

S E C R E T

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:Date: 13 Nov 44
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HEADQUARTERS
FORTY FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO #45 U S ARMY

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 NAVTA
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

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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- copy opns rpt, 120th Engr C Bn
1 Oct 44 - 31 Oct 44
- #2- copy 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 191720 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 218645. 16 trees were removed from the trail and 2 M 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 via 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 1 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 at Pierrepont, Cirecourt. 2nd platoon destroyed 25 R mines in the vic. of Pierrepont. These mines had been previously removed. 3rd platoon cleared roads via of Fremifontaine.

0001-2400 4 October 1944

D/80

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 Bruyeres 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 160th 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/81

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/82

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 Spinal 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 Spinal, 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 Sercoeur, 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 45th 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 Serceour.

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 treadway. 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

En 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 Croix 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 treadway 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

En CP 1/2 mile north of Grandvillers, France.

Co A: CP 2 kms west of 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 252661, of trees, and removed 10 R mines.

PERIOD 0001-2400 27 October 1944:

E/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 1/2 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

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