the 3rd platoon blew up approximately 110 R mines that had previously been removed. The remaining two squads maintained the supply trail for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf.

Co C: CP north of Destord. 1st platoon repaired road vic of Pierrepont. 2nd platoon maintained supply trail for the 2nd Bn 180th Inf. 3rd platoon worked on road vic of 233610.

PERIOD 0001-2400 22 October 1944:

D/68

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: 3rd platoon continued to be attached to the 3rd Bn 157th Inf and held secondary machine gun positions manning road blocks. 1st platoon began work laying sommerfelt matting for the 45th Div Air CP.

Co B: CP moved to 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France. One "R" mine was demolished before the company moved in. Lt Cohen and 2 squads of third platoon removed road block on trail east of Grandvillers. Two booby traps were found. One squad of 1st platoon and one squad of third platoon demolished sixty R mines, previously removed. Pvt Lopez, previously reported missing in action, listed as hospitalized from concussion due to shell blast.

Co C: 1st platoon cleared road from Fremi-Fontaine to front line positions of the 180th Inf and made preparations for replacing bridge 5 kilometers south of Autrey. Third platoon marked off roads in third Bn 180th Inf area not cleared of mines.

PERIOD 0001-2400 23 October 1944

D/69

Bn CP in Epinal, France.

Co A: Second platoon relieved third platoon manning machine gun positions protecting road block north of Rambervillers. First platoon continued work on air strip for Division Air OP.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France. Lt Dayton and second platoon with Co C tankdozer, swept road and removed road block north of Brouvelieures. No mines were found but 800 yards of road block, consisting of intricately felled trees, were removed. The road network southwest of Mortagne was swept for mines and two "R" mines found. Lt Cohen and one squad of third platoon began working on road block west of Brouvelieures, but work was later abandoned on orders. The first platoon and remaining two squads of third platoon improved roads into bivouac area.

Co C: CP north of Destord. 1st platoon constructed treadway bridge at outskirts of Autrey and removed fifteen "R" mines. Second platoon cleared road and filled shell craters from road Fremifontaine to three kilometers east of Autrey. Third platoon swept road for mines from bridge site in Autrey to one km northeast.

PERIOD 0001-2400 24 October 1944:

D/70

Bn CP moved at 1530 to 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France.

Co A: Third platoon continued work on road from Fremifontaine northeast. Second platoon was relieved from duties of guarding road block north of Rambervillers by the 36th Engr C Regt. 1st platoon finished work on Air strip for 45th Div Air OP at Serceeur.

Co B: CP moved to 1/2 mile south of Mortagne. T/4 Shedd seriously wounded and Pvt Haroian lightly wounded when a squad truck ran over a mine in front of the former bivouac area 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers. Lt Picket and 1st platoon removed a small road block, maintained and improved road for 1st Bn 179th Infantry Regt. Also re-routed a small stream which was draining onto the road. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon with aid of the tank dozer removed a 400 yard long road block consisting of intricately felled trees on main

road north of Brouvelieures. The road block was intensely booby-trapped. Later, after removing approximately 50 yards of road block on trail leading east of main road, the tank dozer struck a mine and was badly damaged. A booby trapped R mine was taken from the main road and destroyed.

Co C: 1st platoon repaired bridge 3 kilometers SE of Autrey by adding two sections of roadway. Second platoon repaired the further approaches to the above bridge. 3rd platoon cleared road into Autrey and from the bridge site to one kilometer southeast.

PERIOD 0001-2400 25 October 1944:

D/71

Bn CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers.

Co A: Lt Peak and 1st platoon removed trees and maintained road from Fremifontaine to three kilometers NE of Autrey. Lt Smith and the 2nd platoon maintained road from Ste Helene to Autrey. Lt Atherton and 3rd platoon cleared road of mines from Autrey on road to Rousseran. Also removed a road block consisting of German "88" ammo, one kilometer east of Autrey. Also checked road for mines, running south out of Autrey. No mines were found.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile south of Mortagne. Lt Picket and two squads of the 1st platoon cleared road west of L'House. Two road blocks, each approximately 200 yards long, consisting of felled trees, were removed. Booby traps and six R mines were found. Lt Cohen and one squad of the 3rd platoon assisted on one of the above blocks. The same squad also swept road for the 1st Bn 179th Inf for approximately 2000 yards. Also improved main road leading north from Brouvelieures. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon maintained and improved road for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf, north of Mortagne. A detail was sent to sweep new Division CP area for mines and reported none found.

Co C: CP moved to new area just east of Fremifontaine. 1st and 2nd platoons rocked and gravelled road from bridge, 2 kilometers east of Fremifontaine to 1/2 kilometer west of Creix Walter. 3rd platoon swept road from Fremifontaine bridge to 1 kilometer SE. Also cleared and swept road from this point to 1 1/2 kilometers NE and removed one road block and three R mines. Also marked mine field in river bed 2 kilometers SE of the Fremifontaine bridge. 2nd platoon jacked up roadway bridge and levelled approaches to it vic of Fremifontaine. Also swept area around it for mines and reported none found.

PERIOD 0001-2400 26 October 1944:

D/72

Bn CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France.

Co A: CP 2 kms west of Ste Helene to Autrey. Cleared road north from Autrey to 2 kms west. Also removed a felled tree road block and AT mines at the same point. Lt Smith and 2nd platoon cleared a road block of trees at edge of woods, east of Autrey. Built an 8' simple stringer class 30, bridge just east of Autrey. Removed eight Teller mines at the bridge site. Also removed a tree road block on road Autrey-Housseras. Lt Etherton and 3rd platoon re-checked shoulder on road, for mines, between Autrey and Housseras. Marked off mine field area at CR 240680 with tape and signs. Checked for mines in Housseras.

Co B: CP located 1/2 mile south of Mortagne. Lt Picket and 1st platoon made a foot reconnaissance on trails for the 179th Inf. They cleared trails for the 1st and 2nd Bns removing two road blocks, consisting of a total of twelve trees. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon cleared supply routes for the 179th Inf and also cleared a trail for the 3rd Bn. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon marked roads north of Brouvelieures to Mortagne with mine signs and tape. Pvt Haynes wounded when his own gun was accidentally discharged as he was preparing to go on guard.

Co C: CP 1 mile east of Fremifontaine. 1st platoon rocked and gravelled same road as the previous day, from bridge 2 kms east of Fremifontaine to 1/2 km west of Croix Walter. The 2nd platoon repaired bridge at Fremifontaine which had been damaged by tanks. The 3rd platoon widened part of road to Autrey from the bridge. Also cleared road from 251655 to 252861, of trees, and removed 10 R mines.

PERIOD 0001-2400 27 October 1944:

B/73

Bn CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France.

Co A: CP south of Rambervillers. Tank dozer attached to company from the 6817 Mine Clearing Company. CP moved to 1 1/2 kms east of Ste Helene. The 1st platoon swept roads and trails to the 1st Bn 157th Inf. The tank dozer removed road block for the 2nd Bn 157th Inf. The 3rd platoon gravelled road from Willaume Fontaine to one km east and swept the same road to Maison Forestiere.

Co B: CP south of Mortagne, France. Lt Picket and the 1st platoon maintained and improved road, northwest of Mortagne for the 179th Inf. They checked another road for Regimental CP. Trails previously swept were marked with signs. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon opened a regimental network of roads, removing a road block, consisting of nine felled trees. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon maintained and improved existing supply trails for the 2nd and 3rd battalions 179th Inf and extended a supply route for the 2nd Bn. Reconnaissance was made for extension of existing trails.

Co C: CP east of Fremifontaine. 1st platoon hauled rock and gravel and rubble to main road for the 180th Inf, from Ste Helene to Autrey. The 2nd platoon revetted the same road.

Bn CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France.

Co A: CP east of Ste Helene. 1st platoon began construction of supply trail for the 1st and 3rd Bn 157th Inf. 3rd platoon continued maintenance of road from Willaine Fontaine, east, hauling rock. Tank dozer removed four road blocks on west edge of Housseras, composed of trees and farm implements. D-7 worked cutting road through hills east of Housseras.

Co B: CP south of Mortagne. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon, Lt Picket and 1st platoon maintained and improved supply roadnet for 179th Inf. Lt Dayton and two squads of 2nd platoon repaired damaged road north of Mortagne. The road bank had given way under weight of a tank. Three trucks were detached to assist the 10th Engrs in hauling gravel. D-7 assisted in building air strip by 10th Engrs.

Co C: CP east of Fremifontaine; moved to one mile Northeast of Willaume Fontaine. 2nd platoon swept and cleared road net work north of Housseras. Removed one road block. 3rd platoon cleared road from Housseras to about 1/4 mile south of Fraupertuis.

PERIOD 0001-2400 29 October 1944:

D-75

Bn CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France.

Co A: CP vic of Ste Helene. 1st platoon continued maintenance of roads for 1st and 3rd Bn 157th Inf by hauling rock and gravel to fill ruts and craters in road network. 2nd platoon checked main highway, running east from Jeanneuil, for mines. 3rd platoon maintained road from Housseras to 1 mile east of 157th Inf CP. Worked on small trail for the 3rd Bn. Tank dozer was used all day by Co C, removing road blocks. 2nd platoon built small culvert as edge of woods, east of Autrey.

Co B: CP south of Mortagne. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon opened trail and maintained another for one way traffic, for 179th Inf supply trail. Lt Dayton and 2nd platoon helped maintain above trails and followed up 2nd Bn in attack.

Co C: CP south east of Willaume Fontaine. 1st and 3rd platoons cleared 2800 yards of road block 1 1/2 miles east of Fraipertuis. 1st platoon cleared 1800 yards of road block and constructed a bridge 1 1/2 miles east of Fraipertuis. They swept the main road from about 1 mile east of Fraipertuis to the 157th Inf sector. Also swept road one mile north of Fraipertuis. 3rd platoon constructed a bridge and culvert at Fraipertuis. 2nd platoon maintained roads in 189th Inf sector.

PERIOD 0001-2400 30 October 1944:

D-76

Bn CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France

Co A: CP moved to 3½ miles east of Housseras. 1st platoon improved road for gravel pit site. D-7 cut road into pit. 2nd platoon maintained supply trail for 2nd Bn 157th Inf. 3rd platoon cleared road block and maintained supply trail of 3rd Bn 157th Inf. General location of all work five kms east of Jeanmenil. During dark repaired damage on road of 2nd Bn area, caused by M-10 tank.

Co B: CP moved to 2½ miles southwest of Bourgonce. Lt Picket and 1st platoon maintained road for regimental supply road and built a road block west of Bourgonce, consisting of six felled trees and ten AT mines. Lt Dayton made a reconnaissance of trails to be maintained tomorrow. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon maintained regimental supply trails. Sgt Conley and detail destroyed four R mines found in bivouac area. Lt Bridges, Sgt Conley conducted a mine school for personnel of the 180th FA Bn.

Co C: CP moved to 1 mile north of Housseras. 3rd platoon swept road from Fraipertuis to Jeanmenil. Also swept from L'A Haver-aureau to La Richette. 2nd platoon swept from Jeanmenil to one mile east, from there northeast to within one half mile of St Bonet. Removed six R mines and located a "Schu-mine" field about one mile southwest of St Bonet. 1st platoon swept trail one mile S of St Bonet.

PERIOD 0001-2400 31 October 1944:

D-77

Bn CP 1/8 mile north of Grandvillers, France

H&S Co: Detail removing sommerfeld matting from Div Air strip at Sercoeur and laying it at new field at Ste Helene.

Co A: 1st platoon with D-7, built gun positions for 158th FA Bn. Hauled logs to construct the gun position. Cleared road block on trail 4½ kms east of Jeanmenil. Trail swept for mines. 2½ ton truck hit a mine near job site, seriously wounding Pvts Nuzzi, Kufeldt and Cassaro. 2nd platoon hauled gravel from pit to maintain 2nd Bn supply trail. 3rd platoon removed road block with aid of tank dozer. Maintained entire length of 3rd Bn supply trail.

Co B: CP south of La Gourgonce. Lt Picket and 1st platoon cleared small road block and swept for mines from main road east of 3rd Bn 179th. Lt Dayton and 2nd Platoon maintained traffic trails in regimental sector. Lt Cohen and 3rd platoon maintained trail, improved and extended trails in 1st Bn sector.

Co C: CP north of Housseras. 1st platoon filled shell holes in 180th Inf sector. cleared mine field for 191st Tank Bn and removed 10 "R" mines. 2nd platoon cleared road from Bru to St Benoit. Cleared road block in Bru. Also cleared road from St Benoit to 300 yds east of Corbell and removed 50 "Schu" mines from shoulders of road, from Bru to St Benoit. 3rd platoon cleared trail south of St Benoit

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 U S ARMY

.....
:Auth: CG 45 Div
:Init: E.P.A.
:Date: 11 Dec 44
:.....

314.7

11 December 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Unit History.

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, U S Army.

Transmitted herewith Historical Record of the 120th Engineer Battalion, this command, for the period 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944, inclusive.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL F NAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl:
Hist Red-120th Eng Bn
1 Nov 44 - 30 Nov 44 (trip)
Annex 1 - Unit Journal
Annex 2 - Intelligence Bulletins

74478

DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 U S Army
Date: ~~1 DEC 1944~~

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 U S ARMY

.....
:Auth: CG 45 Div
:Init: PAU
:Date: 11 Dec 44
:.....

314.7

11 December 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Unit History.

TO : Commanding General, XV Corps, APO 436, U S Army.

1. Transmitted herewith copy of Historical Record of the 120th Engineer Bn, this command, for the period 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944, inclusive.

2. Original and two copies of the record have been forwarded to the Commanding General, Seventh Army, by letter, this headquarters, dated 11 December 1944, copy of which is attached.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL P NAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

2 Incls:

- #1- Cpy Hist Red, 120th Eng Bn
1 Nov 44 - 30 Nov 44
Annex 1 - Unit Journal
Annex 2-- Intelligence Bulletins
- #2- Cpy ltr to 7th Army 11 Dec 44

A4479
DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 US Army
Date: ~~1~~ DEC 1944

S E C R E T

OFFICIAL:

C. S. Monnier
C. S. MONNIER
Lt Col CE
Commanding
120th Engr C Bn

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO # 45, U S Army
3 December 1944

OPERATIONS SUMMARY)

NUMBER 2)

1. This summary covers the engineer functions of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion for the period 1-30 November 1944.

2. During the period, operations of the battalion were divided into three phases:

- a. Operations in the Jarmanil-St Benoit and Baccarat area.
- b. Rest and training period in Fontenoy le Chateau area.
- c. Return to action in the Saverne Gap area.

3. The first eight days of November were a continuation of work begun and carried on through the previous month, characterized by slow and difficult advances through the Rambervillers Forest against desperate enemy resistance. Use of mines and timber abatis by the enemy was far greater than any encountered by this organization in previous operations. Reduction of enemy barriers and maintenance of roads and trails constituted the bulk of engineer work during this eight day period. Bad weather further complicated road maintenance on all types of roads. Beginning 2 November, this battalion was in process of being relieved in sector by the 325th Engr Combat Bn. All possible aid and information was given to this battalion. Mine schools for all personnel of the 100th Inf Div was held under direction of Corps Engr instructors. Instructors from the 120th Engr C Bn were present and aided in this training. On 2 November, Co B 325th Engr C Bn was attached to the 120th Engr C Bn and on 5 November Companies A and C were also attached. All companies immediately took over part of the engineer work being done in the sector. Control of all troops of the 325th Engrs passed to the 325th Engr battalion commander at 0800 9 November 1944.

II Rest and Training Period:

1. A fourteen day rest period for the entire 120th Engineer Combat Battalion was utilized as a general cleanup and training period in addition to providing rest and recreational opportunities for all personnel. Training in the following operations was conducted:

- a. Rifle marksmanship.
- b. Mine schools including battalion mine SOP.
- c. Physical hardening.
- d. Personal Hygiene and sex morality.
- e. Close order drill and military courtesy.

III Resumption of Action by the Division:

1. Regimental combat teams of the 45th Inf Div, with engineer company support, started motorized movement into the Saverne Gap area on 22 November. All companies remained attached to Infantry until 27 November, at which time they reverted to battalion control and normal

Engineer functions were resumed with the 120th Engineer C Battalion supporting the attack of the 45th Infantry Division in the direction of Muhlhausen and Pfaffenhoffen.

IV: Tabulation of Engineer Functions:

1. Removed 39 enemy road blocks.
2. Removed 150 enemy mines and one demolition charge.
3. Installed five road blocks.
4. Filled two large craters in roads.
5. Constructed five timber bridges.
6. Constructed one footbridge
7. Built two bypasses
8. Laid one mine field
9. Swept 65 miles of road for mines.
10. Hauled 150 yards of gravel to improve roads around the clearing station and field hospital.
11. Cut five gaps in enemy barbed wire.
12. Installed one treadway bridge.
13. Painted 456 signs.
14. Furnished 241,695 gallons of water to division and attached units.
15. Furnished one demolition train to blow in entrances to enemy fortified position.
16. Trained one crew for tank dozer.
17. Furnished instructors and training aids to assist Corps in training new engineer and infantry troops of the 100th Inf Div prior to their commitment.

V: Miscellaneous:

1. Casualties:


	<u>EM</u>	<u>OFF</u>
a. KIA	1	0
b. WIA	8	1

c. Two EM of the 6638 Engr Mine Clearance company were wounded in action while attached to the 120th Engr C B.

2. Equipment:

- a. Four trucks, 2 1/2 ton, lost during the month of October were replaced early in November.
- b. Two 1/2 ton trucks were destroyed by mine explosions during the month. Replacements were received during the rest period.
- c. There was a serious shortage of paint during the entire month. No other serious shortages of engineer material was encountered.

For the Battalion Commander:


BENJAMIN S. BILLUPS
Major, CE
S-3

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COMPANY ACTIVITIES
FOR THE MONTH OF
NOVEMBER 1944

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Taken from the Station and Record of Events of
the Company Morning Reports

PERIOD 0001-2400 1 November 1944:

D/78

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras.

H&S Co: Detail from the Operations section laid sommerfeld matting on the air strip at Sercoeur for the 45th Div Air OP.

Co A: CP $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Housseras. The 1st platoon completed checking road in sector where a $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck hit a mine yesterday, $4\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers east of Jeanmenil; no mines found. Also cleared road of mines and road blocks, from St Benoit to two miles east, and removed seven R mines. The 2nd platoon maintained a trail from the 157th CP to 2nd Bn 157th Inf CP area. 3rd platoon checked roads for mines in vic of 3rd Bn area. S/Sgt Kalfatto stepped on a Schu mine and was seriously wounded. The same mine also wounded Lt Etherton. The tank dozer cleared a road block two miles east of St Benoit and hit an R mine which disabled the tank. The 2nd Platoon removed 30 Schu mines from a minefield in the vic of St Remy.

Co B: CP $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles southwest of La Bourgonne, France. One squad of the 1st platoon removed a road block and AT mines previously placed by the 1st platoon, in the vic of La Salle. The same block and mines were later replaced. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon maintained the 179th Inf supply roads. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon cleared and improved supply trail for Co L of the 3rd Bn 179th Inf.

Co C: CP $3/4$ mile south of La Grande Carse. The 1st platoon swept four kilometers of road along main road from St Benoit northeast and removed four roadblocks. The 2nd platoon swept road from St Benoit northwest and leading back to the main road, and removed three small road blocks.

PERIOD 0001-2400 2 November 1944:

D/79

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras, France.

Co C, 325th Engr C Bn, (100th Inf Div) was attached to the 120th Engr C Bn and took over the sector at present maintained by Company C 120th Engr C Bn, and was put under control of the CO 120th Engr C Bn.

H&S Co: Detail from the operations section completed laying sommerfeld matting on air strip at Sercoeur for the 45th Div Air OP.

Co A: The 1st platoon maintained trail leading into the 157th Inf CP. The 2nd platoon cleared and maintained trail from the gravel road two miles east of St Benoit to the intersection at the main highway, three miles northeast of St Benoit. R-4 bulldozer was used on this job and to dig in the Regimental CP.

Co B: CP moved to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Fraipertuis. One squad from each platoon swept road from three kilometers north of Rambervillers to Baccarat. Twenty R mines were found and destroyed. One booby trap, which was found in a house in Menil was also destroyed. The remainder of the company maintained the entrance to the battalion CP. T/4 Hagglund was seriously wounded when he stepped on a Schu mine south of Menil. Pfc Quiroz was also wounded by the same mine.

Co C: CP 3/4 mile south of La Grand Carce. The 1st platoon swept road from the intersection two miles northeast of St Benoit along road which runs parallel to the gravel road, and removed four Schu mines. Pvt Roybal was seriously wounded when he stepped on a Schu mine in the process of clearing a road block, and when he was pinned down by machine gun fire directed at the block, Capt Frank and Lt Safir went to his rescue and dragged him to safety. The attached tank dozer was hit by enemy fire on the road two miles northeast of St Benoit.

PERIOD 0001-2400 3 November 1944:

D/80

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras, France.

Co C 325th Engrs (100th Inf Div) opened a road block, 100 yards long, 1/2 miles west of La Salle. No mines were found. Block was log abatis.

Co A: CP moved to 1 kilometer east of St Benoit. The 1st platoon cleared a road block and removed mines on main road northeast out of St Benoit. No other engineer work performed.

Co B: CP moved to Baccarat. Lt Ficket and the 1st platoon attached to the 1st Bn 179th Inf and removed a road block northeast of St Benoit. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon were attached to the 2nd Bn 179th Inf in the morning and reverted back to company control in the afternoon. The D-7 filled two large shell craters on the road east of Ste Barbe.

Co C: CP 1/2 miles northeast of St Benoit. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon removed three small road blocks and cleared the main highway past the infantry outposts. Also removed approximately two tons of explosives from a culvert on the main road northeast of St. Benoit, which had a delayed action, time device attached. Lt Westwood and the 2nd platoon cleared a road four miles northeast of St Benoit and removed two R mines. Also swept several small trails off the main highway for the 180th Inf and removed 12 R mines. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon cleared the company bivouac area.

PERIOD 0001-2400 4 November 1944

D/81

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras, France.

Co C 325th Engrs (100th Inf Div) started clearing a series of roads and trails between St Remy and La Salle and from the towns three kilometers to the west.

Co A: The 1st platoon began work on the removal of a road block on the main highway from St Benoit to La Rappe. The tank dozer was used briefly on this project. After working on the block approximately 15 minutes, it hit a mine and was disabled. A 2 1/2 ton truck was used to pull logs out of the block. As one of the logs was pulled from the block, it set off a mine and wounded five MM. The 1st platoon removed two other road blocks about 100 yards apart. Both AT and Schu mines were removed and many more remain yet to be removed. The 3rd platoon assisted the 3rd Bn 157th Inf removing a log road block in their sector and picking up and
-ing mines.

Co B: Lt Picket and the 1st platoon attached to the 1st Bn 179th Inf and swept for mines on main road west of Thiaville. Also swept two trails in the same vicinity. Swept the road from north of Menil to Ste Barbe then east to RJ 23 kilometers east. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon improved road from Menil to east of Ste Barbe; swept for mines and removed three road blocks. The first block consisted of felled trees. The 2nd block consisted of rubble and the 3rd block consisted of prepared logs with rocks piled around it. Later Lt Dayton, with the aid of the R-4 bulldozer, maintained and improved road from the 2nd Bn 179th Inf northeast of Baccarat. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon removed one road block of felled trees and swept for mines on road east of Baccarat. This road was maintained throughout the day.

Co C: CP northeast of St Benoit. Lt Lipscomb and the 1st platoon prepared road for the 171st FA Bn to move into position and also checked the area for mines. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon removed two R mines and six Schu mines two miles southwest of La Neuveville. Pfc Hegstrom was killed and Sgt Waibel was wounded, when one of the mines was accidentally detonated. The 2nd platoon also opened trail to the 1st Bn 180th Inf CP and marked a mine field two miles southwest of La Neuveville. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon cleared road one mile north of La Neuveville and swept a trail for the Aid station of the 3rd Bn. The 3rd platoon also cleared debris and widened the main from St Benoit to La Neuveville.

PERIOD 0001-1400 5 November 1944

D/82

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras, France.

Co C 325th Engrs (100th Inf Div) completed clearing a series of roads and trails between St Remy and La Salle and from the towns three kilometers to the west.

Co A: CP 1 kilometer east of St Benoit. The 2nd platoon worked on the highway from St Benoit to two kilometers northeast, maintaining and improving it. The 3rd platoon constructed a 30' 2 span bridge after dark, in the vic of La Rappe. Lumber for the bridge was cut in the rear and hauled to the bridge site for placing.

Co B: CP in Baccarat. Lt Picket and the 1st platoon maintained a supply trail for the 1st Bn 179th Inf throughout the day. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon constructed a class 60 bridge at Baccarat and was relieved by the 2nd platoon at dark.

Co C: Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon swept and cleared three small trails, off the main road, two miles southwest of La Neuveville. Also swept and cleared two trails and a side road one mile west of La Neuveville. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon swept a road 1/2 mile off the main road, southwest of La Neuveville, and removed six Schu mines. Pvt Maes was wounded when his peep ran over a mine. Pys King, Buck (atchd Medic), Keats and Rollo (battalion prisoners) were wounded by artillery fragments southwest of La Neuveville. Lt Safir served as an instructor in a VI Corps mine school for personnel of the 100th Inf Div.

HAS Co: M/Sgt McAlarnis and a detail from the Operations section started construction of a footbridge in the vicinity of the battalion rest area in Fontenoy. Pvt Brown was wounded in the left leg when his peep ran over a mine northeast of St Benoit.

PERIOD 0001-2400 6 November 1944:

D/83

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras, France.

At 1100 Co B, 325th Engrs (100th Inf Div) was attached to the 120th Engrs in Baccarat.

Co C 325th Engrs installed a treadway bridge across a creek on the east edge of La Salle.

Co A: The 1st platoon swept trail for the 1st Bn 157th Inf. Only engineer work performed.

Co B: Company moved by motor to the battalion rest area in Fontenoy.

Co C: Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon, Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon swept trails in support of leading elements of the 2nd and 3rd Bn 120th Inf, one mile southwest of Raon L'Etape.

PERIOD 0001-2400 7 November 1944:

D/84

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras, France.

Co C 325th Engrs reinforced a damaged arch bridge to class 24, and filled a large crater in the east approach to the bridge, vic of St Remy. The company was subjected to enemy small arms fire.

Co A: CP 1 kilometer east of St Benoit. The 2nd platoon cleared the main road in area between St Benoit and forward areas, removing blown down trees. Also checked an area for the 157th Inf.

Co B: Company in rest area in Fontenoy. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon with eight $3\frac{1}{2}$ ton trucks hauled gravel for roads in the 120th Medical Battalion area. One squad of the 2nd platoon moved the Engineer Dump.

Co C: Company moved to rest area in Fontenoy.

PERIOD 0001-2400 8 November 1944

D/85

Bn CP 1 mile north of Housseras, France.

Co B 325th Engrs (100th Inf Div) was attached to the 120th Engr C Bn at 1800 and placed in support of the 120th Inf.

Co A: At 0630, company moved to rest area in Fontenoy

Co B: In rest area. One NCO and the 2nd platoon spread gravel for roads in the 120th Med Bn area

Co C: Company in rest area in Fontenoy

1. On 9 November 1944 the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, less Companies A, B & C, moved to the village of Fontenoy le Chateau, in the 7th Army Rest Area. The battalion CP, H&S Company, Companies B and C were quartered in the village proper, Company A was quartered in a saw-mill approximately one and one-half miles north of Fontenoy.
2. A program of rest, recreation, clean-up of personnel, equipment and vehicles was put into effect immediately. The battalion's 32 head shower bath unit was put in operation and was operated continuously during the period.
3. The Medical Detachment administered inoculations and vaccinations to all members of the battalion on 10, 11 and 12 November.
4. Members of the battalion staff supervised inspections of motor vehicles and all engineer tools and equipment on 13, 14 and 15 November.
5. A four-hour daily training schedule went into effect on 16 November and included road marches, engineer reconnaissance, scouting and patrolling. During this period, each individual had the opportunity of firing his weapon on an improvised rifle and machine gun range, constructed by the battalion. Each company was allotted one day on the range for this purpose.
6. A daily conference school for officers was held.
7. Full advantage was taken of all recreational facilities in the area. Personnel were sent to daily movies in Bains les Bains. A dance for enlisted personnel was held in Bains les Bains on 18 November. Excellent mineral baths were available daily in Bains les Bains.
8. A motor vehicle inspection was conducted by 7th Army on 17 November. The battalion received a rating of "Excellent" on this inspection.
9. On 20 November, a battalion formation was held at which time Major General Eagles, commanding general of the 48th Infantry Division, presented Silver Star Medals to Captain Alvin L Frack, 1st Lt Edwin Safir of Company C, and 1st Lt Wayne W Bridges of Company B. Bronze Star citations were presented to the following individuals:

Major Joseph W Lowe, Jr	Headquarters
S/Sgt Laurence S Jones	Company "B"
Sgt David L Blackmer	Company "C"
Sgt Joseph W Gray	Company "C"
Sgt Ernesto R Manzanares	Company "C"
Sgt Lawrence L Waibel	Company "C"
Tec 4 Marsh Bouldrey	Company "C"
Tec 4 John W Usher	H&S Company
T/S John L Gresson	H&S Company
Tec 3 Sanford L Davidow	H&S Company
Pfc John B Horne	Company "B"
Pvt Honor Donigian	Company "B"
Pvt James W Mullen	Company "B"

so Star Ribbons were not available for presentation in this later of operations at this time.

10. Warning orders for movement of the Division back into combat with the XV Corps in the vicinity of Sarrebourg were received on 22 November 1944.

23 November 1944

D/100

Bn in rest area in Fontenoy, France

Co B left the Fontenoy area, and moved out with the 179th RCT.

24 November 1944:

D/101

Bn CP moved at 1100, by motor convoy, and bivouaced for the night in the town of Biblikirchen.

Co A: At 1130, company moved out with the 157th RCT, to the town of Haute-Clocher, France.

Co B: Company moved at 1630 to the town of Westhofen, France. Lt Picket and the 1st platoon put in two temporary road blocks south of Balbronn, consisting of eight AF mines and two felled trees across the road. Lt Dayton and two squads of the second platoon cut four gaps of 50 yards depth through a double apron barbed wire fence on a high ridge overlooking the forts of Molsheim.

Co C: Co moved out with the 180th Inf RCT and established CP in Behr. Pfc Durkin captured one PW enroute.

25 November 1944:

D/102

Bn CP moved from temporary CP in Biblikirchen and set up CP in Duntzenheim, France.

Co A: At 1400, the company moved to the village of Reding with the 157th RCT. No engineer work was performed.

Co B. CP in Westhoffen, France. Lt Picket and the 1st platoon put in two road blocks composed of four felled trees and 17 AF mines. One block was put in at Still and the other at Dinsheim. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon breached a barbed wire entanglement vic of Dinsheim with bangalores, to a depth of 60 ft. One squad, under cover of darkness, blew the entrance to an enemy fortified position, using C2 pack charges. An enemy flying bomb landed within 150 yards of the company area and injured Pvts Andreozai and Pennington.

Co C: Company left Behr and set up CP at Duntzenheim. Seven 2½ ton trucks were used to haul infantry troops of the 180th Inf.

PERIOD 0001-2400 26 November 1944

B/103

Bn CP in Duntzenheim, France.

Co A: CP in Reding, France. No engineer work performed.

Co B: Company moved to Imbsheim. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon bivouaced in Bouxwiller with the 3rd Bn 179th Inf.

Co C: CP at Duntzenheim. Company trucks were used to haul infantry troops.

PERIOD 0001-2400 27 November 1944

B/104

Bn CP moved to Wickersheim, France.

Co A: At 0830 the company CP moved to Steinbourg, France, in support of the 157th Inf. No engineer work performed.

Co B: CP in Imbsheim, France. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon returned to the company area. Lt Dayton made a road reconnaissance for the 179th Inf. The company motor pool checked vehicles for minor repairs.

Co C: CP moved to Geisweiller. Lts Safir, Thuring and Prestwood made a road reconnaissance of the 150th Inf. sector.

PERIOD 0001-2400 28 November 1944:

B/105

Bn CP in Wickersheim, France.

Co A: CP moved to Obersoulsbach. The 2nd platoon removed log type obstacles on the road leading into Obersoulsbach and Neuwiller. The D-7 removed log obstacles on road into Waiterswiller.

Co B: CP in Imbsheim. Lt Picket and one squad swept and probed road for mines from Sutzendorf to Schillersdorf, following the advance of the 2nd and 3rd Bn 179th Inf. Lt Bridges and Lt Picket made a reconnaissance of a blown bridge in Muhlhausen. Two squads of the 1st platoon awaiting orders to repair the bridge. Lt Dayton and two squads of the second platoon, with the aid of the D-7 bulldozer, put in a by-pass at Menchhoffen. Lt Cohen and one squad of the 3rd platoon repaired a damaged street near road block in Bouxwiller. Another squad checked Div CP building in Bouxwiller for booby traps.

Co C: CP at Geisweiller. Company was alerted to be ready to move out to construct a bridge near Pffofenhofen.

PERIOD 0001-2400 29 November 1944

B/106

Bn CP in Wickersheim, France.

Co A: CP moved to Ingwiller. 3rd platoon removed seven log type obstacles on both sides of the road leading into Ingwiller.

Co B: CP moved at 1245 to Menschhoffen. Lt Picket and 2 squads of the 1st platoon, with the aid of the D-7, put in a one lane culvert bypass at Muhlhausen. Lt Cohen and 2 squads of the 3rd platoon attempted to maintain this bypass later in the morning, but enemy activity and artillery fire prevented any work being done. Later in the day, when the sector had quieted, maintenance work was done on the bypass.

Co C: CP moved to Ettendorf. Lt Safir and one squad of the 1st platoon constructed 30 feet of treadway, 1000 yards west of Pfaffenhoffen. Pfc Mendoza was lightly wounded when an artillery shell landed in the company area.

PERIOD 0001-2400 30 November 1944:

D-107

Bn CP moved at 1700 to Uttwiller, France.

Co A: CP in Ingwiller. The 1st platoon constructed a 25' single span wooden bridge at Rothbach, on the road to Muhlhausen. The lumber used on the bridge was obtained from a mill just south of Ingwiller. The 2nd platoon constructed a single, span wooden bridge at Muhlhausen, on the road to Offwiller.

Co B: CP in Menschhoffen. Lt Picket and 2 squads of the 1st platoon removed a culvert from a bypass at Muhlhausen. This was necessitated by heavy rains flooding the culvert. The other squad, with the aid of the D-7, removed four small road blocks in the Obermodern area. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon followed the attack of the 1st and 2nd Bns 179th Inf.

Co C: CP at Ettendorf. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon removed planks and repaired treadway bridge southwest of Kenweiler. Lt Frestwood and the 2nd platoon cleared road blocks and debris from Pfaffenhoffen, Beberach, Niedermodern and Lowach. Also removed 10 AT mines from the railroad tracks in Pfaffenhoffen.

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45, U S Army
1 December 1944

MEMORANDUM:

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

1. Following is a list of battle casualties, incurred by this battalion during the month of November 1944:

KILLED IN ACTION

Pfc Vernon E Hegstrom Co C 4 Nov 44 Schu-Mine

WOUNDED IN ACTION

1st Lt	William W Etherton	Co A	1 Nov 44	AT Mine
S/Sgt	Louis J Malfatto	Co A	1 Nov 44	AT Mine
Tec 4	Algot A Hagglund	Co B	2 Nov 44	AP Mine
Pfc	Demotilo M Quiroz	Co B	2 Nov 44	AP Mine
Pvt	Benito Roybal	Co C	2 Nov 44	Schu-Mine
Sgt	Eara A Alford	Co A	4 Nov 44	Schu-Mine
Pvt	Conroy F Frans	Co A	4 Nov 44	Schu-Mine
Pvt	Charles S Whitney	Co A	4 Nov 44	Schu-Mine
Pfc	Simon Mendoza	Co C	29 Nov 44	Artillery

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H DISMANT
1st Lt CE
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION SURGEON

AFO 45, US Army
4 Dec 1944

MEDICAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1944

1. Statistical Data:

Number of patients admitted to hospital	37
Battle casualties (one officer and eight enlisted men)	9
NEA	1
MIA	0
Recommended for Purple Heart Medal	5
Patients receiving Dental Treatment	50
New Venereal Cases	2
New Malaria Cases	0
Recurrent Malaria Cases	4

2. Comments:

a. During this past month we have seen action, had a rest period and gone back into action. From the first of the month up until the ninth of the month we were in action around the Baccarat sector. As the whole division was then withdrawn for a well deserved rest period we went with the Battalion to the bivouac area in and around Fontenoy Le Chateau, Vosges. There we went to work with physical inspections, immunisations and generally getting the battalion in good physical condition.

b. A dance for the enlisted men at Bain Les Bain, and one for the officers at Flombieres wound up the rest period.

c. On the twentyfourth the Battalion went back into the combat sector in Alcase along the main road from Saverne to Strassbourg. The division had now joined the XV Corps.

d. The greater number of patients admitted to the hospital has been due to illness rather than wounds. The illness has mostly been upper respiratory tract infections brought on by the cold damp weather.

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Kilmer
JOHN H. KILMER
Capt., M.C.
Commanding Med. Det.

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45, U S Army
2 December 1944

MEMORANDUM:

1. Following is a report on the number of signs provided by this Battalion for units of the Forty-Fifth Infantry Division:

120th Engr C Bn	210
45th Signal Co	4
MP Platoon	6
Div Arty	2
Div Hq Co	55
157th Infantry	95
179th Infantry	33
180th Infantry	24
171st FA Bn	18

Total - - - - - 456

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H DISMANT
1st Lt CE
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45, U S Army
2 December 1944

MEMORANDUM:

Class II, Class IV, Explosives and Demolitions
Engineer Supplies issued from the 45th Division
Engineer Dump for the period 1-30 November 1944.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Acetylene	Tanks	54
Axe, chopping, S.B. 36" handled	ea.	184
Axe, chopping, double bit handled	ea.	18
Bulbs, electric, 60 watt	ea.	38
Compass, wrist	ea.	45
Compass, watch	ea.	95
Compass, lensatic, w/case	ea.	35
Hatchet, half, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " cut hld	ea	19
Handle, axe, S.B. 36"	ea	36
Handle, pick, RR.	ea.	43
Handle, sledge	ea.	11
Hydrogen	tank	1
Markers, Lum dial rad active	ea.	58
Lumber, 3" x 12" x 12'	pcs	55
Lights, blinker, highway	ea	6
Nails, common, wire, 8d	lbs	350
10 d	lbs	300
16 d	lbs	50
20 d	lbs	40
30 d	lbs	700
40 d	lbs	850
60 d	lbs	750
80 d	lbs	250
Nets, camoufl, garnished, size:		
22 x 22	ea	6
30 x 30	ea	2
36 x 44	ea	4
45 x 45	ea	6
Oxygen, tanks	tanks	50
Pins, drift	ea	190
Picks, pick, RR handled	ea	38
Mattocks, pick, handled	ea	37
Paint, enamel, black	qts	2
Paint, Oil, white	gals	20
Paint, enamel, yellow	qts	4
Peavy, handled	ea	18
Plywood, 3 ply, 4 x 6	pcs	20
Rope, manilla, 1/2" dia	feet	200
3/4" dia	feet	500
1 " dia	feet	1200
Saw, crosscut, 26" 6 pt	ea	6

Saw, crosscut, 1 man 36" w/handle	ea	1
Saw, crosscut, 2 man 60" w/supp hdl	ea	12
Shovels, RP, D-handled	ea	117
Shovels, RP, long handled	ea	14
Tape, friction	rolls	17
Tape, tracing, white	rolls	45
Terneplate, 26 gauge	12 x 24"	pcs 200
	16 x 36"	pcs 450
	17 x 32"	pcs 180

CLASS IV

Bags, sand, burlap w/binder	ea	2400
Cable, steel, 1/4" dia	feet	600
	1/2" dia	feet 400
	3/8"	feet 1500
Concertina	rolls	58
Culverts, 36" dia	feet	80
Pickets, long, drive	ea	75
Pickets, short screw type	ea	184
Wire, galv iron #9, 120 rolls	roll	9
Wire, barbed	rolls	114

DEMOLITIONS AND EXPLOSIVES

Bangalore, torpedoes	ea	110
Beehives, small	ea.	97
Beehives, large	ea	38
Charge, dem, block M-3 (C-2)	ea	21
Charge, dem, chain block, M-1 tet	ea	45
Caps, non-electric, blasting	ea	782
Cord, detonating	feet	1000
Fuse, time, blasting	ea	900
Lighters, fuse	ea	210
Mines, AI	ea	2000
Mines, AP	ea	450
Explosive, TNT	lbs	2552
Firing devices, M-1 Pull type	ea	150
	M1al, press type	ea 75
	M1 release type	ea 750

For the Battalion Commander:

W. M. Hales

W. M. HALES
Capt CE
S-4

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45, U S Army
3 December 1944

TABLE OF WATER DISTRIBUTION BY THIS UNIT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1944
(All figures in gallons)

Date	WP #64	WP #66	WP #68	WP #69	WP #70	WP No 71	WP #72	Daily Totals
Nov 1	5300	10360	1765	500				17925
2		12480	1090	4090				17660
3		2210	995	760	2010	2685		8660
4					5380	8775	1625	15780
5					8925	10955	4910	24790
6					4650	12680	6190	23500
7						8625	535	9160
8						7350		7350
Totals:	5300	25050	3850	5350	20965	51050	13260	124825

Period 9-23 November the Division was in a rest area and the water was supplied by the 343rd Engrs.

Nov	WP #73	WP #74	WP #75	WP #76	WP #77	WP #78	WP #79	Daily Totals
24	2165							2165
25	2050	9500						11550
26		10000	650		370			11020
27				4255	8420			12675
28				10710	12570	4475		27755
29				14770	9890	1525	4370	30555
30				16360	9190		6545	32095
Totals	4215	19500	650	46095	40440	6000	10915	127815

Total water distributed for the month of November	242640
Daily average (15 days)	16842
Total previously issued in France (15 Aug-31 Oct)	2109200
Total for French campaign (15 Aug-30 Nov)	2351840
Daily average (93 days)	25288

For the Battalion Commander:

W.M. Hales
W. M. HALES
Capt CE
S-4

File

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 U S ARMY

KPN/pcs

.....
:Auth: CG 45 Div
:Init: KPN
:Date: 11 Jan 45
:.....

AG 314.7

11 January 1945

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Records.

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, U S Army,
(Attn: Historian).

Transmitted herewith Historical Record of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, this command, for the period 1 December 1944 to 31 December 1944, inclusive.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL P NAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl:
Hist Rec of 120 Engr C Bn.

A- 4697

DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 US Army
Date _____

11 JAN 1945

SECRET

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 U S ARMY

EPN/pcs

.....
:Auth: CG 45 Div
:Init: EPN
:Date: 11 Jan 45
:.....

11 January 1945

AG 314.7

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Records.

TO : Commanding General, VI Corps, APO 46, U S Army.

Transmitted herewith information copy of the Historical Record of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, this command, for the period 1 December 1944 to 31 December 1944, inclusive.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL P NAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl:
Hist Rec of 120th Engr C Bn.

A - 4698
DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 U S Army
Date _____

11 JAN 1945

S E C R E T

Bn CP located in Uttwiller, France.

Co A: CP in Ingwiller, France. The 1st platoon made a reconnaissance and prepared road blocks at:

1. Rothbach, by placing cratering charges in the road.
 2. South of Rothbach, by placing a deliberate mine field of 75 AT mines across the road, in conjunction with felled trees.
- Details were left at each road block as demolitionists and guards. The 2nd platoon prepared a road crater on the road one kilometer north-east of Ingwiller. After dark, the same platoon layed a 100 AT mine hasty mine field on a trail north of Ingwiller. All road blocks were prepared as a precaution against an enemy attack against the Division left flank. The 3rd platoon built a trail north of Offwiller for the use of tanks and TD's.

Co B: CP in Menchhoffen, France. Lt Picket and the 1st platoon destroyed 25 Teller mines that had previously been removed, and pulled three more Teller mines from the vicinity of Uhrwiller. They re-swept and maintained road from Uhrwiller to Bieffern. Also filled two shell holes in the road between Zutzendorf and Obermodern. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon swept and marked off the following road network: Obermodern-Menchhoffen-Schillersdorf-Muhlhausen-Zutzendorf-Bieffern.

Co C: CP moved to Pfaffenoffen: The 1st platoon swept road from Pfaffenoffen to Obermodern and in the vic of Kindwiller, laid traffic stripping at la Walck and gravelled approaches. The 2nd platoon swept road from Pfaffenoffen to 2 kilometers west of Miedern, and from Miedern-Weberach-la Walck-Kindwiller-Mitschhoffen. The 3rd platoon followed the advance of the 3rd Bn 180th Inf.

Bn CP in Uttwiller, France.

Co A: CP in Ingwiller. At 2330 the company was alerted to go forward to construct a bridge in Zinswiller. Arrangements were made to secure Brockways from XV Corps Engineer. The 2nd platoon relieved the 1st platoon guarding road blocks on the division left flank.

Co B: CP in Menchhoffen, France. Lt Picket and one squad of the 1st platoon swept and marked the road north of Uhrwiller and the road south of Uhrwiller. Another squad with the aid of the D-7 bulldozer, improved a bypass in Menchhoffen. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon replaced a treadway bridge southwest of Kindwiller with a two span wooden stringer bridge. S/Sgt Jones and one squad of the 3rd platoon swept and marked roads from Muhlhausen to Pfaffenoffen.

Co C: CP at Pfaffenoffen, France. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon cleared a road block 500 yards west of Pfaffenoffen and also started the construction of a two span, steel I beam bridge west of Pfaffenoffen. Sgt Stumpf and one squad of the 3rd platoon swept road one kilometer north of Mitschhoffen.

Bn CP in Uttwiller, France.

Co A: CP at Ingwiller, France. At 0100, the 3rd platoon moved out to construct a bridge at Zinswiller. Construction could not begin due to heavy enemy fire, and the platoon had to return. At 0730, the town had been cleared by the 157th Inf and the platoon constructed a 15' timber bridge 800 metres northwest of Zinswiller. The 1st platoon maintained road from Offwiller to Zinswiller, by filling in shell craters. Also built a bypass at the bridge site in Zinswiller by blowing the banks of the stream, allowing tanks to cross on old bridge flooring lying in the stream bed. Work was done under heavy enemy artillery and small arms fire. After the town had been cleared, the 1st platoon constructed a 45' treadway bridge over the old bridge site and previously constructed bypass.

Co B CP at Menchhoffen, France. Lt Fickett and the 1st platoon placed two culverts on bridge site at Gumbrechtshoffen. During this work, Lt Fickett was wounded by a mortar fragment as the enemy laid down a heavy barrage of tank and mortar fire. Lt Dayton and one squad of the 2nd platoon filled holes left by removal of a road block on road east of Obermodern. Classification signs were posted on bridge that was constructed on 2 December. S/Sgt Jones and one squad of the 3rd platoon swept and cleared road of 15 felled trees in the vic of Uhrwiller. Lt Dayton and one squad of the 2nd platoon maintained the road in vicinity of the ford at Gumbrechtshoffen. Lt Dayton also made a reconnaissance for a bridge site in this vicinity. At 2230, Lt Dayton and one squad of the 2nd platoon, with the aid of the D-9, put in a three pipe culvert at Gumbrechtshoffen.

Co C: CP at Pfaffenhoffen, France. The 1st platoon swept road from Pfaffenhoffen to Ingwiller to Mietesheim. The 2nd platoon completed the construction of a class 40 bridge at Pfaffenhoffen. The 3rd platoon swept road from Bitschoffen to Mietesheim to approximately two kilometers southeast of Mietesheim. Removed one road block, 10 box mines, one Schu mine and cleared rubble and filled shell holes, all in the vicinity of Mietesheim.

Bn CP in Uttwiller, France.

Co A: CP at Ingwiller, France. The 2nd platoon was relieved from guarding road blocks on the division left flank by the 325th Engrs. The 1st platoon strengthened a treadway bridge at Zinswiller by building cribs to replace trestle. The 3rd platoon swept road for mines from Zinswiller south to 9006343, in the 179th Inf sector. No mines were found. One road block was removed at the edge of Zinswiller. The road block was composed of farm machinery which was booby trapped with 5 kg charges. Also cleared streets in Zinswiller and swept road from Zinswiller north to 903371.

Co B: CP in Menchhoffen, France. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon with the aid of the B-7, constructed a by-pass in Gumbrechtshoffen, consisting of three galvanized culverts and fill. Lt Peak and the 1st platoon swept and cleared roads of trees, north of Ingwiller. Also improved the by-pass in Gumbrechtshoffen. S/Sgt Jones and one squad of the 3rd platoon made a reconnaissance for tank crossings through swampy land west of Gumbrechtshoffen. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon and S/Sgt Jones and the 3rd platoon corduroyed a road north of Gumbrechtshoffen for the use of tanks.

Co C: CP in Pfaffenhoffen, France. The 1st platoon removed four road blocks in the 2nd Bn 180th Inf sector. The 2nd platoon removed one road block and gravelled approaches to treadway bridge 1000 yards west of Pfaffenhoffen. The 3rd platoon filled shell holes and cleared debris from roads in the regimental area.

PERIOD 0001-2400 5 December 1944:

B/112

Bn CP in Uttwiller, France.

Co A: CP moved to Offwiller, France. One squad of the 3rd platoon cleared one road block at the east edge of Zinswiller on the road to Gumbrechtshoffen. One squad of the 1st platoon maintained and strengthened a treadway bridge in Zinswiller. Also swept road for mines from Zinswiller to Oberbronn.

Co B: Co moved to Ingwiller. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon, S/Sgt Jones and the 3rd platoon corduroyed approximately 100 yards of road to permit passage to tanks, north of Gumbrechtshoffen. Lt Peak made a reconnaissance of a road north of Gumbrechtshoffen. Lt Peak and the 1st platoon, with the aid of the B-7 bulldozer, repaired a by-pass in Gumbrechtshoffen with sand bag revetment and additional fill. S/Sgt Jones made a reconnaissance for a road on which several tanks, which had bogged down, could be retrieved. Lt Bridges made a reconnaissance of a blown bridge east of Gumbrechtshoffen, but could not reach bridge site due to heavy enemy machine gun fire.

Co C: CP in Pfaffenhoffen. The 2nd platoon filled shell holes and removed 8 TOPF mines in vicinity of a blown bridge south of Mertzwiller. Also constructed a foot bridge over a stream on the southern outskirts of Mertzwiller. Swept for mines on road from Ueberach to CR 960278 north to Mertzwiller and removed one road block at 959283. Also swept road from Ueberach to Mertzwiller and removed one road block at 953293.

PERIOD 0001-2400 6 December 1944:

B/113

Bn CP in Uttwiller, France.

Co A: CP in Offwiller, France. The 1st platoon repaired road Gumbrechtshoffen to Zinswiller on the south side of the stream and road Zinswiller to Oberbronn. The 3rd platoon removed three road blocks on the road northwest of Zinswiller. 13 booby trapped hand

grenades and two S-mines were found on the near side of a timber road block. The company turned over maintenance of the bridge in Zinswiller to the 48th Engrs.

Co B: CP in Uhrwiller, France. S/Sgt Jones and one squad of the 3rd platoon put in a 150 yard corduroy road west of Gumbrechtshoffen and retrieved two tanks that had bogged down in the vicinity. Lt Payton and the 2nd platoon filled numerous shell craters on the road west of Gumbrechtshoffen. Lt Peak and one squad of the 1st platoon filled shell craters in road in the vicinity of Nieffern. Also barricaded the road from Uhrwiller to Muhlhausen and posted same with "Bridge out" signs. Company turned over maintenance of culvert at Gumbrechtshoffen to the 48th Engrs.

Co C: CP at Pfaffenhoffen, France. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon constructed a footbridge which was to be installed in Mertzwiller, but due to an enemy counter attack, could not be installed. Capt Frank and an officer of the 48th Engrs made a road and bridge reconnaissance in the vicinity of Bueswiller.

PERIOD 0001-2400 7 December 1944:

B/114

Bn CP moved to Rothbach, France.

Co A: CP at Offwiller, France. The 3rd platoon removed an abatis road block on road 4 kilometers northwest of Zinswiller. The block was booby trapped with 50 mines and hand grenades. Further up the same road, they filled three large shell craters.

Co B: CP at Uhrwiller, France. All platoons maintained roads in the regimental area. Improved one bad spot in the road near Nieffern. Maintained road from Uhrwiller to Engwiller to Gumbrechtshoffen.

Co C: CP in Pfaffenhoffen, France. Company following the advance of the 180th Infantry. Performed no engineer work.

PERIOD 0001-2400 8 December 1944

B/115

Bn CP in Rothbach, France.

Co A: CP at Offwiller, France. The 2nd platoon cleared a peep trail northwest of Niederbronn. One fixed log obstacle and three large trees were removed from the road northwest of Niederbronn. Cleared and swept road from Zinswiller northwest along the Sintzel River to Unternouhthal. Cleared the road northeast of Oberbronn as far as 919385

Co B: CP in Uhrwiller, France. Sgt Riskall and a detail checked a house in Gumbrechtshoffen for booby traps. One squad from each platoon filled shell craters in roads in regimental area. The remaining squads cleaned squad equipment.

Co C: CP in Uttwiller, France. The company constructed three portable footbridges for use by the 180th Inf in coming operations.

PERIOD 0001-2400 9 December 1944:

D/116

Bn CP in Rothbach, France.

Co A: CP in Offwiller, France. The D-7 bulldozer aided in repairing a road for Battery A of the 938th F. A. Bn. The 1st platoon cleared a hasty road block at the railroad overpass at Niederbronn, from which they removed abatis and approximately 30 Teller mines, and filled numerous craters in the road approaching the block.

Co B: CP in Uhrwiller, France. Sgt Conley and a detail checked a house in Bouxwiller for booby traps. The remainder of the company cleaned personal and platoon equipment.

Co C: CP at Uttwiller, France. In support of the 180th Inf. Performed no engineer work.

PERIOD 0001-2400 10 December 1944:

D/117

Bn CP in Rothbach, France.

Co A: CP in Offwiller, France. The 3rd platoon assisted the 48th Engr C Bn in the construction of a treadway bridge in Jaegerthal. Also made reconnaissance for a by-pass, south of a road block in the vicinity of Jaegerthal. The 1st platoon, with the aid of the D-7 bulldozer, built a by-pass over the railroad in Niederbronn. The 2nd platoon removed two tree road blocks two kilometers north of Niederbronn and swept road for two kilometers northeast out of Niederbronn.

Co B: CP in Uhrwiller, France. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon built a 20' span stringer bridge on the road east out of Muhlhausen. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon removed a tree road block, 3/4 of a mile northwest of Niederbronn. They also removed a tree road block and 10 anti-tank mines previously put in by our infantry, on the road 1 1/2 miles northwest of Niederbronn. The trail leading north out of Niederbronn was maintained for two miles for Co K of the 3rd battalion 179th Infantry. The D-7 bulldozer dug gun positions for the 72nd AAA on the west side of the road where the Uhrwiller-Zinswiller road forks to Gumbrechtshoffen.

Co C: CP at Gumbrechtshoffen-Oberbronn. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon prepared a treadway bridge site in Gundershoffen and cleared the town of debris. Swept road from Gumbrechtshoffen to Gundershoffen to two kilometers north of the factory area, and removed 33 mines. The 2nd platoon made a reconnaissance and swept the streets of Reichshoffen. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon swept road from Gumbrechtshoffen to Reichshoffen on the west side of the stream. Also swept road from Niederbronn to Reichshoffen to one kilometer south of the factory and removed 41 anti tank mines. Filled shell

craters on the road Gumbrechtshoffen-Reichshoffen. Also imp.
the bridge in Reichshoffen to class 40.

PERIOD 0001-2400 11 December 1944:

D/118

Bn CP in Rothbach, France.

Co A: CP moved to Niederbronn, France. The 1st platoon maintained the by-pass over the railroad in Niederbronn. Checked for mines on road from Niederbronn to Reichshoffen and removed 19 TOPF mines. Cleared road from Reichshoffen, north for two kilometers. The 2nd platoon cleared road from Jaegerthal to Neuwiller, after a reconnaissance had been made of the road. The 3rd platoon improved by-pass in Jaegerthal to permit the trestle bridge to be replaced by a permanent structure. The tank dozer removed a 200 yard tree road block on the main road south of Jaegerthal. The company CP was shelled by enemy artillery during the day; Pfc Chiwiwi was wounded by shell fragments.

Co B: CP moved to Gumbrechtshoffen, France. Sgt Jojola and a detail checked a building in Reichshoffen for booby traps. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon put in a road block one mile south of Windstein. Road block consisted of seven trees felled across the road and twelve anti-tank mines. They also swept the road from Niederbronn, north, and found four TOPF mines. Pfc Polbow captured two prisoners.

Co C: CP moved to Reichshoffen, France. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon swept roads in the 1st Bn 180th Inf area and removed four anti-tank mines; also maintained approaches to the trestle bridge in Gundershoffen. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon swept road from Reichshoffen to Froeschwiller and removed six anti-tank mines; also cleared four small road blocks from the same road. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon cleared the town of Reichshoffen of debris; removed four small road blocks and maintained the road from Gumbrechtshoffen to Reichshoffen.

PERIOD 0001-2400 12 December 1944

D/119

Bn CP moved to Reichshoffen, France.

Co A: CP at Niederbronn, France. The 1st platoon cleared road from Reichshoffen to Jaegerthal by removing four small road blocks and four TOPF mines. All blocks were composed of felled trees, approximately 20 yards in length. Also swept road from Neuwiller to Froeschwiller. The 2nd platoon removed a road block on the road between Neuwiller and Langensultzbach. The tank dozer assisted in the removal of this block which was approximately 50 yards in length. Also removed a 50 yard road block and forty TOPF mines in Langensultzbach. On this site, a company dump truck struck a mine and was disabled. The D-7 bulldozer repaired a road in Niederbronn for the 48th Engineers. The 3rd platoon cleared the road from Langensultzbach to 006404

Co B: CP in Gumbrechtshoffen. S/Sgt Kolodziejczyk and squad of the 1st platoon swept road from Reichshoffen to Nehwiller, removed a small road block from the road approximately one mile southwest of Nehwiller. Lt Cohen and one squad of the 3rd platoon removed two road blocks northwest of Niederbronn on road to Philippsburg. The first block was composed of fifteen felled trees and the second consisted of three large trees felled across the road. Fifteen TOPF mines were found in the approaches to the road block which S/Sgt Kolodziejczyk's squad removed.

Co C: CP at Reichshoffen, France. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon swept road from Froeschwiller to Woerth and from Woerth to Goersdorf, and removed fifteen anti-tank mines. They put in two culverts and constructed a by-pass one kilometer north of Woerth. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon hauled gravel for the by-pass and removed three small road blocks. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon swept road from Froeschwiller to Langenscultzbach, back southeast to the main road and from there to one kilometer north. They removed ten anti-tank mines from this road.

PERIOD 0001-2400 13 December 1944:

D/120

Bn CP at Reichshoffen, France.

Co A: CP moved to $1\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers south of Langenscultzbach, France. The 3rd platoon cleared and maintained a supply trail from Langenscultzbach to the 2nd Bn 157th Inf sector (016458) and removed five TOPF mines. The 2nd platoon put in a culvert one kilometer northeast of Langenscultzbach; repaired a culvert one kilometer south of Langenscultzbach by spreading six loads of gravel. Also cleared and opened a road from Langenscultzbach to 994430 northeast to 998437 east to 008436; cleared the entire road from Langenscultzbach to Mattstall.

Co B: CP in Oberbronn. Sgt Phillips and one squad of the 1st platoon marked off road, filled shell holes and destroyed six TOPF mines that had previously been removed, on road from Reichshoffen to Nehwiller. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon swept road from Froeschwiller two kilometers south and from Langenscultzbach two kilometers southeast. One squad from the 3rd platoon checked 15 houses in Langenscultzbach for booby traps. Another squad swept road from Froeschwiller, east, and removed and destroyed eleven TOPF mines.

Co C: CP moved to Froeschwiller. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon maintained a by pass one kilometer north of Woerth and removed two small road blocks approximately two kilometers northeast of Goersdorf. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon swept road from the Bailey Bridge to a point two kilometers south of Lembach and removed a series of eight small road blocks. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon swept road from the railroad near Mattstall to Mattstall, and removed ten anti-tank mines.

PERIOD 0001-2400 14 December 1944:

D/121

Bn CP in Reichshoffen, France.

Co A: CP 1 1/2 kilometers south of Langensoultzbach, France. The 1st platoon hauled rock to maintain a culvert one kilometer south of Langensoultzbach; cleared road of mines and one small road block, northwest of Lembach. Several TOPF mines were found and destroyed, in the vicinity of the road block. The 2nd platoon hauled rock and maintained culvert on the road between Mattstall and Langensoultzbach; cleared mines from Langensoultzbach and Mattstall; cleared trails for 1/4 ton vehicles from 006438 to 018457.

Co B: CP in Froeschwiller, France. S/Sgt Kolodziejczyk and the 1st platoon constructed approximately 100 yards of access road for the 700th Ordnance at Reichshoffen. Lt Dayton made a bridge reconnaissance for the 179th Inf. Lt Cohen and a detail of the 3rd platoon checked a road near Froeschwiller for mines, for the 976th FA Bn; removed booby traps from houses vicinity of the Div Arty Air CP in Reichshoffen.

Co C: CP one kilometer south of Lembach. The 1st platoon filled shell holes and craters left by removal of a road block, vicinity of Lembach. The 2nd platoon cleared and swept road from edge of woods south of Lembach to Lembach; cleared and swept road from Mattstall to Lembach; cleared and swept road northwest of Lembach to one mile north and then east; removed charges from a bridge in Lembach; cleared the southern part of Lembach of debris. The 3rd platoon swept trails through the woods for the 3rd Bn 180th Inf; cleared the northern part of Lembach of debris; swept and cleared road into Wingen and removed seven anti-tank mines.

PERIOD 0001-2400 15 December 1944

D/122

Bn CP moved to Langensoultzbach, France.

Co A: CP 1 1/2 kilometers south of Langensoultzbach, France. The 1st platoon cleared a road block on a trail northwest of Lembach for the 1st Bn 157th Inf supply route, and removed three S mines. The 3rd platoon cleared and removed road blocks from road leading northwest out of Lembach for the 3rd Bn 157th Inf supply route. While working on this road, the platoon received heavy mortar and sniper fire. Sgt Henderson received a shrapnel wound in his arm and one truck was slightly damaged.

Co B: CP in Froeschwiller, France. S/Sgt Kolodziejczyk and the 1st platoon maintained road southeast of Lembach, and removed a small road block from the same road. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon maintained the road from Langensoultzbach to Lembach. Sgt McKinney and a detail from the 3rd platoon located and marked two enemy S minefields upon information furnished by

two PW's from the 245th Engr Bn. The mines couldn't be removed due to extreme darkness. Lt Cohen and a detail from the 3rd platoon made a bridge reconnaissance northwest of Lembach. S/Sgt Jones and a detail from the 3rd platoon removed four TOFF mines on the road east of Froeschwiller.

Co C: CP one kilometer south of Lembach, France. The 1st platoon cleared the road from Lembach $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east; removed five R mines and two Tellermine; swept road southeast of Lembach to the RJ and from there to the main road. The 2nd platoon cleared roadblocks in Lembach and helped remove a tankdozer that had bogged down the previous day. The 3rd platoon swept road from Wingen to Clinbach as far as 072461; swept road one kilometer north and northwest of Wingen; swept trails through the woods behind the infantry to the German border as far as 080492. Platoon entered Germany at 1330 hours. The road from Wingen was swept to Ft Wingen and then north to the edge of the woods at 063483.

PERIOD 0001-2400 16 December 1944:

D/123

En CP in Langensoultzbach, France.

Co A: CP $1\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers south of Langensoultzbach, France. The 3rd platoon cleared a road for the 3rd En 157th Inf north of Lembach, by removing two tree road blocks and several TOFF mines. The 1st platoon cleared road from Wingen into Nothweiler and removed an abatis road block and 15 mines reported by the 157th Infantry.

Co B: CP in Froeschwiller. S/Sgt Kelodzjeczyk and the 1st platoon cleared road ditches and did general maintenance work on the main road through Langensoultzbach. Sgt McKinney and a detail from the 3rd platoon with two German prisoners as guides, cleared a minefield in the vicinity of Langensoultzbach and removed 42 S mines. Lt Cohen and the remainder of the 3rd platoon started construction of a two way class 50 timber bridge on the main road northwest of Lembach.

Co C: CP one kilometer south of Lembach. The 1st platoon swept trails for the 1st Bn 150th Infantry. Sgt Waibel and the 2nd platoon blew up twelve Tellermine and five R mines, which had previously been removed in the 2nd Bn 150th Inf area. Lt Frestwood, Sgt Bouldrey and the 3rd squad of the 2nd platoon made a bridge reconnaissance in the vicinity of Nothweiler, and Bobenthal. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon cleared roads in the vicinity of Bobenthal.

PERIOD 0001-2400 17 December 1944

E/124

En CP in Langensoultzbach, France.

Co A: CP $1\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers south of Langensoultzbach, France. The 1st platoon maintained main roads in vicinity of Nothweiler. During the day they sent four men with ten 6-man rubber boats to attempt a stream crossing north of Nothweiler. Several attempts were made throughout the night, but the crossing had to be abandoned because of intense enemy fire. The 2nd platoon cleared road northeast from Nothweiler as far as the last road block, which was under direct enemy fire. The 3rd platoon cleared trails for the 3rd Bn 157th Inf west and southwest of Nothweiler.

Co B: CP moved to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile northeast of Pt Wingen. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon maintained the Div MSR leading northeast out of Pt Wingen. They worked from midnight to 0800 hours and were relieved by the 1st platoon who put down about 200 yards of plank road. The 1st platoon was relieved by the 3rd platoon at 1700 hours who put in an additional 100 yards of planks; also completed a two way timber bridge northwest of Lembach. One platoon of Co C assisted on the building of the road.

Co C: CP one kilometer south of Lembach. Sgt Sanders and a squad of the 1st platoon swept and cleared road in the vicinity of Nothweiler for the 1st Bn 180th Inf; also constructed two 24 foot footbridges to be used the following day by the 180th Inf. The 2nd platoon was attached to Co B.

PERIOD 0001-2400 18 December 1944:

D/125

Bn CP in Langensoultzbach, France.

Co A: CP moved to two kilometers south of Lembach. The 2nd platoon cleared a road block of felled trees, 400 yards long, on the road running northeast of Nothweiler; also improved a trail leading up into the vicinity of Bobenthal.

Co B: CP $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles northeast of Pt Wingen. The 1st platoon and two squads of the 3rd platoon maintained the division MSR from Pt Wingen to Bobenthal. Reconnaissance platoon from the 645th TD Bn attached. The work consisted of improving drainage, gravelling and corduroying.

Co C: CP one kilometer south of Lembach; Lt Safir and the 1st platoon transported two 24" footbridges, which had been constructed the previous day, to the 1st Bn 180th Infantry. Lt Prestwood and a detail from the 2nd platoon made a reconnaissance for a new road between Nothweiler and Bobenthal. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon destroyed one pillbox and experimented with the use of thermite grenades in sealing pillboxes, in the vicinity of Bobenthal.

PERIOD 0001-2400 19 December 1944:

D/126

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A moved to 3 kilometers southeast of Nothweiler, France. The 2nd platoon cleared a tree road block and filled an anti-tank ditch on a road running northeast of Nothweiler. Both the tank dozer and the D-7 were used here. The 3rd platoon, using hand tools, cleared a tree road block just off the main road one kilometer north of Nothweiler; also sent a detail to the 2nd Bn 157th Inf to instruct infantry personnel in the use of flame throwers.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile northeast of Pt Wingen. All platoons worked on maintenance of the division MSR from Pt Wingen to Bobenthal. They were assisted by the 48th Engrs and the 2749 Engrs who sent trucks to help in hauling gravel and crushed rock to the road.

Co C: CP one kilometer south of Lambach. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon worked with the 1st Bn 180th Inf in removing road obstacles. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon worked on a trail from Bobenthal to the highway 1 1/2 kilometers southeast of Nothweiler. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon constructed a bypass and installed a treadway bridge one kilometer north of Bobenthal. The D-7 was slightly damaged by enemy artillery fire at this bridge site.

PERIOD 0001-2400 20 December 1944:

D/127

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP three kilometers southeast of Nothweiler, France. The 1st platoon with the aid of the D-7 bulldozer constructed a one way road through the company bivouac area, which met the main road two kilometers south of Nothweiler.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile northeast of Pt Wingen. All platoons maintained the Division MSR from Pt Wingen to Bobenthal. Lts Fields, Dayton and Cohen instructed personnel of the 179th Inf in the use of demolitions for blowing up pill boxes.

Co C: CP 1/2 mile south of Lambach, France. Lt Prestwood and the 2nd platoon put in a traffic strip on a timber bridge in Bobenthal, and prepared a treadway bridge southeast of Bobenthal for demolition. Lt Thuring, Sgt Emerizy and one squad of the 3rd platoon swept trails for the 3rd Bn 180th Inf.

PERIOD 0001-2400 21 December 1944:

D/128

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP 3 kilometers southeast of Nothweiler, France. The 1st platoon constructed a CP for the 157th Inf Regt.

Co B: CP 1/2 mile northeast of Pt Wingen. All platoons maintained the Div MSR from Pt Wingen to Bobenthal.

Co C: CP 1 kilometer south of Lembach. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon constructed two culverts for the 180th Inf supply route. Lt Prestwood, Sgt Bouldrey and a squad of the 2nd platoon blew one pillbox and demolished the entrance to another, and prepared three more for demolition in the vicinity of hill 389. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon removed a treadway bridge one mile north of Bobenthal.

PERIOD 0001-2400 22 December 1944

D/129

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP three kilometers southeast of Nothweiler, France. The 1st platoon built a CP for the 1st Bn 157th Inf and aid station, in Nothweiler. The 3rd platoon prepared a roadblock of cratering charges on the main road one kilometer north of Nothweiler; also prepared trees for roadblocks on trails immediately adjacent to the cratering road block. The 2nd platoon dug in two TDs at R057527.

Co B: CP moved to Rott, France. Sgt Jojola and a detail from the 1st platoon conducted a demolition demonstration for personnel of the 1st Bn 179th Inf. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon removed two roadblocks on the northern outskirts of Weiler, for the 160th FA Bn. One block had 20 felled trees and the other block consisted of 15 felled trees.

Co C: CP one kilometer south of Lembach, France. The 2nd platoon blew a pillbox two kilometers north of Bobenthal and maintained the 2nd Bn supply route. The 2nd platoon placed twenty anti-tank mines, two kilometers north of Bobenthal (091531), and prepared a cratering charge at 091530, two kilometers north of Bobenthal. The 3rd platoon gravelled the rock road two kilometers west of Bobenthal.

PERIOD 0001-2400 23 December 1944:

D/130

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP moved to 043444. No engineer work performed.

Co B: CP at Rott, France. Lt Fields and a detail from the 1st platoon gave a demonstration to personnel of the 1st Bn 179th Inf on demolition of pill boxes. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon established a wire dump for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf and put in an anti-personnel minefield, of five M1 AP mines with trip wires, at 154528. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon dug an CP for the 179th Inf and laid a 15 AP minefield at 125531.

Co C: CP moved to Climbach, France. The 1st platoon maintained roads leading into Bobenthal. The 2nd platoon blew two pillboxes and one bypass, and cleared roads and supply trails for the 2nd Bn 180th Inf, 1/2 kilometer north of Bobenthal. The 3rd platoon swept trails and gravelled roads in the 3rd Bn 180th Inf area; dug in the 180th Inf CP and maintained road from Climbach cemetery to the treadway bridge near Bobenthal.

PERIOD 0001-2400 24 Dec 1944

D/131

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP southeast of Lembach. The 1st platoon cleared a series of ten small abatis road blocks on the road from Hirschthal to RJ 024479 and removed thirty S mines and twenty TOPF mines. Two AM were wounded by S Mines and the tank dozer was disabled by an anti tank mine during the clearing of this road. The tank driver was slightly wounded. The 2nd platoon put in a culvert and cleared three small tree road blocks on the road from Jaegerthal to Dambach. The 3rd platoon built a 23 ft span timber stringer bridge on the Jaegerthal-Dambach road.

Co B: CP in Rott. The 3rd squad of the 1st platoon began reinforcing a bridge south of Weiler and also prepared it for demolition. A detail from the 1st platoon sawed logs for the 2nd Bn 179th Inf to be used in the construction of infantry emplacements. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon put in 1000 feet of three strand barbed wire in front of the 2nd Bn sector. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon established a wire dump for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf; also cut turn outs on road from Weiler to R134480 with view of making it a two way road.

Co C: CP at Climbach. Lt Safir and the 1st platoon cleared 400 yards of abatis road block on trails for the 1st Bn 180th Inf; swept road north of Wingen for two kilometers and from Climbach to Bobenthal. Lt Frestwood and the 2nd platoon constructed a 32 foot simple stringer bridge 1/4 mile southeast of Bobenthal; laid 200 yards of triple concertina across the valley road west of Bobenthal. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon placed 75 rolls of concertina in front of the 3rd Bn 180th Inf positions.

PERIOD 0001-2400 25 December 1944

D/132

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP 3 kilometers southeast of Lembach. The 1st platoon cleared several small tree road blocks on the road into Hirschthal.

Co B: CP in Rott. The 3rd squad of the 1st platoon reinforced a bridge south of Weiler by adding another bent. Lt Dayton and 2 squads of the 2nd platoon blew two pill boxes and laid approximately 450 yards of triple concertina wire in the 2nd Bn 179th Inf sector. One squad and two trucks of the 2nd platoon sent to Bn S-4 to haul wire. One squad of the 2nd platoon laid

approximately 250 yards of triple concertina in the 2nd Bn 179th Inf area. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon laid approximately 600 yds of triple concertina in the 3rd Bn sector and prepared 3 pillboxes for demolition. Approximately 1500 lbs of demolition was used. The R-4 bulldozer dug pits to bury dead animals.

Co C: CP in Climbach. The 1st platoon cut logs for infantry emplacements and cleared roads in the 1st Bn 180th Infantry sector. The 2nd platoon completed a 32 ft simple stringer bridge at 091528 1/4 mile east of Bobenthal and strung triple concertina wire in front of the 2nd Bn 180th Inf area, 1 kilometer southeast of Nieder Schlettenbach. The 3rd platoon layed 33 rolls of barbed wire with 21 trip flares attached and five rolls of concertina, 1 kilometer northeast of Bobenthal. The R-4 bulldozer dug a road for the 2nd Bn 180th Inf. The D-7 bulldozer helped dig gun emplacements for the artillery.

PERIOD 0001-2400 26 December 1944:

D/133

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP moved to 2 kilometers south of Lembach. The 2nd platoon cleared two tree road blocks on the road leading into Obersteinbach; swept road from Wineckerthal to one kilometer south of Obersteinbach; dug gun emplacements for the 938th FA Bn.

Co B: CP in Rott. The 1st platoon maintained road between Rott and Weiler; furnished one squad and two trucks to haul wire for Bn S-4. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon laid approximately 900 yards of triple concertina wire for the 2nd Bn 179th Inf. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon laid approximately 500 yards of triple concertina for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf.

Co C: CP at Climbach. The 2nd squad of the 1st platoon cut logs for the 1st Bn 180th Inf emplacements. The 2nd platoon laid 1500 yards of barbed wire and eleven trip flares in Co C 180th Inf sector. One squad of the 2nd platoon blew a dam at 083538 500 yards south of Nieder Schlettenbach. The 3rd platoon laid 24 rolls of wire and 36 concertinas for Co I 180th Inf. The R-4 bulldozer buried dead animals in the 180th Inf sector and removed a tank dozer that had broken down south of Bobenthal.

PERIOD 0001-2400 27 December 1944:

D/134

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: The 1st platoon cleared road from Hirschthal to Schonau and removed two 200 yard road blocks from the same road. The 3rd platoon cleared a tree road block, booby trapped with seven 5kg charges, and built a two culvert bypass east of Nieder Schlettenbach; removed six TOPF mines from the road; swept the road into Nieder Schlettenbach; dug two incinerators for the division and dug two emplacements for the 938th FA Bn.

Co B: CP at Rott. One squad and two trucks from the 1st platoon were sent to Bn S-3 to aid in hauling wire. Another squad maintained the road north of Weiler. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon laid approximately 1200 yards of triple concertina wire in the 2nd Bn 179th Inf sector and removed a minefield that we had previously laid. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon laid approximately 650 yards of triple concertina in the 3rd Bn area; built a single strand class 9 bridge and removed a small 35 yard tree road block in the 3rd Bn area.

Co C: CP at Climbach. The 1st squad, 1st platoon prepared a bridge for demolition, 1/2 mile southeast of Nieder Schlettenbach. The 3rd squad, 1st platoon, constructed a 20' x 20' x 10' dugout for the 1st Bn 180th Inf, one mile southeast of Nothweiler. Lt Frestwood and the 2nd platoon laid 700 yards of barbed wire for Co B 180th Inf, one mile southeast of Nieder Schlettenbach. Lt Thuring and the 3rd platoon layed 175 concertinas and four spools of wire northeast of Bobenthal. The D-7 bulldozer dug gun emplacements for the 171st FA Bn.

28 December 1944:

D-135

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: Lts Simmons and Smith reconnoitered defensive positions from Windstein to Dambach. The 3rd platoon cleared road from north of Obersteinbach into town; removed a 200 yard tree road block, booby trapped with three S mines and removed nine TOPF mines from the road.

Co B: Lt Fields and two squads of the 1st platoon maintained the road south of Weiler. Sgt Phillips and the 3rd squad of the 1st platoon removed a 20 tree road block northwest of Weiler; surfaced and opened a trail approximately one kilometer long on the outskirts of Weiler. Lt Dayton and one squad of the 2nd platoon laid 250 yards of triple concertina for the 2nd Bn. A detail from the 2nd platoon ran a chain saw for the 2nd Bn to cut logs for infantry emplacements. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon laid approximately 500 yards of triple concertina wire for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf.

Co C: CP at Climbach. The 1st squad of the 1st platoon cratered road at the AF ditch 1/2 mile southeast of Nieder Schlettenbach; prepared abutment charges in a bridge, previously prepared for demolition, on the road one mile southwest of Nieder Schlettenbach. Prepared tree charges on roads leading off the main road at the bridge site; prepared and built dugouts for the 3rd Bn 180 Inf. Lt Frestwood and the 2nd platoon prepared three bridges for demolition, southwest of Nieder Schlettenbach. Lt Thuring and the third platoon prepared three bridges for demolition and put in a road block, west of Bobenthal.

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP south of Lembach. The 2nd platoon laid a deliberate anti tank minefield consisting of 600 mines, at the eastern edge of Dambach. The 3rd platoon laid a deliberate minefield consisting of 350 anti tank mines just north of Wineckerthal.

Co B: CP in Rott. Lt Fields and two squads of the 1st platoon laid approximately 1100 yards of triple concertina wire in the 2nd Bn and 3rd Bn 179th Inf sectors. Sgt Jojola and one squad prepared a bridge for demolition in Weiler. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon prepared culverts and abatis for demolition in the 2nd Bn 179th Inf sector; prepared craters for demolition on the road from Rott to Climbach and prepared a 200 yard abatis road block for demolition on the same road. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon prepared five road blocks for demolition and constructed three road blocks in the 3rd Bn 179th Inf area; prepared nine Maginot Forts for occupation and removed several 9 mines therefrom.

Co C: CP at Climbach. The 1st squad of the 1st platoon prepared bridges for demolition $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles northeast of Lembach. The 2nd squad prepared a culvert for demolition on the same road; laid 10 AT mines on the road one mile northeast of Nothweiler. The 3rd squad prepared tree charges on 48 trees. The 2nd platoon prepared a bridge in Lembach for demolition; blocked roads in the area south of Nieder Schlettenbach and west of Bobenthal. The 3rd platoon prepared 51 trees for demolition and cut 43 trees down in the 3rd Bn 180th Inf sector and put two cratering charges in the road. The bulldozer dug gun positions for the 171st FA Bn and the 106th AAA Bn.

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

Co A: CP moved back into former area three kilometers south of Lembach. The 1st platoon laid 500 yards of double concertina in the 1st Bn area on the flanks of their present positions. The 2nd platoon completed burying and marking off a minefield near Dambach. The 3rd platoon laid ten AP mines on trails leading into the 3rd Bn 157th Inf area; also booby trapped a mined road block 500 yards from Obersteinbach with anti-lifting devices. The M-4 bulldozer dug gun positions for the 171st FA Bn south of Lembach.

Co B: CP in Rott. Lt Fields and the 1st platoon laid 160 rolls of concertina for the 1st Bn 179th Inf. One squad removed two R mines south of Rott for the 106th AAA Bn. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon prepared five road blocks for demolition. One squad felled trees for two road blocks about $1/2$ mile southwest of Climbach. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon prepared tree road blocks for the 3rd Bn 179th Inf on the MLR. One squad prepared a bridge and road block for demolition vic of Climbach. One squad opened eight Maginot Forts and prepared them for occupation

Co C: CP in Climbach. The 1st squad of the 1st platoon prepared craters on road 1 1/2 miles north of Lembach; prepared bridge for demolition and placed charges on six trees on the east-west road 1 1/2 miles northwest of Lembach. The 2nd squad of the 1st platoon laid 33 anti tank mines and prepared 47 trees in the vicinity of two miles north of Lembach. The 3rd squad prepared 48 trees for demolition on the road from Ft Wingen to Nothweiler. The 1st and 2nd squads of the 2nd platoon prepared buildings in Bobenthal for demolition. The 3rd squad worked on road blocks in the 2nd Bn 180th Inf area. The 3rd platoon removed all trees and footbridges across the stream southeast of Bobenthal; prepared bridge on trail northeast of Bobenthal for demolition; 14 trees on the road north of Climbach prepared for demolition; 60 trees on trails one mile northeast of Climbach prepared for demolition.

PERIOD 0601-2400 31 December 1944:

D/138

Bn CP in Langensultzbach, France.

H&S Co furnished a detail from the S-3 section, with the aid of the R-4, dug gun emplacements for the 171st FA Bn vicinity of Woerth.

Co A: CP three kilometers south of Lembach. Prepared culverts for demolition at 997476. Installed a rope ladder for the 158th FA CP. The D-7 bulldozer dug gun emplacements for the 189th FA Bn vic of Woerth.

Co B: CP in Rott. Lt Fields and the 1st platoon laid 80 rolls of concertina wire, completing the wiring of the entire Regimental area. Lt Dayton and the 2nd platoon improved road blocks in the regimental sector; prepared a crater northwest of Weller; felled trees in the area northwest of Climbach, for road blocks. Lt Cohen and the 3rd platoon removed three S mines and marked off a suspected AP minefield in vicinity of tunnel entrance to the Maginet Forts; cleared out the system of tunnels; put in tree blocks and prepared abatis; put in a 40 AT minefield and constructed tree blocks along various trails southwest of Climbach. The D-7 bulldozer dug gun emplacements for the 180th FA Bn.

Co C: CP at Climbach. The 1st squad of the 1st platoon prepared 29 trees for demolition two miles northwest of Lembach and 59 trees two miles southeast of Nothweiler. The 3rd squad of the 1st platoon prepared 59 trees for demolition 1/2 mile south of Nothweiler. The 1st squad of the 2nd platoon prepared road blocks and craters and dug holes for a 14 AT minefield near Wingen. The 2nd squad prepared a road block west of Bobenthal. The 3rd squad of the 3rd platoon constructed two road blocks and prepared one other for demolition west of Climbach. The 1st squad of the 3rd platoon prepared holes for a minefield on the road from Lembach to Wingen.

OFFICIAL:

C. S. Monnier
C. S. MONNIER
Lt Col CE,
Commanding,
120th Engr C Bn

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

AGO # 45, U S Army
8 January 1945

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF THE 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944

1. The first day of December 1944, found the 45th Infantry Division on its objective across the Moder River (Alsace, France) from Ingwiller to Niedermodern with the 157th Infantry on the left, 179th Infantry in the center and the 180th Infantry on the right. Companies A, B and C, 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, were in support of the 157th, 179th and 180th Infantry Regiments respectively. 120th Engineer Combat Battalion CP was located in Uttwiller; CP Co A in Ingwiller; CP Co B in Menchhoffen; CP Co C in Pfaffenhoffen.

PERIOD 1 December to 10 December:

During this period the Division advanced from the Moder River line to a line Niederbronn les Bains-Reichshoffen.

During this period Company A supported the advance of the 157th Infantry by constructing and manning road blocks to protect the division left flank; cleared and swept all roads in sector; constructed a class 40 bridge over Zintzel River at Zinswiller on 8 Dec and constructed two class 40 crossings in Niederbronn les Bains on 9-10 December.

Company B cleared and swept all roads in zone of advance of the 179th Infantry; constructed a class 40 timber bridge over Rothback River southwest of Kindwiller on 8 December; constructed an earth fill and culvert crossing over Zintzel River at Gumbrechtshoffen on 4 December.

Company C, in support of the 180th Infantry, cleared and swept all roads in the regiments zone of advance; constructed a class 40 steel and timber bridge over the Moder River in Pfaffenhoffen on 3 December; constructed a class 40 timber bridge over the Zintzel River in Reichshoffen on 10 December.

During the period the battalion CP moved to Rothbach.

PERIOD 11 December to 20 December:

During this period, the Division pushed through the Maginot Line entering Germany on 15 December, and reached a line Nothweiler-Bobenthal-Wissembourg.

Company A cleared and swept roads in the 157th Infantry sector from Zintzel River across the German border to Nothweiler. An especially difficult abatis road block was cleared 2½ kilometers northeast of Nothweiler under direct enemy observation from forward pillboxes of Siegfried Line on 19 December 1944.

Company B remained in support of the 179th Infantry during the first part of this period and assisted the infantry in establishing road blocks and positions to protect the division's long, exposed left flank. On 13 December, Co B was released from support of the 179th Infantry and placed on vitally needed supply routes in the rear of the remainder of the division. In this role, Company B constructed a class 40 timber bridge across a stream $2\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers northwest of Lembach to open up a valuable supply route, and opened a one-way supply route from Wingen across the German border to Bobenthal; a distance of approximately five miles thru difficult terrain, much of this road requiring a corduroyed surface.

Company C supported the 180th Infantry in its zone of advance throughout this period, clearing and sweeping three networks of roads from Reichshoffen-Woerth-Lembach over the German border to Bobenthal.

The battalion CP moved to Reichshoffen and then to Langensultzbach during this period.

PERIOD 21 December to 31 December

During this period, the 45th Infantry Division changed from the offensive to the defensive and made plans and preparations for possible withdrawal to the Maginot defenses in accordance with plans of higher echelons.

Companies A, B and C were committed to preparation of defensive positions, construction of obstacles, and preparation of all bridges in their respective regimental sectors for demolition. All pillboxes and fortifications of the Siegfried Line that were in our possession were demolished.

During this period 8 Siegfried pillboxes were demolished; 14 bridges prepared for demolition; 19 road craters and 104 abatis road blocks were prepared for demolition between the Maginot and Siegfried lines within the division sector.

The battalion CP remained at Langensultzbach during this period.

SERVICE FUNCTIONS:

During the month of December, Headquarters and Service Company carried on normal service functions. During the latter part of the month, all available personnel and trucks of H&S Company were utilized in transporting fortification materials for Army supply depots in the rear to forward engineer DPs.

During the month, Division Engr DPs were established at the following locations: Wickersheim, Zinswiller, Lembach and Woerth. During the month, the following quantities of fortification materials were issued: 115,000 sandbags, 3200 rolls of concertina, 133 rolls of barbed wire, 2850 pickets, 2500 anti tank mines and 365 anti personnel mines.

Eleven water distribution points were operated and delivered a total of 862,000 gallons of water to the division and attached troops.

15,000 sheets of maps were procured and issued to the division and attached troops during the month of December.

CASUALTIES:

Casualties for the month of December were unusually light considering the activities that the battalion was engaged in, and in comparison with previous periods of similar combat. One officer and five enlisted men were wounded in action.

WEATHER:

Weather conditions during the month made engineer operations extremely difficult. Rain during the first part of the month made quagmires out of unsurfaced roads and trails. Freezing conditions and snow during the latter part of the month made all roads extremely slick and greatly cut down on traffic speed within the division sector. During the month, there were 9 clear days, 8 cloudy days, 11 rainy days and 3 days of snow.

OFFICIAL:

Joseph W Lowe, Jr.
JOSEPH W LOWE, JR
Major, CE, 120th Engr C Bn
Executive Officer

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

AFG # 45, U S Army
9 January 1945

OPERATIONS SUMMARY)

NUMBER 3)

OPERATIONS IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944

1. During the early days of the month, the 45th Division, under control of XV Corps, was advancing slowly northward in the Alsace plain, with the Vosges mountains on the left flank. Rain fell almost every day, and each small stream was swollen, and overflowing its banks. Vehicular movement was impossible except on paved roads.

2. Disposition of companies: Co C supported the attack of the 180th Infantry; Co B supported the 179th Infantry and Co A supported the 157th Infantry, and prepared defensive blocks along the division left flank. Co A 325th Engrs (100 Div) was attached, and was used to relieve Co A as the attack moved forward.

3. On 1 December, the 45th Division crossed the Moder River. One bridge was found intact at Obermodern. All other bridges were blown. A bailey bridge was constructed at Pfaffenhoffen, one steel stringer bridge rebuilt and an existing light bridge repaired.

4. The Zintzel River was crossed on 3 December. A ford was used initially at Einswiller, replaced by a treadway bridge as soon as initial armor was passed. Three 36" culvert pipes were placed at Gumbrechtshoffen. Considerable difficulty was encountered here on account of enemy shell fire, which was accurately placed.

5. The 45th Div returned to VI Corps at 0601 4 Dec 4. The 48th Engr C Bn was assigned to support the 120th Engrs.

6. The terrain north of the Zintzel River was found to be very boggy, with no roads in the central part of the Division sector. It became necessary to cordure trails through the wooded areas to maneuver tanks into firing positions.

7. What are believed to be the first TOPF mines to be found in place, were found at Mertzwiller on 5 December.

8. On the night of 5-6 December, an attempt was made to install a bailey bridge at Mertzwiller, but accurate shellfire on the bridge site prevented this. The following day, enemy counterattacks drove all troops to the southwest bank of the river.

9. Two tank dozers for each Engineer battalion were authorized by CG VI Corps on 8 December.

10. On 9 December, the Rau de Falkenstein was crossed. Infantry were crossed in in the vicinity of Gundershoffen by improvised portable footbridges constructed and installed by Co C. Rubber reconnaissance boats were provided but not used. A treadway bridge was installed at Gundershoffen, and used by both 45th Division and the 103rd Division. In the vicinity of Reichshoffen, some tanks were forded across on the apron of a dam in the factory area. A timber deck was laid over a damaged bridge in Reichshoffen. Tanks were able to cross at will in Niederbronn, as the stream is covered through a large part of town. However, a treadway was laid over a blown RR underpass to speed traffic. The next day, a fill was cut by Co A near the treadway site to take traffic; the treadway removed, and a permanent timber structure was installed by the 48th Engrs.

11. On 11 December, a treadway bridge was installed on a bypass site at Jaegerthal, a timber bridge installed in the original gap, and the treadway removed.

12. A culvert was placed along side of a blown bridge, one kilometer south of Langensultzbach, on the Lembach-Woerth road, on 12 December.

13.. A Bailey bridge was installed one kilometer east of the above culvert, a treadway at Mattstall station, and a culvert placed two kilometers west of Mattstall on 13 December.

14. M.2. 44 igniters were found near Lembach on 14 December.

15. On 15 December, two German prisoners volunteered to remove some minefields which they had helped lay. This resulted in the removal of 60 S mines. On this day too, our troops entered Germany. Road nets were very meager, so improvements were begun on a trail leading from Ste Wingen, France to Bobenthal, Germany. It was eventually necessary to construct 300 yards of plank and log corduroy, and to haul several hundred loads of rock to keep this route open. The 645th TD pioneer platoon, and trucks from VI Corps and from 48th Engrs assisted in this task.

16. On 19 December, a fill was dozed into an AT ditch, two kilometers north of Bobenthal, and a treadway was placed over a crater 400 yards further north. A small bridge was constructed in the forward area on 27 December.

Operations Summary No 3, Bq 180th Engr C Bn
9 January 1945 (cont'd)

17. On 21 December, the Division expanded to relieve a portion of the 103rd Div, and the action passed from attack to a defensive phase, with pressure continuing to be applied to the Siegfried defenses. Nine pillboxes were taken, and eight destroyed. The ninth one was prepared for demolition but was retaken by the enemy before it could be blown. Wire was placed along the forward infantry positions, and preparations of a second defensive line, based on the Maginot line, begun. Bridges were prepared for demolition, all areas not in use were blocked by extensive abatis, minefields laid, crater charges prepared, and plans for a withdrawal operations were drawn up.

18. Tabulation of work accomplished:

Roads swept for mines	167 miles
Abatis cleared (not all recorded)	51 7/8
Mines removed	500
Bailey bridges constructed (actual construction by Corps troops)	2
Treadway bridges constructed	6
Other bridges constructed	6
Footbridges constructed	4
By-passes or ferds constructed	7
Corduroy road constructed	600 yards
Wire laid (triple concertina)	11800 yards
Trip flares laid	20
AP mines laid	22
AT mines laid	1190
Abatis felled or prepared (areas)	104
Crater charges placed	19
Bridges prepared for demolition	14
Gun (battery) emplacements dug	11
Towns checked for mines and booby traps	22
Incinerators dug	1
Pill boxes destroyed	8
Forts opened and cleaned	9
Treadway bridges removed	1
Road craters filled	3
Signs painted	746
Water supplied to troops	261940 gallons

19. Casualties

WIA - One (1) officer and five (5) enlisted men.

For the Battalion Commander:

Benjamin E. Dillups
BENJAMIN E DILLUPS
Major, CE
E-3

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO # 45, U S Army
8 January 1945

MEMORANDUM:

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

1. The following personnel of this battalion received awards as indicated, during the month of December 1944:

1st Lt	William W Etherton	Co A	Bronze Star	Heroic Achievement in Action
1st Lt	Sidney L Simmons	Co A	"	"
Tec 5	Lowell B Hughes	Co A	"	Meritorious Service in Combat
Capt	James H Rickey Jr	Co A	Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal	"
Sgt	Harold D Gray	Co A	Bronze Star	"
Cpl	Elias P Williams	Co A	"	"
Cpl	John D Brown	Co A	"	"

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H DISMANT
1st Lt CE
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO # 45, U S Army
7 January 1945

MEMORANDUM:

BATTLE CASUALTIES

1. Following is a list of battle casualties incurred by this battalion during the month of December 1944:

WOUNDED IN ACTION

1st Lt	William C Picket	Co B	3 Dec 1944	Mortar
Pfc	Jose R Chiwiwi	Co A	11 Dec 1944	Artillery
Sgt	Fred L Henderson	Co A	15 Dec 1944	Artillery
S/Sgt	Francis L McQuaid	Co C	21 Dec 1944	Artillery
Tec 4	Manuel Holcomb	Co A	24 Dec 1944	"S" Mine
Pvt	Robert B Hall	Co A	24 Dec 1944	"S" Mine

2. Following is a list of former battle casualties who returned to duty during the month of December 1944:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Co</u>	<u>Date Wounded</u>	<u>Date to Duty</u>
Pfc	Guy R McFarland	Co B	WIA on 1 Sept 1944	1 Dec 1944
Pfc	Alvin F Wille	Co B	WIA on 1 Sept 1944	8 Dec 1944
Pfc	Nick Kovarbasich	Co C	WIA on 12 Sept 1944	9 Dec 1944
Pfc	Simon Mendoza	Co C	WIA on 29 Nov 1944	12 Dec 1944
Pvt	Joe F Sanchez	Co C	WIA on 23 Sept 1944	12 Dec 1944
S/Sgt	Francis H McQuaid	Co C	WIA on 21 Dec 1944	25 Dec 1944
Capt	Max R Hartnagel	Co B	WIA on 24 Sep 1944	27 Dec 1944
1 Lt	William C Picket	Co B	WIA on 3 Dec 1944	27 Dec 1944
Pvt	John J Biggans	Co C	WIA on 22 Sep 1944	30 Dec 1944
Pvt	Lee Duran	Co C	WIA on 11 Sep 1944	30 Dec 1944
Pvt	Robert B Hall	Co A	WIA 24 Dec 1944	30 Dec 1944

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H DISMANT
1st Lt CE
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS, 120TH ENGINEER C. BN.
OFFICE OF THE SUPPLY OFFICER

A.P.O. # 46
2 January 1946

SUBJECT: Class II, Class IV, Explosive & Demolitions,
Engineer Supplies issued from the 45th Division
Engineer Dump for Period Dec. 1, 1944 to Dec. 31,
1944.

CLASS II

ITEM	UNIT	AMT.
Acetylene	tanks	19
Axes, chopping, S.B. 4 lb. hld.	ea.	24
Nitrogen	tanks	24
Lumber, 3" x 9" x 14'	pcs.	825
Markers, luminous, radio active	ea.	195
Nails, common, wire, 8 D	lbs.	180
	10 D	135
	16 D	160
	20 D	100
	50 D	300
	60 D	2,005
Hydrogen	tanks	2
Oxygen	tanks	19
Paint, G.D.	gal.	5
Pins, drift	ea.	700
Plywood	pcs.	34
Rope, manila, 3/4" dia.	feet	4,500
Rope, manila, 1" dia.	feet	1,000
Saw, crosscut, 2 man 60"	ea.	6
Shovel, D-handled, rd. pt.	ea.	12
Signs, mine marking	ea.	140

ITEM	UNIT	AMT
Tape, tracing, cotton white	rolls	133
CLASS IV		
Bags, sand	ea.	114,900
Concertina	rolls	3,165
Culvert, 24" dia.	feet	60
Culvert, 36" dia.	feet	270
Pickets, drive, long	ea.	2,350
Pickets, drive, short	ea.	360
Pickets, short screw type	ea.	150
Wire, barbed	rolls	133
Wire, chicken	rolls	33
Wire, smooth, iron, galv	rolls	19

EXPLOSIVES AND DEMOLITIONS

Bangalore Torpedoes	ea.	150
Beehives, small M-2	ea.	16
Beehives, large, T-3	ea.	8
Caps, tetrytol, electric	ea.	374
Caps, tetrytol, non-electric	ea.	2,482
Charge, det. chain, tet. M-1	lvks.	98
Charge, det. chain, M-3 (G-2)	lvks	136
Cord, detonating	feet	6,250
Devices, firing, Full type	ea.	105
Devices, release type	ea.	4
Explosive, cratering charges	lbs.	9,000
Flares, parachute, M-48	ea.	250
Flares, ordinary M-49	ea.	200

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>AMT.</u>
Fuse, time	feet	4,100
Grenades, thermite, Incend. (CWS)	ea.	97
Lighters, fuse	ea.	1,230
Mines, anti-Personnel	ea.	365
Mines, anti-Tank	ea.	2,440
Explosive, TNT	lbs.	9,228

W.M. Hales

W. M. HALESS
Capt., 120th Engr. C. Bn.
S-4

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION SURGEON

AFD 45, US Army
6 January 1945

MEDICAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944

1. Statistical Data:

Number of patients admitted to hospital	47
Battle casualties (5 NCO and 1 Officer)	6
KIA	0
MIA	0
Recommended for Purple Heart Medal	2
Patients receiving Dental Treatment	42
New Venereal Cases	2
New Malaria Cases	0
Recurrent Malaria Cases	1

2. Comments:

a. During this month (December) the Battalion has been engaged in active Engineer work, each Company being with one of the Regiments of the Division; each of which have been actively engaged with the enemy over the Alsatian plains.

b. There have been a number of moves from one location to another for the Battalion Headquarters and the Medical Detachment. We started the month out at Uttwiller. The following locations and the dates follow:

Uttwiller from Dec. 1 to 9, 1944

Reibach from Dec. 9 to 11, 1944

Reichshoffen from Dec. 11 to 15, 1944

Langensulzbach from Dec. 15 to 31, 1944 inclusive

c. Early in the month we rejoined the VI Corps and have contacted old old friends. We like it better.

d. As the above records show the greatest number of cases admitted to the hospital are due to illness rather than wounds. This illness has been not necessarily upper respiratory tract diseases but also strains, sprains and backaches. The Venereal Disease cases result from contacts made during the rest period in the month of November.

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Kilmer
JOHN H. KILMER
Capt. M.C.
Battalion Surgeon

ROSTER OF OFFICERS
120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1944

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS:

Charles S Monnier	Lt Col	0353106	CO
Joseph W Lowe Jr	Major	0293270	Ex O
Benjamin E Billups	Major	0403916	S-3
Hugh T McCullough Jr	Captain	0422440	S-2
Max R Hartnagel	Captain	01105497	Asst S-3
Arthur Tauscher	Captain	0460191	ADE
William M Hales	Captain	0405742	S-4
John H Dismant	1st Lt	0374920	S-1
Frank F Porter	1st Lt	01107053	Asst S-2
Walter E Oleson	1st Lt	01106374	Recon O

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE CO:

Elmer S Pickett	Captain	01100733	CO
Ivan F Sandridge	1st Lt	01105784	Bn Motor O
Jim M Flanagan	CWO	W2117855	Asst Bn Motor O
George A Ferguson	WOJG	W2118045	Asst S-4
Charles P Rusher	WOJG	W2108256	Pers O

Medical Detachment:

John H Kilmer	Captain	0332720	Actg Bn Surg (Atchd)
Aubrey E Stowers	Captain	0375220	Bn Surg (US on TD)
Milton Wasserman	Captain	0481477	Bn Dent O

Company "A":

James H Rickey Jr	Captain	0469860	CO
Sidney L Simmons	1st Lt	01112974	1st Plat Comdr
Roy C Smith	1st Lt	01100342	2nd Plat Comdr
William W Etherton	1st Lt	01107937	3rd Plat Comdr
Frank W Peak	2nd Lt	0543107	Co Adm O

Company "B":

Wayne W Bridges	Captain	01112045	CO
Harry M Fields	1st Lt	01107411	1st Plat Comdr
David J Dayton	1st Lt	0543901	2nd Plat Comdr
Howard M Cohen	1st Lt	01112623	3rd Plat Comdr
William C Pickett	1st Lt	01105740	Co Adm O

Company "C":

Alvin L Frank	Captain	0461128	CO
Charles C Lipscomb	1st Lt	01111197	1st Plat Comdr
Marvin S Prestwood	1st Lt	0540201	2nd Plat Comdr
Melvin A Thuring	1st Lt	0385599	3rd Plat Comdr

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 45, U S ARMY

31 December 1944

MEMORANDUM:

1. The following is a list of signs painted by this organization for the month of December 1944:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Division Headquarters	88
120th Engr. C Bn	97
157th Infantry Regt	212
179th Infantry Regt	120
160th F. A. Bn	60
189th F.A. Bn	3
45th Div Military Police	56
45th Div. Quartermaster	98
45th Div. A.P.O.	6
Special Service	38
Total	<u>746</u>

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H. DISMANT
1st Lt. CE
Adjutant.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 U S ARMY

.....
:Auth: CG 45 Div
:Init: *EPH*
:Date: 10 Feb 45
:.....

314.7

10 February 1945

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Unit History.

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, U S Army.

Transmitted herewith Historical Record of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, this command, for the period 1 January 1945 to 31 January 1945.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL P NAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl:
Hist Recd, 120th Engr C Bn (Trip)
w/Supporting Documents.

A 4951

DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 U S Army
Date _____

SECRET 12 FEB 1945

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 U S ARMY

Auth: CG 45 Div
Init: *EPA*
Date: 10 Feb 45

314.7

10 February 1945

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Unit History.

TO : Commanding General, VI Corps, APO 46, U S Army.

Transmitted herewith information copy of Historical record of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, this command, for the period 1 January 1945 to 31 January 1945.

For the Commanding General:

EMIL P NAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl:
Hist Recd, 120th Engr C Bn.

A 4952

DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 U S Army
Date _____

12 FEB 1945

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF THE 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

JANUARY 1945

1. Situation at 0001A 1 January 1945:

a. 45th Inf Div was occupying positions before the Siegfried Line. 157th Infantry, supported by Co A, 120th Engr C Bn, was attacking along line DAMBACH-NIEDERSTEINBACH-HIRSCHTHAL to secure more favorable defensive positions. 180th Infantry, supported by Co C, 120th Engr C Bn, was occupying and organizing defensive positions along the line - 2 kilometers north of Bobenthal, Germany - 2 kilometers north of Nothweiler, Germany. 179th Infantry, supported by Co B, 120th Engr C Bn occupied and was organizing defense of line - 2 kilometers north of Nothweiler to 3 kilometers north of Wissembourg, France. 275th Inf (70 Inf Div) had begun movement into 45th Div area and upon arrival at Niederbronn was to be attached to 45th Division. To the left of 45th Division sector, the enemy had attacked Task Force Hudelson, composed of 62 AI Bn, and Cav units, and had made penetrations into their lines, in vicinity of Bannstein and south of Bitche, but penetration seemed to be checked.

b. Plans had been made for a possible withdrawal of 45th Division to the Maginot Line. In accordance with this plan, extensive demolitions had been prepared in the zone between the present front lines and the Maginot Line. All roads except those required for a withdrawal or for current use, were blocked.

c. None.

2. 1 January 1945:

a. During the day, the 45th Division continued to organize defenses throughout its sector. The Division was given the additional mission of sealing off from enemy attacks, all entrances to the Rhine Plain near Bannstein and Bitche. The 275th Infantry (70 Div) was attached to the 45th Division and occupied positions at Phillippsbourg and Baerenthal during the day. 313 Inf, less its 3rd Bn, was attached to the 45th Division, and moved to the vicinity of Reichshoffen. 36 Engr C Regt was attached to the Division as Infantry in the late afternoon, and relieved 179th Infantry in position. 179th Infantry assembled near Lembach. Co A, 120th Engr C Bn supported 157th Infantry, assisting them in organizing their sector for defense. Strung 450 yards of double concertina, installed one road block (abatis), prepared one bridge and one culvert for demolition between Niedersteinbach and the RJ 4 kilometers east of Niedersteinbach. A vehicle belonging to the 160 FA Bn struck a mine while gathering wood on a trail west of Langensultzbach. A detail checked the area, found no more mines, and assisted in recovery of the vehicle. Co C, in support of 180 Inf, placed sand on all roads in 180 Inf sector in order to reduce hazard of slipping on icy roads, and continued blocking trails in forward areas, and preparing

locations for demolition. Co B supported 179 Inf until their relief was completed at 2125A. Turned over all prepared demolitions in sector to Co G, 36 Engrs. They completed laying concertina in front of 2nd Bn 179th Inf. The road leading south from Weiler had numerous seeping springs which kept the road icy and unpassable to tracked vehicles. Ice was removed and cinders spread to relieve this condition. Cinders and sand were spread at critical points on other roads in sector to reduce ice hazard. Gun emplacements were dug for 106 AAA Bn. Work was continued on abatis, and demolition charges in sector in preparation for possible withdrawal to Maginot Line. CP located in Langensultzbach.

b. Plans were completed for the withdrawal of 45 Division behind Maginot Line, to begin at 0200A 2 Jan. Routes of withdrawal from Maginot line to a delaying position along line Niederbronn-Reichshoffen-Mertzwiller were selected and approved by G-3. Plans were laid to execute demolitions and blocks on all roads in zone between delaying position and Maginot Line, except the approved routes of withdrawal, along which demolitions would be prepared, but not executed.

c. B Co was ordered to support attack of 179 Inf, 275 Inf and 313 Inf on morning of 2 Jan.

3. Events of 2 Jan:

a. 157, 180 Infs and 36 Engr C Regt continued to defend along MLR until withdrawal began at dark, to Maginot Line. 179 Inf attacked Sarreinsborg and Goetzenbruck. 275 Inf attacked enemy near Philippsbourg and Baerenthal. 313 Inf cleared enemy from Wildenguth and Reipertswiller and launched an attack northwards from Reipertswiller. 1st Bn 314 Inf and 1st Bn 315 Inf were in Div reserve via Zinswiller. 275 Inf was attached to 45 Div and occupied positions at Wingen, Wimmenau and Rosteig. Co A 120th Engr C Bn continued to support 157 Infantry, laid wire in front of Maginot fortifications near Windstein, and prepared tree blocks on road east from Obersteinbach. As the 157 Inf began withdrawal to Maginot Line, tree blocks were executed on road between Hirschthal and Schonau; also blocked roads and trails leading onto all roads in sector; executed demolitions (2 bridges, 1 culvert, tree abatis) eastward from Niedersteinbach. Co B, supporting 179, 275 and 313 Inf Regts, manned a series of road blocks NW of Niederbronn, provided security guard for Rothbach (313 Inf CP) and maintained roads and trails for 179 Inf. Co C, supporting 180 Inf completed preparation for withdrawal, placed sand on icy places along routes of withdrawal, completed blocking of roads and trails no longer needed for operations and while waiting for withdrawal to begin, booby trapped house used by 180 Inf as a CP, destroyed one sawmill, two stacks of lumber and one abandoned M4 American tank. Detachment from Bn Hq completed construction of Arty gun pits for 171 FA Bn.

b. Plans were made to continue demolition behind Maginot Line to MLR shown on Div OI No. 3.

g. The following orders were given Co COs at conference at Bn CP at 1915A.

Bn will begin along Intermediate line (Niederbronn-Reichshoffen-Mertzwiller) blocking all trails and roads except those designated by G-3 as withdrawal routes. This work will begin as soon as present withdrawal plans are executed.

4. Events of 3 Jan:

a. 45th Div, reinforced, withdrew to Maginot Line, and continued attack along line Rosteig-Lichtenberg-Philippsbourg-Dambach. 157th Inf (1st Bn 315 Inf atchd) and 36 Engr C Regt extended their flanks and relieved the 180 Infantry, which assembled NW of Dossenheim. 275 Inf, after heavy fighting, lost Philippsbourg. 1st Bn 274 Inf atchd to 45 Div, began assembling at Niederbronn; 313 Inf scored small gains at Picardie and Reipertwiller. 19th Armored Inf Bn was atchd to 179 Inf. 179 Inf attacked and scored local gains around Sarreinsburg; 276 Inf continued to develop line Rosteig-Wingen-Wimmenau. Co A, 120 Engr C Bn, in preparation for further withdrawal, prepared demolition charges on two bridges in Zinswiller, destroyed a bridge 2 kilometers W of Zinswiller; placed charges on trees for an abatis 1 kilometer NW of Zinswiller, prepared bridge over railroad at Niederbronn, blocked all trails leading into the Niederbronn-Philippsbourg road, prepared bridge and 2 culverts for demolition between Dambach and Jaegerthal; placed crater charge under road in north edge of Jaegerthal; prepared abatis on north edge of Zinswiller and along Jaegerthal-Niederbronn road and blocked all trails leading into Jaegerthal-Niederbronn road.

Co B supporting 275, 179 and 313 Inf Regts, prepared demolitions and abatis along Philippsbourg-Niederbronn road, blocked all trails leading on to Philippsbourg-Niederbronn road, repaired damaged bridge in Ingwiller and garrisoned roadblocks at Rothbach with one platoon. Co C, after executing all previously prepared demolitions as infantry withdrew, prepared bridge one mile N of Woerth, bridge 2 kilometers S of Mattstall and culvert W of Mattstall for demolition, prepared abatis on roads leading to Lembach-Woerth road, prepared abatis in Langensultzbach and Woerth. 120 Engr C Bn CP moved during day to Eckarts-illers.

b. At 2030, the CO 120th Engr C Bn, was informed that 45th Division would not withdraw further, and plans for the strengthening of Maginot defenses were begun.

c. In the late afternoon the following instructions were given to the companies for execution the next day:

Co A to relieve Co B of support of 275 Inf, relieve Co C in sector (180 Inf sector prior to relief of 180 Inf). Co B (-2nd plat) to support 179 Inf and relieve 540 Engrs of roadblocks in sector. Co C (2nd plat Co B atchd) to relieve 540 Engrs of roadblocks in sector, support 313 Inf and 180 Inf.

5. Events of 4 Jan:

a. 157 Inf (1st Bn 315 Inf atchd) and 36 Engrs continued to hold Maginot line. 275 Inf, 1st Bn 274 Inf atchd, held positions, and tried to retake Philippsbourg. 313 Inf, 1st Bn 314 Inf atchd, defended

Wildenguth and Weiterswiller, and captured Saegmuhl. 180 Inf completed movement to area NW of Dossenheim and attacked, gaining high ground N of Wimmenau. 179 Inf with Tr C 117 Ren Sqdrn and 19th Armd Inf Bn attached, defended Sarreinsburg, Goetzenbruce and Meisenthal. All infantry components of 70th Div were designated as Task Force Herren. 274 Inf held high ground vic Rosteig with 1 Bn, and moved the remaining Bn to Rothbach. 276 Inf continued to garrison Wingen-Wimmenau, losing Wingen to the enemy. Co A relieved B and C companies, 120th Engr C Bn of their obligations in the area north of Niederbronn-Reichshoffen line, constructed road block 3 kilometers NW of Zinswiller, felled abatis to block trails SW from Dambach, laid AT minefield, laid mine block near Baerenthal; cleared road block caused by aerial bomb detonating charges on trees, moved wire forward to 157 Infantry. Co B, less 2nd platoon, prepared three abatis for demolition, spread sand on icy spots on roads. Co C, supported 313 Inf with 1st plat Co C and 2nd plat Co B; maintained guards on demolition sites near Rothbach, and gravelled icy roads in sector. Remainder of Co C placed gravel on road from Erkartswiller to Wimmenau. Bn CP moved during morning to Gundershoffen

b. No new plans begun.

c. No new orders.

6. Events of 5 Jan:

a. The Inf Regts continued same operations as on previous day. The 180 Infantry made some advances and established solid line, while Task Force Herren continued to make small gains in attack on Wingen. 274 Inf recaptured Philippsbourg. Engineer dispositions remained unchanged. During the afternoon, tank dozer No 1, while working on an enemy road block near Rothbach, exploded a 100 lb demolition bomb which was embedded in the block. The tank was not damaged badly, but 2 men, Pvt Roberts and Tec 5 Dupont were seriously hurt and hospitalized, and the remainder of the crew was badly shaken up. Co A hauled and laid wire on infantry positions south of Dambach and prepared an abatis block NW of Zinswiller. B Co (-2nd plat) continued to man prepared road blocks in sector, and sanded icy spots on supply roads. Co C, with 2nd plat Co B atchd, opened trail from cemetery at Rothbach up valley south of Lichtenberg Tower. Work on this stopped when tank dozer detonated a 100 lb fragmentation bomb. Placed sand on icy spots on roads in sector.

b. Plans were made to move all engineer materials to Dossenheim next day. 125 Engrs to furnish 10 trucks and 2 squads of men to assist. Arrangements made with VI Corps for replacement crew from 6638 Mine Clearance Co for use in the event that tank dozer No 2 is knocked out tomorrow.

c. No orders published.

7. Events of 6 Jan:

a. 179 Inf and 180 Inf continued to attack and made small gains. 157 Inf and 38 Engr C Regt continued to hold Maginot Line. 275 Inf remained in position. 313 Inf, 1st Bn 314 Inf atchd, cleared small enemy pockets near Lichtenberg and Picardie. Task Force Herren continued fight for Wingen. Engineer disposition remained unchanged. Co A cleared trail North of Zinswiller for 275 Inf; checked, improved and manned roadblocks south of Dambach and Philippsbourg and removed 2 booby trapped grenades from a road block on Zinswiller-Philippsbourg road. Co B, less 1 platoon, removed friendly minefield and manned prepared blocks in 179 Inf sector, sanded roads to reduce ice hazard. Co C, 1 plat Co B atchd, sanded roads in 313 Inf and 180 Inf sectors, completed clearing road Rothbach to Lichtenberg; filled shell holes on same road. In clearing this road, tank dozer No 2 also struck 100 lb fragmentation bomb. Blade of tank dozer seriously damaged. Pfc Smouse injured. Tank dozer No 1 damaged in withdrawal from area. 120 Engr C Bn CP moved to Uttwiller.

b. No new orders.

c. No new plans.

8. Events of 7 Jan:

a. There was no major change in infantry dispositions. Task Force Herren recaptured Wingen, and after mopping up, assembled in the vicinity of Zinswiller and Rothbach and established blocks in that area. Engineer dispositions remained unchanged. Co A repaired and maintained the Niederbronn-Philippsbourg road, maintained guards on prepared demolitions near Philippsbourg and southeast assisted in laying wire pickets in Wingen for possible boom. Wingen, spread gravel and cinders on icy roads in area, guard on prepared road blocks. Co C repaired guard rail on bridge in Wimmenau, maintained guards on prepared demolitions in sector, and placed sand on icy spots on all roads in sector. The 2nd plat Co B was detached from Co C and attached to Co A in the late afternoon. Tank dozer No 1 was sent to 85 Ord MM Bn for repairs.

b. Plans were prepared to occupy the Haguenau line (Volksberg-Rosteig-Wingen-Wimmenau-Ingwiller-Pfaffenoffen) in the event that such withdrawal became necessary. This line is being prepared by Corps Engineers (540 Engr C Regt and 343 Engr GS Regt).

c. Operating Instructions No 1 was issued verbally at 1425A and published later in the afternoon.

9. Events of 8 Jan:

a. Task Force Herren assumed command of its troops (all components of 70 Div except 276 Inf) at 0800. 276 Inf assembled in vicinity of Muhlhausen. 180 Inf and 179 Inf and 313 Inf atchd, attacked but made very small gains. Other units continued to defend Maginot line. Engineer disposition was re-arranged in accordance with

G.I. No. 1. Co A, 120th Engr C Bn, with 2nd plat Co B atchd, supported Task Force Herren and 157 Inf (1st Bn 315 Inf atchd), sanded roads Reichshoffen-Mattstall, Reichshoffen-Niederbronn-Dambach, Niederbronn-Jaegerthal, and Niederbronn-Oberbronn; removed two tree road blocks to facilitate movement of supplies up small trails near forward positions. Co B, less 1 platoon, supported attack of 179 Infantry, sanded icy roads in vicinity of Wimmenau and Wingen and manned prepared blocks in sector. Co C, supporting 180th and 313th Infantry Regiments, maintained guards on all demolition charges in sector, and sanded icy roads in assigned area. Detail from H&S Co, under M/Sgt McAlarnis, placed guard rail around bomb crater in road near Menchhoffen.

b. Plans for development of Haguenau Line were continued.

c. No orders issued.

10. Events of 9 Jan:

a. 157 Inf (1st Bn 315 Inf atchd) and 36th Engr C Regt continued to garrison Maginot line positions. Task Force Herren continued to hold in their sector; 179 Inf Regt and 180 Inf Regt consolidated position, and 276 Inf Regt made slight gains, capturing Obermuhlthal. Engr dispositions remained unchanged. Co A, with 2nd plat Co B atchd, continued to sand roads in TF Herren and 157 Inf sector, made reconnaissance for an OP for TF Herren, and made ren of roadblock on Zinswiller-Baerenthal road; removal was impossible due to enemy fire. Co B, less 2nd plat, continued to maintain demolition guards and to sand roads in sector. Co C placed sand on Wimmenau-Wildenguth and Rothbach-Lichtenberg roads, and maintained demolition guards. Detail from H&S Co stockpiled sand at critical points in Ingwiller. Light snow fell during the day. Lt Lipscomb and Tec 5 Dugger, Co C, were wounded by mortar fire and evacuated.

b. Plans for Haguenau line continued.

c. No orders.

11. Events of 10 January:

a. 36 Engr C Regt, 157 Inf Regt (1st Bn 315 Inf atchd) and TF Herren continued to hold defensive positions. 313 Inf captured Lichtenberg Castle, 276 Inf and 180 Inf continued to attack but no progress was made. 179 Inf captured Althorn. Engineer disposition remained unchanged. Co A, 2nd plat Co B atchd, placed sand on all main roads in sector, removed two abatis from road between Langensoultzbach and Nehwiller; One abatis from road between Nehwiller and Jaegerthal to facilitate cross traffic in 157 Inf sector, and swept for mines, areas for gun positions near Villa Mellon. Co B, less 2nd platoon, continued to sand roads in sector, removed destroyed vehicles from streets in Wingen, manned demolition sites and covered over holes dug for asparagus type blocks prepared by 540 Engrs in Wingen. Co C continued to sand roads in sector, filled 4 craters caused by detonation of 100 lb bombs (tank dozer incident) on Rothbach-Lichtenberg road; cleared trees from 4.2 chem mortar positions.

b. No change in plans

c. No orders.

12. Events of 11 Jan:

a. 2nd Bn 157 Inf was moved from Regt'1 reserve positions and committed near Lichtenberg. 276 Inf made slight gains, capturing Hills 403 and 415. No other changes were made in infantry disposition. Engineer dispositions remained unchanged. Co A, with 2nd plat Co B atchd, sanded roads in sector. Co B continued to guard demolition sites; installed four additional prepared abatis and removed a friendly AT mine roadblock. Co C continued to man demolition sites and to sand roads in sector.

b. Plans were made to fill crater at Obermuhlthal on 12 Jan. Covering artillery fire was arranged for and tank dozer No 2 moved to Zinswiller. Plans for Haguenau line continued.

c. No orders.

13. Events of 12 Jan:

a. Front lines of infantry underwent no change during day. Engineer support remained unchanged. Co A, with 2nd plat Co B atchd, filled crater at Obermuhlthal without serious opposition, opened and operated sandpit south of Niederbronn, sanded roads in sector. Co B, less 2nd plat, sanded roads in sector and maintained demolition guards. Co C continued to sand roads in sector, prepared a bridge and a culvert near Wimmenau, prepared dugouts for guards at demolition sites and maintained demolition guards.

b. During the afternoon, Division ordered a general shift of troops, to begin at dark. The ultimate result of which would be the placing of TF Herren in Maginot line, the relief of elements of 79th Div (313, 314 and 315 Inf) and concentration of normal 45 division troops in the sector between Volksburg and Philippsbourg. Accordingly, plans for alteration of engineer support were begun.

c. No orders.

14. Events of 13 Jan:

a. Relief and shifting of units was begun but not completed on this day. At close of period, 179 Inf held line Meisenthal-Althorn. 180 Inf underwent no changes. 157 Inf relieved by TF Herren along Maginot line and moved to relieve elements of 276 Inf N of Lichtenberg. 36 Engr C Regt occupied high ground astride the Zinswiller-Baerenthal road, and TF Herren extended from high ground astride Niederbronn-Philippsbourg road to Dambach and thence eastward along Maginot line to 45 Division's eastern boundary. At 0900, Co A was ordered to relieve 36 Engr C Regt of engineer work in their old area and support TF Herren. Co B was ordered to support 180 and 179 Inf regiments.

was ordered to support 157 Inf and 36 Engr C Regmts. Co A sanded maintained roads in TF Herren sector, relieved Co G 36th Engr C Regt and posted guards on bridges prepared for demolition in sector. Co B opened up and improved trail into Althorn, sanded and maintained roads in sector, and maintained guards on demolition sites in sector. Co C removed 3 abatis, 11 Tellermines, 1 booby trap, 3 S mines from Reipertswiller-Rothbach road, opening it for traffic, maintained bridge guards near Wimmenau and Wingen until relieved by Co B.

b. Plans for improvement of Haguenau line were continued.

c. Operation Instructions No 2 issued at 0900.

15. Events of 14 Jan:

a. 179 Inf attacked but made no progress; 180 Inf, 1st Bn 314 Inf and 1st Bn 315 Inf and 157 Inf Regt attacked, also attacked and made small gains. 36 Engr C Regt improved positions and TF Herren continued to defend Maginet Line. Engineer disposition remained unchanged. Co A, supporting TF Herren, continued to sand icy roads in sector, and maintained bridge guards in sector. Charges were removed from 2 bridges in Eberbach, covers prepared for bore holes, and guards removed. D-7 tractor dozed snowdrifts from Langensultzbach-Nehwiller-Jaegerthal road. Co B, supporting 179 and 180 Inf regts, sanded roads in sector, maintained guards on demolition sites, opened road North of Reipertswiller for 2 kilometers; in so doing, they removed 12 Tellermines 13 American AT mines, 7 S mines, 1 tree abatis, 1 German Mk3 75mm SP gun, destroyed another 75mm SP gun and filled a road crater. Co C, supporting 157 and 36 Engr C Regt, found that during the night, enemy infiltrating behind our lines had laid mines in the road from Rothbach to Reipertswiller. They re-swept this road and recovered 44 Tellermines. They also found a stock pile of 15 mines. Lt Thuring struck a mine with his peep on a trail nearby. They swept the road Obermuhlthal-Untermuhlthal, and maintained demolition guards on obstacles prepared in sector.

b. Development of Haguenau positions continued. Relief of TF Herren begun, relief of Co A planned.

c. Co A ordered to turn over combat support and control of area north of line Niederbornn-Woerth-Preuschdorf by regimental sectors as elements of 103 Div arrived. Upon arrival of 328 Engr Bn Hq, entire area to be turned over to them.

16. Events of 15 Jan:

a. 179th and 180 Inf Regts consolidated and adjusted their positions. The 1st Bn 314 Inf was relieved, and moved to 79 Div. 157 Inf attacked, met very heavy resistance, made slight gains. 409th Inf relieved 1st Bn 275 Inf and 3rd Bn 276 Inf. Co A was relieved of area Lembach-Woerth-Preuschdorf-Drachenbronn, and of combat support of 409 Inf, by Co A 328 Engr C Bn. Otherwise there was no change in engineer disposition. Co A sanded roads in sector, hauled barbed wire from Niederbronn to Dossenheim, maintained guards on prepared road

blocks, and used dozer to cover graves for GRS. Co B installed 37 trip flares in front of 179 Inf positions, maintained demolition guards and used 1 platoon for support of attacking infantry. Co C reinforced bridge 1 kilometer south of Obermuhlthal to class 40, constructed 1/4 ton trail from Obermuhlthal to 1 1/2 kilometers SE of Philippsbourg and removed 2 S mines.

b. Plan for development of Haguenau line continued, and plans, overlays and other pertinent data prepared to turn over to 328 Engr C Bn.

c. No orders.

17. Events of 16 Jan:

a. After a day of heavy fighting, five companies of 157 Inf were surrounded by enemy. Only contact was by use of a light tank, which was destroyed on second trip. 179th and 180th Inf, and 36th Engrs reported no changes. 1st Bn 315 Inf was relieved and reverted to 79th Division. 276 Inf was relieved by 410th Infantry Regt on old TF Herren sector. TF Herren (less 274 Inf) detached from 45th Div and sent to XXI Corps control. Co A was relieved of combat support of infantry in 410 Inf sector by Co B 328 Engr C Bn. Otherwise there was no change in engineer disposition. Co A, supporting 274 Inf, continued to maintain guards on bridges in old TF Herren sector pending arrival of Hq of 328 Engr C Bn. Co B installed wire along 179 and 180 Inf fronts, laid 22 trip flares, reconnoitered for supply trails to 3rd Bn 180 Inf, and maintained demolition guards in area. Co C replaced old log bridge with double 36" culvert 1 km SE of Obermuhlthal, maintained demolition guards in sector.

b. Haguenau position developed by 540 Engrs.

c. No orders given.

18. Events of 17 Jan:

a. 45th Division left boundary was moved slightly. 36th Division's 141 Inf relieved part of 179 Inf left battalion. Co G 179 Inf sent at dark to assist 157 Inf. 179th and 180th Inf and 36th Engrs did not move during day. 157 Inf tried unsuccessfully to regain contact with five companies cut off. Area formerly held by TF Herren was turned over to 103rd Division. Co A, 120th Engr C Bn was completely relieved in sector and moved to Ingwiller. Hq 120th Engr C Bn turned control of sector east of line Menchhoffen-Zinswiller-Baerenthal to 328th Engr C Bn at 1200A. Co B, supporting 179th and 180th Infantry regiments sanded roads in sector, laid 70 rolls concertina and installed 2 trip flares in front of infantry positions. They tried to remove an abatis, but enemy fire prevented this. Co C covered graves for GRS with dozer, maintained demolition guards and sanded roads in area. Light snow fell during the day.

b. Plans were continued to strengthen Haguenau line, and to re-allocate engineer support.

c. At 1715 Co A was ordered to relieve Co G of support of

36th Engr C Regt and 157th Infantry. Upon completion of this relief, Co C ordered to relieve Co B of support of 180th Inf. Co C and Co A ordered to dig incinerators.

19. Events of 18 Jan:

a. In 157 Inf sector the situation became steadily more serious as attempts to re-establish contact with isolated companies failed. Remainder of front was static. 2nd Bn 411 Inf attached to 45th Div and assembled at Offwiller. Co A supported 36 Engr C Regt and 157 Inf, removed 2 abatis 3 kilometers NW of Rothbach and maintained demolition guards at sites along Baerenthal-Zinswiller road. Co B supported 179 Inf, laid 39 AP mines in front of infantry positions maintained demolition guards and sanded roads in sector. Co C supported 180 Inf, removed trees felled by wind from Wimmenau-Erkartswiller road, maintained demolition guards in sector. Two EM from signal section 120th Engr C Bn Hq were sent to mine detector repair school at Epinal. 2 earth augers were borrowed from 57 Signal Bn. Tank Dozer No 1 sent to Co A and tank dozer No 2 to Co B.

b. Plans were made to provide for withdrawal to Haguenau line.

c. Companies were instructed to bring all demolition projects between Haguenau line and present MLR to a high state of readiness.

20. Events of 19 Jan:

a. Positions of all infantry units remained the same through the day. All attempts to reach the isolated companies of the 157th Infantry were unsuccessful. Engineer disposition was not altered. Co A dug incinerator near Rothbach, prepared 2 crater charges and 1 bridge on road NW from Rothbach, maintained and sanded roads in sector, made reconnaissance of Haguenau line. Co B laid 13 AP mines in front of infantry positions, removed windfall trees from roads, maintained and sanded roads in sector, and kept guards on demolition sites. Co C prepared crater charge at bridge at Wimmenau, prepared 3 bridges near Reipertswiller for demolition, prepared abatis for execution on roads between Reipertswiller and Wimmenau, removed windfall trees and sanded roads in area. A detachment from the 84 Engr Camouflage Bn arrived and began applying snow camouflage to tanks and other combat vehicles. Snow fell during the day.

b. Plans were formulated for probable withdrawal of the 45th Division to the Haguenau line, and for future engineer support. Coordination was prepared with 328th Engrs to insure demolitions along Ingwiller-Rothbach road.

c. No orders issued.

21. Events of 20 Jan:

a. The elements of 157 Inf Regt which had been cut off were definitely given up as lost, and preparations were made to fall back to the Haguenau line. The first phase; withdrawal of the 36th Engr C Regt to the delay line took place without incident. Co A, supporting

157 Inf and 36th Engr C Regts, completed preparation of abatis and demolition charges. Withdrawal began at dark, and Co A executed all demolitions down to Zinswiller. At close of period a detachment of Co A, under Lt Simmons, was waiting for 274 Inf (attached to 103 Div) to clear. Heavy snowfall occurred during the night and three trucks, a squad of men from Co B, one truck with a detail from H&S Co and all available trucks of Co A were used to keep road from Zinswiller to Ingwiller open. Co B, supporting 179 Infantry prepared 2 abatis on trails 3 kms north of Wingen, and blocked two trails with abatis and minefields along division boundary 1 km south of Meisenthal and one 1 km south of Soucht, maintained demolition guards and roads in sector. Co C supporting 180 Infantry, prepared abatis between Wimmenau and Wildenguth between Reipertswiller and Wimmenau, abatis and crater charge on road north of Reipertswiller, prepared bridge and culvert in Saegmuhl for demolition, prepared abatis on road and trails NW of Wimmenau, prepared 2 crater charges, laid 2 minefields in Wildenguth, felled abatis in lane north and west of Wildenguth, sanded roads in sector. Lt Gilch was wounded, and evacuated.

b. Plans were completed to coordinate demolition projects with infantry movements. At noon, word was received that the first phase withdrawal plan would be executed that night.

c. Operations Instructions No 3, covering withdrawal was issued to company commanders, at 1300A.

22. Events on 21 Jan:

a. 2nd Bn 411 Infantry reverted to control of 79 Division. No further changes occurred until dark, when 157 Inf and 180 Inf fell back to new defensive line along Moder stream. No changes were made in Engineer disposition. Lt Simmons of Co A waited until noon before all elements of 274 Infantry (atchd 103 Div) were past. He then blew bridges at Zinswiller, was ordered by 103 Div not to blow bridges at Rothbach, but did blow a crater and abatis on road leading into our lines west of Rothbach. Co A also prepared abatis along lateral roads North of Ingwiller-Wimmenau road, dozed snow from roads in sector, demolished 1 bridge and 1 crater on road NW out of Rothbach. Co B continued to prepare abatis, crater charges and lay mines in their sector. They prepared 2 abatis, felled 1 abatis, prepared 4 crater charges, laid 1 AT minefield, dozed snow from main roads in sector. Co C executed all prepared demolitions in front of new MLR, destroyed 2 German 75mm SP guns, and 1 American half-track, laid 50 AT and 4 AP mines in Reipertswiller, destroyed an American TD, laid 30 AT and 12 AP mines, cut 61 trees to block roads in area. During the day they prepared 2 crater charges on Reipertswiller-Wimmenau road, 1 crater and 1 abatis on Wimmenau-Wildenguth road, prepared bridge in Wingen for demolition, and strung 100 rolls concertina wire. Sgt Stumpf was shot by an American infantryman while engaged in laying wire in front of their positions. Capt Frank was lightly injured when a fragment from one of the vehicles which they blew up struck him on the leg. Bn Hq moved to La Petite Pierre at 0900. Snow fell throughout most of the day.

b. Plans for strengthening present MLR got underway. Orders were received that further retreat would be made only when enemy pressure made such a move necessary.

c. Operations Instructions No 4 published at 1800A.

23. Events of 22 Jan:

a. 157 Inf was relieved by elements of 180 Inf and 36 Engr C Regt and assembled near Zittersheim to reorganize. No change in front lines during the day. Co A, supporting 36 Engrs, dozed snow from roads in sector, sanded slick spots on roads and maintained demolition guards, prepared 3 road crater charges in forward areas, prepared 2 abatis and 2 rock slick charges on road S of Lichtenberg to Rothbach cemetery. Co B supporting 179 Infantry dozed snow from roads in sector, sanding slick spots, maintained demolition guards. Co C, supporting 180 Infantry, strung wire along MLR near Reipertwiller sanded and dozed roads in sector, prepared an abatis near Lichtenberg, prepared underpass N of Wimmenau; felled one abatis, prepared another and strung 250 rolls concertina for 2nd Bn 180th Infantry.

b. Preparation of Haguenau line, and Vosges line continued.

c. No orders published.

24. Events of 23 Jan:

a. 274 Inf (70 Div) was atchd to 45 Division and relieved 179 Inf, which moved to right flank of the division in the late afternoon. Enemy forces during the previous day had shifted strong forces opposite the regiment on our right (103 Div). Co B supported 274 Inf upon completion of relief. Co A supported 179 Inf in right flank positions. Co A cleared trail north from Sparsbach to Ingwiller-Wimmenau road, assisted 179th Infantry into position by reopening trails south of Lichtenburg; dozed and sanded roads in sector. Furnished three trucks to haul 179 Inf personnel to new area and maintained demolition guards in sector. Co B furnished 8 trucks to haul 179 Infantry personnel to new area, dozed and sanded roads in sector, maintained demolition guards. Co C prepared 4 abatis, 1 bridge and 2 crater charges for demolition in sector, and laid 1 AP minefield, furnished 3 trucks to haul 179 Inf personnel, dozed snow from all roads in sector. Tec 4 Carkhuff and Pfc Noffsinger killed, and Tec 5 Worner wounded by an S mine. H&S Co furnished 5 trucks to haul 179 Inf personnel.

b. Plans and reconnaissance was begun to block right flank of division in case of enemy breakthrough in 103 Div sector. Bridge at Wimmenau was damaged in late evening and materials and equipment for its repair were arranged.

c. No orders.

25. Events of 24 Jan

a. In 103 Division sector, the enemy forces that occupied Schillersdorf were cut off and surrounded, and MLR re-established. No changes in our sector except remainder of 179 Inf moving into position. Co A prepared a system of demolition blocks NW of Ingwiller consisting of one abatis, a crater charge and a minefield, relieved Co C of blocks prepared near Sparsbach, removed 1 AT minefield and

abatis 3 kms northwest of Ingwiller, to permit moving 179 Inf into this area, continued improvement of trails in sector, dozed snow from all roads in sector and manned demolition sites. Co B dozed snow from all roads in sector, maintained guards on demolition sites, furnished 3 trucks to haul engineer supplies. Co C rebuilt Wimmenau bridge, prepared 1 bridge and 1 abatis for demolition 3 kms east of Sparsbach, dozed snow from roads in sector and maintained guards on demolition sites. H&S Co moved engineer dump to RR station at Hangwiller, set up shower at Kohlthalenhof. Dozed snow from landing strip at Petersbach.

b. Plans initiated, overlays and minefield charts prepared to give 60 Engr C Bn upon completion of proposed relief of 274 Infantry by 35 Division (XV Corps) and

c. O.I. No. 5, covering reassignment of tasks after completion of relief of 274 Infantry was issued in the afternoon.

26. Events of 25 Jan.

a. 157 Inf Regt moved to villages near Bust, to continue re-organization and training. 274 Inf Regt was relieved by 35th Div and in turn relieved the 2nd Bn 180 Inf and left battalion of the 36th Engr C Regt. Sector was quiet. Co A, in Engr Bn reserve, continued to remove snow and sand slippery places on all main roads in their sector. Trails were reopened into the area along the right flank to increase mobility of 179 Infantry. A forward CP dugout was excavated for the 179th Infantry. Demolition guards were maintained on prepared demolitions. Co B, supporting 36th Engr C Regt and 179 Inf Regt, dozed snow from roads in assigned sector, maintained guards on prepared demolition sites. Co C, supporting 180 Infantry and 274 Infantry, laid 19 rolls concertina for 180 Infantry, near Reipertswiller, prepared the rebuilt bridge in Wimmenau for demolition, dug gun positions for 171 FA Bn and 540 Engr Regt (Haguenau defenses) and maintained guards on prepared demolitions in sector.

b. Planning and reconnaissance was continued to (1) strengthen present MLR, (2) establish barrier line along right flank, (3) Co-ordinate road block defenses with units charged with counterattack and defense missions, (4) improve Haguenau defenses).

c. No orders given.

27. Events of 26 Jan.

a. The front was quiet. All regiments improved their defenses, and patrolled the front. Co A, in Bn reserve, removed a 20 tree road block from Lichtenberg-Rothbach road, dozed and sanded roads to reduce ice hazard, maintained guards at demolition sites. Co B, supporting 179 Inf and 36th Engr C Regiments, relieved Co A of guards on demolition sites near Wimmenau, moved wire into infantry forward areas, dozed snow from roads in sector. Co C, supporting 274 and 180 Inf regiments completed gun positions for 171 FA, installed 6 trip flares in front of 180 Inf positions, maintained guards at demolition sites, and dozed snow from roads in sector.

b. Plans, reconnaissance and liaison between infantry and Corps Engineer units in connection with preparation of Haguenau and Vosges defense lines continued.

c. No orders were published during the day.

28. Events of 27 Jan.

a. The entire 45th Division sector was quiet, no changes made in distribution of troops. Co A, in Bn reserve, started construction of firing range for a Division Snipers School; completed preparation of a road block on road west of Weiterswiller, improved trails leading from Sparsbach to Wimmenau, cleared approach roads to firing batteries of 693 FA Bn, maintained guards on demolition charges, and dozed snow from roads in assigned sector. Co B, in support of 179th Inf and 36th Engr C Regt, installed 800 yards of 4 strand barbed wire fence and 16 trip flares in front of 179 Inf positions; maintained guards on demolition sites, dozed snow from roads in assigned sector. Co C, supporting 274 and 180 Inf regiments, dug gun positions for 171 FA Bn, cleared snow from roads in sector, maintained guards at demolition sites.

b. Planning reconnaissance and coordination between Divisional units and Corps Engineers for the construction of Haguenau and Vosges positions continued.

c. No orders were published.

29. Events of 28 Jan.

a. 45th Division sector remained quiet. 274 Inf Regt was relieved after dark by 180 Inf and 36th Engrs. Co A, in general support, laid an AT minefield (98 mines) 1 km NE of Weinbourg, prepared holes for crater charge along Sparsbach-Weinbourg road, 1 km NW of Weinbourg, maintained guards on demolition already prepared, and cleared snow from roads on assigned net. Co B, supporting 179th Inf and 36th Engr C Regt, maintained guard on prepared demolition sites; cleared snow from roads in sector. Co C supporting 180 Inf and 274 Inf, dug 4 gun positions for 171 FA Bn, maintained guards on prepared demolitions, and cleared snow from roads in sector.

b. Plans were continued for the strengthening of the Haguenau and Vosges positions, and for providing of instruction to the 157th Inf Regt on mines. Reconnaissance and plans for sniper range completed and materials assembled. Arrangements for alerting of demolition guards were completed.

c. No orders were issued.

30. Events of 29 Jan.

a. 274 Inf regiment passed to control of XV Corps and at 1500A the division commenced relief of part of the 35 Div. The sector remained quiet. Co A continued on construction of sniper range, began construction of an experimental snow drag, maintained guards on demolition sites, cleared roads of snow on assigned area. Co B, supporting

h Engrs and 179th Infantry, improved two trails in forward areas, maintained guards on demolition sites, and cleared snow from roads in division sector. Co C, supporting 180 Infantry, dug two gun emplacements, maintained guards on demolition sites, and cleared snow from roads in assigned sector. A ceremony was held at Bn Hq at which Maj Gen Frederick presented Bronze Star ribbons to 22 members of the battalion.

b. Plans were made for the relief of those elements of the 35th Division who held positions within the new left boundary of the 45th Division as announced at 1500A.

c. Verbal orders were issued to the companies by S-3 at 1500-1600A. Text follows:

Co A: Relieve Co B of present assignment at once.

Co B: Relieve Co C, 60th Engr C Bn, of all work in their sector, by 0600A tomorrow morning. Move to the vicinity of Rosteig; support 179th Infantry.

Co C: No change.

31. Events of 30 Jan.

a. Relief of all elements of 35 Inf Div in our sector completed by 0600A. The front lines remained quiet and static. Co A relieved Co B, supported the 36th Engr C Regt, continued work on division sniper range; maintained guards on demolition sites, cleared trails south of Lichtenberg for the 36th Engrs and cleared snow from roads in assigned sector. Co B, supporting 179th Inf Regt, checked minefields in new sector with infantry, maintained guard on demolition sites taken over from 60th Engr C Bn, cleared snow from roads in sector. Co C, supporting 180th Inf Regt, cleared field of fire for 4.2 inch mortars, laid 40 rolls of concertina near Wildenguth, maintained guards on prepared demolition sites, bladed snow from roads and spread sand on icy spots.

b. No change in planning.

c. Operations Instructions No. 6 published.

32. Events of 31 Jan.

a. 45th Division area remained quiet. Co A, supporting 36th Engr C Regt, continued to construct sniper range, built road from Champagne south to connect with existing road, cleared roads of snow in assigned sector and maintained guards on prepared demolitions. Co B, supporting 179 Inf Regt, constructed 600 yards of 4 strand barbed wire fence, maintained supply trails for the 179 Inf, laid 11 trip flares, activated 8 others in front of infantry positions, maintained guard on prepared demolitions, and cleared roads of snow in assigned area. Co C, supporting 180 Infantry, checked area of 2nd Bn 180th Inf for mines and booby traps, dug gun emplacements for the 106th AAA Bn.

b. No change.

c. No orders issued.

33. Summary of Engineer Operations for the Month:

Roads:

Improved	miles	22
Built	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Swept for Mines	"	13
Cleared of snow with dozers	"	326 $\frac{1}{2}$
Covered with sand to reduce ice hazard	"	402

Bridges

Timber, repaired	No.	3
Demolished		17
Prepared for demolition		19

Culverts:

Constructed	No.	2
Demolished		3
Prepared for Demolition		5

Mines, AT

Laid, MIA1 (US)	No.	383
Removed, MIA1 (US)		71
Teller (German)		82

Mines, AP

Laid (M2A1, US)	No.	101
Removed, "S" (German)		12

Booby Traps

Laid	No.	8
Removed		3

Abatis

Prepared for Demolition	No.	61 $\frac{1}{2}$
Executed		130
Removed		11
Felled		26

Graters

Prepared for Demolition	No.	24
Blown		13
Filled		2
Fenced off with guard rails		1

Emplacements, gun, dug

No.	52
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Signs painted

227

Water issued to troops

gals.	542,740
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Trip flares, installed

No.	97
-----	----

Enemy guns destroyed

Ea.	3
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Houses prepared for demolition

5

Houses, destroyed

2

Incinerators dug

2

GP dugouts constructed

3

Graves covered for GRS

Wire laid:

Concertina, double	yards	450
Concertina, triple	"	4700
4 Strand Fence	"	1000

54. Administrative Activities:

a. Personnel: The turnover of personnel in this Battalion was not excessively high during the month of January 1945. Battle casualties, considering the active combat period, were not excessive. Two enlisted men were killed in action during the month; 2 officers and 7 enlisted men were wounded in action. A total of 4 officers and 41 enlisted men were hospitalized due to all causes during the period. During this period, 2 Officers and 48 enlisted men were returned to unit from hospitalization. Five officers and ten enlisted men were received as reinforcements. The average strength of the battalion during the month of January 1945 was 25 officers, 3 Warrant Officers and 630 enlisted men.

b. Temporary duty to US: No individuals were placed on TD to the US during the month. 1 Officer and seven enlisted men remained on TD to the US through this period.

c. Disciplinary action: Company B maintained the battalion stockade during the month of January. (The maintenance of this stockade is rotated among the companies on a monthly basis). A total of 7 enlisted men were in confinement at the end of the month. Of this number, 2 were held awaiting action of a General Court Martial, 2 were serving sentence of a Special Court Martial and 3 were awaiting trial by a Special Court Martial.

d. Awards and Decorations: At a ceremony held on 19 January 1945, Major General Frederick, CG 45th Infantry Division, presented a total of 22 decorations to members of the battalion. Of these, 1 Officer and 2 enlisted men received Oak Leaf Clusters to the Bronze Star Medal, 2 officers and 17 enlisted men received Bronze Stars. Recommendations were submitted, during the month, for one Legion of Merit award and four Bronze Star Medals.

e. Special Service Activities: Due to the tactical situation, prevailing during January, Special Service activities were somewhat curtailed. No shows or other forms of entertainment were available. Two issues of PX supplies (beer, candy, cigars, etc) and one issue of Special Service Supplies (assorted games, and pocket books) were made during the month. Two officers and six enlisted men were given 48 hour rest leaves in Paris.

f. Information and Education activities: During January, personnel of this battalion were kept posted on all items of I & E by means of posters, orientation maps, Army Talk booklets and newspapers received from higher headquarters. Copies of the Stars and Stripes, Beachhead News, and the 45th Division News were equitably distributed among the personnel of this battalion to assist in this program. All reinforcements received during the month were instructed in current policies affecting their future conduct in Germany.

g. Health and Sanitation: The general health of the battalion during the month of January 1945 is classed as "good". There were no cases of venereal disease, psychoneurosis, nor any prevalence of acute communicable disease within the command. Innoculation of all personnel was completed during the month

35. Supply Situation:

a. A new tactical situation, in this unit's experience, created a new and extremely difficult problem in Engineer supply during the month of January 1945. A planned retrograde movement involving the preparation and occupation of successive delaying positions, created several difficult supply problems. Sudden decisions and last minute changes in tactical plans at times further complicated the problem. Normally, this battalion operates only one engineer DP for issuance of Engineer Class II and IV items to the 45th Infantry Division and attached troops, however, in order to meet the huge tactical demand for fortification and demolition materials, it was found necessary to operate several strategically located dumps simultaneously during the greater part of this period. Normally, organic transportation is sufficient to move the dumps, and to keep them in operation; however, at times during this critical period, it was found necessary to call upon the Division QM Company and Corps units for additional trucks to supplement organic transportation. Excellent cooperation was secured from these units. During this period, the Division was considerably reinforced. Elements of nine infantry regiments were supplied with engineer material.

b. Dumps: On 1 January, two dumps were in operation; one at Lembach, the other in Woerth. A third was opened in Dossenheim on 2 January and a fourth dump was opened in Zinswiller on 4 January. The peak demand was reached on 5 January, and on 6 January the dumps were consolidated into one dump located near Dossenheim. On 24 January, the dump was moved to Graufthal RR station where it remained for the rest of the month. All dumps were successfully evacuated and no engineer material fell into enemy hands. Class II Engineer items were negligible. Army DPs had little or none for issuance to Divisions. In Class IV supplies, Army and Corps were forced to ration supplies to the divisions. Thru constant and energetic action upon the part of this battalion's S-4, the 45th Infantry Division received sufficient fortification and demolition materials to successfully complete its retrograde and holding mission. During this period 29,000 sandbags, 1700 rolls of concertina, 500 rolls of barbed wire and over 32,000 pounds of explosives were issued to the division and attached units.

c. Water Supply: Seventeen water distribution points were set up and operated by the battalion during the month of January 1945. A total of 544,870 gallons of water was distributed to the division and attached units during the month. During the period, an 8 head shower bath unit was operated in the vicinity of the battalion CP for the use of Division Special Troops and during periods of operation of a division Rest Center, this battalion operated a 32 head shower unit for the use of troops at this Rest Center.

36. Problems encountered:

a. The largest operational problem encountered during this period was that of rendering adequate engineer support to the division when the division was reinforced to approximately double its normal strength in combat troops and was occupying a frontage of almost three times that of a normal division. This problem was dealt with by giving each engineer platoon responsibilities normally given to an engineer company. Briefly, the battalion was spread thinner and worked harder.

b. The problem of snow removal from roads was quite serious during the month of January. No standard snow cleaning apparatus was available for this purpose, so it was necessary to use all seven of the battalion's bulldozers, during periods of heavy snowfall, to keep the main supply routes and connecting roads clear and passable. Bulldozers work very effectively as snow plows, however, extreme wear was caused to track assemblies due to large mileages covered over hard surfaced and semi-hard surfaced roads.

c. No administrative problems worthy of mention were encountered during the period.

d. Problems of supply have already been mentioned under paragraph 35. In general, the major problem of supply during this period consisted of a critical shortage of fortification material which was impossible to solve by this battalion since the shortage extended back through all echelons.

For the Battalion Commander:

JOSEPH W LOWE, JR
Major, CE, 120th Engr C Bn
Executive Officer

OFFICIAL:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H DISMANT
1st Lt CE, 120th Engr C Bn
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

C. S. Monnier

C. S. MONNIER

Lt Col CE

Commanding, 120th Engr C Bn

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

AFC # 45, U S Army
5 February 1945

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT FOR JANUARY 1945

1. Following is a report of the casualties suffered by this battalion during the month of January 1945:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>CAUSE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
<u>KILLED IN ACTION</u>				
Kenneth R Carkhuff	Tec 4	"C"	S-mine	23 Jan 45
Arthur W Noffsinger	Pfc	"C"	S-mine	23 Jan 45
<u>WOUNDED IN ACTION</u>				
William P DuPont	Tec 5	"B"	Frag-bomb	5 Jan 45
Lester W Roberts	Pvt	"C"	Frag-bomb	5 Jan 45
Charles C Lipscomb	1st Lt	"C"	Artillery	9 Jan 45
Joe C Dugger	Tec 5	"C"	Artillery	9 Jan 45
Glenn N Hayes	Cpl	"C"	Sl. injury	10 Jan 45
Charles J Kopasz	Cpl	"B"	Trip-flare	16 Jan 45
Clement Gilch	2nd Lt	"C"	Artillery	20 Jan 45
John E Stumpf	Sgt	"C"	GSW	22 Jan 45
Harold Dean Shinn	Pfc	"C"	Cratering charge	23 Jan 45

2. Following is a report of the casualties who returned to duty during the month of January 1945:

Wilfred Keats	Pvt	"B"	Fr LWA 5 Nov 44 to RTD 11 Jan 45
Arley J Webb	Pfc	"B"	Fr LWA 20 Oct 44 to RTD 12 Jan 45
Lester W Roberts	Pvt	"C"	Fr LWA 5 Jan 45 to RTD 29 Jan 45

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H. DISMANT
1st Lt. CE
Adjutant.

ROSTER OF OFFICERS
JANUARY 1948

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS:

Charles S Monnier	Lt Col	0353106	CO
Joseph W Lowe Jr	Major	0293270	Ex O
Benjamin E Billups	Major	0403916	S-3
Hugh T McCullough Jr	Captain	0422440	S-2
Arthur Tauscher	Captain	0460191	ADE
William M Hales	Captain	0405742	S-4
John H Dismant	1st Lt	0374920	S-1
Frank F Porter	1st Lt	01107053	Asst S-2
Roy C Smith	1st Lt	01100342	Recon O
John M Burger	1st Lt	01109165	SD (Div Hqs)

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE CO:

Elmer S Pickett	Captain	01100733	CO
Ivan F Sandridge	1st Lt	01105784	Bn Motor O
Jim M Flanagan	CWO	W2117855	Asst Bn Motor O
George A Ferguson	WOJG	W2118645	Asst S-4
Charles F Rusher	WOJG	W2108256	Pers O

MEDICAL DETACHMENT:

John H Kilmer	Captain	0332720	Act Bn Surg (atchd)
Aubrey E Stowers	Captain	0375220	Bn Surg (US on TD)
Milton Wasserman	Captain	0481477	Bn Dent O

COMPANY "A":

James H Rickey Jr	Captain	0469860	CO
Frank W Peak	2nd Lt	0543107	1st Plat Comdr
Walter E Clesch	1st Lt	01106374	2nd Plat Comdr
William W Etherton	1st Lt	01107937	3rd Plat Comdr
Robert C Boedecker	2nd Lt	01117080	Co Adm O

COMPANY "B":

Wayne W Bridges	Captain	01112045	CO
John L Larzelere	2nd Lt	01109440	1st Plat Comdr
David J Dayton	1st Lt	0543901	2nd Plat Comdr
Ray F Boedecker	2nd Lt	01117079	3rd Plat Comdr
William C Pickett	1st Lt	01105740	Co Adm O

COMPANY "C":

Alvin L Frank	Captain	0461128	CO
Sidney L Simmons	1st Lt	01112974	1st Plat Comdr
Marvin S Prestwood	1st Lt	0540201	2nd Plat Comdr
Melvin A Thuring	1st Lt	0385599	3rd Plat Comdr
Richard C Westphal	2nd Lt	01103461	Co Adm O

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 45, U S ARMY

31 December 1944

MEMORANDUM:

OFFICERS PROMOTED DURING DECEMBER 1944

1. The following officers were promoted to the rank indicated per Par 1, Ex SO # 268, Hqs Seventh Army, dated 21 December 1944, for outstanding performance in actual combat:

1ST LT TO CAPT

WAYNE W. BRIDGES, 01112045, CE

2D LT TO 1ST LT

DAVID J. DAYTON, 0543901, CE
MARVIN S. PRESTWOOD, JR., 0540201, CE

For the Battalion Commander:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H. DISMANT
1st Lt. CE
Adjutant.

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Authority VND 735017

By RP NARA Date 6/27/07

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 U S ARMY

.....
:Auth: CG 45 Div
:Init: CPA
:Date: 17 Apr 45
.....

17 April 1945 ✓

HRA 6404

AG 314.7

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Unit History.

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, US Army.
(Attn: Historical Section)

Transmitted herewith Historical Record of the 120th Engineer Battalion, this command, for the month of March 1945.

For the Commanding General:

DISPATCHED
HQ 45th INF DIV
APO 45 U S Army
Date 17 APR 1945
Emil Phavta
EMIL P NAVTA
WOJG USA
Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl:
Hist Red, 120th Engr Bn (trip)
w/Supporting Documents



S E C R E T

345-ENG-0,3 Narrative Hist-German Campaigns-120th Engr Bn-45th Inf Div-1-31 Mar 45-1/1/46

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Authority *NND 735017*By *RP* NARA Date *6/27/07*NARRATIVE HISTORY OF THE 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALIONMARCH 1945

I. Training Period (March 1-13):

1. The beginning of the month of March found the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, with the rest of the 45th Infantry Division, in Seventh Army reserve, resting and training in the Luneville-Epinal area of France, having been there since 18 February. A training schedule providing for practice in the assault of fortified positions, as well as firing of weapons, chemical warfare training, etc., was in effect, and engineer work was confined to repair and maintenance of target ranges, and other tasks to facilitate the division's training program. Among these tasks were included the preparation of camouflage suits for the Division Scouting and Patrolling School, the checking of an artillery demonstration area for mines, and the moving of disabled tanks to the anti-tank ranges for use as targets. To accomplish these tasks without unduly interrupting the battalion's training program, a different engineer company was designated as the "work company" for each day, with no training schedule for that day. At the beginning of the month, the training schedule outlined in "Training Memorandum No 5", published 24 February, was still in effect.

2. On 3 March, Major Billups (S-3), as engineer member of a party of three officers from the 45th Division, left to study methods used in breaching the Siegfried Line defenses in the Echternach sector of the Third Army front. In his absence, Captain McCullough (S-2) was designated as acting S-3. Maj Billups returned on 6 March and on 7 March Capt McCullough was sent on a similar mission, as engineer member of a party of five officers, to study river crossing methods in the First and Ninth Army fronts, returning 11 March.

3. Training Memorandum No 6 was published on 3 March, to continue the program outlined in Training Memorandum No 5 which expired on that date. However, the provisions of the new memorandum were never carried out in full because on the morning of 4 March, the engineer battalion found itself suddenly involved in preparations to train the division in river crossings.

4. This new training was carried out in conjunction with the 40th Engineer Combat Group. Each infantry regiment had one full day of training in river crossings with the 40th Engineers acting in their normal role as supporting engineers. This training took place in the area of the Etang De Gondrexange, about 25 kilometers northeast of Luneville, on 11, 12 and 13 March. Previous to the training with the 40th Engineers however, each regiment was given several days preliminary training of the same type, with engineers acting as supporting engineers and as technical advisors. This preliminary training took place at three different locations for each infantry regiment. The 1st Infantry was located on the Meurthe, at St Clement, the 188th Infantry was located on the Moselle, at Pagnon, and the 179th Infantry was on the Moselle, at Pagnon.

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180th Infantry site, there was also constructed a heavy ponton raft, for use in training drivers from Division Artillery, 645th TD Battalion and 191st Tank Battalion. In this training, each engineer lettered company supported its normal infantry regiment. The division scouting and patrolling school at Rambervillers was also continued during this period, adjusting its program to stress amphibious scouting and use of assault boats. The engineers also assisted in the instruction of this school.

5. On the night of 4 March, the special equipment necessary to conduct this training was procured from Seventh Army Engineer in Luneville. This included sufficient material to provide each regimental training site with six (6) storm boats, one light infantry support raft (M/2), two extra half-boats, and a number of six-man and ten-man pneumatic boats. On 5 March, the engineer lettered companies commenced the preparation of the training sites and the training of engineer demonstration teams, and the actual training of the infantry regiments began on 6 and 7 March. The 40th Engineers constructed the heavy ponton raft at the 180th Infantry training site and furnished personnel to assist in the training with it. On the 8th and the 10th of March two additional sites were prepared for training Division Artillery units in stream crossing with DUKS's, one on the Moselle at Roville and the other on the Meurthe at Frambois.

6. In conjunction with this river crossing training, one major engineer task consisted of the building and maintaining of an approach road for the heavy ponton raft site southwest of Luneville. B.R.C. matting and gravel was used here to construct about 400 yards of road. Also during this period, it was intended to train the engineer lettered companies in treadway bridge construction in accordance with Training Memorandum No 6. Brockway trucks and treadway equipment were obtained for this purpose, but the equipment was incomplete, and only one company was able to accomplish any training with it.

7. Beginning 11 March, the infantry regiments partook in one day's training apiece with the 40th Engineers in the Gondrexange area. The 180th Infantry began its training at noon on the 11th, and the 179th on the 12th, and the 157th on the 13th. Each regiment took two officers from its normally supporting engineer company along as observers. Otherwise the divisional engineers took no part in this training. While the regiments were thus engaged, the engineers collected and turned in the training equipment they had been using, and prepared to undertake their next assignment.

II - Crossing of the Blies River and advance to the Siegfried Line (March 14--17):

As early as 10 March, the 45th Division had been alerted for an early move to the Sarreguemines area, for recommitment in that sector. It was apparent that the first task involved in this new sector would be an assault crossing of the Blies River, so an engineer officer was sent to Frauenberg, northeast of Sarreguemines, to obtain advance data on the river. It was planned for the 157th and 180th

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Infantry Regiments to lead in the attack, so companies "A" and "C" of the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion were attached, respectively, to these regiments for the move to the new area. This attachment, however, was purely administrative, and these companies reverted to battalion control upon arrival of battalion headquarters in the new area. The 180th RCT (Co C attached) moved on 12 March, and the 157th RCT (Co A Attached) moved on 13 March. Co B moved independently on 13 March as well as H&S Co and battalion headquarters and the remainder of the 45th Infantry Division. Upon arrival in the Sarreguemines area, the division came under control of XV Corps.

45th Division Field Order No 1 was published on the 13th, ordering the division to pass through the 44th Infantry Division and breach the Siegfried Line, capture Homburg, and be prepared to continue the advance to the west bank of the Rhine River. For the initial phase of this action, the 157th Infantry was given the right half of the division sector, east of the Blies River, and the 180th Infantry was assigned the left half, with a jump-off line on the Blies River from its bend at Bliesbrück, to a point two kilometers west of Frauenberg. 120th Engineer Battalion Field Order No 1 was published the following day, assigning Co "A" to the support of the 157th Infantry, and initially both "B" and "C" Companies to the support of the 180th Infantry Regiment. Co "B" would cross the 3rd battalion of the 180th Infantry over the Blies River at Frauenberg, and Co "C" would cross the 1st battalion at Blies-Ebersing. Once the crossing had been made, Co "C" would take over the entire support of the 180th Infantry, and Co "B" would revert to general support. The 179th Infantry regiment was being held in division reserve, and Co "B" was to be prepared to move with them to exploit a possible breakthrough. The 1277th Engr C Bn, part of the 1101st Engr C Group, was in support of the 45th Infantry Division. Captain Johnston and three enlisted men from the 1277th Engr C Bn stayed with battalion headquarters throughout the operation for liason purposes.

The jump-off was scheduled for 0100A hours 15 March, but considerable preparatory engineer work had to be performed before that hour. During the night of 13--14 March, reconnaissance was conducted at both of the 180th Infantry crossing points for suitable footbridge and ferry sites, assault boats were brought forward to Frauenberg and Blies-Ebersing, and lanes to the river were cleared of mines. As the 44th Infantry Division was still not relieved by the 45th, the 63rd Engr C Bn (44th Div) assisted in this mine clearing, and also cleared the debris from the roadway at the demolished railroad overpass south of Blies-Ebersing. On the night of 14--15 March, before the attack began, footbridge and rafting equipment was also brought forward, and additional mine clearing was performed on the near bank of the river. The 1277th Engineer C Bn were prepared to install a Bailey bridge over the Blies River at Frauenberg as soon as the tactical situation permitted.

The attack began as scheduled, promptly at 0100A hours, 15 March. The 3rd Infantry Division attacked on the right of the 45th and XXI Corps on the left. Initially, the 157th Infantry, in the

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right half of the 45th division sector, made slow progress because of well prepared enemy positions and extensive minefields. Once this initial resistance was broken however, a steady advance was made until the regiment reached the main Siegfried Line positions about 5 kilometers southwest of Zweibrucken on 17 March. The town of Bliesbruck astride the river at its bend between the 157th and 180th Infantry sectors held out stubbornly, and on the afternoon of the 15th, the 1st battalion of the 179th Infantry was committed to attack the town from the northwest. Though completely bypassed, the town was not entirely cleared until the afternoon of the 16th. The crossing of the Blies River proceeded smoothly for the 180th Infantry, with relatively light opposition, and initial objectives were quickly reached.

The major engineer task during this operation was the crossing of the 180th Infantry over the Blies River. Co C, crossing the 1st battalion at Blies-Ebersing, encountered no difficulties. By 0235, all four companies of the infantry had been crossed in assault boats, by 0250 two footbridges had been completed, and during the next day, a ferry for crossing light vehicles was built and then immediately converted into an assault bridge. This bridge was completed by 1830A hours. It was also necessary to lay about 200 yards of Sommerfeld matting on the north shore at this bridge site to connect the bridge with an existing trail. Co B, crossing the 3rd battalion at Frauenberg, encountered more difficulty in their operation. A Bailey bridge which had previously been built and subsequently demolished at this site was kept under observation by the enemy, alert to the possibility of an attempted crossing at that point. Assault troops were crossed on the debris of this bridge and over the spillway of a dam on the upstream side, and though there was still small arms fire on the bridge site, a footbridge was begun about an hour later. The stream at this point was 125 feet wide, and a swift current in mid-stream caused considerable difficulty. During the construction of this bridge, one EM was killed by enemy mortar fire, and shortly after its completion, a portion of the bridge was demolished by a direct artillery hit. After four more unsuccessful attempts to built this bridge, assault boats were resorted to, but this too had to be abandoned when the first two were sunk. Meanwhile, a second footbridge was attempted, but a bazooka round severed the main cable on the first attempt, and on the second try the center section was knocked out by floating debris. The use of assault boats here also failed. The first footbridge was again attempted at 0445, and was finally secured by 0530, permitting the remainder of the infantry battalion to cross and secure a bridgehead by daylight. In addition to the one EM killed engineer casualties included three EM wounded in action.

In all portions of the division sector, numerous mines were encountered. These consisted mainly of Schu mines (mostly laid on top of the ground) and Holz mines, as well as some S mines and Teller mines. Consequently, all roads to be used had to be carefully swept for mines as the attack progressed, from the jump-off to the Siegfried Line.

During the day of the 15th, the 1277 Engrs, in support of the 45th Division, removed the wreckage of the demolished Bailey bridge at Frauenberg and constructed a new Bailey bridge on the same site. This bridge was opened for traffic at 1913A.

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On the morning of 16 March, the 179th Infantry Regiment was committed between the 157th and 180th Infantry, astride the Blies River. Operations Instructions No 9 was published to place Co B 120th Engineer Battalion in direct support of the 179th.

Between the jump-off line and the Siegfried Line positions, numerous road blocks, craters, blown bridges were encountered. As the advance progressed, it became necessary to obtain a later crossing over the Blies River which split the division sector up in the center. This problem was solved when it was found that the bridge at Herbitzheim was only partly damaged, and was repaired with new decking to a class 30 bridge by the 1277th Engineers. On the east side of the Blies River, Co A installed a treadway bridge at Niedergailbach, and Co B re-decked a small bridge at Bliesbruck and installed a treadway bridge on a side stream at Gersheim. On the west side of the Blies River, Co C installed culverts at Emlingen and Assweiler, as well as filling several craters.

On 17 March, advance elements of the 45th Division reached the Siegfried Line positions, from Niederwurzbach on the left to Wattweiler on the right, and preparations were made for its assault.

III - BREACHING OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE AND PURSUIT TO THE RHINE
March 18--25).

In the 45th Division zone of advance, the Siegfried Line positions ran generally in an east-west line, from Niederwurzbach on the left, along the south side of the Wurzbach stream, then to Bliescastel and Webenheim in the center of the sector, then east to the vicinity just north of Wattweiler, southwest to the vicinity of Zweibrucken. These positions were first reached by our troops on 17 March, as they were also by the 3rd division on our right and the 63rd division on our left, and operations to breach the line began on the 18th.

The main engineer tasks performed in this operation were the breaching of the "dragon's teeth", crossing of anti-tank ditches, crossing the Wurzbach stream, demolition of pillboxes once they were taken, and clearing of obstacles in the towns as they were cleared by the infantry.

At noon on 18 March, the 157th Infantry began a frontal assault on the Siegfried Line on a two battalion front, with tanks and TDS in support, and Co A, 120th Engineer Battalion, giving engineer support. In this sector, it was necessary to breach a row of "dragon's teeth" and cross two anti-tank ditches, 30 feet across and filled with water, before the 100 yards apart main pillboxes could be reached. The "dragon's teeth" were demolished first by using a C2 pack on each tooth in the gap to be blown, then leveling off the remnants of reinforcing steel after the explosion with a tank dozer. The tank dozer was then used to push sufficient fill into the anti-tank ditches to allow tanks to cross.

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Working similarly with the 179th and 180th Infantry regiments Companies B and C respectively assisted the infantry in breaching the Siegfried Line. The line cracked on 20 March and division drove rapidly to Homburg. At Homburg the division was pinched out by elements of the Third Army and contact with the enemy was lost.

On 22 March, the Battalion CP moved to Eisenberg. On 24 March the Battalion CP moved to Westhofen where final plans and preparations for the crossing of the Rhine River were made.

IV - THE CROSSING OF THE RHINE RIVER (see attached Special Report on Crossing of the Rhine River).

V - THE FIRST CROSSING OF THE MAIN RIVER.

The movement of the 45th Infantry Division from the Rhine to the Main River was completed in two days, 27-28 March, against only scattered resistance from disorganized groups of enemy personnel. Little or no engineer work was necessary during this phase as the rapidly retreating enemy did not attempt to blow bridges and culverts and no mines were laid. Trucks from the lettered companies were used to assist the motorized infantry forward. During this period, the Battalion CP moved to the vicinity of Gr. Ostheim, about 5 miles SW of Aschaffenberg.

An armored column of the Third Army had reached the Main River just ahead of the division and had secured a railroad bridge intact near Schweinheim. Upon reaching the river with the 157th Infantry on 28 March, Company A took over the maintenance and security of this bridge for vehicular traffic. The 157th Infantry and elements of the 179th Infantry crossed over on this bridge; the 157th Infantry attacking the city of Aschaffenberg, the 179th Infantry attacking to the southeast. Company B repaired a damaged German ferry near Niedernberg and had it ready for operation on 30 March when it was decided to construct an M-2 floating treadway bridge at this site. The 1101st Engineer Group then constructed a 300 foot, M-2, floating treadway at this site. Construction was completed at 0315, 31 March. Co C supported the 180th Infantry in this operation and made good use of their attached tank dozer in clearing road blocks in the vicinity of Kl Wallstadt under machine gun and 20mm fire.

The assault elements of the 179th and 180th Infantry regiments crossed over the Main River in DUKWs; the remainder of the regiments and vehicles crossed over on the floating treadway at Niedernberg during the day of 31 March.

The close of the period found the 45th Division pushing northeast from Aschaffenberg. The 157th Infantry was still engaged in cleaning out the last of the fanatical troops who were stubbornly defending the city. Company A, in close support of the 157th Infantry was engaged in cleaning a route through the city. Companies B and C were supporting the advance of the 179th and 180th Infantry Regiments by clearing road blocks and minor demolitions.

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By RP NARA Date 6/27/09VI - Summary of Engineer Operations for the Month:

Roads swept for mines	Miles	128½
Roads improved	"	16
Mines Anti-Tank	each	
<u>Removed</u>		
Teller	15	
Holz	22	
US M1A1	120	
US T6E1	26	
<u>Destroyed</u>		
Holzmines	18	
Mines Anti Personnel		
<u>Removed</u>		
Schu	85	
Improvised 75mm shell mines	34	
Road Blocks removed	each	63
Road craters filled	each	39
Cratering charges removed	each	1
Anti-Tank ditch crossings filled	each	7
Pill boxes destroyed	each	9
Dragons Teeth gaps breached	each	5
Asparagus bed (obstacle) demolished	each	2
Anti-tank obstacles (type unspecified) breached	each	5
Casualties		
KIA - 1 EM		
(Also 1 EM killed by stray bullet from Infantry Pill box assault area.)		
WIA - 17 EM 1 Officer		
Footbridges constructed	each	4
Infantry support rafts built	each	1
Infantry support bridge built	each	1
Treadway bridges built	each	3
Culverts installed	each	3
Culverts repaired	each	3
Civilian ferry rebuilt and operated		1
Stream crossing ladders (30 ft) built	each	4
Signs painted	each	667
Water supplied to divisional troops	gals.	816,390

VII - Administrative Activities:

I - STRENGTH	OFFICERS	WO	EM	TOTAL
a. KIA	0	0	1	1
b. Died	0	0	1	1
c. WIA (hospital)	0	0	8	8
d. LIA (hospital)	0	0	2	2
e. Hospital (non-BC)	2	0	44	46
f. Transfers (inf OCS)	0	0	2	2
g. <u>Evacuations:</u>				
(1) BC	0	0	10	10
(2) Non BC	2	0	28	30
h. RTU (fr evac and non-evac)				
(1) BC	0	0	2	2
(2) Fr evac	1	0	21	22
(3) Fr non evac	0	0	26	26
i. <u>Reinforcements:</u>	0	0	0	0

j. One (1) officer and fourteen (14) EM were wounded in action and not hospitalized during the month, in addition to the ten (1) hospitalized BCs.

k. The net losses of personnel in the battalion during the month was One (1) officer and nineteen (19) enlisted men.

l. Average of officers present for duty during the month: 31.

m. Average of EM present for duty daily during the month: 627.

II - TD - US:	Officers	EM	Total
		2	2

III - COURT MARTIALS

a. Number of EM in arrest	-	4
b. Number of EM in Conf (includes a above and confinements prior to Feb)		5
c. Number of EM tried		8
(1) Summary	-	4
(2) Special	-	1
(3) General	-	3

IV - AWARDS AND DECORATIONS	Officers	EM	Total
a. <u>Recommended:</u>			
(OLC to the Silver Star)	2	0	2
Silver Star	1	3	4
Bronze Star	1	5	6

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	<u>Off</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Total</u>
b. Approved and awarded by Div	0	0	0
c. Presented at Ceremony	0	0	0

V - GENERAL HEALTH OF BATTALION:

- a. Scabies - - - - - 2
- b. Venereal Disease- - - - - 0
- c. Athlete Foot - - - - - 3
- d. The percentage of military personnel currently requiring immunization for the month: None.
- e. Undue prevalence of acute communicable disease: None
- f. There were no surgical infections within this command.
- g. There were no cases of acute psychoneurosis or other mental abnormalities.
- h. As a whole the general health of the battalion during the month of March was: very good.

VI - SPECIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES:

- a. PX rations issued - twice during the month.
- b. Issue of special service items: None.
- c. Number of shows or other entertainments:
 - 1. Movies:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NO. SHOWS</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>CROWD REACTION</u>
3 March	"Animal Kingdom"	1	300	Very good

2. Live Shows: None

d. Rest Camps:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
Paris	1	1	15
England	0	0	6
Brussels	1	0	6
Nancy	1	0	12
Totals:	3	1	39

VI - I & E FUNCTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH:

- 1. Lt Porter, the IE Officer for the battalion, informed all officers in the battalion as to the policies of Phase I & II Educational Program. Officers then carried this to the men.
- 2. Group discussions were organized and each company held them; One hour per week, when possible.
- 3. Educational survey was taken of the battalion.
- 4. Prospective teacher were listed from the survey and from the WDAGO Forms #20 of the EM
- 5. Normal distribution of I & E material:
 - (a) Stars and Stripes
 - (b) Yank Magazine
 - (c) 45th Sig Co news
 - (d) 45th Div news
 - (e) Newsmaps
 - (f) Army talk pamphlets.

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By *RP* NARA Date *6/27/09*

For the Battalion Commander:

JOSEPH W LOWE, JR
Major, CE,
Executive Officer

OFFICIAL:

John H. Dismant
JOHN H DISMANT
1st Lt CE
Adjutant

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ROSTER OF OFFICERS
120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
31 MARCH 1945

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS:

Charles S Monnier	Lt Col	0353106	CO
Joseph W Lowe Jr	Major	0293270	Ex O
Benjamin E Billups	Major	0403916	S-3
Hugh T McCullough Jr	Captain	0422440	S-2
Arthur Tauscher	Captain	0460191	ADE
William M Hales	Captain	0405742	S-4
John H Dismant	1st Lt	0374920	S-1
Frank F Porter	1st Lt	01107053	Asst S-2
Roy C Smith	1st Lt	01100342	Ren O
John M Burger	1st Lt	01109165	SD-Div Hq
William C Picket	1st Lt	01105740	TD-US
Arllis D Foster	2nd Lt	01692568	Asst S-3

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY:

Elmer S Pickett	Captain	01100733	CO
Ivan F Sandridge	1st Lt	01105784	Bn Motor Off
Jim M Flanagan	CWO	W2117855	Asst Bn Motor O
George A Ferguson	WOJG	W2118645	Asst S-4
Charles P Rusher	WOJG	W2108256	Pers Off

MEDICAL DETACHMENT:

Aubrey E Stowers	Captain	0375220	Surgeon
Milton Wasserman	Captain	0481477	Dental Surgeon

COMPANY "A":

James H Rickey Jr	Captain	0469860	CO
Robert C Boedecker	2nd Lt	01117080	1st Plat Comdr
Walter E Oleson	1st Lt	01106374	2nd Plat Comdr
William W Etherton	1st Lt	01107937	3rd Plat Comdr
Frank W Peak	2nd Lt	0543107	Co Adm O

COMPANY "B":

Wayne W Bridges	Captain	01112045	CO
Harry H Fields	1st Lt	01107411	1st Plat Comdr
David J Dayton	1st Lt	0543901	2nd Plat Comdr
Ray F Boedecker	2nd Lt	01117079	3rd Plat Comdr
Howard M Cohen	1st Lt	01112623	Co Adm O
John L Larzalere	2nd Lt	01109440	DS-7th Army SS

COMPANY "C":

Alvin F Frank	Captain	0461128	CO
Sidney L Simmons	1st Lt	01112974	1st Plat Comdr
Marvin S Prestwood	1st Lt	0540201	2nd Plat Comdr
Richard O Westphal	2nd Lt	01103461	3rd Plat Comdr

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By *RP* NARA Date *6/27/07*HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 45, U S ARMY

1 April 1945

I - BATTLE CASUALTIES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1945:(1) KILLED IN ACTIONDATE

Tec 5 Acey C Glover, 34601384, Company "B" - 15 March 45

(2) LIGHTLY WOUNDED IN ACTION:

Sgt Adam E Feachen, 35279367, Company "B" - 15 March 45
 Pvt Billie R Conley, 20842066, Company "B" - 15 March 45
 Tec 5 Francis J Brennan, 37421021, Med Det - 18 March 45
 Pfc Joseph M Casmer, 33057245, Company "A" - 18 March 45
 Pvt Lytton J Oille, 15099987, Company "A" - 25 Mar 45
 Cpl Clemente Gallegos, 20841857, Company "C" - 26 March 45
 Pfc Peter Badje, 37048588, Company "C" - 26 March 45
 Pfc Woodrow W Smouse, 38010182, Company "C" - 29 March 45

(3) LIGHTLY INJURED IN ACTION:

Pvt James R Miller, 14018728, Company "C" - 16 March 45
 Pfc Raymond Meador, 38010182, Company "C" - 23 March 45

II - BATTLE CASUALTIES RETURNED TO DUTY DURING MARCH 1945:

Pvt Joseph W Rollo, 32962299, Company "B" - 2 March 45
 Tec 5 Joe C Dugger, 20841471, Company "C" - 5 March 45

For the Battalion Commander:

John H Dismant
 JOHN H DISMANT
 1st Lt CE
 Adjutant.

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HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO #45, U S Army
14 April 1945SPECIAL REPORT ON RHINE RIVER CROSSING 45TH INFANTRY
DIVISION 25-26-27 MARCH 19451. Training and Initial Planning Phase:

a. On 18 February 1945, the 45th Infantry Division was pulled out of the line in the vicinity of La Petite Pierre, Alsace, after 87 days of combat and moved to a rest and training area in the Luneville-Rambervillers area. At this time, the division reverted from VI Corps to 7th Army control. The objective of this rest and training period was to prepare the division for an early re-entry into combat. Emphasis was placed on weapons training, basic marksmanship and small unit firing problems which later graduated into problems involving the assault of fortified positions in preparation for a probable assault on the Siegfried Line.

On 3 March 1945, the 45th Infantry Division was ordered to commence intensive river crossing training in preparation for an assault crossing of the Rhine River. The 40th Engineer Group was given the responsibility of training with the division for the proposed operation, with the understanding that this group would also be responsible for the crossing in the actual operation. An immediate conference was held with members of the Division Command group, the Division Engineer, CO 40th Engineer Group, Division Artillery Commander and representatives from each of the three infantry regiments being present. At this conference the following principles were agreed upon:

(1) The 120th Engineer Battalion would be responsible for the basic training of all elements of the division in use of assault boats, storm boats and rubber boats, organization of carrying parties and boat teams and use of light and heavy rafts. In the actual operation the Division Engineers would be responsible for normal engineer support to the friendly bank of the Rhine, would be crossed by the 40th Engineer Group in the same manner as the other Divisional troops, and would take up normal engineer support of the division again upon the far shore.

(2) The 40th Engineer Group would be responsible for the tactical training of each ROT in the division under conditions which would approximate the actual proposed crossing of the Rhine River. In the actual operation, this Group would be responsible for the crossing of all elements of the division from the initial assault crossing phase to include the final bridging phase.

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b. During the period 5 March to 12 March, the training proceeded rapidly according to plan. The 120th Engineer Combat Battalion selected three sites along the Moselle and Muerthe Rivers and conducted basic boat training for each of the three infantry regiments at these sites. The 40th Engineer Group selected a site along the Rhine-Rhone Canal north of Luneville, assembled all necessary equipment and commenced training in preparation for the proposed RCT problems. These problems were successfully conducted on 10, 11, 12 March 1945.

2. Intermediate Tactical Phase:

a. On 13 March 1945, the 45th Infantry Division moved to the vicinity of Sarreguemines, France in preparation for re-entry into combat. Preparations were made to jump off through the 44th Infantry Division through an assault crossing of the Blies River and for the assault of the Siegfried Line. The division was now under control of XV Corps and the 1101st Engr Group was placed in support of the division.

The division crossed the stubbornly defended Blies River during the night of 14-15 March and pushed in to the Siegfried Line. By 21 March, the division had successfully breached the line and had reached Homburg. At this point elements of the Third Army had cut across the division zone of advance and the division was out of contact with the enemy. The CO 40th Engr Group made contact with the division on 23 March and plans were made for the immediate movement of the Group to assembly areas in preparation for the Rhine crossing.

On 24 March the division moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of Westhofen, Germany, eight kilometers west of the Rhine River and about ten kilometers northwest of Worms, in preparation for the crossing.

3. Final Planning Phase:

a. During the interval between the completion of the training phase on 12 March and the arrival of the 40th Engr Group in their final assembly areas, the CO of the 40th Engr Group had prepared a detailed plan of operations, in the form of an engineer field order, which was sufficiently elastic to cover any normal section of the River that might be assigned to the 45th Infantry Division. This plan was then amended to fit the actual division sector north of Worms.

During the morning of 25 March, the entire group of artillery liaison planes at division's disposal, was made available for river reconnaissance purposes. Much valuable information concerning the river and terrain and enemy disposition on the far shore was gained first hand by engineer and infantry commanders and staffs through the use of these planes. Intensive reconnaissance was conducted along the near bank of the river by engineer foot patrols both in daylight and under cover of darkness during the days 23-24 March.

The division planned to cross the Rhine River with two regiments abreast; the 179th Infantry Regiment (reinforced) on the left; the 180th Infantry Regiment (reinforced) on the right. The 157th Infantry Regiment at this time was outposting the river in the division sector, and upon being passed through by the assault regiments would revert to division reserve and be prepared to cross in support of the attack. Companies B and C, 120th Engineer Combat Battalion were attached to the 179th and 180th Infantry Regiments, respectively, for the crossing; attachments to terminate on arrival of the Hq 120th Engineer Combat Bn upon the far shore. Co A, 120th Engr Combat Bn was placed in general support, prepared to support the movement of the 157th Infantry Regiment.

Working in close conjunction, the Division Engineer, G-3, G-4, CO 40th Engineer Group, and CO 1101st Engr Group, prepared final plans and made final preparations for the crossing. Sites were selected for two class 40 bridges; one, an M-2 floating treadway to be constructed by the 1101st Engr Group at Hamm, the other, a heavy ponton bridge to be constructed south of Rhein Durkheim by the 40th Engineer Group. Sites were also selected for two infantry assault rafts, one heavy ponton ferry and one DUKW ferry in each assault regiment's sector, these crossings to be constructed by the 40th Engineer Group. Final assembly areas for troops, combat vehicles, DUKWs and bridging equipment were selected and marked. A traffic control plan was drawn up and all roads to be controlled by this plan were carefully marked. A system of traffic control posts was set up and illuminated signs were improvised for control of traffic during the hours of darkness. These signs proved invaluable during the course of the operation.

4. The Crossing Phase:

a. The assault battalions of the 179th and 180th Infantry Regiments began the crossing by storm boats on D-Day, 26 March 1945, at H-Hour 0200. The initial waves were successfully crossed. Casualties were moderate and were somewhat less than had been expected. Expected enemy artillery concentrations did not materialize; however considerable harassing fire from German flak-wagons on the opposite bank was received. By daylight of 26 March, both regiments were across the river and the bulk of their supporting light artillery had crossed on DUKWs. A heavy ponton ferry was in operation at 0700 hours and five DD tanks had crossed in the 180th Infantry sector by 0800 hours.

In the 179th Infantry sector two light infantry support rafts were placed in operation by 0800 hours. By 1000 hours, 26 March the infantry had advanced rapidly inland and all enemy fire had been cleared from the bridge sites. The 1101st Engineer Group commenced construction of an M-2 floating treadway bridge at Hamm at 1050 hours. The 40th Engineer Group started work on a heavy ponton bridge south of Rhein Durkheim at 1000 hours. The heavy ponton ferry in the 179th Infantry sector was placed in operation at 1345 hours.

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Work proceeded on the two bridges throughout the day and night of 26-27 March without interruption and both were successfully completed by 0530 hours 27 March.

During the daylight hours of 27 March 1945, the remainder of the 45th Division and supporting troops crossed the Rhine River on the two bridges and by nightfall was consolidated on the far side of the river and prepared to continue the advance.

5. Problems encountered:

a. Technical problems encountered by the supporting engineer troops, the 40th Engineer Group and the 1101st Engineer Group, in the construction of bridges and in the operation of boats and ferries are not covered in this report since these problems will be more adequately covered in reports that the organizations concerned have doubtlessly prepared. In this connection it may be said that the support rendered and the results obtained by the 40th Engineer Group and the 1101st Engineer Group in this operation merits high praise.

Traffic control presented a difficult, but not unusual problem in this operation. In order to keep traffic from becoming jammed, on access roads to the crossing sites, initially for engineer construction traffic, then later for both tactical and engineer traffic, and to insure that the right people got to the right place at the right time, a carefully planned system of traffic control was necessary. Working in close coordination, the division engineer, G-4, G-3, the Provost Marshal, and the Commanding Officers of the two Engineer Groups devised a plan for traffic control involving the use of two traffic control posts, one-way approach routes and return routes from the various crossing sites, adequate telephone communication between the traffic control points, crossing sites and troop and vehicle assembly areas. Each traffic control post was jointly occupied and operated by officer representatives from G-3, and G-4 and all routes were plentifully marked with signs. Illuminated signs were used during the hours of darkness. Strict disciplinary control was maintained by the division MPs. This traffic control worked very well and no serious traffic tie-ups occurred during the period that the 45th Division retained control of the crossing sites.

In general, problems actually encountered in the operation were of much lesser magnitude than had been anticipated. Enemy resistance was not as determined as had been anticipated; very few mines were found on the far shore; and the river did not present a formidable barrier as had been expected. Due to excellent planning on the part of the supporting engineers and the smooth coordination between the division elements, the division engineers and the supporting engineer groups, the operation became, in the words of the infantry: "just another damn river".

For the Division ENGINEER

JOSEPH W LOWE, JR
Major, CE, 120th Engr C Bn
Executive Officer

1 - Incl:

Annex #2, to FO #2, Hq 45 Inf Div 25 Mar 45 "ENGINEER PLAN"

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OFFICIAL:

C. S. Monnier

C. S. MONNIER
Lt Col CE, 120th Engr C Bn
Commanding

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[The 45th Infantry Division in World War II: An Unofficial Guide to Resources](#)

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