

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 634TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 403, U. S. Army

1 June 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Reports.

TO : The Adjutant General
War Department
Washington, D. C.

1. Following report for the 634th Tank Destroyer Battalion for the month of May 1945 is submitted:

- a. Original: No change.
- b. Changes in organization: No change.
- c. Strength: 0001, 1 May 45: 37 Officers 1 WO 569 EM
2400, 31 May 45: 34 Officers 1 WO 566 EM
Net Gains and Losses: 3 Losses Same 3 Losses

d. Stations: Coordinates	<u>Date of Arrival</u>	<u>Date of Departure</u>
Aash, Czechoslovakia, (WP179889)	29 Apr 45	6 May 45
Cheb, Czechoslovakia, (WP308744)	8 May 45	11 May 45
Lobzy, Czechoslovakia, (WP835523)	11 May 45	None

- e. Marches: See Appendix No. 1.
- f. Campaign: (1) Name - Germany.
(2) Duration - Begin 15 Sep 44 and continues at date of this report. All Forces ceased active operations at 0001B Hours 9 May 45.
(3) Purpose - Destruction of German Armies.
(4) Authority - WD General Orders Number 80, dtd 5 Oct 44.

g. Battles: See appendix No. 1.

h. Commanding Officers in important engagements:

LT COL HENRY L. DAVISSON	0332232	FA (TD) Bn Commander
CAPTAIN CALHOUN A. BOWEN	0400382	Cav (TD) Company A
CAPTAIN JOHN F. THOMPSON	0353186	FA (TD) Company B
CAPTAIN JAMES B. ARMSTRONG	01168156	FA (TD) Company C
CAPTAIN RICHARD S. WRIGHT	0383236	FA (TD) Hq. Co.
CAPTAIN JAMES BARROW	0453364	FA (TD) Res. Co.

i. Losses in action:

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO
CANCELLED
 BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
Edward Meyer
 DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE
H. M. Smith

[Heavily obscured and mostly illegible text, possibly containing dates and locations like 'LIA 30 Apr 45']

After Action Reports, Hq 634th TD Bn., 1 June 1945, cont'd.

j. Former members who have distinguished themselves in action:
All General Orders hereafter listed were published by Hq., 1st U. S. Infantry Division, APO 1, U. S. Army.

S. Sgt	Leo F. Samek	20715922	Silver Star Medal	GO 89	27 Apr 45
Tec 5	Allen D. Palmer	37126227	Bronze Star Medal	GO 87	8 May 45
1ST LT	HARRY E. LINTZ	01822026	Bronze Star Medal	GO 93	18 May 45
Sgt	James L. Smith	37186609	Bronze Star Medal	GO 05	25 May 45
Tec 5	Silas J. Gilbert	38181668	Silver Star Medal		
			Posthumous	GO 96	26 May 45

Present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
All General Orders hereafter listed were published by Hq., 1st U. S. Infantry Division, APO 1, U. S. Army.

Sgt	Gerald L. Lake	36344965	Bronze Star Medal	GO 80	21 Apr 45
S Sgt	Paul J. Ruehr	36268237	Bronze Star Medal	GO 80	21 Apr 45
Tec 5	Charles J. Neihouse	38212253	Bronze Star Medal	GO 82	26 Apr 45
Sgt	Clifford E. Schommer	36268077	Silver Star Medal	GO 84	3 May 45
Cpl	Cono P. Lisa	32218965	Bronze Star Medal	GO 85	4 May 45
Cpl	Jesse C. Morris, Jr.	34678459	Bronze Star Medal	GO 87	8 May 45
Sgt	Ervin H. Kitkowski	36268193	Bronze Star Medal	GO 87	8 May 45
Cpl	Michael J. McClory	32197326	Bronze Star Medal	GO 88	9 May 45
Tec 4	Frank M. Sorcan	37026639	Bronze Star Medal	GO 88	9 May 45
Sgt	Gerald L. Lake	36344965	Silver Star Medal	GO 88	9 May 45
Tec 4	Hurley D. Wiser	36349544	Bronze Star Medal	GO 92	17 May 45
1st Sgt	Robert N. Pederson	20713132	Bronze Star Medal	GO 92	17 May 45
Sgt	Wenzlo W. Simmons	38182693	Silver Star Medal	GO 92	17 May 45
Tec 5	J. D. Cobb	18131015	Bronze Star Medal	GO 93	18 May 45
Pfc	William T. Fanning, Jr	33628631	Silver Star Medal	GO 93	18 May 45
Tec 4	Albert A. Stevens	37026328	Bronze Star Medal	GO 95	25 May 45
S Sgt	Robert D. Jordan	20715933	Silver Star Medal	GO 95	25 May 45
Col	Andrew C. Burke, Jr.	33628540	Bronze Star Medal	GO 96	26 May 45
T Sgt	Leo J. Quint	37042007	Bronze Star Medal	GO 96	26 May 45
CAPT	MARICE L. NATHANSON	01821620	Bronze Star Medal	GO 96	26 May 45

k. Photographs: None.

l. Inclosures: Battalion Journal from 1 May 45 to 9 May 45 inclosed and the complete file in support thereof.

2 Incls:

1. Battalion Journal.
2. Supporting Documents 1 May 45 to 9 May 45 incl.

HENRY L. DAVISON
LT. COL., PA (TD)
Commanding

TOP SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 634TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 403 U. S. ARMY

1 June 1945

SUBJECT: Unit Report of Action 1 - 31 May 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General
War Department
Washington, D. C.

MAPS : GSGS 4416, Scale 1/100,000. Sheets: T6, T7, S6 & S7.

1. Narrative:

a. 1 May 1945: Weather: Intermittent snow and rain.

Visibility: Poor.

As the period opened the 634th TD Bn remained attached to the 1st U. S. Infantry Division. Co A was attached to the 26th Inf Regt; Co B was atchd to the 18th Inf Regt; Co C was atchd to 16th Inf Regt, and Rcn Co was atchd to 18th Inf Regt. The remainder of the Battalion (Hq & Hq Co) was atchd to the 1st U. S. Infantry Division.

The Battalion was disposed as follows: Hq & Hq Co were situated in ASCH, Czechoslovakia. The Bn CP at (179889). Co A CP remained in ASCH, Czechoslovakia (180898). The platoons occupied the following positions at the close of the period: 1A in Regtl Reserve at Co CP; 2A moved fwd to place 1st section in MUHL-HAUSEN (220983), 2nd section in SOHL (234964); 3A moved fwd and occupied positions in RAJUN with 1st Section at (242938) and 2nd Section in OBER-BRAMBACH (255913). Co "B" CP moved from ROTHENBACH to CHEB (305745). The platoons were disposed as follows: 1B in Regtl Res at Co CP (305745); 2B in AT positions supporting E Co (313721); 3B in AT positions with 1st Section at DOLSDON (347754), 2nd section at JINDLICHOW (335778). Co C CP remained in SELB (132841) and the platoons were disposed as follows: 1C moved from SCHONBERG to BRAMBACH and occupied AT positions at (262901); 2C with 2nd Bn occupied AT positions in HAGENGRUN (263827); 3C in Regtl Res at Co CP. Rcn Co (-1R, 2R and 1 section of Pioneer Platoon) moved from WALDSASSEN to EGGER (CHEB) (309741). During the period 1R plus 1 section of Pioneer Platoon maintained a road block position at (283638) and operated patrols between elements of 1st Div and 97th Inf Div from their location at (383638). 2R maintained strong point at STRIZOV (307775) and maintained 24 hour contact patrols between I & L Cos of 18th Inf. 3R made mounted Rcn of the area bounded by 20 to 28 NS Grid lines and 70 to 80 EW Grid lines. No enemy contacted.

b. 2 May 1945: Weather: Cloudy with snow flurries.

Visibility: Fair

Co A CP remained in ASCH, Czechoslovakia. All platoons remained in positions as of 1 May 1945. No contact with the enemy and no casualties. Co B CP remained in EGGER (CHEB), Czechoslovakia. All platoons remained in positions as of 1 May 1945. No contact with the enemy and no casualties. Co C CP remained in position as of 1 May 1945. No contact with the enemy and no casualties. Rcn Co CP moved during the period to MATERSREUTH (348646). During the period 1R plus 1 section of Pioneer Platoon moved to OROOB to screen right flank of G Co and entered QUEFENBACH (339658). A light fire fight was encountered on outskirts of town. 3 enemy were killed and 25 PWs taken. Continued Rcn with G Co to MATERSREUTH (348646) thence to NEVALBENREUTH (375640). No enemy encountered.

Unit Report of Action 1 - 31 May 1945, cont'd.

Contact patrols maintained during night between MATERSREUTH (348646), QUERENBACH (338658) and HATZENREUTH (324671). 2R remained in position at (307775). 3R and Co Hq personnel made mounted Rcn to PAXDORF (325634) and captured 2 PWs. 3R maintained contact patrols to Co C, 303rd Inf Regt of 97th Inf Div during the period and traveled through the following towns: MATERSREUTH (348646) and ERNESTARUN (373622).

c. 3 May 1945: Weather: Continued cool and cloudy.

Visibility: Fair.

Co A CP and all platoons remained in positions as of 2 May 1945 except 1st section of 2A who moved to a better defensive positions in vicinity of ADORF (198995). Co B CP remained in EGER (CHEB), (305745). Platoons were disposed as follows at close of period: 1B in reserve at Co CP (305745), 2B with E Co at (349647). 3B fired 24 rds HE and 4 rds APC from firing positions at (348573) destroying 1 armored car, killing and wounding many enemy infantry. Platoon remained disposed as follows: 1st Section in DOL-SHON (347754); 2nd section in JIMDRICHOW (335778). Co C CP and all platoons remained in positions as of 2 May 1945. Rcn Co CP remained in MATERSREUTH (348646). CAPT JAMES BARROW, Tec 5 Caldwell, and Tec 5 Neihouse were captured by an enemy combat patrol during the night of 2 - 3 May 1945, between hours of 0040E and 0100E. Many items of G-2 information were taken such as SOI, Slidex Cards, maps and codes. The 18th CT and elements of Rcn Co made numerous aggressive patrols into enemy held territory in an effort to find the captives, but to no avail.

d. 4 May 1945: Weather: Continued cool and cloudy.

Visibility: Fair.

Co A CP and all platoons remained in positions as of 3 May 1945 except that 1A relieved 2A in place. Co B CP and all platoons remained in positions as of 3 May 1945 except 2B moved from (315723) to occupy AT positions in HATZENREUTH (323670). 2B fired 25 rds HE at a convoy of horse drawn vehicles in vicinity of (353779). 2 PWs were taken by 3B. Co C CP and all platoons remained in positions as of 3 May 1945 except 2C moved to AT positions in support of G Co, 2nd Bn, 16th Inf Regt at (300785). Rcn Co continued contact patrols to elements of 18th Inf Regt and 303d Inf Regt of the 97th Inf Div. In addition, numerous combat patrols were performed into enemy territory in an endeavor to discover some information concerning the 3 missing men. During the patrols, a flashlight of one of the M was found, also 38 PWs were taken and 1 Volkswagen destroyed by 37mm HE. 10 rds 37mm HE and 1000 rds Cal..30 MG ammunition was expended.

e. 5 May 1945: Weather: Rainy.

Visibility: Fair to poor.

Co A CP and all platoons remained in positions as of 4 May 1945. 2A alerted for movement with 2nd Bn into the attack. 3A assembled in OBER-BEIMBACH (257916). Co B CP remained in position and 1B released from Regt1 Res to attachment to 1st Bn, 18th Inf. 1B moved to join 1st Bn at 1300E and at close of period was located in LEINBRUCK (423713). 2B moved from HATZENREUTH (323670), in support of 2nd Bn, to MAISELGRUN (448647). 2B destroyed 2 MG nests expending 25 rds HE. 3B moved fwd with 3rd Bn to seize their objective. During the period, 3B expended 136 rds HE, 2100 rds Cal..50 MG and destroyed 3 MG nests, killed 50 enemy and also over-ran 4 MG nests with their tracks after expending all HE on their vehicles. All firing was done at a range of 50 to 100 yards. 1 M-10 was hit by a

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Unit Report of Action 1 - 31 May 1945, cont'd.

Panzerfaust and set on fire. Crew members extinguished the blaze and vehicle was not seriously damaged. 1st section located at (348752) with 2nd section at (368737). Co C CP moved to FRANTLAZNE (304785) and all platoons moved forward with their respective infantry battalions to occupy the following positions at the close of the period: 1C in NBES (341856), 2C in HAITOUISOV (380911), 3C in KOBNOV (385770). Recon Co CP moved forward to DOLZANDOV (449687). At 1500B, the platoons were assigned and moved with the Bns as follows: 1R attached to 1st Bn, 2R attached to 3rd Bn and 3R attached to 2nd Bn. 1 section of Pioneer Platoon joined 2R at 2130B. At the close of the period the platoons were disposed as follows: 1R at (405700), 2R at (346753) & 3R at (448686).

f. 6 May 1945: Weather: Rainy.

Visibility: Fair to poor.

Bn (- Cos A, B, C & Recon) moved from ASCH, Czechoslovakia (170889) to new CP in EGEE (CHEB), Czechoslovakia (308744). Co A CP remained in ASCH, Czechoslovakia. Platoons moved as follows: 1A moved at 0900B with 1st Bn from SOHL and at the close of period were in positions as follows: 1st section at (330940) and 2nd section in TERNITZGUM, (300980). 2A remained in Terti Cos at Co CP, while 3A moved at 1200B from assembly position in OBER-BLAMBACH to Cos position in STEINGRUB (310910). Co B CP moved from EGEE, Czechoslovakia to DOLZANDOV (447687). All platoons moved forward in support of their respective Infantry and were disposed as follows at the close of the period: 1B in SANGELBERG (573730), 2B in UNICHOV (614722) and 3B in KLOTTFENSEE (433755). 3 fired 16 rds HE at Ey Inf. Good results were reported. Co C CP remained in FRANTLAZNE (295735). Platoons were disposed as follows: 1C detached from C Co 16th Inf and attached to B Co at (342856). 1C expended 77 rds HE and 1 rd APC, 200 rds Cal..50 MG and 1200 rds Cal..30 MG to destroy 5 MG nests, neutralize 3 strong points, 8 Ey killed, 8 wounded. 2 PWs were also captured. 2C in support of E Co was still moving at the close of the period and were at (417784). 20 rds HE, 3000 rds Cal..30 MG and 300 rds Cal..50 MG ammunition was expended by 2C to destroy 15 Ey strong points, 20 Ey were also killed, 15 wounded and 4 PWs taken. 3C attached to I Co was at (451794) at the close of the period and had destroyed 1 AT Gun, neutralized Ey Inf positions with an ammunition expenditure of 1 rd APC, 9 rds HE, 400 rds Cal..30 MG. Recon Co CP remained in DOLZANDOV (449686). 2R moved in support of 3rd Bn, 13th Inf, leading K Co into SITHOR (430729) and then East in support of K Co to capture ROGHANDORF (400745). Platoon relieved at 2130B and assembled in DOLZANDOV (449686). 1R with 1 squad of colored dough-boys, moved from DOLZANDOV to make contact from LAYMEKYNZUART (500681) to (500725). A fire fight developed at (500700). 6 Enemy killed, 1 MG destroyed, and several Ey wounded. 1 PW SWA. Platoon re-assembled in DOLZANDOV. 3R led 2nd Bn from NEHALPENREUTH (3764) to HAITERSGRUN (448648) and worked with Bn until relieved at 2230B when they assembled in DOLZANDOV. Pioneer Platoon made counted contact patrol during the night from DOLZANDOV to SANGELBERG (565731).

g. 7 May 1945: Weather: Excellent.

Visibility: Good.

The long awaited CEASE FIRE order, as copied below was received early the morning of 7 May 1945:

HEADQUARTERS 1ST U. S. INFANTRY DIVISION
AFC 1, U. S. Army

7 May 1945

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Unit Report of Action 1 - 31 May 1945, cont'd.

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM

The following telegram received from SHAEF, reproduced by V Corps, is furnished for your information and compliance.

1. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND SIGNED THE UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER OF ALL GERMAN LAND, SEA, AND AIR FORCES IN EUROPE TO THE ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY TO THE SOVIET HIGH COMMAND AT 0141 HOURS CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME, 7 MAY UNDER WHICH ALL FORCES WILL CEASE ACTIVE OPERATIONS AT 0001B HOURS 9 MAY.
2. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY ALL OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS BY ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE WILL CEASE AND TROOPS WILL REMAIN IN PRESENT POSITIONS. MOVES INVOLVED IN OCCUPATIONAL DUTIES WILL CONTINUE. DUE TO DIFFICULTIES OF COMMUNICATIONS THERE MAY BE SOME DELAY IN SIMILAR ORDERS REACHING ENEMY TROOPS SO FULL DEFENSIVE PRECAUTIONS WILL BE TAKEN.
3. ALL INFORMED DOWN TO AND INCLUDING DIVISIONS, TACTICAL AIR COMMANDS AND GROUPS, BATTALIONS, AND EQUIVALENT. NO RELEASE WILL BE MADE TO THE PRESS PENDING AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HEADS OF THE THREE GOVERNMENTS. SIGNED EISENHOWER.

Basic policy of the Division Commander is that all units will secure themselves in present positions against any enemy action by uninformed enemy groups. No man will be lost unnecessarily at this time.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL ANDRUS:

OFFICIAL:

VERDI B. BUNNES,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
CHIEF OF STAFF.

/s/ Clarence E. Beck
CLARENCE E. BECK
LT. COL., G.S.C.,
A.C. of S., G-3

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Special

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

ERROL B. OLSON
MAJOR, FA (TD)
S-3

h. Period 7 May 1945 to 31 May 1945.

During this period of hostilities the 634th TD Bn was assembled as a unit and assigned a sector of the Division front; with the mission of allowing no German civilians, German soldiers, nor displaced persons to pass through the defensive system of Road blocks and traffic

Unit Report of Action 1 - 31 May 1945 cont'd.

control points extending from FALKENAU on the North to LAUTERBACH on the South. Companies were assigned areas as follows: Rcn Co on left flank and maintaining road blocks on outskirts of FALKENAU, "A" Co in WUNDINGRUN, "B" Co in KOHLING, and Co "C" maintained a traffic control point and outpost in SCHLAGGENWALD. The Bn CP was located in Lebs, Czechoslovakia (537822). Although the actual fighting had ceased, many problems presented themselves and required many hours of labor, coordination and personal contact by the Bn and Unit Commanders with the representatives of Russian and Czechoslovakian Governments.

1. The following paragraphs show the complete Battle Record and Casualty Record of the 634th TD Bn for the period 29 June 1944 to 8 May 1945:

(1) Enemy Materiel Destroyed or Captured.

Companies	A	B	C	Rcn	Total
Mark VI	1	5	6		12
Mark V	10	7	6		23
Mark IV	8	6	4		18
Mark III		1	1		2
SP Guns	3	7	3		13
AT & AA	7	9	10		26
GP Vehicles	13	19	5	50	87
HT & Armd Cars	4	4	7	2	17
MGs	16	9	7	3	35
Pillboxes		25	13		38
OPs	19	7			26
Strong Points	137	19	23		179

(2) Enemy Personnel killed or captured.

Companies	A	B	C	Rcn	Hq	Total
Captured	368	527	207	2109	83	3294
Killed	93	134	283	92		602

(3) Our Personnel losses.

	KIA	DOW	CAP	WIA	NON BATTLE	EXH	WIA R/D	SIW
Hq					21			
A	26	3		49	52	35	29	4
B	12		4	30	53	8	32	8
C	17	4		58	45	4	61	4
Rcn	9		3	27	51	2	47	4
Med	5			2				
TOTAL:	69	7	7	175	222	49	169	20

Total Battle: 258
 Wounded R/D: 169
 Non Battle: 291

(4) Our Materiel Losses.

Vehicles Destroyed	A	B	C	Rcn	Hq	Total
M-10s	12	6	10			28
GP Vehicles	1	1		1	1	4
Armd Car M8				1		1

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Unit Report of Action 1 - 31 May 1945, cont'd.

(5) Total ammunition Expenditure:

3" Shell H.E. NC	14,188
3" Proj APC M62	2,092
3" Shell HE RC	1,075
3" HVAP T4	207
3" Shell 24-1	202
3" Smoke M88	40
3" Shell HEHC	51
3" Fuze CP T105	107
37mm HE M63	95
37mm APC M51	3
37mm Cann M2	11
30 Cal Carbine	48,305
45 Cal Ball	18,630
30 Cal (8 clip)	18,845
30 Cal AP & TRC	103,622
50 Cal Ap-I-Tr	29,955
Gren Rifle AT	527
Gren Rifle Smoke	98
Mine AT HE	258
Gren Hand Frag	925
Gren Hand Off	45
Gren Hand Smoke	12
Rocket H.E.	433
Signal Ground	247
Grenade Incend	151
Flare Trip	24