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155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE, SEPTEMBER 1944

L-1010

1 SEPTEMBER 1944: At 0100 the battalion occupied positions in the vicinity of Chateaufort de Calante. The battalion Command Post was established at coords. 057-287 (See Map France, 1/100,000 Sheet 13 N St. Etienne).

The Infantry entrucked again at 0945 and the march was resumed at 0945.

The Battalion occupied positions about 1 kilometer northwest of Septeme, France. The Command Post located at coords. (070-660). The batteries organized their positions for action, but no fire was delivered from these positions. (For disposition of battalion see Map France, 1/100,000 Sheet 13 N, Lyon).

The Battalion Commander and battery commanders left at 1915 on a reconnaissance for positions in the vicinity of Luzinay.

Between 2045 and 2100 the various batteries marched, by battery, to the new positions. For location see Map France 1/100,000, Sheet 13 N, Lyon. The Battalion closed into the new positions at 2140 and the Command Post was established at coords. (030-685) near the village of Illins. Again the battalion organized its position for action, but no fire was called for. The mission of the Battalion this date remained unchanged: ie, reinforcing the fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion which was in direct support of the 142nd Infantry Regiment.

No fire delivered this date.

2 SEPTEMBER 1944: Today 1st Lieutenant Raymond F. Kent, Battery Commander, Battery "B", received a letter from 2nd Lieutenant Richard J. McCready, who was missing in action 23 August 1944, near Valreas, France. The letter informed us that the Observation Party had run into an enemy road block. 1st Lieutenant Kiva. S. Fingerhut, of New York City was seriously wounded and died later of these wounds; 2nd Lieutenant Richard J. McCready of Indianapolis, Indiana, lost his left arm; Tec Grade 4 S. L. Nichols, Fort Worth, Texas was captured and Private Desmond D. Lowery of Mt. Vermont, Illinois was wounded and captured. Lieutenant McCready had been cared for by the French Red Cross and finally when recaptured was evacuated to the 11th Evacuation Hospital (American).

Colonel J. B. Matlack, Executive Officer, 36th Infantry Division Artillery, notified the Battalion Commander that the battalion was "attached" to the 142nd Infantry Regiment.

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At 1830 the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders left on a reconnaissance for the assembly area in the vicinity of Feyzin, later at 1845 the Battalion Executive Officer marched the battalion on Feyzin. The battalion closed into the Feyzin assembly area at 1940 and spent the night there. With the cooperation of the local authorities, shelter was obtained in public buildings for the personnel.

No firing this date. The battalion mission continued to be to reinforce the fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion, but since we were transporting part of the 142nd Infantry Regiment, we also received orders from the Commanding Officer, 142nd Infantry Regiment.

3 SEPTEMBER 1944: The battalion was required to furnish five 2½ ton trucks to a provisional trucking company. This, with the four trucks already out, created an acute shortage of transportation. In order to continue the march it was necessary to establish a battalion dump at Feyzin and leave 350 rounds of ammunition behind.

About noon the Battalion Commander told his assembled staff and Battery Commanders that the battalion would resume the march and that the 1st battalion of the 142nd Infantry Regiment would be carried on our vehicles.

The Infantry entrucked in the battery areas, and the column formed and marched at 1345. The march was via: St. Symphorian, d'Ozon, Heyrieux, Chamagnieu, Cremieu, Vertrieu, Sault-Brenaz, Lagnieu, Amber-en-Bugey, St. Maurice-de-Remens, to an assembly area in a large ammunition depot about one mile southwest of St. Maurice-de-Remens. For the route and disposition of the battalion see Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 14 K Chambéry. Since there was no contact with the enemy, positions were not organized for action.

At 2245 information was received that the 3rd Infantry Division had made contact with the enemy to the north of our bivouac area; that it would be necessary for this battalion to move at 0400 4 September and close into positions in the vicinity of Bourg-en-Brasse by daylight. Our vehicles were to transport the 2nd Battalion of the 142nd Infantry Regiment.

During the early evening hours, D plus 15 Convoy arrived at the Service Battery position. The convoy consisted of the Personnel Section and a number of much needed vehicles. The trip from Cavalaire to this station was accomplished without mishap, although Mr. Huth had no maps.

No firing this day. Mission unchanged.

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4 SEPTEMBER 1944: At 0300 guides from the 2nd Battalion, 142nd Infantry Regiment reported to the Command Post to guide our vehicles to the remote elements of their battalion. Some of these elements were so distant that the vehicles did not return until after 0400. As a result the march was not begun until 0615; even then a few trucks had not returned and had to proceed to the new position individually.

The battalion closed into a rendezvous area at coords. (290-270) Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 14 L Nautua. Since a resumption of the march seemed imminent no installations were made.

At 1300 the march was resumed. The route was north thru Bourg-en-Brasse, Larboz and Cormos to a bivouac area in the vicinity of Varenne-St. Sauveur. See Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 13 L, Macon. Coords. (238-683). The battalion closed into this area at 1720.

After arriving in this area the Battalion Personnel Section and Service Battery rejoined the Battalion. Suitable accommodations for the Personnel Section were obtained in Varenne and there they remained when the battalion marched.

This was a non-tactical bivouac. Positions were not organized for action and no firing was done this date. Mission: reinforcing fires of 132nd Field Artillery Battalion, remained unchanged.

5 SEPTEMBER 1944: The Infantry entrucked in the battery areas this morning and the march was resumed at 0830. The march this day was along secondary roads, generally to the northwest. The route was Varenne St. Sauveur, Dommartin-les-Cuisseaux, Sagy, Rette, Saillenard, Blatterans to a bivouac in the vicinity of Ruffey. (See Map: France, 1/100,000 Sheet 14 K Lons-lex-Saunier).

This evening we received information that Staff Sergeant Julius E. Hollub, from Hallettsville, Texas, a gun section chief, Battery "B" and Staff Sergeant Gilbert F. Schaeffer, from San Antonio, Texas, a Chief of Section, Battery "C", had been promoted, by Battle Field Appointment, to the temporary grade of 2nd. Lieutenants in the Army of the United States.

No firing this date. Mission continues unchanged.

6 SEPTEMBER 1944: Infantry entrucked and the march was resumed at 0800. This day's march was again generally northwestward. However, it followed primary roads. The route was from Ruffey, thru St. Germaine-les-Arlay, Poligny and Arbois to a bivouac area just north west of Kouchard. Coords. (645-265). Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 14 K Lons-Le-Saunier.

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No firing this date. Mission remained reinforcement of fires of 132nd Field Artillery Battalion, which was still in direct support of the 142nd Infantry Regiment.

7 SEPTEMBER 1944: At 1540 the Battalion Commander radioed from the 142nd Infantry Command Post in Mouchard ordering that the battalion be prepared to entruck the 2nd Battalion of the 142nd Infantry in Mouchard and march at 1630.

The Infantry was entrucked, but the march was delayed fifteen minutes by a column which had not cleared Mouchard at the scheduled time. At this time the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders went ahead of the column to reconnoiter for positions.

The battalion marched at 1645. Route of march was northward out of Mouchard to Quingey, westward to Byans and into positions about two kilometers southwest of Byans. (See Map: France, 1/100,000 Sheet 14 E, Lons-Le-Saunier). Closed into new position at 1845 and detrucked the Infantry and organized for action.

Summary of firing: 42 rounds of HE are fired on a registration and two missions against enemy vehicles. No positive report of damage inflicted. The Battalion's mission continues to be to reinforce the fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion.

8 SEPTEMBER 1944: The battalion remained in firing position overnight. Twice during the day the battalion was alerted for an imminent move to new positions but due to change of plans both displacements were cancelled and the battalion remained in position overnight, continuing to reinforce the fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion.

The Battalion Commander attended a meeting at 36th Division Artillery late in the evening and received verbal orders that this Battalion was relieved of reinforcing fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion and our mission would be general support of the 36th Infantry Division.

Summary of firing: Two missions, a total of 18 rounds of HE fired on enemy vehicles and personnel.

9 SEPTEMBER 1944: The battalion displaced forward to the vicinity of Champvans, closing into the new area at 1255. For disposition, (Map: France, 1/100,000 Sheet 14 J, Besancon.

Summary of firing: 103 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke fired on three missions; no positive reports of damages or casualties inflicted.

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10 SEPTEMBER 1944: The Battalion Commander took the Battery Commanders forward to the vicinity of Bonnevent to look for forward positions. Battery "B" was prepared for an early displacement; the balance of the battalion to move after Battery "B" occupied its new position. Battery "B" moved out at 1030 and closed into its forward position at 1300. The balance of the battalion marched at about 1400 and closed into the forward positions at 1545. The Command Post was established in a building in Velloreille. For route of march and dispositions in the Bonnevent area see Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 14 J, Besancon.

The battalion rear echelon, D plus 20 Convoy, under Captain Harry P. Frantz Jr, O-404452, Enid, Oklahoma, which had been left in Italy, rejoined the battalion before today's move. This group remained with Service Battery and came forward when Service Battery moved. After displacement the newly arrived personnel, vehicles and equipment were returned to their batteries. This brought relief to many of the men who were in need of additional blankets and a change of clothing. The additional vehicles helped alleviate the critical shortage of transportation.

Shortly after occupying the new positions, Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery, gave this battalion a secondary mission: ie, to reinforce the fires of the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion, which was in direct support of the 143rd Infantry Regiment.

Summary of firing: 29 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of smoke fired on registrations. No missions fired on enemy targets.

11 SEPTEMBER 1944: The battalion was moved to the vicinity of Raze, closing into the Raze area at 1030. The battalion Command Post was established in a school building in the center of town. For dispositions of the firing batteries; Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 14 J, Besancon. The battalion's mission of reinforcing the fires of the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion, remained unchanged.

Due to an attack on Vesoul by the 143rd Infantry Regiment, fire on that town was restricted, effective at 2000.

The Battalion S-4, Captain Walton M. Vines, O-1167257 from Pinson, Alabama, Tec 5 Joseph S. Hamilton, 33317348, Service Mail Clerk, from Philadelphia, Pa., Tec 5 Roy M. Hartman, 20815974, driver, from New Braunfels, Texas, Tec 5 Arno J. K. Feltner, 20815965 radio operator, from Houston, Texas, went to the edge of the VI Corps boundary to the little town of Vouzey in the early afternoon. Arriving there,

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they found that no American troops had previously entered the town. A French guide directed them to a house in which were hiding 3 American officers who had escaped from the Germans on or about 4 September. Later, another French civilian guided them to another house in which 3 American soldiers were hiding. As they were leaving the town they captured four German soldiers whom they took to a PW inclosure.

Summary of firing: 117 rounds of HE fired on 5 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties was received.

12 SEPTEMBER 1944: The town of Vesoul, having been occupied by American forces the night of 11-12 September, it was desired to place medium artillery fire beyond Vesoul as early as possible. To accomplish this Battery "C" was moved to a position at coords. (807-980) Map: France, 1/100,000 Sheet 14 J Besancon. They closed into this position at 1130. Wire communications was extended to their position.

Early in the afternoon the Battalion Commander went on a reconnaissance for positions for the balance of the battalion in the vicinity of Battery "C"'s new position. The battery commanders, guided by the Battalion Communications Officer met at Battery "C"'s position, by direction of the Battalion Commander. While there orders were given for them to displace their batteries as soon as possible, march by battery, Battery "A" marched at 1453, Battery "B" at 1502 and Headquarters Battery at 1510. The battalion closed into the new area at 1530. For route and disposition see Map: France, 1/100,000 Sheet 14 J Besancon.

Summary of firing: 150 rounds of HE fired on 6 missions on enemy vehicles and artillery. Results: several vehicles destroyed and three enemy guns neutralized. It is thought that these three guns were destroyed but this could not be confirmed. Mission of the battalion unchanged.

13 SEPTEMBER 1944: Remained in position this day. No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 101 rounds of HE fired on 4 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties received.

14 SEPTEMBER 1944: Having reconnoitered battery positions in the vicinity of Bougnon the night before, the battalion displaced at 0830 via Pontcey la Garene, Chenilly, Fort-sur-Saone to Bougnon and closed in on the new area at 0935 (Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 14 H, Bourmont-Fays-Billot).

At noon the Battalion Commander and Liaison Officer went to the Division Artillery Command Post and at 1620 the Battalion Commander radioed order from there for Battery "A" to displace to the vicinity of the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion near Breurey-les-Faverney

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to more closely reinforce their fires. By 1830 Battery "A" had closed on their new position (Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 14 H Bourmont-Fays-Billot).

Summary of firing: 240 rounds of HE and 1 round of smoke were fired in 10 missions on enemy troops, guns and on counter-attack.

15 SEPTEMBER 1944: After reconnaissance during the morning, the battalion moved to the vicinity of Neurey-en-Vaux early in the afternoon, closing into this area at 1245 (Route of march and disposition Map: France 1/100,000, Sheet 14 H, Bourmont-Fays-Billot). Due to its separation from the battalion the previous evening Battery "A" marched independently.

This battalion's mission, to reinforce the fires of the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion, had remained unchanged. Our specific task was to be able to fire in support of the road blocks established by the 143rd Infantry Regiment to the north and northwest. This prevented a further displacement by this battalion this day. However, in response to a request by the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion, Battery "A" was again sent forward to the 133rd's position at 705 and operated with them as they had the night of 14-15 September. In order that our fire power would not be too drastically reduced by losing Battery "A", Battery "A" of the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion was left in our area and fired under the control of this battalion.

Summary of firing: 175 rounds of HE fired on 10 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties inflicted on the enemy. The battalion remains to reinforce the fires of 133rd Field Artillery Battalion.

16 SEPTEMBER 1944: At about noon information to the effect that a battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment would relieve the 143rd Infantry of the task of manning the road blocks to the north and northwest, that the Cannon Company, 141st Infantry Regiment would give artillery support, and that this battalion was relieved of support of the road blocks.

Since action had moved out of range to the northwest, the battalion less Battery "A", which was already in position in the vicinity of Villers-les-Luxeuil, displaced to positions adjacent to Battery "A": Closed into this area at 1430 (For route of march and dispositions see Map: France, 1/100,000, Sheet 15 H, Gerardmer-Lure).

No firing from this position during the 3½ hour stay.

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At 1800 the battalion moved northeastward again to positions just north of Luxeuil-les-Bains. The Command Post was established in the town (For route and dispositions see Map: France, 1/100,000 Sheet 15 II, Gerardmer-Lure).

Summary of firing: 4 rounds of HE fired on an area target. Mission unchanged; ie, General Support of and reinforce fires of 133rd Field Artillery Battalion.

17 SEPTEMBER 1944: The Battalion remained in the Luxeuil-les-Bains area with the new mission of reinforcing fires of the 131st Field Artillery Battalion, who were in direct support of the 141st Infantry Regiment. Liaison was established with both units.

Summary of firing: 173 rounds of HE, fired on 8 missions, enemy guns and strong points.

18 SEPTEMBER 1944: There was no change in position or mission this date and no firing. No noteworthy incidents occurred, except that it has continued to rain and is getting colder every day.

19 SEPTEMBER 1944: The battalion spent its third day in the Luxeuil-les-Bains area, with the battalion mission unchanged.

At 2000 hours the Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery, advised that the 141st Infantry Regiment was to attack the high ground north of Remiremont the next morning and that this battalion should be prepared to displace to the vicinity of Plombieres-les-bains after 0630 hours 20 September, at which time the infantry was to attack. However, the Battalion Commander visited the 141st Infantry Command Post at 2300 and telephoned the Battalion Executive that our plans had been changed, ie, we would move at 0330 to Fougerolles, be in position and ready to fire at daylight to cover the 141st Infantry Regiment until it closed into its assembly area Northeast of Plombieres-les-Bains.

The Battalion Commander had the Battery Commanders and parties to meet him at the Command Post at midnight, prepared to go on reconnaissance for new positions in the vicinity of Fougerolles.

There was no firing this date. Mission continued to be to reinforce the fires of the 131st Field Artillery Battalion.

20 SEPTEMBER 1944: As each battery commander returned from the reconnaissance his battery was released to him and he marched his battery northward to the new positions in the vicinity of Fougerolles. The Battalion closed into the Fougerolles area at 0540.

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(For route of march and disposition see Map: France 1/100,000 Sheet 15 H, Gerardmer-Lure.

At 0615 twelve prime-movers, the only transportation available, were dispatched to carry part of the 2nd Battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment.

At 1120 the battery commanders were ordered to prepare to march immediately upon the return of the trucks from the Infantry haul. At 1215 the Battalion and Battery Commanders went on reconnaissance for positions in the vicinity of Raon-aux-Bois.

The trucks having returned the battalion marched northward at 1310, closing in the Raon-aux-Bois area at 1608. (Route and dispositions Map: France, 1/100,000, Sheet 15 H, Gerardmer-Lure).

The Battalion Personnel Section and Service Battery remained in the old school house in Luxeuil-les-Bains when the rest of the battalion left.

Firing from this position prior to the morning of the 21st was forbidden in order to obtain surprise.

No firing this date. Mission unchanged.

21 SEPTEMBER 1944: Upon verbal orders Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery, 1st Lieutenant Raymond F. Kent, O-1176092, Battalion Assistant S-2, from Boston, Mass., was sent to the 45th Infantry Division Artillery as Liaison Officer from the 36th Infantry Division Artillery. Lieutenant Kent left the Battalion at 1025 to go on his mission.

Information was received at 0940 that the 141st Infantry Regiment had elements across the Moselle River. Later at 2030 hours this battalion was placed in general support of the 36th Infantry Division by verbal orders Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery.

Service Battery and the Personnel Section moved into the vicinity of La Racine.

Summary of firing: 492 rounds of HE fired on 14 missions. No positive reports of casualties or destruction.

22 SEPTEMBER 1944: Information received at 1705 hours was that Eloyes, on the Moselle River, had been taken from the enemy after a few road blocks had been cleared. Continued rain and colder

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throughout the day.

Summary of firing: 310 rounds of HE fired on 19 missions. No positive reports of casualties or destruction. Mission - general support of the 36th Infantry Division.

23 SEPTEMBER 1944: At 0840 this battalion was given the mission of general support, with special attention to the zone of action of the 143rd Infantry, which was operating in the left of the Division zone of action. Liaison was established with the 143rd Infantry Regiment.

During the morning this battalion was warned that it would probably displace during the day, meanwhile the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders went on a reconnaissance for positions in the vicinity of Eloyes. By noon orders were received from the Battalion Commander to close station and march order, but not to move until he returned from reconnaissance. Upon his return the battalion marched by battery, closing in at the new area at 1410. (Route and disposition see Map: France, 1/100,000, Sheet 15 H, Gerardmer-Lure).

After the battalion had moved, the Personnel Section and Service Battery moved to within 2 kilometers of Remiremont. Personnel setting up the Section in a former filling station which was ideal due to abundance of light.

Summary of firing: 115 rounds of HE fired on 6 missions, none of which were observed missions. Mission of the battalion unchanged.

24 SEPTEMBER 1944: The battalion began a march to new positions north of the Moselle River, but were halted on the road and re-routed to positions in the vicinity of Pouxoux. It had been found that the initial position area chosen was too congested with other units. Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery had ordered the change. (Route and disposition see Map: France 1/100,000, Sheet 15 H, Gerardmer-Lure).

In this position the battalion's mission was general support of the division which was advancing against increasingly strong resistance toward Bruyères, France. Liaison was established with both assault regiments; Captain Richard B. Hawk, O-415562, Battalion Liaison Officer, from Dallas, Texas, to the 143rd Infantry Regiment on the left and Captain August C. Moser, O-295013, Liaison officer to the 142nd Infantry Regiment on the right. Captain Moser entered the service from Dallas, Texas.

Service Battery and the Battalion Personnel Section moved into a textile mill in Eloyes at 1745 hours.

Summary of firing: 151 rounds of HE on 10 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties.

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25 SEPTEMBER 1944: Mission unchanged. Remained in position. Headquarters and Headquarters Battery were in large buildings. The troops had an opportunity to dry their clothes and bedding which had gotten wet during rains of the past few days. No noteworthy incidents occurred.

Summary of firing: 744 rounds of HE on 30 missions. The greater part of this firing was on harassing missions and unobserved Division Artillery concentrations. Received no positive reports of destruction or casualties inflicted on the enemy.

26 SEPTEMBER 1944: A few rounds of enemy artillery fire fell in Battery "C" area. No damage suffered. One man, Private First Class Donald F. Wiseman, 32305980, Battery "C", from North Arlington, New Jersey, was slightly injured by a shell fragment in his foot. Duty of Private First Class Wiseman is a cannoneer on number 2 gun. He was given first aid and then returned to duty.

The battalion's mission and position remained unchanged.

Summary of firing: 290 rounds of HE fired on 17 missions. The majority of this fire was on Division Artillery concentrations and harassing fires. No positive reports of destruction or casualties received.

27 SEPTEMBER 1944: No change in mission or position. No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 385 rounds of HE fired on 18 missions, one round of Smoke used, most of which were on Division Artillery concentrations and harassing fire. No positive reports of destruction or casualties.

28 SEPTEMBER 1944: The enemy having been driven from the high ground north of the Docelles-Tholy road this battalion was ordered to move to positions in the vicinity of Docelles. The move was made by battery and the battalion closed into the new area at 1820. For route of march and dispositions see Map: France, 1/100,000, Sheet 15 H, Gerardmer-Lure. Due to soft ground Battery "A" could not get into the position first chosen and had to select a new position after arriving in the Docelles area. Heavy clouds restricted observation from the liaison planes and brought early darkness. Result - registration was impossible.

Service Battery and Personnel Section remained in the textile mill.

Summary of firing: 86 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke fired on 6 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties.

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29 SEPTEMBER 1944: Received a few scattered rounds of light and medium enemy artillery in the battalion area at about daylight. No casualties or damages suffered. There was a small fire fight just north of Docelles at about 0900, however, it did not endanger this battalion's position; and by noon the area was quiet. The battalion remained in the same position and remained in support of the Division.

Summary of firing: 249 rounds of HE are fired on 13 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties.

30 SEPTEMBER 1944: The battalion remained in the same position, with mission unchanged. Damp and colder. Visibility poor.

Summary of firing: 354 rounds of HE on harrassing fires and Bongoes. Battalion fired 16 missions.

The following types of casualties occurred during this period:

<u>TYPE OF CASUALTY</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED MEN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
KIA	0	0	0
DOW	0	0	0
LIA	0	2	2
SIA	0	0	0
DIA	0	0	0
LWA	0	2	2
SWA	0	0	0
MIA	0	0	0
POW	0	0	0

Five enlisted personnel and no officers received as replacements during this period.

"AWARDS"

"BRONZE STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED
DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name
T ec Grade 5 (then Pvt 1cl) Cleburne H. Schmidt, 20816040,
Medical Detachment, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, San
Antonio, Texas.

Origin of Award

Sec I, GO #323, Headquarters, 36th Inf Div., dated 4 September 1944.

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Date and Place of Action Cited
27 November 1944, Mignano, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances
Tec Grade 5 Schmidt hearing cries for medico from a neighboring unit, ran through some two hundred yards of heavily falling fire to administer urgently needed medical relief to the wounded.

2. Name
Staff Sergeant (then Pvt) Joe H. Williams, 20816504, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Worth, Texas.

Origin of Award
Sec I, GO #323, Headquarters, 36th Inf Div., dated 4 September 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited
27 November 1944, Mignano, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances
Pvt Joe H. Williams hearing cries for medico from a neighboring unit, ran through some two hundred yards of heavily falling fire to administer urgently needed medical relief to the wounded.

"OAK LEAF CLUSTER IN LIEU OF A
SECOND BRONZE STAR MEDAL RECEIVED DURING
PERIOD COVERED HEREIN."

1. Name
Staff Sergeant (then Pvt) Joe H. Williams, 20816504, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Worth, Texas.

Origin of Award
Sec II, GO #323, Headquarters, 36th Inf Div., dated 4 September 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited
25 June 1944, Fallonica, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances
Staff Sgt. Williams, while lying in a culvert during an artillery barrage, heard a call for help from a wounded soldier. Despite the bursting shells, Sgt. Williams left his place of safety and made his way to the wounded soldier, carrying him back to the culvert, summoning medical aid and then supervising his evacuation.

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2. Name
Private Walter H. La Flamme, 36220022, Medical Detachment,
155th Field Artillery Battalion, Superior, Wisconsin.

Origin of Award
Sec IV, GO #323, Headquarters, 36th Inf Div., dated 4 September 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited
18 March 1944, Cassino, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances
Private La Flamme, voluntarily went to the assistance of an adjoining battery that was being shelled and had suffered heavy casualties, rendering first aid despite the intensity of the bursting shells until all the wounded and dead had been evacuated.

"AIR MEDALS RECEIVED DURING
PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name
1st Lt. (then 2nd Lt) Artie F. Svoboda, O-1180260, Headquarters
Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Elsworth, Kansas.

Origin of Award
Sec II, GO #67, Headquarters, Fifth Army, dated 28 April 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited
11 January 1944 to 5 February 1944, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances
1st Lt. Svoboda performed thirty-five Field Artillery Observation sorties against the enemy, during the period 11 January 1944 to 5 February 1944.

2. Name
2nd Lt. (then Staff Sergeant) Jack Martin, O-1691871, Headquarters
Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Jackson, Mississippi.

Origin of Award
Sec II, GO 67, Headquarters, Fifth Army, dated 28 April 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited
24 November 1943 to 9 February 1944, Italy

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Conspicuous Circumstances

2nd Lt. Martin performed thirty-six Field Artillery Observation sorties against the enemy, during the period 24 November 1943 to 9 February 1944.

3. Name
2nd Lt. Richard J. McCready, O-1170486, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Origin of Award

GO #123, Headquarters, Fifth Army, dated 20 July 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited

11 January 1944 to 5 February 1944, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances

2nd Lt. McCready performed twenty-five Field Artillery Observation sorties against the enemy, during the period 11 January 1944 to 5 February 1944.

"FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER AWARD
RECEIVED DURING PERIOD
COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name
2nd Lt. Richard J. McCready, O-1170486, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Date and Place of Action Cited

3 June 1944 to 18 June 1944, Italy.

Origin of Award

Sec V, GO #71, Headquarters, Seventh Army, dated 3 September 1944.

Conspicuous Circumstances

2nd Lt. McCready performed sixteen Field Artillery Observation sorties against the enemy, during the period 3 June 1944 to 18 June 1944.

2. Name
2nd Lt. (then Staff Sgt) Jack Martin, O-1691871, Headquarters Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Jackson, Mississippi.

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Origin of Award
Sec I, GO #123, Headquarters, Fifth Army, dated 20 July 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited
8 January 1944 to 10 March 1944, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances
2nd Lt. Martin performed sixty-two Field Artillery Observation sorties against the enemy, during the period 8 January 1944 to 10 March 1944.

3. Name
1st Lt. (then 2nd Lt) Artie F. Svoboda, O-1180360, Headquarters Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Memphis, Tennessee.

Origin of Award
Sec I, GO #123, Headquarters, Fifth Army, dated 20 July 1944.

Date and Place of Action Cited
22 January 1944 to 2 March 1944, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances
1st Lt. Svoboda performed thirty-nine Field Artillery Observation sorties against the enemy, during the period 22 January 1944 to 2 March 1944.

EXHIBITS:

- A - List of Casualties.
- B - Officers Roster.
- C - Officers Duty Changes.
- D - Unit Journal.
- E - Missions Flown by Air Section.
- F - S - J Reports.
- G - Summary of Firing.
- H - Daily Report of Firing.
- I - Situation Overlays #1 thru #6.
- J - Maps France #1 thru #11.
- K - Firing Charts #1 thru #12.

Stanley W. Huth
STANLEY W. HUTH
WOJG, U.S.A.
Unit Historian

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18.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 235017

By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 8-6-82

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HEADQUARTERS 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.C. No. 36, U. S. Army

9 November 1944.
CMS/hcp

SUBJECT: Narrative History and Conclusions by the Battalion Commander of
the 155th Field Artillery Battalion for October 1944.

TO : Commanding General,
36th Infantry Division,
APO No. 36, U. S. Army.

1. The period 1 October to 31 October 1944 has been very static and quiet as far as the tactical operations of this battalion was concerned. The limitations on resupply of ammunition has restricted the expenditure to appropriate observed targets, counter-battery missions and a few harrassing missions on well located enemy activity reported thru intelligence sources.

2. The various types of projectiles and propelling charges, manufactured primarily for the 1917-18, 155mm howitzers together with the various types manufactured for the 155mm howitzers M-1, now being issued has complicated the accounting, storing and handling of ammunition to the extent that it would decrease the efficiency and speed of the battalion in an active offensive mission. This condition adds to the possibility of errors in selection of proper projectile and powder charge on the part of the cannoneers, particularly at night. It is recommended that the standard projectile M-107 HE and M-110 Smoke only be issued together with propelling charge applicable thereto especially in very active offensive operations.

3. Advantage has been taken of the slack time during this period for gunnery schools for junior officers in the conduct of all types of fire. Time fire has been stressed and a great improvement has been made in the ability of the junior officers in the adjustment of fire when and where needed.

Clifford M. Snow
CLIFFORD M. SNOW
Lieutenant Colonel, F. A.
Commanding

1 Incl - Narrative "October" (Sextuple)

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155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE. OCTOBER 1944

1 OCTOBER 1944: The battalion remained in the DOCELIES area which was occupied on 28 September 1944 (Map: France XV-18, 1/50, 000 BRUYERES) with practically all installations under cover. The Division bathing facilities were available and there was an opportunity for general cleaning of all personnel, and of their clothing, and equipment and materiel.

36th Infantry Division operations instructions received early in the morning placed the battalion in general support of the division. However, a secondary mission was given to the Battalion Commander by Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery at 1025 hours, ie - reinforcing the fires of the 131st Field Artillery Battalion, which was in direct support of the 141st Infantry Regiment. The Division's plan was to attack at 0630 the morning of 2 October; the 141st Infantry Regiment to seize the high ground west of Herpelmont and the 143rd Infantry Regiment to take the high ground south of Herpelmont, both regiments to hold their objectives and assist the 45th Infantry Division in its attack on BRUYERES.

Captain August C. Moser Jr., O-295013, of Dallas, Texas, Battalion Liaison Officer, was dispatched on a liaison mission to the 141st Infantry Regiment, relieving Captain William J. Jessup, the Battalion S-2., O-415562, of Houston, Texas.

Summary of firing: 212 rounds of HE, fired on 12 missions on enemy personnel and guns; reported 3 mortars destroyed.

2 OCTOBER 1944: Our firing in support of the divisions's attack this morning was stopped at 1030 due to restricted ammunition. Allotment by Division Artillery. 1st Lieutenant Jack R. Stewart, O-403496, of San Antonio, Texas., advised at 1620 that all ammunition had been frozen by Seventh Army, this was confirmed at 1635 by 36th Division Artillery, when they limited the Battalion to 12 rounds per gun per day until noon 4 October 1944. Some progress was reported made by the 141st and 143rd Infantry Regiments.

Summary of firing: 782 rounds of HE and 8 rounds of Smoke, fired on 12 missions, nine of which were preparatory fires and 36th Division Artillery concentrations; the balance were on enemy batteries and self-propelled guns; no reported destruction received.

3 OCTOBER 1944: The battalion's mission remained unchanged. 2nd Lieutenant Paul F. Judson, returned to the battalion from temporary duty with 36th Division Artillery.

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No noteworthy incidents this date.

Summary of firing: 163 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of smoke, a total of 8 missions (2 on harrassing fires) the balance on enemy guns and personnel; no reported destruction received.

4 OCTOBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 141 rounds of HE fired on 7 missions, including 3 missions of harrassing fires and one on 36th Division Artillery concentration.

5 OCTOBER 1944: 1st Lieutenant Raymond F. Kent was relieved from duty as Liaison Officer from 36th Infantry Division Artillery to the 45th Division Artillery and reported for duty at 1140. 2nd Lieutenant Paul F. Judson was sent to take over liaison duties with 45th Division Artillery. 1st Lieutenant Raymond F. Kent, upon being assigned to the air observation duty for this battalion, moved to the Air Observation Post flying field.

115 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of smoke fired on 12 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties to the enemy casued. Mission: General support of the 36th Infantry Division.

6 OCTOBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 304 rounds of HE and 36 rounds smoke fired on 20 missions. Started a fire in an enemy battery position. Mission unchanged.

7 OCTOBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 617 rounds HE and 12 rounds Smoke fired on 21 missions. At about 0800 this battalion fired on a moving train just south of LAELINE. The fire was conducted by an observer from the 131st Field Artillery Battalion, observing from an air-observation post. Fired 76 rounds on this mission, hitting the train several times. The train was immobilized. 36th Division requested an air bombing mission against it. This was approved and the air-corps dive-bombed the train during the morning.

Destroyed a house in which enemy troops were observed and started a fire in any enemy machine gun nest.

General support mission remained unchanged.

8 OCTOBER 1944: Received confirmation of the promotion of 2nd Lieutenant Paul F. Judson to the grade of 1st Lieutenant at 0905.

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At 1345 Captain August C. Moser Jr, Liaison Officer with the 141st Infantry Regiment, informed us that the 141st Infantry Regiment had liberated the town of HERFELMONT.

At 2300 hours this battalion was ordered to send 6 trucks and a kitchen on a motor convoy to "Red Beach" to haul ammunition to this area; trucks reported to Stanley P. Mattox, 36th Infantry Division Quartermaster Company at Arches, France at 0900 hours 9 October 1944.

Summary of firing: 75 rounds of HE fired on 5 missions. One of these missions was against enemy guns and vehicles; two were reported hit.

Battalion mission unchanged.

9 OCTOBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents this date.

Due to ammunition shortage no unobserved or harrassing missions were fired this day. Poor visibility prevented the firing of observed missions; results - no firing.

Mission remaining in general support of 36th Infantry Division.

10 OCTOBER 1944: Battalion moved to vicinity of FAUCOMPIERRE. Battery "A" moved at 1100 and occupied positions at V-203495. Battery "B" moved at 1300 and occupied positions at V-207495. Battery "C" moved at 1500 and occupied positions at V-213493. Headquarters and Headquarters Battery infiltrated a few vehicles at a time. The new command post was established in a house at V-211488. For route of march and disposition see Map: France, 1/50,000 Sheet XXIV-18, BRUYERES.

Summary of firing: 12 rounds of HE and 1 round of smoke fired on a registration. Poor visibility hampered observation today. Mission unchanged.

11 OCTOBER 1944: Captain Martin W. Williamson left the battalion today to take over duties as Communications Officer, 36th Infantry Division Artillery.

Summary of firing: 50 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of Smoke, fired on 3 registrations.

12 OCTOBER 1944: Established liaison with the 141st and 143rd Infantry Regiments. Official note of the arrival of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team had not been received this date, but numerous officers reported they had seen elements of them locally. It is interesting to note that this Regimental Combat Team (442nd) is composed of Japanese of American

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ancestry. One battalion of the 442nd Infantry Regiment is the famous 100th Infantry Battalion which distinguished itself in the Italian campaign.

No other incidents. General Support mission unchanged.

Summary of firing: 116 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of smoke fired on 10 missions. Three hits on enemy vehicles were reported, one of these vehicles was destroyed by fire, and another fire was started near a self-propelled gun that was fired upon.

13 OCTOBER 1944: Received orders for support of an attack to be launched by the 442nd RCT - which has been attached to the 36th Infantry Division and the 143rd RCT. Attack to be made upon BRUYERES and CHAMP le DUC. Our mission - general support of the division with first priority to calls for fire in the zone of action of the attacking elements.

By this date observation posts have been organized on high ground as follows: Battery "A" Observation Post on Hill 809 at 258489; Battery "B" Observation Post north of LEPANGES at 204545 and Battery "C" Observation Post on STEAUNGAT at 229535.

Summary of firing: 90 rounds of HE and 1 round of smoke fired on 8 missions.

14 OCTOBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 73 rounds of HE and 1 round of smoke fired on 10 missions. No positive reports of casualties or destruction caused received.

15 OCTOBER 1944: The attack by the 442nd and 143rd Regimental Combat Teams was launched at 0800. By evening reports were received to the effect that our troops had progressed as far eastward as the 23rd Easting. LAVAL had not fallen but was seriously threatened.

At about 1900 the battalion area received a severe shelling. Approximately 130 rounds of high explosive shells of 105 and 155 calibre fell in the area - most of them were in Battery "B"'s area. Damage suffered was very light considering the amount of fire received. Two howitzers and one truck, all battery "B"'s equipment, was damaged.

16 OCTOBER 1944: By 0930 the 736th Ordnance had replaced one of Battery "B"'s damaged howitzers. By 1000 Battery "B" had moved to an alternate position near IANON TARUPT, coords 199486, Map: France, 1/50, 000 Sheet XXXIV 18 BRUYERES. Alternate positions for batteries "A" and "C" were checked. However neither of them moved.

Summary of firing: 153 rounds of HE were fired on 7 missions. Mission of battalion unchanged.

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PERIOD 17 to 19 OCTOBER 1944: No change in dispositions and no noteworthy incidents.

On the 18th October 1944 it was learned that BRUYERES was occupied and secure, and that the enemy had been driven from Hill 595 (about 1 Km northeast of BRUYERES). On the 19th October the S-2, Captain William J. Jessup, reconnoitered Hill 595 for an Observation Post and reported that a suitable place was available at the summit of the hill.

20 OCTOBER 1944: Establishment of an Observation Post on Hill 595 was delayed pending mopping up of small groups of enemy who had infiltrated into that feature during the night. At 1400 hours the Battalion Commander led a party consisting of Captain Richard B. Hawk, 2nd Lieutenant Hugh W. Shaw, Staff Sergeant Eugene R. Dameron, Tec Gr 5 Leslie H. Willis, Private First Class James A. Buckley, Private Casimir P. Kalafarski and Private Harvey J. Hanson to the Observation Post. At 1600 while they were on the summit of the hill they were fired upon by small calibre, high velocity enemy weapons. Captain Richard B. Hawk, O-415562, Dallas, Texas was wounded in the left shoulder and arm by shell fragments. Private Casimir P. Kalafarski, 31326144 of New London, Conn., received face wounds; Private Harvey J. Hanson, 20816438, Fort Worth, Texas, received a slight wound on the forehead and 2nd Lieutenant Hugh W. Shaw, O-1179705, Claremont, California received a slight wound in the thigh. Captain Hawk and Private Kalafarski had to be evacuated to the 111th Clearing Station and thence to a Station hospital. The other wounded received medical attention but were returned to duty. This incident forced abandonment of Hill 595 as an Observation Post.

Summary of firing: 424 rounds of HE and 20 missions were fired. Battalion mission continues to be general support of the division with first priority to fires in zone of action of the 143rd Infantry Regiment.

21 OCTOBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 224 rounds of HE fired on 14 missions. No positive reports of destruction or casualties caused received. Mission unchanged.

22 OCTOBER 1944: Mission of battalion changed to general support of the division with first priority to the attack of the 141st Infantry Regiment (See Operations Instructions, 36th Infantry Division, 221400 October 1944).

Service Battery, less Battalion Motor Maintenance Section, and the Personnel Section moved to DOCELLES. Personnel Section moved into a vacant building and after a few repairs were able to continue their work.

Summary of firing: 77 rounds of HE fired on 6 missions.

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PERIOD 23 to 26 OCTOBER 1944: The battalion remained in position in general support of the division. On the 24th a position area in the vicinity of HELMINT was reconnoitered against a possible move to that area. On the 25th information was received that the 1st Battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment had been cut off on the high ground north of La HOUSIERE. On the 26th plans were formulated for the relief of the 1st Battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment. This was to take the form of an attack by elements of the 442nd Infantry Regiment for the purpose of re-establishing physical contact with the isolated unit. Upon orders from higher headquarters the battalion transferred all enlisted personnel over T/O strength to the 2nd Replacement Depot on the 23 October 1944.

Summary of firing: 23 October: 78 rounds of HE fired in 5 missions. 24 October: 192 rounds of HE fired on 13 missions. Started fire in an enemy gun battery. 25 October: 163 rounds of HE fired on 13 missions. 26 October: 129 rounds of HE fired on 12 missions.

27 OCTOBER 1944: Received notice that recommendation for combat appointment of Staff Sergeant Floyd C. Ford, of Houston, Texas, to temporary grade of 2nd Lieutenant had been approved. Sergeant Ford was in the 9th Evacuation Hospital. WOJG Stanley W. Huth, San Antonio, Texas, Assistant Adjutant, was sent to the hospital to administer the oath of office. By accomplishing this the appointment of Staff Sergeant Ford to 2nd Lieutenant became effective this date.

H-hour for the attack by the 442nd Infantry Regiment was postponed from 0900 to 1000. The attack was launched but contact was not gained. The only communication with the isolated unit at the close of the day was by radio. The 12th Tactical Air Command made attempts to drop supplies to the isolated unit but heavy fog prevented this.

Major Clifford M. Snow, Battalion Commander, left the Command Post at 0910 to report to Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division Artillery. Lieutenant Colonel Snow returned to his command post at 1100 hours. He had been called to 36th Infantry Division Artillery to be told of his promotion.

Summary of firing: 180 rounds of HE fired on 8 missions. Battalion mission remained in general support of the division.

PERIOD 28 to 30 OCTOBER 1944: The Battalion remained in position and continued to fire in general support of the 36th Infantry Division.

Summary of firing: 28 October: 256 rounds of HE and 5 rounds of smoke were fired on 20 missions. 29 October: 228 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke were fired on 13 missions.

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PERIOD 30 to 31 OCTOBER 1944: At the end of the month the battalion was in the position occupied since 10 October. Mission continued to be general support of the 36th Infantry Division with the Battalion ground Observation Post's located at: Battery "A" 258489; Battery "B" 238464; Battery "C" 252526.

Information was received that the 442nd Regimental Combat Team had contacted the isolated 1st Battalion of the 141st Infantry in the vicinity of coords 345563 during the afternoon of 30 October; the isolated battalion was relieved by the 442nd Regimental Combat Team on 31 October.

Summary of firing: 30 October: 312 rounds of HE and fired on 25 missions. 31 October: 203 rounds of HE and 11 rounds of Smoke were fired on 15 missions.

The following types of casualties occurred during this period:

<u>TYPE OF CASUALTY</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED MEN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
KIA	0	0	0
DCW	0	0	0
LIA	0	6	6
SIA	0	0	0
DIA	0	0	0
LtA	3	4	7
SWA	0	1	1
MIA	0	0	0
POW	0	0	0
	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>

"AWARDS"

"BRONZE STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN".

- Name
Captain Harry P. Frantz Jr., O-404452, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Enid, Oklahoma.

Origin of Award
Sec II, GO #418, Headquarters, 36th Inf Div., dated 26 October 1944.

Date & Place of Action Cited
24 February 1944, Cassino, Italy.

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Conspicuous Circumstances

For gallantry and meritorious service during the battle for Cassino, Italy.

"COMMENDATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONALLY
MERITORIOUS CONDUCT RECEIVED DURING PERIOD"

1. Name
Captain (then 1st Lt) Gerald W. Evans, O-1165012, Battery "A", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Wyola, Montana.

Origin of Award

Sec II, GO #416, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Div., dated, 25 October 44.

Date & Place of Action Cited.

18 November 1943 to 27 March 1944, Mignano, Cassino, Italy.

Conspicuous Circumstances

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in assuming command of Headquarters Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, and maintaining a high degree of efficiency in communications within the Battalion and with other Headquarters.

Stanley W. Huth
STANLEY W. HUTH
WOJG, U.S.A.
Unit Historian

EXHIBITS:

- A - List of Casualties.
- B - Officers Roster.
- C - Officers Duty Changes.
- D - Unit Journal .
- E - Missions Flown by Air Section.
- F - S-3 Reports.
- G - Summary of Firing.
- H - Daily Report of Firing.
- I - Situation Overlays #1 thru #3
- J - Maps of France #1 thru #2
- K - Firing Charts #1 thru #3.

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HEADQUARTERS 155th Field Artillery Battalion
A.P.O. No. 30, U. S. Army

9 December 1944.
GMS/hcp

SUBJECT: Narrative History and Conclusions by the Battalion Commander of
the 155th Field Artillery Battalion for November 1944.

TO : Commanding General,
36th Infantry Division,
APO No. 6, U. S. Army.

This battalion has completed its first full month of service with the M-5 tractor prime mover. The tractor has proven its worth. It is flexible, powerful and has good flotation. As a prime mover, it is preferred to the 4 ton Diamond - T trucks previously used. However, the exchange of truck for tractor has curtailed the batteries cargo carrying space to such an extent, that it has been found necessary to furnish each firing battery with a 2 1/2 ton G.M.C. These G.M.C.'s have been taken from headquarters and Service batteries. This has in turn worked a hardship on these batteries so that movement without shuttling is so difficult for these batteries.

An additional 2 1/2 ton G.M.C. should be furnished to each firing battery equipped with the M-5 tractor prime movers.

Clifford M. Snow
CLIFFORD M. SNOW
Lieutenant Colonel, F. A.
Commanding

1 Incl - Narrative "November" (containing)

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155th Field Artillery Battalion

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE, NOVEMBER 1944

1 NOVEMBER 1944: The battalion completed its 22nd day in the position near Fauconpiere (at la FOLLE) occupied 11 October and continued to maintain ground Observation Posts at: Battery "A" - 258489; Battery "B" - 389464; Battery "C" - 252526 (See Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXV-18 BAUIERES).

Our mission continued to be general support of the 36th Infantry Division.

Summary of firing: 306 rounds of HE and 13 rounds of smoke fired on 15 missions.

PERIOD 2-11 NOVEMBER 1944: Captain August C. Moser was recalled on 2nd November from liaison with the 143rd Infantry Regiment, a contemplated attack by the 142nd Infantry Regiment and 143rd Regimental Combat Teams having been postponed. The Battalion S-4 and Personnel Section is still in Bocelles, but are to be moved as soon as a suitable place can be located.

On the 4th November, 1st Lt. Harold W. Bailey, moved the Battalion Motor Shop from BAUIS to la FOLLE.

On the 6th November Captain Martin W. Williamson was released by 36th Division Artillery and returned to the battalion.

Summary of firing:

2 November: 118 rounds HE and 4 rounds smoke fired on 10 missions.
3 November: 294 rounds HE and 12 rounds smoke fired on 18 missions. Several hits were reported on a supposed enemy Command Post and one direct hit was made on a self-propelled gun.
4 November: 20 rounds of HE were fired on one mission.
5 November: 225 rounds of HE and 37 rounds of smoke fired on 10 missions.
6 November: 25 rounds of HE and 22 rounds of smoke were fired on 2 missions.
7 November: 31 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of smoke fired on 2 missions.
8 November: 71 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of smoke fired on 6 missions. Reported enemy Command Post in a house hit.
9 November: 8 rounds of HE fired on 1 mission.
10 November: 62 rounds of HE fired on 7 missions.
11 November: 200 rounds of HE were fired on 12 missions; all harassing fire and Division Artillery Concentrations.

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12 NOVEMBER 1944: The 36th Infantry Division's plan for attack on 15 November, to seize and hold the high ground east and southeast of la MOUSSELE, was postponed. Information was received late in the afternoon that the 1st Battalion of the 143rd Infantry Regiment had taken AUCHELET.

Summary of firing: 72 rounds of HE were fired on 12 missions.

13 NOVEMBER 1944: The 36th Infantry Division Artillery advised the Battalion Commander that one section of the 995th Field Artillery (8" howitzer) would be attached to this battalion during the Division attack. Lieutenant Bowman, of Battery "E", 995th Field Artillery Battalion visited the Command Post during the afternoon and arranged with the Battalion Commander for the position of his howitzer section near our Battery "C" position. Although the 8" howitzer section was moved into position during the afternoon, inclement weather for two successive days prevented registration prior to their being recalled on 15 November.

Our mission continued to be: general support of the division for the coming attack and to reinforce the fires of the 151st Field Artillery Battalion.

Summary of firing: 36 rounds of HE fired on 3 missions, one of which was fired for the French on enemy mortars.

14 NOVEMBER 1944: Captain August C. Moser and Captain Martin W. Williamson were dispatched on liaison to the 143rd Infantry Regiment and the 141st Infantry Regiment, respectively.

Late in the day Captain Moser advised that the Infantry had met little enemy resistance in their patrolling of areas for attack.

The Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Clifford E. Snow, and S-2 Captain William M. Jessup, went forward in the early afternoon to again check on possible positions for the battalion in the JUSARUPT area. Upon their return the Battalion Commander met with his Staff and Battery Commanders to advise that we would move to JUSARUPT the following morning after reconnaissance and mine sweeping had been completed.

The Battalion Commander also advised that the 141st Infantry had patrols as far as LIELE and had made no contact with the enemy; 143rd Infantry had reached their objective, la GRANGE, and had established a Command Post there and had a platoon as far as the hill south of La HUME with no enemy contact.

The original plans for the Division's attack had been abandoned and the gun section from the 995th Field Artillery Battalion returned to its parent unit.

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Summary of firing: 49 rounds of HE fired on 1 mission (harassing fire).

15 NOVEMBER 1944: As the mine sweeping detail, under 1st Lieutenant Paul F. Jussen, found few obstructions in the JUSSARUPT area during the early morning reconnaissance by the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders, the battalion moved by battery, beginning at 1120 and closed on the JUSSARUPT area at 1930 (Route: MOUX, LERFELMONT, JUSSARUPT). The location of units: Command Post and Headquarters Battery - 2696-5168; Battery "A" - 27546-51590; Battery "B" - 27021-51492; Battery "C" - 26627-51166 (See Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXV-15 BRUYERES.)

Battery "A" reported one tractor had struck a mine in a field adjacent to their battery position; the track was blown off but there were no casualties. Later in the day a Battery "B" truck hit a mine in the vicinity of Battery "A"; truck was damaged considerably.

There was no firing this date.

16 NOVEMBER 1944: Service Battery and the Battalion Personnel Section moved into AUMONTZEL. The Motor Maintenance section remained in la POINTE. While servicing wire, Private William Selski and Corporal Richard A. Macanella were slightly wounded by shell fragment when a light calibre shell burst nearby.

Summary of firing: 97 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke fired on 6 missions.

17 NOVEMBER 1944: The battalion moved to positions in the vicinity of IVOUX. This was a hurried move. In order to register all batteries before darkness one howitzer section from each battery was moved ahead of their batteries. This expedient was successful and by the time the batteries occupied their position the advance section had completed registration. For route and disposition see Map France 1/50,000, Sheet XXXV-15 BRUYERES. The battalion's mission continued to be general support.

Summary of firing: 81 rounds of HE and 8 rounds of Smoke fired on 5 missions.

PERIOD 18-20 NOVEMBER 1944: Remained in position in general support of the 36th Infantry Division. No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of Firing:

18 November: 38 rounds HE and 3 rounds of Smoke fired on 6 missions.
19 November: 139 rounds HE and 8 rounds of Smoke fired on 19 missions. 4 of them were missions for the purpose of marking targets for aerial bombardment.
20 November: 139 rounds HE and 1 round Smoke fired on 11 missions.

21 NOVEMBER 1944: Moved battalion to positions in the vicinity of les Ours, closing into the new position at 1.30. For route and dispositions see Map France 1/50,000, Sheet XXXVI-13 GERARDMER. The battalion continued in general support of the 36th Infantry Division. Observation posts were established at V-402542 by Battery "A"; V-406581 (hill 516) by Battery "B" and V-403570 by Battery "C".

Service Battery and the Personnel Section moved to IV00X and occupied installations just abandoned by other elements of the battalion.

Summary of firing: 663 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of Smoke fired on 27 missions.

22 NOVEMBER 1944: Battalion Motor Maintenance Section moved from AULCHTZEY to IV00X.

Captain Richard S. Hawk returned to the battalion from the 70th General Hospital, Larseilles, France. Captain Hawk had been hospitalized for wounds received near Bruyeres, France.

Summary of firing: 832 rounds HE and 9 rounds of Smoke fired on 54 missions. Battalion continued to be in General Support of the 36th Infantry Division.

23 NOVEMBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents.

Summary of firing: 188 rounds of HE and 18 rounds of Smoke fired on 10 missions.

24 NOVEMBER 1944: Orders to move the battalion to the vicinity of BUIS-de-LAVALLIE were received at 1925. The Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders and their parties went on reconnaissance at 2045. The Battalion was prepared to march, by battery, and held pending the return of battery commanders from their reconnaissance.

Summary of firing: No firing this date.

25 NOVEMBER 1944: 1st Lieutenant Walter E. Nelson returned from reconnaissance and marched Headquarters Battery at 0105, marking the route for the balance of the battalion as he went. Battery "C" was released at 0120. At 0145 Captain Gerald W. Evans, Battery Commander of Battery "A" reported to the Command Post, accompanied by 1st Lieutenant Nelson, who had left Headquarters Battery parked along the road east of CLASSEUX. Captain Evans reported that a bridge on the route had collapsed, an alternate one-way by-pass had washed out and that the road from St. LEONARD to St. DIE was heavily mined and had not been cleared. A runner stopped Battery "C" on the road just north of les Ours. An alternate route via MATHIEUX- ST DIE and ST. LANGUEMITE was requested of 36th Infantry Division artillery headquarters.

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road clearance was obtained at 0415. Lieutenant Wilson returned to Headquarters battery, turned it around and march back to the Command post and while road clearance was being obtained, Captain William J. Jessup who was the only person present who had previously been over the route, was sent ahead with the route markers to mark the route. Headquarters Battery marched on the new route at 0245. Battery "C" turned around and marched at 0255. Battery "A" was released at 0300 and Battery "B" at 0310. The battalion, less its service elements, closed into the new position area at 0515. For route and disposition see Maps France 1/50,000, Sheet XXXVI-18 GERMANY and Sheet XXXVI-17 ST. LIE.

Summary of firing - no firing this date.

26 NOVEMBER 1944: Battery "C" was detached from the battalion and attached (tactically) to the 142nd Field Artillery Battalion. They moved into position in the vicinity of ST. MARIE aux MINES, coor. V-600614. This step was taken in order to give medium artillery support to the 142nd Regimental Combat Team, which was operating east of ST. MARIE aux MINES, and at the same time continue to fire in support of the 141st and 143rd Regimental Combat Teams, which were operating to the south and southeast of this battalion's position.

The 143rd Regimental Combat Team, less the 3rd battalion, was sent eastward to follow the 142nd and to establish road blocks to protect the right flank of the division. The 3rd battalion was left in a defensive position without artillery support. This battalion, less Battery "C", was placed in direct support of the 3rd battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment, in addition to its normal divisional general support mission. Captain Richard B. Hawk was sent to the 3rd Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment as Liaison Officer.

Summary of firing: 137 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of smoke were fired on 8 missions. 2 vehicles destroyed and 7 enemy personnel killed and 24 wounded.

27 NOVEMBER 1944: The Battalion Executive returned from a meeting at 36th Division Artillery Command Post and reported to the Battalion Commander that the Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery directed a reconnaissance be made for positions in the vicinity of ST. MARIE aux MINES and preparations be made to move this Battalion today or tomorrow. Following receipt of this information the Battalion Commander made the reconnaissance but no displacement was made this date.

Summary of firing: 243 rounds of HE and 11 rounds of smoke fired on 10 missions.

28 NOVEMBER 1944: Captain Richard B. Hawk returned from liaison with the 3rd Battalion, 143rd Infantry and reported that they were to maintain a road block with the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion covering them. Captain Hawk was sent on liaison to the 143rd Infantry Regiment.

The Battalion Commander ordered Service Battery and the Personnel Section to displace to the vicinity of ECHERY (coords. V-575-593); this was accomplished in the early afternoon.

Summary of firing: 116 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of Smoke fired on 11 missions. 3 hits were made on a house in which enemy personnel was billeted.

29 NOVEMBER 1944: Early in the afternoon the Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery directed that Battery "C" be moved to vicinity of MUSLOCH (from ST. MARIE aux MINES) to continue to work direct with the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion; one other battery to move to ST. MARIE aux MINES to work direct with the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion and Battery "A" to remain in position and tie in with the 131st Field Artillery Battalion. Battery "B" was ordered to displace as soon as reconnaissance had been completed and the battery moved to vicinity of ST. MARIE aux MINES prior to darkness and occupied the position vacated by Battery "C". The Battalion Commander ordered that Headquarters and Headquarters Battery prepare to move the following morning to previously reconnoitered positions in ST. MARIE aux MINES.

Summary of firing: 5 rounds of HE and 1 round of Smoke fired on 1 mission.

30 NOVEMBER 1944: At 0900 Headquarters and Headquarters Battery displaced to ST. MARIE aux MINES and closed into the new area at 1030. (For route and disposition see Maps FRANCE 1/50,000, Sheets XXXVI-17 ST. DIE and XXXVII-17 SELESTAT.

A battalion and Battery "C" Observation Post was established at coords. V-710-613 for observation for the 36th Division Artillery.

Late in the evening Battery "C" again displaced with the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion to the vicinity of la VANCELLE and the Battalion Commander went forward prior to midnight to check with Captain Harry P. Frantz Jr., Battery Commander, Battery "C" on this displacement. See Map France 1/50,000, Sheet XXXVII-17 SELESTAT.

No firing this date.

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The following type of casualties occurred during this period:

<u>TYPE OF CASUALTY</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED MEN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
KIA	0	0	0
LOC	0	0	0
LIA	0	4	4
SIA	0	0	0
DIA	0	0	0
LWA	0	2	2
SWA	0	0	0
MIA	0	0	0
POW	0	0	0
	0	6	6

"AWARDS"

"SILVER STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name

1st Lt., (then 2nd Lt) CARL F. MARTE JR., OI 180 599, Battery "A",
155th Field Artillery Battalion, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Origin of Award

Section II, General Orders No. 456, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 23 November 1944.

Date & Place of Action Cited

24 September 1944, Eloyes, France.

Conspicuous Circumstances

For gallantry in action, in evading an ambush set out by the enemy
and forcing the surrender of the entire ambush party consisting of
twenty enlisted men and one officer.

"BRONZE STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN".

1. Name

Captain, RICHARD E. HAWK, O 415 562, Headquarters, 155th Field
Artillery Battalion, Dallas, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section III, General Orders No. 453, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 21 November 1944.

Date & Place of Action Cited

14 September to 20 October 1944, France.

Conspicuous Circumstances

For aggressiveness in action in maintaining liaison between 143rd
Infantry and battalion during advance up Rhone valley.

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Stanley W. Huth
STANLEY W. HUTH
WOJG, U.S.A.
Unit Historian.

EXHIBITS:

- A - List of Casualties.
- B - Officers Roster.
- C - Officers Duty Changes.
- D - Unit Journal .
- E - Missions Flown by Air Section.
- F - S - 3 Reports.
- G - Summary of Firing.
- H - Daily Report of Firing.
- I - Situation Overlays #1 thru #5.
- J - Maps of France #1 thru #4.
- K - Firing Charts #1 thru #5.

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The following is a list of casualties that occurred during this period:

NAME	RANK	ASN	TYPE CAS.	ORGAN.	DATE CAS. OCCURRED	HOME ADDRESS
WEBB, JOHN W.	Sgt.	6389377	LIA	"A" Btry	12 Nov 44	R.R. #1 Perry, Ga.
BONHELAN, ELMORE H. JR.	Pvt.	32898962	LIA	"A" Btry	13 Nov 44	1806 George St., Ridgewo New York.
RACANELLO, RICHARD A.	Cpl.	39005105	LWA	Hq Btry	16 Nov 44	242 Wood St. New West- minister, B.
STELSAI, WILLIAM	Pvt 1cl	32301828	LWA	Hq Btry	16 Nov 44	573 Grove St Jersey City New Jersey.
MECUM, JOHN E. JR.	Cpl.	34170143	LIA	"A" Btry	21 Nov 44	R.R. #3 Winstoh- Salem, N. C.
ABRAMSON, WILLIE	Sgt.	20816296	LIA	"A" Btry	26 Nov 44	2725 Peabody Ave, Dallas, Texas



HEADQUARTERS 156TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.C. No. 30, U. S. Army

30 November 1944
SWH/hcp

<u>HEADQUARTERS</u>		
SACK, CLIFFORD E.	Lt. Col.	0-333741
CLARKE, JAMES T.	Major	0-199453
GILLER, LAWRENCE D.	Major	0-255409
MOSE, AUGUST C. JR.	Captain	0-407530
JESSUP, WILLIAM J.	Captain	0-415050
KENT, RAYMOND F.	1st Lt.	0-1176092
BUSH, WILLIAM L.	Captain	0-407530
HAYK, RICHARD B.	Captain	0-415562
WILLIAMSON, MARTIN W.	Captain	0-1166867
REYNOLDS, ROBERT E.	1st Lt.	0-1167174
SHAW, HUGH W.	1st Lt.	0-1179705
DOLLINGER, JOSEPH	Captain	0-1689338
HUTH, STANLEY W.	WOJG	W-2108253

Bn Comdr.
Bn Exec; S - 1
S - 3.
Ass't S - 3.
S - 2
Ass't S - 2
Ln Off & Bn F. O.
Ln Off & Bn F. O.
Unasgd.
Unasgd.
Unasgd.
Bn Surgeon.
Pers. Off.

<u>HEADQUARTERS BATTERY</u>		
NEWSON, CLARENCE C.	Captain	0-1167141
NELSON, WALTER L.	1st Lt.	0-1170886
SVORODA, ARTIE F.	1st Lt.	0-1180360
MARTIN, JACK	2nd Lt.	0-1691871
FORD, FLOYD C.	2nd Lt.	0-1692580

Btry CO & Commo Off.
Ass't Commo Off.
Air Off.
Air Off.
Mtr Off.

<u>BATTERY "A"</u>		
EVANS, GERALD W.	Captain	0-1165012
BENT, CHARLES W.	1st Lt.	0-1175945
SAM, BEAMAN W.	1st Lt.	0-1172638
MARTIN, KARL P.	1st Lt.	0-1180599

Btry CO
Btry Exec Off.
R. O.
Mtr Off.

<u>BATTERY "B"</u>		
BELL, LEROY L.	Captain	0-418651
JUDSON, PAUL F.	1st Lt.	0-1181319
BURPO, FRANK W.	1st Lt.	0-1703017
HOLLUB, JULIUS E.	2nd Lt.	0-2055216

Btry CO
Btry Exec Off.
R. O.
Mtr Off.

<u>BATTERY "C"</u>		
FRANKE, HARRY P.	Captain	0-404452
CHOCKLEY, PHILLIP A.	1st Lt.	0-1177328
MOORE, MERLE G.	0-1177102	1st Lt.
SCHAEFER, GILBERT P.	2nd Lt.	0-2055088

Btry CO
Btry Exec Off.
R. O.
Mtr Off.

<u>SERVICE BATTERY</u>		
VIGES, WALTON M.	Captain	0-1167257
BAILEY, HAROLD W.	1st Lt.	0-1168543
STEWART, JACK R.	1st Lt.	0-403496
SCHAEFER, CARLO E.	WOJG	W-2130731

Btry CO & S - 4
Bn Mtr Off.
Ammo Train Comdr.
Ass't S - 4

S E C R E T

30 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Assignments, Losses, and Changes of Duty of Battalion Officers for the month of November 1944.

1. Captain CLARENCE C. NELSON, from Commanding Officer, "C" Battery to Commanding Officer, Headquarters Battery.
2. Captain HARRY F. FRANTZ, from Battalion Motor Officer to Commanding Officer, Battery "C".
3. 1st Lt. HAROLD W. BAILEY, from Executive Officer, Battery "C" to Battalion Motor Officer.
4. 1st Lt. PHILLIP A. GLOCKLEY, from Ass't Commo Officer to Executive Officer, Battery "C".
5. 1st Lt. DONALD M. NELSON, from Motor Officer, Headquarters Battery to Ass't Commo Officer.
6. 2nd Lt. FLOYD C. FORD, returned to unit from Det. of Pats, 40th General Hospital and assigned duty as Motor Officer, Headquarters Battery.
7. Captain RICHARD B. RAMAK, returned to unit from Det of Pats, 70th Station Hospital and assigned duty as Battalion Combat In Off & F. O.
8. 1st Lt. HUGH L. SHAW, from Motor Officer, Service Battery to Battalion Staff unassigned.
9. 1st Lt. PAUL F. JUDSON, from Battalion Staff unassigned to Executive Officer, Battery "B".
10. Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH, from Ass't S - 3 to Battalion Combat In. Off. & F. O.
11. Captain AUGUST C. ROGER JR., from Battalion Combat Liaison Off & F. O. to Ass't S - 3.
12. 2nd Lt. JULIUS E. HOLLUB, from Reconnaissance Officer, Battery "B" to Motor Officer, Battery "B".
13. 1st Lt. FRANK W. BURPO, from Executive Officer, Battery "B" to Reconnaissance Officer, Battery "B".

S E C R E T

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155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE, DECEMBER 1944 L 1041

1 DECEMBER 1944: Headquarters Battery, the Battalion Command Post and Fire Direction Center were established in Ste. Marie Aux Mines for administrative purposes; the three firing batteries had been attached to work direct with the light field artillery battalions of the 36th Division Artillery (29 - 30 Nov) - Battery "A" with the 131st Field Artillery Battalion; Battery "B" with the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion and Battery "C" with the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion. Personnel Section and Service Battery were located in Echery. Having moved there through Ste Marie aux Mines on the 28 November. (For disposition see Map France 1/50,000 Sheets XXXCI-18 Gerardmer, XXXVI-17 St. Die and XXXCII-17 Selestat.

In the early afternoon the Battalion Commander returned from the 36th Division Artillery Command Post and ordered that Battery "A" move from Bonnipaire and occupy positions in the vicinity of Ste. Marie; Battery "C" was then moving with the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion to vicinity of Boix l'Abbesse and that upon the completion of displacement by Battery "A", Batteries "A" and "B" would revert to Battalion control. The 36th Infantry Division had occupied Chatenois and Kintzheim and the axis of Division's advance was turning generally south to take and occupy Ribeauville and Kayersberg.

By 1630 Battery "A" had occupied their new position. In the meantime the Battalion Commander reconnoitered for new battalion positions in the vicinity of Thannenkirch (suggested by the Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery) but sent a message back by 1st Lieutenant Frank W. Burpo, RO of Battery "B", from Dallas, Texas, that the battalion could not move tonight as that area was not yet in Allied hands.

Battery "C" operated an OP in conjunction with the Battalion Observation post at coords. 710-613. Our mission continued to be : General support of the 36th Infantry Division.

There was no firing this date.

2 DECEMBER 1944: At 0840 the Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Clifford M. Snow of Amarillo, Texas, with Battery Commanders, less Commanding Officer Battery "C", reconnoitered in the vicinity of Thannenkirch, but no move was initiated this date in compliance with directive by Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery.

Summary of Firing: 82 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke fired on 5 missions.

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3 DECEMBER 1944: The Battalion S-2, Captain William J. Jessup, of Houston, Texas and 1st Lieutenant Karl F. Martin of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Battery "A" went forward at noon to establish an Observation Post for Battery "A", which was later put in operation at coorcs. 713-609, Sheet XXXVII-17 Selestat.

The Battalion Commander obtained permission from the Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery to move one gun section to the vicinity of Thannenkirch to register prior to our possible displacement to that area.

This was accomplished before darkness and at 1500 hours the Battalion Commander called from Division Artillery Command Post and ordered Headquarters Battery and Battery "A" to displace tonight..... Battery "B" and Battery "C" would join the battalion the following morning, Battery "C" thereby reverting to Battalion control. Displacement in black-out was begun by Headquarters Battery and Battery "A" at 1845 and 1700, respectively, and these batteries closed on new positions in the vicinity of Thannenkirch before 2200. For disposition see Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVII-18 Colmar.

Summary of firing: 152 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke fired on 12 missions.

4 DECEMBER 1944: By 1330 both Batteries "B" and "C" had occupied positions in Thannenkirch area. During the morning two groups of 5 each (enemy) voluntarily surrendered at the Battalion Command Post. These men were taken to the 36th Division Prisoner of War cage. Service Battery and Personnel Section were moved to Chatenois; the Battalion Motor Shop remained in Echery.

Summary of firing: 418 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of smoke fired on 23 missions.

5 DECEMBER 1944: A reconnaissance for new battery positions in the vicinity of Bergheim was made by the Battalion Commander and S-3 Major Lawrence D. Gilmer of Houston, Texas, early in the morning. During this period the Battalion S-2 established an Observation Post for Battery "B" at coorcs. 683-550, Sheet XXXVII-18 Colmar.

In the afternoon the Battalion Commander took the three firing battery commanders to the probable positions in the vicinity of Bergheim. The selected areas were not too well suited for gun positions, due to soft ground, limited defilade and natural camouflage, and each Battery Commander had an opportunity to make necessary and possible preparations in the position areas prior to displacement of his battery, which would take place the following day.

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Summary of firing: 343 rounds of HE and 16 rounds of Smoke fired on 20 missions.

6 DECEMBER 1944: At 0940 the Battalion Commander ordered Battery "C" to displace by infiltration to selected position in the vicinity of Bergheim. Battery "B" was ordered to displace shortly after dusk (for security). Batteries "A" and Headquarters were ordered to prepare to displace tonight or in the morning. Captain Martin W. Williamson, Communications Officer from Berlin, Alabama and wire crews went forward to install communications in the Bergheim area.

Captain Walton E. Vines, S-4 from Pinson, Alabama, advised that he planned to move Service Battery and Personnel Section to Roschwihr and the battalion shop from Echery to Ste Hippolyte. Shortly after Captain Vines visit to the Command Post word was received from the 141st Infantry that quarters selected for Service Battery had been given to the Infantry with priority. The Battalion Executive, Major James T. Clarke, of San Antonio, Texas, contacted the Executive of 141st Infantry to ascertain if this was imperative. Results: 141st Infantry was given the area and Service Battery, already moved to Rorschwihr, had to reconnoiter for new positions.

Battery "C" displaced as ordered and closed into new position at 1500. Battery "B" only displaced two guns (one platoon) this evening.

Captain Vines advised late in the evening that he would move all service elements from Roschwihr and Ste Hippolyte to area vacated by Headquarters Battery in Thannenkirch.

The Battalion Commander, on his own initiative, left the Command Post shortly before midnight to adjust fire from Battery "B's" Observation Post on vehicular traffic east of Colmar. He returned to the Command Post at 0300. Prior to his departure he ordered Battery "A" not to displace the following morning as originally planned.

Summary of firing: 327 rounds of HE and 21 rounds of Smoke fired on 19 missions. Two direct hits were made on an enemy pill-box and a fire was started in a 4 gun battery.

7 DECEMBER 1944: The Battalion Commander left for the new position area at 0800 and Battery "B" displaced its other two guns before noon. Headquarters Battery moved to Bergheim and closed in at 1100 hours. For route and disposition of all installations see Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVII-18 Colmar.

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Commanding Officer of Battery "A" was ordered by the Battalion Commander to reconnoiter for possible position, other than one previously selected. Captain Gerald W. Evans, from Wyola, Montana, later reported he had found a possible position area but it would be so only by placing each platoon separately, but that defilade was limited.

Captain Walton M. Vines of Pensacola, Alabama and WOJG Stanley W. Ruth of San Antonio, Texas advised that Service Battery and Personnel Section had completed their move to Thannenkirch at 1600 hours and were occupying the area previously used by Headquarters Battery.

Summary of firing: 320 rounds of HE and 15 rounds of Smoke were fired on 23 missions.

8 DECEMBER 1944: The Battalion Commander went forward at 0900 with Commanding Officer Battery "A" to check on position area tentatively selected the day before. Not meeting with the Battalion Commanders approval a further reconnaissance was made but Battery "A" was later advised they would not move today.

Battery "C" Observation Post was moved from its position and placed with Battery "A's" Observation Post at coords. 713-609.

Twice during the afternoon, at 1500 and 1800 hours the battalion area was harrassed by enemy artillery, a total of about 80 rounds being received. There were no casualties or damages, but several rounds landed in the gun positions of Batteries "B" and "C", of which one round hit the Battery "B" Executive Post quarters.

The Battalion Commander ordered that Battery "A" displace the following morning, by infiltration, to the reconnoitered position southwest of Ribeauville (coords 682-546). This was the last of three areas reconnoitered for this battery.

Summary of firing: 565 rounds of HE and 13 rounds of Smoke were fired on 33 missions.

9 DECEMBER 1944: Battery "A" was given "close Station" at 0845 and closed into new position at 1240. Captain Richard B. Hawk, Combat Liaison Officer of Dallas, Texas, was relieved of liaison duties with the 143rd Infantry Regiment and returned to the battalion.

Summary of firing: 565 rounds of HE and 13 rounds of Smoke were fired on 40 missions.

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10 DECEMBER 1944: No noteworthy incidents this date.

Summary of firing: 636 rounds of HE and 10 rounds of smoke were fired on 49 missions; one mission fired on an enemy train, started a fire.

11 DECEMBER 1944: Captain Richard B. Hawk was sent to maintain liaison with the 141st Infantry Regiment.

About 12 rounds of enemy artillery landed in Battery "A" and "B" positions; no casualties or damages.

In response to request for a liaison from our battalion, Captain William L. Bush of Cane Hill, Arkansas, Combat Liaison Officer was relieved of duties at Battery "B" Observation Post and sent to the 143rd Infantry Regimental Command Post. 2nd Lieutenant Floyd C. Ford, Motor Officer and Survey Officer from Houston, Texas took over the Observation Post.

Summary of firing: 905 rounds of HE and 19 rounds of smoke were fired on 50 missions; observed one hit on an enemy tank and several hits on enemy installations in a house.

12 DECEMBER 1944: Between 0900 and 1030 hours several harrassing rounds hit in the Battalion area. One of Headquarters Battery's truck, hauling ammunition to Battery "A", received a direct hit on the motor. Corporal John E. Lecum, performing duties as Ammunition Corporal from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Battery "A" was slightly wounded on the head by shell fragments. Enemy infiltration on Hill coords. 655-563, Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVII-18 Colmar, forced abandonment of Battery "C" Observation Post today.

Summary of firing: 575 rounds of HE and 15 rounds of smoke were fired on 37 missions. One mission was successful towards aiding the repulsion of an early morning counter-attack.

13 DECEMBER 1944: Captain William J. Jessup went forward to find a new observation post for Battery "C" in the vicinity of Sellenberg. Although a location was found the town itself was under mortar and shell fire, therefore the Observation Post was not established this date.

The 11th Engineer Battalion (c) sent two companies to the area SW of Riquevihr to relieve the 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry and we were called upon to furnish a Forward Observers party to each company. The Battalion Commander ordered Batteries "A" and "C" to furnish these details and 1st Lieutenant Earl F. Martin Jr., of Tulsa, Oklahoma was recalled from Battery "A" Observation Post to form one of these parties. 2nd

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Lieutenant Gilbert P. Schaefer, of Houston, Texas formed a party from Battery "C". The two groups left the Command Post about 2000 hours and reported to Captain Richard B. Hawk at the 141st Infantry Regiment Command Post, who gave them further instructions. 1st Lieutenant Hugh W. Shaw of Hollywood, California was ordered to substitute for Lieutenant Martin at the Battery "A" Observation Post, which he took over early in the morning of the 14th.

Summary of firing: 910 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke fired on 18 missions.

14 DECEMBER 1944: The Battalion Commander visited the 36th Division Artillery Command Post and was advised of an extra allotment of 1000 rounds of ammunition for impending fires. It was learned that our Forward Observer parties were in the vicinity of Hill 593, coords. 67-19- Colmar Lap, Sheet XXXVII-18, 1/50,000. This hill was to be attacked and taken by the 11th Engineer (C) Battalion, supported by two companies of infantry from the 141st Infantry Regiment.

2nd Lieutenant Schaefer returned from the Forward Observer party and Captain Harry F. Frantz Jr, Commanding Officer Battery "C", from Enid, Oklahoma, detailed 1st Lieutenant Kerle G. Moore, RO of Battery "C", from Iola, Kansas, to substitute for Lieutenant Schaefer.

Battery "A" was alerted for possible displacement from the vicinity of Ribeaupville to Bergheim, but no move was initiated this date.

Summary of firing: 899 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of Smoke fired on 43 missions; one direct hit was observed on an enemy tank.

15 DECEMBER 1944: 1st Lieutenant Beaman W. Sam, RO Battery "A", from St. Louis, Missouri, was sent to report to the Commanding Officer, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion to work with the Division Reserve, composed of tank destroyer and Engineer Battalions.

Summary of firing: 948 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke fired on 39 missions; one mission supported an aerial bombing.

16 DECEMBER 1944: Major O'Connor, Commanding Officer and Captain Boyce, S-3, of the 9th Field Artillery Battalion, 3rd Division, visited the Battalion Command Post with reference to coordinating the mutual relief of this Battalion and the 9th Field Artillery Battalion.

Captain Richard B. Hawk and 1st Lieutenant Beaman W. Sam were relieved of liaison duty with the 141st Infantry and Division Reserves, respectively, and returned to the battalion.

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The first serious enemy shelling received by the battalion in France occurred during evening mess at about 1700-1715 hours. Eight rounds landed in Battery "B's" area near the kitchen and one gun position, causing the instantaneous deaths of Private Melvin B. Haley, 20816410, Cannoneer, entered the service from Fort Worth, Texas; Corporal Nelson Richey, 38039032, ammunition Corporal, entered the service from Mineola, Texas; Corporal Charles E. Stuart Jr., 36174337, Ammunition Corporal, entered the service from Fort Huron, Michigan and Tec Grade 5 M. B. Bryant, 20816424, Truck Driver, entered the service from Fort Worth, Texas died a short time later from wounds received. Tec Grade 4 Willie C. Watson, 38025535, Cook, entered the service from Buchanan Dam, Texas, was wounded and evacuated. Three other men sustained slight injuries while seeking cover from the shelling. One weapons carrier was badly damaged. The battery firing a mission during the first few incoming rounds, therefore these were not heard in time for all men to take cover.

Summary of firing: 1253 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke were fired on 44 missions. Three hits were reported on enemy vehicles.

17 DECEMBER 1944: No important incidents this date.

Summary of firing: 986 rounds of HE and 12 rounds of Smoke were fired on 34 missions. 12 hits were observed on suspected enemy Command Post located in a tower.

18 DECEMBER 1944: Early in the morning, one ME 109 flew low over the battalion area, obviously on a photo-reconnaissance flight. The 443rd AAA protecting the battalion area shot down the plane, which crashed along the battalion south boundary.

The Battalion Commander left at 1300 to check on our mutual relief with the 9th Field Artillery Battalion in the Strasbourg area and upon his return met with the Battery Commanders and advised that we would move on the 20th of December to the vicinity of Ostwald. Reconnaissance parties were ordered to prepare to go out at 0900 19 December.

Summary of firing: 726 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke were fired on 29 missions.

19 DECEMBER 1944: At 0900 the Battalion Commander met with the Battery Commanders and advised them that they would move at 0800 tomorrow rather than at 1300, enabling the 9th Field Artillery Battalion to displace the same day from the area we planned to utilize. The Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders then departed with parties on the reconnaissance.

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Later in the day Commanding Officer and Executive Officer of the 9th Field Artillery Battalion visited the Battalion Command Post and discussed further the mutual relief. One battery of the 9th Field Artillery Battalion would move into our area tonight and work under our Fire Direction Center until we displaced the next day. This Battery, "C", closed on our position at dusk.

1st Lieutenant Merle G. Moore returned from the FO detail and Battery "A" Observation Post was closed at 1630. Battery "B's" Observation Post continued operating throughout the night.

Summary of firing: 715 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke were fired on 30 missions.

20 DECEMBER 1944: At 0815 the Battalion Executive Officer led the battalion to the new position area. Order of march Headquarters Battery "B", "A", "C", Service Battery and Personnel Section followed from the Thannenkirch area. All elements had closed into the Ostwald area by 1300. For route and dispositions see Maps, 1/50,000 Sheets: XXXVII-17 Selestat; XXXVII-18 Colmar; XXXVII-16 Molsheim and XXXVIII-16 Strasbourg.

There was no firing this date.

21 DECEMBER 1944: The Battalion Commander left early in the morning to inspect proposed Battalion Observation Posts and during his absence the Executive Officer, 36th Division Artillery visited the Battalion Command Post to advise the Battalion Executive that this battalion would be attached to Task Force Harris, which would take up a defensive position on the Rhine. Upon the return of the Battalion Commander, receiving this information, the Battalion Commander left immediately for 36th Infantry Division Artillery to get further information and instructions and was advised that we would occupy a defensive sector with Task Force Harris north of the 16th Easting and South of Munchhard, attachment to Task Force Harris to be effected at 0001 23 December. After returning to the Battalion Command Post the Battalion Commander with Captain William J. Jessup, S-3 and Captain William L. Bush, Battalion Liaison Officer, left immediately to contact the Commanding General of Task Force Harris.

The party returned to the Command Post at 1830 and a meeting with all Battery Commanders was held. The battalion to displace at 1330 the next day to the vicinity of Forstfeld. Reconnaissance by the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders would be initiated the following morning at 0745, leaving the Battalion Executive to march the battalion at 1330.

Summary of firing: 15 rounds of HE fired on 3 missions.

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22 DECEMBER 1944: Although the schedule for displacement was at 1330 this date, the Battalion Commander send word by Captain Leroy L. Bell, Commanding Battery "B", from San Antonio, Texas, to the Battalion Executive at 1200 that the batteries would be released separately as respective Battery Commanders returned from their reconnaissance. This was necessitated by the fact that the 69th Field Artillery Battalion were not moving out of the Forstfeld area to enable us to take up their positions, and new battery positions had to be found. However, by 1345 all elements had cleared Ostwald and vicinity, excepting, Service Battery and Personnel Section, and closed on their new positions by 1600. (See Map for Route)

Captain William L. Bush and Captain Richard B. Hawk were sent to go on liaison duty to the 253rd Infantry and 255th Infantry respectively. Both regiments form part of the 63rd Infantry Division. The battalion mission is in direct support of the 255th Infantry Regiment. Communication could not be completed within the battalion before the next morning due to shortage of telephone wire.

Summary of firing: 31 rounds of HE and 1 round of Smoke fired on 1 mission. Several hits were observed on a bridge.

23 DECEMBER 1944: Service Battery moved this morning from Ostwald to Obberhoffen but as no suitable positions were found for the Personnel Section and Battalion Motor Shop they did not move from Ostwald this date.

Captain Bush returned from liaison duty with the 253rd Infantry Regiment.

The Battalion Air OP was moved to vicinity of Camp Obberhoffen this date.

Summary of firing: 10 rounds of HE were fired on 3 missions.

24 DECEMBER 1944: General Harris and Major Hunt of Task Force Harris visited the Battalion Command Post during the morning and Captain Channing of Battery "C", 431 AAA advised that a platoon of Battery "C" would be attached to the battalion, relieving Battery "B" of the 443rd AAA that had been with us since August.

Lieutenant Colonel Anderson, 63rd Infantry Division Artillery, visited the Battalion Command Post during the afternoon and advised that our mission was changed to direct support of the 253rd Infantry Regiment upon the displacement of the 131st Field Artillery Battalion, who were attached with us to Task Force Harris.

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The Personnel Section completed movement to the Service Battery area near Oberhoffen and the Battalion Motor Shop was moved to vicinity of Souffleheim. Captain Hawk returned from liaison with the 255th Infantry Regiment, the battalion having been released from direct support.

Summary of firing: 16 rounds of HE were fired on 2 missions.

25 DECEMBER 1944: Operations Instructions, 36th Infantry Division, directed movement of the division, less this battalion and the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion, to the vicinity of Sarrebourg.

In compliance with request from the 63rd Infantry Division Artillery, Captain William L. Bush was sent on liaison to the 253rd Infantry Regiment.

The weather has continued to get colder and Christmas was celebrated as best as could be by all. Plenty of good food.

Summary of firing: There was no firing this date.

26 DECEMBER 1944: Major Patton, Executive Officer and Captain Davis, Communications Officer of the 194th Field Artillery Battalion, visited the Command Post to check with regard to possibilities of positions for two batteries in our vicinity.

Service Battery and Personnel Section moved again today to the little town of Leutenheim, near the Rhine river.

Summary of firing: 227 rounds of HE and 5 rounds of smoke were fired on 13 missions. Direct hits were observed on machine gun nests.

27 DECEMBER 1944: 1st Lieutenant Karl F. Martin was dispatched on liaison to the 2nd Battalion, 253rd Infantry Regiment and 1st Lieutenant Merle G. Moore was dispatched on liaison to the 3rd Battalion, 253rd Infantry Regiment.

Summary of firing: 106 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke were fired on 7 missions.

28 DECEMBER 1944: There were no important incidents this date.

Summary of firing: 136 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke fired on 9 missions. One direct hit was made on a tower (suspected enemy Observation Post).

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29 DECEMBER 1944: Field Order Number 3, Task Force Harris, received this morning, relieves this battalion from attachment and attaches this battalion to VI Corps Artillery (and to be prepared to rejoin 36th Infantry Division within 6 hours notice). This was later confirmed by Letter dated 27 December from VII Army. The Battalion Commander visited VI Corps Artillery Headquarters to obtain further information and instructions. At 2000 hours message was received from 33rd Field Artillery Brigade advising we would be in general support of the brigade and would move two batteries to designated areas and leave one battery in present position. The Battalion Commander ordered Batteries "A" and "B" prepare for displacement the following morning.

Summary of firing: 54 rounds of HE were fired on 3 missions.

30 DECEMBER 1944: At 0730 Captain William L. Bush and 1st Lieutenant Karl F. Martin returned from liaison duties with the 253rd Infantry Regiment, and the Battalion Commander and Battalion S-3 departed at 0800 to confer with Commanding Officer, 33rd Field Artillery Brigade, followed by Captain Richard B. Hawk, Liaison Officer, Captain William L. Bush, Liaison Officer and Captain Gerak W. Evans, who were to meet the Battalion Commander at the 33rd Field Artillery Brigade Headquarters - prepared to go on reconnaissance. At 1100 hours Captain Hawk returned from 33rd Field Artillery Brigade to advise the Battalion Executive that the Battalion Commander had ordered Battery "A" to vicinity of Hoerdt. Batteries "A" and "B" were to be released after 1200 hours and their Battery Commanders were now on reconnaissance. Battalion Command Post would be moved to a more centralized location within the next day or two. 1st Lieutenant Merle G. Moore returned from liaison at the 253rd Infantry Regiment. Two firing batteries displaced at 1300 hours to designated positions.

Summary of firing: 38 rounds of HE and 1 round of Smoke were fired on 3 missions. Hits were observed on a bridge and on a house in which enemy personnel were billeted.

31 DECEMBER 1944: At 1000 hours Headquarters Battery displaced to Geudertheim. The Battalion Command Post would act only administratively in this position as all firing batteries were detached (Battery "A" to reinforce fires of the 59th Field Artillery Battalion; Battery "B" to reinforce fires of the 935th Field Artillery Battalion and Battery "C" to reinforce fires of the 69th Field Artillery Battalion.

Personnel Section and Service Battery moved into a school house in Geudertheim early this morning.

Summary of firing: There was no firing this date

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The following type of casualties occurred during this period:

<u>TYPE OF CASUALTY</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED MEN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
KIA	0	4	4
LOCF	0	0	0
LIA	0	5	5
SIA	0	0	0
DIA	0	0	0
LWA	0	3	3
SWA	0	0	0
MIA	0	0	0
POW	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>

"AWARDS"

"BRONZE STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name
Major James T. Clarke, O 199 453, Headquarters, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, San Antonio, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section IV, General Orders No. 431, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 6 November 1944.

Date of Deed

12 February 1944 to 29 June 1944.

2. Name
1st Lieutenant Merle G. Moore, O1 177 102, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Iola, Kansas.

Origin of Award

Section I, General Orders No. 476, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

4 October 1944 to 10 October 1944

3. Name
Staff Sergeant Stewart T. Stanuall, 20816 773, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Houston, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section I, General Orders No. 476, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

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Date of Deed

4 October 1944 to 10 October 1944.

4. Name

Cpl. Robert Fitzgerald, 32 237 091, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Belleville, New Jersey.

Origin of Award

Section I, General Orders No. 476, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

4 October 1944 to 10 October 1944.

5. Name

Pvt 1cl Joseph H. Durand, 11 052 810, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Uxbridge, Mass.

Origin of Award

Section I, General Orders No. 476, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

4 October 1944 to 10 October 1944.

6. Name

Pvt 1cl Robert P. McKee, 36 270 856, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Origin of Award

Section I, General Orders No. 476, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

4 October 1944 to 10 October 1944.

"FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER IN LIEU OF
SECOND BRONZE STAR MEDAL RECEIVED DURING THIS PERIOD"

1. Name

Cpl. Harold G. Morning, 20 816 323, Battery "A", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Dallas, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section I, General Orders No. 465, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 12 December 1944.

Date of Deed

24 September 1944.

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"AIR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED DURING
PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name

1st Lieutenant Beaman W. Sam, OI 172 638, Battery "A", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, St. Louis, Missouri.

Origin of Award

Section II, General Orders No. 474, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

18 August 1944 to 20 October 1944.

2. Name

Cpl. Eugene H. Mulligan, 35 208 120, Battery "A", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Ridgely, West Va.

Origin of Award

Section II, General Orders No. 474, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

18 August 1944 to 20 October 1944.

"FOURTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER IN LIEU OF FIFTH
AIR MEDAL RECEIVED DURING THIS PERIOD"

1. Name

1st Lieutenant Artie F. Svoboda, OI 180 360, Headquarters Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Ellsworth, Kansas.

Origin of Award

Section IV, General Orders No. 477, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

19 June 1944 to 30 August 1944.

2. Name

2nd Lieutenant Jack Martin, OI 180 360, Headquarters Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Memphis, Tenn.

Origin of Award

Section IV, General Orders No. 477, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 19 December 1944.

Date of Deed

19 June 1944 to 30 August 1944.

HEADQUARTERS 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. 36 U.S. ARMY

10 February 1945

SUBJECT : Narrative History for January 1945

TO : Commanding General,
36th Infantry Division,
A.P.O. 36, U.S. Army

L-1042

1. Transmitted herewith Narrative History, in sextuplicate, for the month of January 1945.

2. Conclusions: The month of January witnessed some of the most trying conditions for tactical operations both from weather and enemy activity. At the beginning of the period this battalion was given a direct support mission, a task normally assigned to lighter artillery but with which we were not altogether unfamiliar. The problem of furnishing Liaison Officers and Forward Observer parties with adequate communication facilities was serious, but this was solved by combining the facilities of the light (105 mm) battalion assigned to the mission of reinforcing our fires, and supplementing the light battalion FDC personnel, and communications with personnel from our own FDC.

The extreme cold weather, with continuous snow and ice, presented a most difficult problem of maneuvering with steel tread tractors. Tractors with steel treads without grousers are not satisfactory over ice or snow and present a danger on the highways due to slipping and sliding on the ice. This situation was solved through the cooperation of our ordnance company by welding improvised grousers onto the links of the steel tracks, of eight to each track.

The cold weather with continued frozen ground allowed freedom of maneuvering over any type of terrain and permitted the occupation of positions which could not have been occupied in warmer weather due to mud and soft ground from rain and moisture.

The period also proved that tactical operations can be carried on with artillery efficiently without undue loss or hardship on personnel due to extreme cold and living conditions. During the period of most of the extreme cold weather conditions, however, the tactical situation was generally stable which permitted the construction and improvement of dugouts and living quarters for the personnel.

Clifford M. Snow
CLIFFORD M. SNOW
Lieutenant Colonel, F.A.
Commanding

~~SECRET~~155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALIONOPERATIONS IN FRANCE, JANUARY 1945.

1 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion Command Post, located in Geudertheim this date, was acting only administratively; all the firing batteries were working direct with other units: Battery "A" reinforcing fires of the 59th Field Artillery Battalion; Battery "B" reinforcing fires of the 935th Field Artillery Battalion and Battery "C" reinforcing fires of the 69th Field Artillery Battalion, all of the 33rd Field Artillery Group. Service Battery and the Battalion Personnel Section were quartered in Geudertheim.

At 1000 hours 33rd Field Artillery Group advised that our attachment to them was terminated and we would revert to VI Corps control. Upon receipt of this information the Battalion Commander went to VI Corps Headquarters to obtain further instructions and to reconnoiter for new battalion positions. Before departing the Battalion Commander ordered Close Station March Order, displacements to be deferred until definite information was obtained at Corps Headquarters.

At noon the Battalion Commander issued oral orders by telephone to the Battalion Executive Officer, Major James T. Clarke, of San Antonio, Texas to prepare the battalion to move by batteries at 1330 - to the vicinity of Zinswiller. Battery Commanders, less Service Battery would depart immediately to meet the Battalion Commander in that vicinity and guide their respective batteries into position upon arrival.

The Battalion closed on the Zinswiller area about 1600 hours. (For disposition and route see Maps France, 1/50,000 Sheets XXXVII - 15 BRUMATH; Sheet XXXVIII - 14 HAGUENAU; Sheet XXXVII - 14 BOUXWILLER).

Late during the night Lieutenant Colonel Mentzer, Command Officer, 405th Field Artillery Group advised by telephone that the battalion was in direct support of the 313th Infantry Regiment, the 500th Field Artillery Battalion to reinforce our fires. We were to send a Liaison Officer to the 313th Infantry Regiment and establish a forward Fire Direction Center with the 500th Field Artillery Battalion at Ingwiller; 155th Field Artillery Battalion to control operations.

There was no firing this date.

2 JANUARY 1945: At 0400 hours the Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Clifford E. Snow of Amarillo, Texas made a command Liaison visit to the 313th Infantry Regiment and sent Captain Richard B. Hawk, of

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Dallas, Texas, as Liaison Officer to them. Field Order, 45th Infantry Division, dated 2 January 1945 was received: "45th Division, reinforced, attacks to restore front line position; 405th Field Artillery Group in general support; 17th Field Artillery Battalion reinforces fires of the 499th Field Artillery Battalion and the 155th Field Artillery Battalion in direct support of 313th Infantry Regiment." 1st Lieutenant Karl F. Martin Jr. of Tulsa, Oklahoma and 2nd Lieutenant Julius E. Hollub of Houston, Texas were sent to the 313th Infantry Regiment as Forward Observers and in line with request from 405th Field Artillery Group, Captain August C. Moser of Dallas, Texas and four Fire Direction Center personnel established a forward FDC with the 500th Field Artillery Battalion.

A platoon of Battery "C", 431st AAA was attached to the battalion.

General Behr, Commanding General VI Corps, visited the Battalion Command Post and advised that one battery of the 995th Field Artillery Battalion would be attached to us and under our Fire Direction Center until their Headquarters arrived in the Zinswiller position. During the day the Command Post was visited by Commanding Officers of the 93rd Field Artillery Battalion, 995th Field Artillery Battalion and the 17th Field Artillery Battalion and also the S-3 of 45th Division Artillery. The three Field Artillery Battalions were all reinforcing our fires for the remainder of the time spent in this area.

Captain William L. Bush, Combat Liaison Officer of Cane Hill, Arkansas, and 1st Lieutenant Merle G. Moore, Forward Observer of Jenna, Louisiana were sent to the 1st Battalion of the 314th Infantry Regiment who were to be in an operation the following day.

The Battalion Motor Shop and Service Battery were moved from Geudertheim to Ringendorf this date; the Personnel Section remained in Geudertheim until suitable quarters could be found.

Summary of firings: 894 rounds of HE and 11 rounds of Smoke were fired on 55 missions.

3 JANUARY 1945: Contemplating a further displacement the Battalion Commander sent the Battalion Executive on a position and road reconnaissance in the vicinity of Ingwiller. Upon his return Headquarters Battery and Battery "C" were given "close station" with orders to move to reconnoitered positions. Battery "A" and "B" were to continue firing until "C" Battery was ready to fire from the new Ingwiller position. Battery "C" displaced at noon and the Battalion Executive led elements of Headquarters to Ingwiller immediately thereafter; however upon arriving at the new Command Post he received word from the Battalion

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Commander that positions were not to be occupied in Ingwiller and to return, with Battery "C" to the Zinswiller area. Returning to the Command Post at Zinswiller the Battalion Executive learned that orders had been received for the Battalion to rejoin the 36th Infantry Division this date and for the Battalion Commander or Battalion Executive to report to Major Luther E. Orrick, Commanding 131st Field Artillery Battalion as soon as possible for further orders. The Battalion Commander sent the Battalion Executive on this mission which was accomplished by using the Air Observation plane of Lieutenant Pauxta, 133rd Field Artillery Battalion who brought the Division Order to the Battalion Commander. Upon meeting with Major Luther E. Orrick, the Battalion Executive was given all necessary information and reconnoitered for positions in the vicinity of Batten.

At 1530 Glose Station March Order was given to all batteries and the march by battery was begun at 1630 to a rendezvous area 5 miles east of the town of Saverne. March was made by blackout and the battalion rendezvoused from 2030 hours until midnight awaiting the return of the Battalion Executive from reconnaissance. At 2400 hours the Battalion Executive reported to the Battalion Commander with all information needed for the completion of the march and selections of positions. At 0115 the march was resumed until 0700 hours when the batteries closed on the Batten area. Service Battery moved the same time and continued to a position near Batten. The Battalion Personnel section made a hurried movement during the night, with one weapons carrier, making two trips to Gaudertheim and setting up the office in Saverne. (For dispositions see Maps France: 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVII - 13 BITCHE.

Summary of firing: 170 rounds of HE fired on 9 missions.

4 JANUARY 1945: The mission of the battalion was general support of the 36th Infantry Division. During the morning the Battalion Commander made a personal reconnaissance for better firing battery positions and at 1100 hours directed that the firing batteries make reconnaissance in the vicinity of Montbronn. Later in the day displacements were effected (for disposition of batteries see Map France, 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVII-13 BITCHE). There was no firing from the Batten area. The Battalion Command Post, Fire Direction Center and Headquarters Battery remained in the Batten area this date. Service Battery and the Battalion Motor Shop found more suitable quarters in Sarre Union. Capt. Friedman, Battery "B", 443rd AAA advised that one platoon would be attached to the battalion for air defense. During the afternoon the Liaison Officers and Forward Observers, dispatched from Zinswiller, returned to the Battalion. The Battalion Air Observation Post moved to the vicinity of Rahling.

Summary of firing: 479 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke fired on 22 missions.

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5 JANUARY 1945: Early in the morning Captain William L. Bush was sent on liaison to 143rd Infantry Command Post. A forward fire Direction Center was established in the vicinity of Battery "C"'s new position but no operation was conducted from there. Captain Richard B. Hawk, who has just returned from liaison duties the day before, received orders for his "temporary duty in the United States" and left for the rear to begin his trip. Captain Bush was relieved of his liaison duties for the 143rd Infantry Regiment and returned to the battalion. Our mission continued to be general support of the 36th Infantry Division.

Summary of firing: 36 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke were fired on 4 missions.

6 JANUARY 1945: In order to get the battalion closer together the Battalion Command Post and Headquarters Battery was moved to the vicinity of Monthronn; also the balance of the Fire Direction Center joined the forward FDC and operations were effected at once. 1st Lieutenant Hugh W. Shaw of Hollywood, California was sent on liaison to the 100th Infantry Command Post. Captain Leroy L. Bell, Commanding Officer, Battery "B", of San Antonio, Texas departed for the hospital for treatment to relieve an ailment from wounds received in the latter part of the Italian Campaign.

Summary of firing: 95 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke were fired on 12 missions.

7 JANUARY 1945: No important incidents on the 7th. In the afternoon of 8 JANUARY 1945: the 8th January 1945, Service Battery sent a truck and trailer to Saverne to haul the Personnel Section to Cirey. This was accomplished during the evening hours amidst a heavy snow. Section occupied an old French Chateau near the 36th Division Rear.

Summary of firing: 07 January: 97 rounds of HE fired on 11 missions. 08 January: 400 rounds of HE fired on 17 missions.

9 JANUARY 1945: Captain William L. Bush was directed by the Battalion Commander to go to the 143rd Infantry Regiment and 133rd Field Artillery Battalion, who were placed in direct support of the 36th Infantry Division, to coordinate defensive fires of this battalion with their's and to arrange for observation, and observers to actually adjust it in.

Summary of firing: 354 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke were fired on 18 missions.

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10 JANUARY 1945: Captain William J. Jessup, Battalion S-2, from Houston, Texas, was sent by the Battalion Commander to meet Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery at his Command Post to go on reconnaissance for a "switch" position for batteries, to be used in the event of necessary withdrawal. After meeting the Commanding General, Captain Jessup returned to advise that plans are being made against possible withdrawal and for organization of defensive position along high ground between 38 and 39th Northing grids. This battalion is ordered to select and organize positions in the vicinity of Waldhambach. Captain Jessup then left to attend a conference at Ratzwiller, being conducted by the Infantry Commander. He then planned to proceed from there to reconnaissance for positions (battery commanders to meet him at Command Post at noon). The Battalion Commander, who had not been present during the receipt of the above information from Captain Jessup, went to 36th Division Artillery Command Post and from there advised the Battalion Executive Officer that the reconnaissance for "switch" positions and their being set up for occupancy, was more in the nature of training and that no move would be made by the batteries. The reconnaissance parties went forward as per schedule. Captain William L. Bush was dispatched on liaison to 143rd Infantry Command Post.

Summary of firing: 135 rounds of HE and 1 round of Smoke were fired on 9 missions.

11 JANUARY 1945: A further reconnaissance was made by the Battalion Commander, S-2 and Battery Commanders for switch positions in the vicinity of Adamswiller. 1st Lieutenant Robert E. Reynolds, Battalion Assistant S-2 of Philadelphia, Penn., returned for duty from temporary duty in the United States. Prior to midnight one of two artillery shells landing in Battery "B"'s position destroyed a tractor by a direct hit on the motor.

Summary of firing: 99 rounds of HE were fired on 3 missions.

12 JANUARY 1945: There were no important incidents this date with the exception of a reconnaissance made by the Battalion Commander and S-2 for forward positions in the vicinity of St. Louis. Our mission continued to be "general support of the 36th Infantry Division".

Summary of firing: 49 rounds of HE fired on 6 missions;

13 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander took the Battery Commanders on reconnaissance in the previously reconnoitered vicinity of St. Louis for forward positions preparatory to the Division's attack on the high ground around Bitche. These positions were prepared for possible use.

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Summary of firings: 47 rounds of HE and 14 rounds of Smoke were fired on 5 missions.

14 JANUARY 1945: Service Battery and the Battalion Motor Shop moved from Sarre Union to the Headquarters Battery area in Monthronn. Captain William L. Bush was relieved of liaison duties at the 143rd Infantry Regiment.

Summary of firings: 110 rounds of HE and 11 rounds of Smoke fired on 20 missions.

15 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander left for the Bains les Bains rest camp.

Summary of firings: 133 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke fired on 9 missions.

16 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion Executive visited the 36th Division, Artillery Command Post and advised by phone for the firing batteries to select alternate firing positions for emergency in case of serious counterbattery fire. Upon the completion of selection of alternate firing position, batteries now had (1) Switch positions (2) forward positions and (3) alternate positions.

Summary of firings: 243 rounds of HE and 11 rounds of Smoke fired on 15 missions.

17 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion Motor Shop and Service Battery moved their installations to Waldenbach.

Summary of firings: 177 rounds of HE fired on 5 missions.

18 JANUARY 1945: At 0715 Operations Instructions from 36th Infantry Division were received, ordering movement today of the division, less 141st Regimental Combat Team and 36th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troops; the battalion's orders were to displace to the vicinity of HARTHAUSEN where they would join other division elements.

Prior to 0900 the Battalion S-2 went with the battery commanders on a reconnaissance to the designated area and shortly after their departure the Battalion Executive met with officer representatives of each battery, except Service Battery, and instructed that the battalion would march in two units, first - Batteries "A", "B" and "C"; second - Headquarters Battery and Service Battery; the column to be led by the Battalion S-3, Major Lawrence D. Gilmer of Houston, Texas, as the Battalion Executive had been designated commander of the Division's 5th march serial.

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Our first vehicle was to pass the IP at Diemeringen at 1435, and the batteries would be met at Schweghausen by guides from reconnaissance parties. All batteries were given close station and Service Battery was notified of all particulars by messenger.

The batteries prepared for displacement but at 1130, 36th Division Artillery advised by phone that although plans had not been abandoned, the time for moving had been changed and we would be advised later. As no further information had been obtained by 1330 the Battalion Executive went to Division Artillery Command Post. An hour later advised our Command Post by phone that we were to "remain prepared to move on order".

Shortly before 1500 the Commanding Officer, Battery "B", 373rd Field Artillery Battalion told our Battery "B" Commanding Officer that he had orders to move into our Battery "B" position and to register before dark. Although we had not yet received a definite time for displacement, and the possibility for going back into position remained, the Battalion Executive, upon his return from 36th Division Artillery, gave the Commanding Officer, Battery "B", 373rd Field Artillery Battalion permission to go ahead and they initiated occupation of our Battery "B"'s vacated position. About two hours later Captain Alpern of the 373rd Field Artillery Battalion advised that his battalion had orders to move into our positions but he would not do so until we displaced. At this time the battalion had no further moving orders.

At 1700 the Commanding Officers and reconnaissance parties of Batteries "A", "B", "C" returned to the Command Post and Captain Clarence C. Newsom of Coffee Springs, Alabama, reported to the Battalion Executive that while he was reconnoitering in the HARTHAUSEN area he picked up the information from reliable sources that we would not move today. Other indirect information, obtained during the afternoon, supported his report - and it was not until 1530 that we received orders from 36th Division Artillery that the battalion would move, as planned, and to cross the IP at Diemeringen at 2330. Throughout the entire afternoon and early evening the weather was very unfavorable for a night march. The roads were icy and there was a high wind mixed with sleet and snow. As a safety measure the Battalion Executive, at 1830, requested of 36th Division Artillery permission to postpone the march until the next morning. At 2100 hours his permission was granted - displacement to take place with the first vehicle passing the IP at 0700. As all batteries had been continually prepared for movement at any time it was necessary to find shelter for all personnel.

Summary of firings: 24 rounds of HE were fired on 2 missions.

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19 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion's plan for march was changed to three units: Batteries "C" and "A", Batteries "B" and Headquarters and Service Battery - the Battalion Executive Officer led the march with the Battalion S-3 following in the rear vehicle.

Our orders had not been changed otherwise and the Battalion was to join other division elements at Harthausen but when the Battalion Executive reached the Transportation Control Point at Schweghausen, he was given a note by one of our non-commissioned officers from the Communications Officer, advising that our position area had been changed by 36th Division Artillery and that we were to go into firing position in the vicinity of Camp Oberkoffen and were to reinforce defensive fires of the 33rd Field Artillery Brigade in the Haguenau-Rhine sector.

Captain Martin W. Williamson, Battalion Communications Officer from Berlin, Alabama, had not returned with the other reconnaissance parties the previous evening. Even they had been advised during the afternoon of January 19th by our S-2 (a written note left with a soldier) that the battalion was not moving as originally scheduled, Captain Williamson contacted the 36th Division Artillery Command Post and 36th Infantry Division G-1 in Haguenau and learned of the several changes, but fortunately received the latest change before returning with his party to the battalion...ie, that we would move at 0700 the following morning. He also obtained a new march graph from Major Puck, 36th Infantry Division Provost Marshall, showing our newly designated mission and area. Thus, he was able to make a reconnaissance in advance for Headquarters prior to the arrival of the march units and he posted guides at necessary intervals to avoid possible delays. By 1030 the battalion had closed on their new position. For route and disposition of batteries see Maps: France, 1/50,000 Sheets XXXVII-13 BITCHE and XXXVIII-14 HAGUENAU.

At 1700 the Battalion Executive returned from a conference at 36th Division Artillery Command Post and reported that the enemy were trying to push towards Weyersheim and that the Division's plans may be again changed. In this case the 143rd Regimental Combat Team would set up as a defensive line along the Rhine Canal; the 142nd Regimental Combat Team would set up a defensive line in four designate towns of Rischwiller, Gries, Kurtzenhausen, and Weyersheim - and this battalion would make reconnaissance and be prepared to move into positions west of Weyersheim. The Battalion Executive left to make a personal reconnaissance in that area and the battery commanders followed shortly thereafter. The 143rd Regimental Combat Team had already been committed to this defensive position and information was received that they had met opposition and were halted on the outskirts of Weyersheim. However, later, Captain Bush who was sent previously on liaison to the 143rd, reported the condition there not to be serious.

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Summary of firing: 24 rounds of HE were fired on 2 missions.

20 JANUARY 1945: At 0500 receipt of 36th Infantry Division Operations Instructions placed us in general support of the Division and reinforcing fires of the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion, and the 495th Armoured Field Artillery Battalion. The Division less 141st Regimental Combat Team, occupies and defends the front line now held by the 12th Armored Division, maintains contact with the II French Corps on the right and 79th Infantry Division on the left; protects Corps right south flank.

At 0640 the Commanding General 36th Division Artillery directed the Battalion be moved to reconnoitered areas; move to be made by batteries - one battery to be moved forward first with part of the Fire Direction Center Personnel to accompany it for registration, and upon completion of registration the balance of the battalion would displace. The Battalion Communications Officer went forward on a reconnaissance in the vicinity of NIEDERSCHAEFFESHEIM and the Battalion S-3 made a road reconnaissance north of that town for a route to be used if necessary for emergency withdrawal after displacement.

Service Battery was directed to reconnoiter for position in vicinity of NIEDERSCHAEFFESHEIM.

At 0910 Battery "A" was given close station and ordered to prepare to move to selected position in vicinity of Birchwald and at 1100 hours the Battery displaced.

Our S-2 was called by 36th Infantry Division for temporary duties as Trial Judge Advocate and he departed at noon.

The other two firing batteries and Headquarters Battery displaced prior to 1500 and by 1700 the battalion had closed into the new positions. For route and disposition see Maps: France 1/50,000 Sheets XXXVIII-14 HAGUENAU and XXXVIII-15 BRUMATH.

1st Lieutenant Shaw was sent on liaison to the 142nd Infantry Command Post.

Service Battery did not displace this date but planned to move the following morning. Captain Vines visited the Command Post at 1950 and then after advising that he would move his battery tomorrow he departed for 36th Infantry Division G-4. Shortly afterwards the Battalion Executive learned through 36th Infantry Division G-1 that HAGUENAU would probably not be secure after daylight the next day.

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Because reorganization of our forces placed Main Line of Resistance through HAGUENAU. In that Service Battery was still in that vicinity and as the Battery Commander had gone to Division, the Battalion Executive elected to make a trip to Service Battery's position near Haguenau and lead them out to a rendezvous area in our vicinity. He departed at 2115 on this mission - after leaving word at 36th Division G-4 for Captain Vines to call the Command Post. An hour later Captain Vines with 1st Lieutenant Bailey returned to the Command Post and upon hearing of the Battalion Executive's departure - he sent Lieutenant Bailey to meet the column. By 2300 hours the Battery had been placed in a rendezvous area in the NIEDERSCHAEFFELSHHEIM vicinity and was met by its commander. The Battalion Executive returned to the Command Post at 2315.

Summary of firing: 129 rounds of HE were fired on 4 missions.

21 JANUARY 1945: At 0845 the Battalion Executive departed for 36th Division Artillery Command Post to obtain information on the tactical situation during the past twelve hours and also to ascertain if it was necessary for the battalion to move this date. During his absence Captain Vines visited the Command Post and advised that he was not able to find a position for Service Battery during the night and they were in rendezvous off the road in the vicinity of coords. 87-14 square.

At 0900 Captain Bush called from the 143rd Infantry and suggested that we place an Observation Post in the Bischwiller area.

The Battalion Executive returned from 36th Division Artillery with the information that the battalion would not move today and that our mission was "general support of the division". The Battalion Executive then departed to discuss observation with Captain Bush. At 1340 1st Lieutenant Moore was sent to establish an OP in Bischwiller and at 1430 Battery "A"'s Observation teams, under 1st Lieutenant Martin, left to establish an OP in Kaltenhausen.

A reconnaissance for "switch" positions was directed by Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery - in the vicinity of Gougenheim and the Battalion Executive ordered this reconnaissance for tomorrow morning. This evening the Battalion Commander returned from Bains les Bains rest camp.

Summary of firing: 453 rounds of HE and 12 rounds of Smoke were fired on 28 missions. One tank and enemy vehicle was destroyed causing many personnel casualties.

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S E C R E T

22 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion S-3 and all Battery Commanders, except Service Battery Commander, made the directed reconnaissance in the Gougenheim area, for "switch" positions. As the 143rd Infantry was relieved by the 142nd Infantry, Captain Bush returned from liaison.

The Battalion Executive left for Bains les Bains Rest Camp today. Warrant Officer Junior Grade Carlo H. Schaefer visited the Command Post and advised that Service Battery was still in a rendezvous area. Captain Vines was now on a reconnaissance for a position area. The Air Observation Post moved today, first to the outskirts of BRUMATH and later to the vicinity of DURHAGEN (873-095). Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery directed we send a liaison officer to the 79th Division Artillery to conduct liaison between them and 36th Division Artillery. The Battalion Commander sent 1st Lieutenant Shaw on this mission and Captain Bush replaced Lieutenant Shaw on liaison with the 142nd Infantry.

Summary of firing: 573 rounds of HE and 28 rounds of Smoke were fired on 24 missions. Reported destruction of one enemy tank and vehicles with many enemy personnel casualties.

23 JANUARY 1945: During the afternoon Service Battery advised they had finally found a position on the western outskirts of Brumath. Up to that time they had been living in tents since their move from Haguenau area.

Our mission continued to be general support of the Division.

The 143rd Infantry were recommitted during the afternoon and 1st Lieutenant Reynolds was sent on liaison to them.

Summary of firing: 435 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of Smoke were fired on 22 missions.

24 JANUARY 1945: 1st Lieutenant Reynolds was dispatched this date on liaison to the 143rd Infantry Command Post. By order of the 79th Infantry Division Lieutenant Colonel Snow, being senior officer in NIEDERSCHAETPOLSHEIM, was appointed Town Commander to coordinate local security of the town during the period of our occupancy. Necessary arrangements were made.

Summary of firing: 464 rounds of HE and 24 rounds of Smoke were fired on 22 missions. A direct hit was observed on one enemy gun and one tank was set afire.

S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

25 JANUARY 1945: We were advised by 36th Division Artillery that if the enemy was successful in his penetration efforts in the vicinity of SCHWEIGHAUSEN we are directed to displace to the area now occupied by the 499th Field Artillery Battalion in the 98-12 and 98-13 coords. square. The Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders made a reconnaissance in this area during the morning - vicinity of STEPHANSFELD.

Summary of firing: 142 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of Smoke were fired on 10 missions.

26 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander attended a conference of the Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery at the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion Command Post, after which he reported that he had made a personal reconnaissance in the vicinity of GRIES, where we were scheduled to displace to if plans for the proposed division attack materialized. This proposed attack is to clear the sector from Bischwiller to the Rhine. Further reconnaissance and movements to be upon order of Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery.

Summary of firing: 183 rounds of HE and 5 rounds of Smoke were fired on 10 missions.

27 JANUARY 1945: There were no important incidents this date.

Summary of firing: 150 rounds of HE were fired on 9 missions.

28 JANUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander was called to 36th Division Artillery Command Post during the morning and upon his return he sent 1st Lieutenant Beaman W. Sam from St. Louis, Missouri, to the Observation Post in KILSTETT (French Sector) to observe and conduct the 33rd Field Artillery Group fire on "bunkers" on the East bank of the Rhine. The Battalion Commander advised that the Division plan for attack east of BISCHWILLER was now a Corps plan - to clear the enemy from area West of Rhine, South of OBERHOFFEN-DRUSENHEIM line. The Battalion Commander then took the Battery Commanders on a reconnaissance in the vicinity of GRIES. The Battalion Executive returned from Bains les Bains today.

Summary of firing: 174 rounds of HE were fired on 12 missions.

29 JANUARY 1945: The 36th Infantry Division Artillery Operations Instructions received today placed the battalion in general support of the division - for the coming attack - and to reinforce fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion and 133rd Field Artillery Battalion on call. We are to prepare initial positions in vicinity -

S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

coords 063-177 - and to occupy this position with one registering piece on night of D-3; occupies position with remainder of Battalion on night of D-2; liaison to be furnished to 142nd and 143rd Regimental Combat Teams. The Battalion Commander went to the new position area and ordered Battery "B" to displace one gun section there during the afternoon for registering. At 1815 the Battalion Commander advised Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery, that he would move one battery to the new position tomorrow morning and the balance of the battalion after 1200 hours - unless ordered otherwise. Battery "B" was then ordered to prepare to displace in the morning.

Summary of firing: 121 rounds of HE and one round of Smoke were fired on 9 missions.

30 JANUARY 1945: Battery "B" displaced, as ordered, at 0900 to coords 061-175, but at 1045, Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery ordered that the battalion would not move until further orders were given; Battery "B" to remain in their new position.

Summary of firing: 137 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke were fired on 8 missions.

31 JANUARY 1945: At 0800 we were ordered by 36th Division Artillery, to return Battery "B" to the battalion area and wait further orders pertaining to displacement of the battalion. The Battalion Commander visited 36th Division Artillery Command Post in order to request permission to leave Battery "B" in their new position temporarily at least and at 1145 we were ordered by Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery to let Battery "B" remain in their new position and that the rest of the battalion would move after 1200 hours this date. Battery "A" and "C" displaced afternoon and beforenoon, respectively, but Headquarters Battery did not move until later in the afternoon. By 1630 the battalion had closed on the new area - vicinity GRIES. For route and disposition see Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVIII-15 BRUMATH.

The Battalion Air Observation Post moved today to the vicinity of SCHWINDRATZHEIM. Warrant Officer Stanley W. Huth, Battalion Personnel Officer, arrived this evening with the Battalion Pryrolls.

Summary of firing: 102 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of Smoke were fired on 4 missions.

During the month only one replacement was received: Private First Class Emanuel C. Kautz, 36 229 008 and assigned to Battery "C" as machine gunner.

For the period 1 January to 31 January 1945 this battalion suffered no Battle Casualties.

S E C R E T

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HEADQUARTERS 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. 36 U.S. ARMY

09 March 1945

L-1043

SUBJECT : Transmittal of Narrative History and Battalion Commander's Conclusion.

TO : Commanding General,
36th Infantry Division,
A.P.O. 36, U.S. Army.

1. Transmitted herewith Battalion History for the month of February 1945 in sextuplicate.

2. The month of February was generally very quiet in the sector in which this battalion was operating. Our mission for most of the period was General Support.

Warm weather caused early thawing of the ground and melting of snow which caused the roads to become practicably impassable in places and extremely difficult to supply ammunition to the howitzers, lay and service wire nets over cross-country routes. Four weasels, borrowed from the Infantry, proved their value for this service during the period. One each was assigned to each firing battery for distributing ammunition from the battery dumps, located accessably to the main road, to the howitzer positions and one to Headquarters Battery for laying and serviceing wire. It is recommended that four weasels be added to each Artillery battalion in excess of T/O and T/E during the rainy seasons to be used for this purpose through the heavy mud and terrain over which other vehicles can not operate.

During the month the battalion was pulled out of the line for one week's training. After a period of more than six months continuous service in combat, this short period of training proved valuable in many respects. It afforded an opportunity to improve our technique which had become lax due to the long period of active service. It permitted an opportunity to improve our military discipline, military courtesy and improvement of accuracy throughout the battalion by close supervision and check of all operations.

Clifford M. Snow
CLIFFORD M. SNOW
Lieutenant Colonel, F.A.
Commanding

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DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, *NNO 735017*

By *RB/VSU*

NARA, Date *8-8-82*

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155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE, FEBRUARY 1945

L-1043

During the night of 30 January and the following day the battalion moved to GRIES preparatory to the VI Corps offensive to clear the enemy from the BISCHWILLER sector east to the RHINE River. The service elements of the battalion were in the southern outskirts of BRUMATH, Personnel Section with the 36th Infantry Division Rear in ARZVILLER and the battalion had two ground Observation Posts: Battery "A" at KAULTEHAUSEN and Battery "C" at BISCHWILLER. The battalion Air OP was in the vicinity of SCHWINDRATZHEIM.

1 FEBRUARY 1945: 1st Lieutenant ROBERT E. REYNOLDS, Philadelphia, Pa, on Liaison with the 143rd Infantry Regiment, visited the Battalion Command Post and advised at 0900 that the first preparatory phase of the attack had been successful. The Battalion Commander directed that Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH, Cane Hill, Arkansas, replace 1st Lieutenant Robert E. Reynolds on this liaison mission and then Lieutenant Reynolds took over the duties as Assistant S-2.

Summary of firing: 283 rounds of HE and 19 Smoke were fired on 15 missions.

2 FEBRUARY 1945: Other than the report that the French had liberated Colmar, there were no important incidents this date.

Summary of firings: 404 rounds of HE and 11 rounds of smoke were fired on 20 missions. Reported destruction of two enemy tanks.

3 FEBRUARY 1945: The 143rd Regimental Combat Team took and occupied ROHRWILLER during the morning and the 141st Regimental Combat Team were fighting on the southern outskirts of HERRLISHEIM.

Summary of firing: 734 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of Smoke were fired on 24 missions.

4 FEBRUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel CLIFFORD M. SNOW, Amarillo, Texas, was called to the 36th Division Artillery Command Post at 1530 hours and at 1615 notified the Battalion Executive by telephone to have all battery commanders meet him in the center of WEITERUCH immediately, prepared to make reconnaissance for new positions; battalion to probably move the following morning.

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At 1715 the Battalion Commander returned to the Command Post and ordered that Battery "A" displace tomorrow morning to position reconnoitered in WEITERUCH. Batteries "B" and "C" to displace in the afternoon with Headquarters Battery. This move was necessitated by the 36th Infantry Division having their sector enlarged due to the relief of the 79th Infantry Division from their sector.

Summary of firing: 151 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of Smoke were fired on 14 missions.

5 FEBRUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander went to the WEITERUCH area at 0900 and Battery "A" displaced, shortly thereafter. Headquarters Battery moved by sections during the late morning and early afternoon. By VOCC, 36th Division Artillery, Battery "C" was directed to remain in their present position in order that 36th Division Artillery would have one battery to fire across the Rhine. Battery "B" moved to the WEITERUCH area after noon and Battery "A"'s OP was moved from KAULEN-HAUSEN to the southern outskirts of HAGUENAU. Battery "C" joined with Battery "B" to operate the OP at BISCHWILLER.

There was no firing this date. (For route and disposition see Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVIII - 15 BRUMATH).

6 FEBRUARY 1945: The 141st Regimental Combat Team took and occupied HERRLISHEIM early this morning and the 142nd Regimental Combat Team was fighting to take the remainder of OBERHOFEN.

The Battalion Commander met with all Battery Commanders during the morning and discussed the policing of areas in the division sector. The Battalion Executive was put in charge of the detail to go forward today to police an area in the vicinity of WASSELONNE. The party went forward during the afternoon and plans were made for policing tomorrow morning. Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery and the 36th Division Artillery Executive Officer visited the Command Post during the morning.

Summary of firing: 177 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of Smoke were fired on 7 missions.

7 FEBRUARY 1945: There were no important incidents on this date, except that Battery "A"'s Observation Post at HAGUENAU was dismantled.

Summary of firing: 87 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke were fired on 5 missions. Observed four direct hits on an enemy held railroad station.

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8 - 9 FEBRUARY 1945: There were no important incidents on these dates.

Summary of firing: 8 February - 68 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of Smoke were fired on 6 missions. 9 February - 406 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke were fired on 13 missions. Observed 2 hits on a house, in which enemy personnel were billeted.

10 FEBRUARY 1945: The Observation Post at BISCHWILLER is now being operated alternately by the three firing batteries.

Summary of firing: 560 rounds of HE and 56 rounds of Smoke were fired on 23 missions. 1 direct hit was observed on enemy Observation Post.

11 FEBRUARY 1945: Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH returned from Liaison with the 143rd Infantry Regiment. 143rd Infantry Regiment relieved today by the 141st Infantry Regiment.

Summary of firing: 188 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of Smoke were fired on 10 missions. Observed 3 direct hits on an enemy Observation Post.

12 FEBRUARY 1945: Oberhoffen is now reported in our hands.

Summary of firing: 85 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke were fired on 7 missions. 15 direct hits were observed on two enemy strong points and enemy armor.

13 FEBRUARY 1945: No important incidents this date.

Summary of firing: 203 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of Smoke were fired on 11 missions. Observed direct hits on enemy installations.

PERIOD 14 to 17 FEBRUARY INCLUSIVE: There were no important incidents these dates. On February 16th the Battalion Commander, as Town Commander organized "local security" for the town of WEITERBACH.

Summary of firing: 14th - 150 rounds of HE and 8 rounds of Smoke were fired on 8 missions. 15th - 74 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of Smoke were fired on 5 missions; reported 3 hits on enemy tanks and SPs. 16th - 76 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke were fired on 6 missions. 17th - No firing this date.

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18 FEBRUARY 1945: Following a conference at the 36th Division Artillery Command Post, the Battalion Commander advised that his battalion would probably be relieved from combat during the middle of the week and displace to the vicinity of HOCHFELDEN for training and rehabilitation (to include calibration of the howitzers).

Summary of firing: 9 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke were fired on 2 missions.

19 FEBRUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander and acting S-2 made a reconnaissance in MUTZENHAUSEN and SCHAFTHAUSEN for possible battery areas.

Summary of firing: 85 rounds of HE and 5 rounds of Smoke were fired on 8 missions.

20 FEBRUARY 1945: Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery directed the battalion prepare to move to the reconnoitered areas tomorrow; further reconnaissances were to be made this morning; the training schedule will begin 22 February for five days ($\frac{1}{2}$ day for calibration of the howitzers) and then the battalion will be prepared to come back into the line.

The Battalion Commander called a meeting of all Battery Commanders for 1000 hours. At the meeting he directed that Batteries "B" and "C" reconnoiter in MUTZENHAUSEN and Headquarters Battery and Battery "A" in SCHAFTHAUSEN. Service Battery will remain in BRUMATH and the 938th Field Artillery Battalion will take over our wire communication in WEITERUCH.

After the reconnaissance the Battalion Commander again met with the Battery Commanders and his staff and ordered displacement by battery tomorrow morning - Headquarters Battery at 0900; Battery "C" at 1000; Battery "B" at 1030 and Battery "A" at 1230 - route GRIES, KURTZENHAUSEN, WEYERSHEIM, GUDERTHEIM, BRUMATH, MORNENHEIM and HOCHFELDEN. (This route was necessary due to the condition of the road between WEITERUCH and BRUMATH, recent thawing having rendered it very poor). At the meeting the scheduled training program was discussed and it was noted that Captain Farber and Richards of the 36th Division Artillery Staff would be with us during the trainign period.

Summary of firing: 149 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of Smokes were fired on 7 missions.

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21 FEBRUARY 1945: The Battalion Commander departed early for the new battery areas and the battalion moved as ordered. By 1400 all batteries had closed on their designated positions. (For route and disposition see Map France, 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVIII - 15 BRUMATH).

36th Infantry Division Operations Instructions received this date, directed that the 36th Infantry Division, upon relief by the 3 DIA (French) relieves the 101st Air Borne Division in Zone (to be completed by 260600 February 1945).

The Battalion Commander, by orders of 36th Division Security Officer, was made Town Commander and organized local security for the town of SCHAFTHAUSEN.

Captain Richards and Farber arrived at the Command Post to join the battalion for the training period.

This Battalion completed this date 191 continuous days of combat, beginning with D-Day, 15 August 1944.

No firing this date.

22 to 25 FEBRUARY INCLUSIVE: Training and rehabilitation program, as per attached 36th Infantry Division Artillery schedule was in effect.

No firing during this period.

26 FEBRUARY 1945: After the calibration of howitzers the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders went on a reconnaissance in the vicinity of WINTERHAUSEN, for battery positions to be occupied on or about 23 February. Positions were found for Headquarters Battery, Battery "A" and Battery "B" in the vicinity of WINTERHAUSEN, and for Battery "C" in the vicinity of HERSTHEIM.

27 FEBRUARY 1945: Captain LEROY L. BELL, O-418651, of San Antonio, Texas returned from hospital today and was assigned as 36th Infantry Division Liaison Officer to VI Corps per WOGG. 1st Lieutenant Shaw returned from 36th Division Artillery Liaison duties.

At the Battalion Commanders meeting this evening, the Battalion Commander directed that beginning at 0900 tomorrow batteries would displace in the order of Headquarters, "B", "A", and "C".

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28 FEBRUARY 1945: Displacing as per schedule, the battalion closed in new positions prior to 1400 this date - (for route and disposition see Map France, 1/50,000 Sheets XXXVIII - 15 BRUMATH and XXXVIII - 14 HAGUENAU). Battery "A" found a better position in the vicinity of NIEDERSCHAEFFELSHIM. Other batteries went into position as originally reconnoitered.

Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH was dispatched on liaison duties to the 143rd Infantry Command Post.

Observation Posts were established at UHRWILLER and operated by "E" and "G" batteries. Observation Posts at HAGUENAU were operated by "A" and "B" batteries.

Summary of firing: 149 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of Smoke were fired on 7 missions.

The following four enlisted men were received on 21 February as replacements:

Pvt 1cl RICHARD C. HALES, 36 992 664
Pvt ROBERT A. KRESGE, 33 623 679
Pvt HENRY E. JOHNSON, 6 144 767
Pvt RALPH E. MERKLEY, 35 814 841

EXHIBITS:

- A - Commendation.
- B - Casualty List.
- C - Officers Roster.
- D - Officer Duty Changes.
- E - Unit Journal.
- F - Missions Flown by Air Section.
- G - S - 3 Reports.
- H - Daily Reports of Firing.
- I - Training Schedule.
- J - Summary of Firing.
- K - Overlays, Maps and Firing Charts.

Stanley W. Huth
STANLEY W. HUTH
WOJG, U.S.A.
Unit Historian

~~SECRET~~

The following type of casualties occurred during this period:

<u>TYPE OF CASUALTY</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED MEN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
KIA	0	0	0
LOI	0	0	0
LIA	0	1	1
SIA	0	0	0
DIA	0	0	0
LWA	0	0	0
SWA	0	0	0
MIA	0	0	0
ICW	0	0	0
	0	1	0

"AWARDS"
"PERSONS WHO RECEIVED CITIATIONS RECEIVED"
"DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

- Name
2nd Lieutenant Julius E. Kollub, O2 055 216, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Houston, Texas.

Origin of Award
Section I, General Orders No. 41, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 21 February 1945.

Date of Deed
2nd and 3rd of January 1945.
- Name
2nd Lieutenant Karl F. Martin Jr., O1 180 599, Battery "A", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Origin of Award
Section III, General Orders No. 40, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 20 February 1945.

Date of Deed
2nd and 3rd of January 1945.
- Name
Pvt 1st Saverino G. Glisci, 32 686 626, Battery "A", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Bronx, New York.

Origin of Award
Section III, General Orders No. 45, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 23 February 1945.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
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DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 735017

By RB/VSw

NARA, Date 8-8-92

~~SECRET~~

Date of Deed

2nd and 3rd of January 1945.

L-1043

4. Name

Private Damon L. Payne, 38 039 058, Headquarters Battery, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Gilmer, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section II, General Orders, No. 32, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 17 February 1945.

"FIRST CAK LEAD CLUSTER IN LIEU OF
SECOND BRONZE STAR MEDAL RECEIVED DURING THIS PERIOD"

1. Name

Corporal William B. Weeks, 20 816 473, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Worth, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section III, General Orders No. 44, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 22 February 1945.

Date of Deed

2nd and 3rd of January 1945.

The following is a list of casualties that occurred during this period:

NAME	RANK	ASN	TYPE CAS.	ORGAN	DATE CAS. OCCURRED	HOME ADDRESS
THILMAN, L. B.	Pvt 1cl	34445956	LIA	"C" Btry	9 Feb 45	Route # 2 Moultrie, Ga.

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS
405TH FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP
APO 758

4 February 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery.

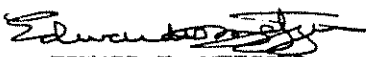
THRU : Commanding General, VI Corps Artillery.

1. I desire to commend the 155th Field Artillery Battalion of the 36th Infantry Division Artillery, Lieutenant Colonel Clifford M. Snow commanding, for the manner in which the battalion performed its mission during a temporary attachment to this Group for the period January 1st to 3rd, 1945, inclusive.

2. This battalion moved into the sector of Task Force Huddleston and was placed in direct support of the 313th Infantry, during a critical period when this portion of the Corps sector was under heavy attack by enemy forces. The expeditious and aggressive manner in which their mission was performed in a difficult situation was, in a great measure, responsible for containing the enemy attack and helped prevent a serious breakthrough on this front.

3. The organization of the battalion for reconnaissance, the movement of the firing batteries into position, the organization and establishment of communications was prompt and decisive. The dispatch of liaison officers and forward observers to supported units was quickly done and the battalion was prepared to deliver effective support within a short time after arrival.

4. The cooperation and handling of fire missions by Major Gilmer, the Battalion S-3, was superior.


EDWARD H. METZGER
Colonel, FA
Commanding

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS ARTILLERY, APO 46, US Army, 6 February 1945.

TO: Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery.
(Thru: Commanding General, VI Corps, APO 46, US Army.)

I desire to add my commendation to the remarks in basic letter.



CARL A. DASHER
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Commanding

AG 201.2

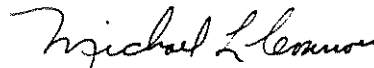
2d Ind.

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS, APO #46, U. S. Army, 13 February 1945.

TO: Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division, APO #36, U. S. Army.

The Corps Commander is pleased to note and forward this commendation.

By command of Major General BROOKS:



MICHAEL L. CONNORS
Colonel, A. G. D.
Adjutant General

182-1041

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 735017

By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 8-8-92

AG 201.2

3d Ind

HBK/vc

(4 February 1945)

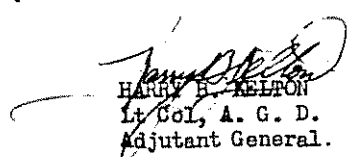
Hq 36th Inf Div, APO #36, U. S. Army, 17 February 1945.

To: Commanding Officer, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, APO #36, U. S. Army.

Thru: Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery, APO #36, U. S. Army.

The Commanding General is pleased to note and forward this commendation. The efficient operation of the Battalion and the fine spirit of cooperation displayed is worthy of the best traditions of the 36th Infantry Division.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:


HARRY B. KELTON
Lt Col, A. G. D.
Adjutant General.

AG 201.2 (4 Feb 45)

4th Ind.

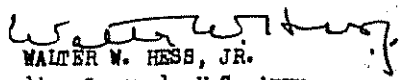
NWH/hsg

Hqs. 36th Inf Div Arty., APO 36, U.S. Army, 21 February 1945.

TO: Commanding Officer, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, APO 36, U.S. Army.

To the commendation mentioned in the basic communication, I desire to add my personal pleasure in forwarding this commendation. All members of such an efficient battalion, which has always been very cooperative, can well have the utmost pride in being a part thereof. It is particularly pleasing to note the continued prompt, efficient manner in which your battalion functions with units other than this division. This is especially commendable and reflects great credit on the leadership displayed.

This commendation should be brought to the attention of all, and a copy put in each 201 file, especially those of yourself and Major Gilmer who are to be particularly complimented.


WALTER W. HESS, JR.
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding

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- 4 -

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NNQ 235017

By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 5-8-92

HEADQUARTERS 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. No. 36, U. S. Army

28 February 1945.

NAME	GRADE	ASN	DUTY	ENTERED SERVICE FROM
<u>HEADQUARTERS</u>				
SNOW, CLIFFORD M.	Lt. Col.	O-333741	Bn Comdr.	Amarillo, Texas
CLARKE, JAMES T.	Major	O-199453	Bn Exec.	San Antonio, Texas
GILMER, LAWRENCE D.	Major	O-255409	Bn S - 3	Houston, Texas
MOSER, AUGUST C. JR.	Captain	O-295013	Ass't S - 3	Dallas, Texas.
BUSH, WILLIAM L.	Captain	O-407530	Bn Ln Off & F.O.	Gane Hill, Ark.
HAWK, RICHARD B.	Captain	O-415562	Bn Ln Off & F.O.	Dallas, Texas
GARFUNKEL, SYLVAN A.	Captain	O-1166993	No duty asgnd.	Savannah, Ga.
BELL, LEROY L.	Captain	O-418651	No duty asgnd.	San Antonio, Texas
REYNOLDS, ROBERT E.	1st Lt.	O-1167174	Bn S - 2	Philadelphia, Pa.
KENT, RAYMOND F.	1st Lt.	O-1176092	Ass't S - 2	Lawrence, Mass.
JUDSON, PAUL F.	1st Lt.	O-1181319	Bn Aerial Obs.	Columbia, S. C.
DOLLINGER, JOSEPH	Captain	O-1689338	Bn Medical Off.	New York, N.Y.
HUTH, STANLEY W.	WOJG	W-2103253	Pers. Off.	San Antonio, Texas.
<u>HEADQUARTERS BATTERY</u>				
WILLIAMSON, MARTIN W.	Captain	O-1167257	Btry CO.	Berlin, Ala.
NELSON, WALTER M.	1st Lt.	O-1170836	Communications Off.	Pittsburgh, Pa.
SVOBCDA, ARTIE F.	1st Lt.	O-1180360	Air Obs. Pilot	Ellsworth, Kansas
MARTIN, JACK	2nd Lt.	O-1691871	Air Obs. Pilot	Tulsa, Okla.
<u>"A" BATTERY</u>				
EVANS, GERALD W.	Captain	O-1165012	Btry CO	Wyola, Montana
BENT, CHARLES A.	1st Lt.	O-1175945	Exec Off.	Milton, Mass.
SAM, BEAMAN W.	1st Lt.	O-1172638	Reconn Off.	St. Louis, Mo.
MARTIN, KARL F.	1st Lt.	O-1180599	Mtr. Off.	Tulsa, Okla.
<u>"B" BATTERY</u>				
NEWSOM, CLARENCE C.	Captain	O-1167141	Btry CO	Coffee Springs, Ala.
BURPO, FRANK W.	1st Lt.	O-1703017	Exec Off.	Dallas, Texas.
HOLLUB, JULIUS E.	2nd Lt.	O-2055216	Reconn Off.	Houston, Texas.
FORD, FLOYD C.	2nd Lt.	O-1692680	Mtr. Off.	Houston, Texas.
<u>"C" BATTERY</u>				
FRANTZ, HARRY P.	Captain	O-404452	Btry CO	Enid, Okla.
CHOCKLEY, PHILLIP A.	1st Lt.	O-1177328	Btry Exec.	Shelbyville, Tenn.
MOORE, MERLE G.	1st Lt.	O-1177102	Reconn Off.	Iola, Kansas
SCHAEFFER, GILBERT P.	2nd Lt.	O-2055088	Mtr. Off.	Houston, Texas.
<u>SERVICE BATTERY</u>				
VINES, WALTON M.	Captain	O-1167257	Btry CO & S-4	Pinson, Ala.
STEWART, JACK R.	1st Lt.	O-403496	Ammo Off.	San Antonio, Texas.
BAILEY, HAROLD W.	1st Lt.	O-1168543	Bn Mtr. Off.	Endicott, N. Y.
SHAW, HUGH W.	1st Lt.	O-1179705	Btry Mtr. Off.	Hollywood, Cal.
SCHAEFFER, CARLO H.	WOJG	W-2130731	Ass't S - 4	Boerne, Texas

S E C R E T

28 February 1945.

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SUBJECT: Assignments, Losses, and Changes of Duty of Battalion Officers for the month of February 1945.

1. Captain LEROY L. BELL, O-418651, assigned and joined battalion per Special Cruisers, 103rd Station Hospital. No duty assigned.
2. Captain SILVIA A. GARDNER, O-166993, assigned and joined battalion from 131st Field Artillery Battalion. No duty assigned.
3. Captain WILLIAM J. JESSUP, O-415050, S - 2, transferred to 131st Field Artillery Battalion.
4. 1st Lieutenant ROBERT E. REMOLDS, O-1167174, Assistant S - 2 to S - 2 vice Captain WILLIAM J. JESSUP, O-415050, transferred.
5. 1st Lieutenant RALPH D. KEAT, O-1176098, from Aerial Observer, Non-Pilot, to Assistant S - 2, vice 1st Lieutenant ROBERT E. REMOLDS, O-1167174, reassigned.
6. 1st Lieutenant PAUL F. JUDSON, O-1181319, from Executive Officer, Battery "B" to Aerial Observer, Non-Pilot, vice 1st Lieutenant RALPH D. KEAT, O-1176098, reassigned.
7. 1st Lieutenant FRANK W. BURPO, O-1703017, from R. C. Battery "B" to Executive Officer, Battery "B", vice 1st Lieutenant PAUL F. JUDSON, O-1181319, reassigned.
8. 2nd Lieutenant JULIUS E. HOLLUB, O-2055216, from Motor Officer, Battery "B" to R. C. Battery "B", vice 1st Lieutenant FRANK W. BURPO, O-1703017, reassigned.
9. 1st Lieutenant ROGER W. SHAW, O-1179705, from Battalion Staff, Unassigned to Motor Officer, Service Battery.
10. 2nd Lieutenant FLOYD J. FORD, O-1692680, from Motor Officer, Headquarters Battery, to Motor Officer, Battery "B" vice 2nd Lieutenant JULIUS E. HOLLUB, O-2055216, reassigned.

15
S E C R E T

155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE AND GERMANY, MARCH 1945

L-1044

On 28 February the battalion moved to the vicinity of WINTERHOUSEN. (See Maps France, 1/50,000 Sheets XXXVIII-14 HAGUENAU and XXXVIII-15 BRUMATH for disposition of batteries. The Battalion Personnel Section with the 36th Infantry Division Rear was in Brumath and the Battalion Service Battery and Motor Shop were also in BRUMATH. Two ground Observation Posts were in operation, one at HAGUENAU and one at UHLWILLER. Our mission was general support of the 36th Infantry Division.

1 - 11 MARCH 1945: There were no important incidents during the period.

On 2 March Major LAWRENCE D. GILLER, Battalion S-3 from Houston, Texas, was placed on special duty at the 36th Division Artillery as S-2 pending the return of the Division Artillery S-2.

On 5 March between 0130 and 0600 twenty rounds of harassing enemy artillery fell in the battalion area; no casualties or damages were received.

On 10 March Captain Frazier, Communications Officer, 14th Armored Division, visited the battalion Command Post on reconnaissance for positions. The 14th Armored Division are to relieve the 36th Infantry Division or elements of it in this sector. Lieutenant Colonel VANCE, Commanding Officer, 499th Field Artillery Battalion (14th Armored Division) later visits the Command Post with the information that they will move into this area tomorrow.

In order to make room for the incoming troops, the Battalion Executive requested through 36th Division Transportation for the evacuation of refugees from the town of WINTERHAUSEN. The following day Captain HINKLEY, CIG, requested a detail of 15 men from this battalion to help in the evacuation, which was accomplished during the afternoon.

11 MARCH 1945: Captain LEROY L. BELL of San Antonio, Texas, departed today for the hospital and reclassification.

SUMMARY OF FIRING:

CLASSIFICATION

CANCELLED

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

1 March - 130 rounds HE and 6 rounds of Smoke fired on missions.

2 March - 79 rounds HE and 6 rounds of Smoke fired on missions reported on enemy Command Post.

3 March - 168 rounds HE and 11 rounds of Smoke fired on missions reported on enemy Command Post.

4 March - 11 rounds HE and 1 round of Smoke fired on 1 mission.

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5 March - 112 rounds HE and 7 rounds of Smoke fired on 13 missions. 5 hits reported on enemy barracks and fire started in enemy gun pits.

6 March - 58 rounds HE and 3 rounds of Smoke fired on 4 missions.

7 March - 16 rounds of HE and 1 round of Smoke fired on 1 mission.

8 March - 4 rounds of HE fired on 1 mission.

9 March - 85 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke fired on 5 missions. 5 hits reported on house in which enemy personnel were quartered.

10 March - 35 rounds of HE fired on 2 missions.

11 March - 6 rounds of HE fired on 3 missions.

12 MARCH 1945: The Battalion Commander attended a meeting at 36th Infantry Division Artillery during the morning and afterwards went on a reconnaissance with the Battalion S-2 for positions in the vicinity of HUPFENDORF. Later in the day the Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery, directed that one battery be infiltrated into position (vicinity HUPFENDORF) during the following morning, and one battery later under cover of darkness; the third battery the following day. The Battalion Commander met with his Staff and Battery Commanders and ordered reconnaissance for 0800 tomorrow morning and to prepare positions for occupancy during the day.

Summary of firing: 37 rounds of HE and 3 rounds of Smoke fired on 4 missions. Several hits reported on enemy Observation Post and two hits observed on self-propelled gun.

13 MARCH 1945: At 0800 the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders departed with their parties on reconnaissance to the vicinity of MORSCHWILLER and HUPFENDORF. At 0930 the reconnaissance party returned and Batteries "A" and "C" were given "close station". At 1200 Battery "A" displaced by infiltration and closed on new position in the vicinity of MORSCHWILLER at 1345. Batteries "B" and "C" followed after dusk and by 1845 these two batteries were in position. For route and disposition see Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXVIII-14 HAGUEBAU.

Summary of firing: 87 rounds of HE fired on 5 missions.

14 MARCH 1945: Headquarters Battery moved early in the morning to HUPFENDORF. Our mission was general support of the 36th Infantry Division and to reinforce the fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion and the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion. The occupation of these positions was made prior to and in accordance with Operations "Undertone"; the 36th Infantry Division's objective was to capture WISSEMBOURG and the high ground north of WISSEMBOURG, uncovering Siegfried Line in zone. (D-Day 15 March).

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1st Lieutenant RAYMOND P. KEMT was dispatched on liaison to 103rd Infantry Division for 36th Infantry Division Artillery. Major LAWRENCE D. GILLER returned from Special Duty at the 36th Infantry Division Artillery and Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH was sent on liaison to the 143rd Infantry Command Post.

Summary of firing: 20 rounds of HE fired on 2 missions.

15 MARCH 1945: (D-Day for "Operations Overland; 1300 H-Hour"). Lieutenant BRYANT, Commanding Officer, Company "C", 630 Tank Destroyer Battalion visited the Command Post to arrange for the attachment of his company to the battalion for the coming operations. At 1040 Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH, of Cane Hill, Arkansas, sent the following information from the 143rd Infantry Command Post: 42nd Infantry Division on the left flank of the 103rd Infantry Division are walking thru without opposition. 103rd Infantry Division are in GIMMERSHOFFEN. Elements of the 142nd Infantry in the south end of MERTZWILLER and the 143rd had cleared BITSCHOFFEN and edge of the woods south of LIETESHEIM. During the morning the Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery visited the Battalion Command Post and firing batteries.

Summary of firing: 991 rounds of HE and 13 rounds of Smoke fired on 35 missions.

16 MARCH 1945: At 1150 Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery directed that the battalion move this afternoon to vicinity north of UEBERACH. At 1300 the Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders went on a reconnaissance for battery positions. Upon their return batteries "C" and "B" displaced, with Headquarters Battery, to the vicinity of UEBERACH. A portion of the Fire Direction Center personnel with Battalion S-3 remained in the old position, firing Battery "A" until after 1700. By 1820 the last Battery (A) had closed on its new position (including Company "C" of the 630 Tank Destroyer Battalion). For route and disposition see Map France, 1/50,000 Sheet XXXIII-14 HAGUEBAU. When the Battalion Commander arrived at the Command Post he brought the information that the 143rd Infantry had occupied GRIESBACH and a battalion of the 143rd Infantry with tanks, were pushing forward to take GUMSTETT. Captain WALTER M. VINES, of Pinson, Alabama, visited the Command Post with the advice he would move Service Battery and Battalion Motor Shop to MORSCHWILLER tomorrow. Today the 7th Army captured BITCHE and HAGUEBAU fell to the 36th Infantry Division.

Summary of firing: 333 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of Smoke fired on 17 missions.

17 MARCH 1945: Major LUTHER E. ORRICK, Commanding Officer, 131st Field Artillery Battalion, of Italy Teams and Captain KANE, visited the Command Post to arrange for our direct support of a battalion of the 141st

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Regimental Combat Team until the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion is ready to take over general support of the 141st Infantry. At 0900 Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH brought in the information that the 143rd Regimental Combat Team was fighting in GUNSTETT. At 0925 the Battalion Commander returned from a meeting at 36th Infantry Division Artillery and directed that Battery Commanders meet him at 0930 for reconnaissance in the vicinity of GRIESBACH. Captain WALTER M. VINES, upon hearing of our pending displacement, decided to move his Service Battery and Battalion Motor Shop to this town rather than MUNSCHWILLER.

The Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel CLIFFORD M. SLOW, of Amarillo, Texas, upon returning from reconnaissance, went to 36th Infantry Division Artillery and at 1300 telephoned the Battalion Executive to march the battalion at 1400 in the order of "B", "C", and "A" (Headquarters Battery to infiltrate); Batteries to occupy reconnoitered positions. At 1530 the battalion, including Company "C", 630 Tank Destroyer Battalion had closed on their new positions in the vicinity of GRIESBACH. (For route and disposition see Map France, 1/50,000, Sheet XXXVIII-14 HAGUENAU). Staff Sergeant STEWART T. STABELL, Chief of Section from Houston, Texas, received his Battle Field Promotion as 2nd Lieutenant today.

1st Battalion of the 143rd Regimental Combat Team is fighting in GUNSTETT and the 3rd Battalion in EIBLISHEIM.

Summary of firing: 460 rounds of IE and 6 rounds of Smoke fired on 10 missions. 2 hits reported on enemy guns.

18 MARCH 1945: A message from Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery at 0745 directed reconnaissance be made in the DIFENBACH-les WOERTH area. Battery Commanders were notified to meet the Battalion Commander at the Command Post for this reconnaissance - with displacement tentatively scheduled for the afternoon. At 0830 message was received from 36th Division Artillery that we were to follow the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion after it had cleared GUNSTETT. The Battalion Commander directed thru Captain AUGUST C. MOSER, Assistant Battalion S-3 of Dallas, Texas, that Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH go to the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion Command Post and notify us when they were moving. Shortly afterwards Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery directed that we stay in our present position until further orders were received. At 1115 information was received that the 142nd Regimental Combat Team had taken MERKWILLER. At 1135 the Battalion Commander returned from reconnaissance in the vicinity of OBERDOFF-SPACHBACH and ordered batteries to close station and stand by for further orders from Division Artillery. The progress of the Regimental Combat Teams had continued to be good and it was possible we might move further than reconnoitered. At 1340 Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery directed the Battalion move at 1530 to the vicinity of

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OBERLOFF-SPACHBACH, to bivouac there and be prepared to pick up a battalion of 143rd Infantry tomorrow morning. The Battalion Commander directed Battery Commanders met him at the Command Post at 1500. The Battalion Commander then went to the 133rd Field Artillery Command Post and upon his return - at the meeting with battery commanders - ordered the batteries to move at 1500 in the order Headquarters Battery, "A", "B", "C" and Company "C", 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion - to the reconnoitered areas.

By 1630 the Battalion had closed in their bivouac area in the vicinity of OBERLOFF-SPACHBACH. (For route and disposition see Map France, 1/50,000 Sheet XXVIII-14 HAGUE AU).

At 2200 Captain ROSE, 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry visited the Battalion Commander and arranged for our transporting the 1st Battalion of the 143rd Infantry on our vehicles tomorrow morning. A half an hour later we received Operations Instructions from the 143rd Regimental Combat Team which placed them on a one hour alert beginning at 0700 tomorrow morning.

19 MARCH 1945: At 0745 the Battalion Commander went to the 143rd Infantry 1st Battalion Command Post to coordinate plans for our hauling the battalion of Infantry. Upon his return at 0850 Captain AUGUST C. MOSER came in from liaison visit to 36th Division Artillery and advised that we have been relieved of hauling the battalion of Infantry - we are to select and take up positions in the vicinity of CLEEBROURG 9 Mission - general support of the 36th Infantry Division. The Battalion Commander met with the battery commanders and then departed with them on reconnaissance in the vicinity of CLEEBROURG. Major JAMES T. CLARKE, Battalion Executive of San Antonio, Texas, was directed to march the battalion at noon at which time the battery commanders would be back from reconnaissance.

1st Lieutenant JACK R. STEWART, Battalion Ammunitions Officer of San Antonio, Texas, came into the Command Post at 0930 to bring the information that Service Battery had been moved to GUNSTETT.

At 1000 the Battalion Executive visited the 1st Battalion 143rd Infantry and upon his return at 1045 brought information that we are to carry the battalion of Infantry as originally scheduled - to detruck them at DRACHENBERG and then occupy positions for firing in CLEEBROURG. The Battalion Executive then ordered the battalion to be prepared to move at 1100 and by 1200 the Infantry had entrucked on our vehicles (in the vicinity of GUNSTETT). At this time the Battalion Commander joined the march column and directed the Battalion Executive bring up the rear. In GUNSTETT Captain WALTER L. VILES advised the Battalion Executive that he was moving Service Battery to MEDELSONFELT today. The march column proceeded slowly to its destination - due to congestion and cross traffic. The

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The rendezvous area was fixed when the battalion commander received word from Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery that our troops had pushed on past WISSENBURG: we were to carry the infantry to the south of WISSENBURG and then select and occupy positions on the far side of the town. The Battalion Commander accordingly placed Major GILLER in charge of the rendezvous battalion, less Company "C" 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion (who had been separated from the battalion due to the 752nd Field Artillery Battalion breaking in between them and the last of the firing batteries). The Battalion Commander then went forward on reconnaissance for positions in the vicinity of WISSENBURG - and returned for the battalion and closed on the WISSENBURG area. (For route and disposition see Map France 1/50,000 Sheets XXXVIII-14 HAGUENAU and XXXVIII-13 LEBACH). At 2200 36th Infantry Division Operation Instructions were received "36th Division... continues to attack on axis WISSENBURG - BERGZABERN: to penetrate Siegfried Line and capture BERGZABERN.

1st Lieutenant JACK R. STEWART arrived at the Command Post late in the evening to advise that Service Battery and Battalion Motor Shop were being brought to WISSENBURG tomorrow. Company "C" 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion, being the last element to arrive in the WISSENBURG area was put in rendezvous position for the night.

No firing this date.

20 MARCH 1945: Incoming artillery rounds landed in Battery "C" area several times during the previous night and early morning and at 0830 1st Lieutenant PHILLIP A. CHOCLEY, Executive Officer, Battery "C" of Shelbyville, Tenn, called the Command Post and reported that Corporal GEORGE W. SCHLEGEL, 13081172 of Germantown, Pa., performing the duty of Cannoneer had been seriously wounded a few minutes before and had been evacuated by the 111th Medical Battalion. (Corporal SCHLEGEL died of these wounds on the 21st March).

Company "C" 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion selected positions this morning and two minor injuries were sustained by men thereof from incoming rounds at 0900. 1st Lieutenant HUGH W. SHAW of Hollywood, California was dispatched to 36th Division Artillery on liaison with 103rd Infantry Division, relieving 1st Lieutenant RAYMOND F. KENT of Lawrence, Massachusetts who returned to the Command Post. Through Captain MARTIN W. WILLIAMSON it was learned that Service Battery and the Battalion Motor Shop moved to GERMANIA-les-WISSENBURG this morning. The Battalion Personnel Section, with the 36th Division Rear, moved to our area in WISSENBURG. Lieutenant GUILLOT, 36th Field Artillery Battalion, brought one self-propelled 155-ML to the battalion which will work with us in the demolition of designated pill boxes.

Summary of firing: 719 rounds of HE and 58 rounds of Smoke were fired on 25 missions.

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21 MARCH 1945: During the night's enemy harassing fire - one 210 mm shell hit the corner of the Command Post building; no casualties to personnel or damage to military property.

Summary of firing: 689 rounds of HE and 30 rounds of Smoke were fired on 26 missions. 2 hits were observed on nebelweffer positions.

22 MARCH 1945: The 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion Company "C" was detached from the battalion late today - and displaced shortly after midnight to their battalion headquarters.

Summary of firing: 496 rounds of HE and 10 rounds of Smoke were fired on 24 missions.

23 MARCH 1945: The Battalion Commander left at 0830 for a road reconnaissance in the vicinity of OBERHAUSEN but at 0900 called from 36th Division Artillery Command Post to advise that we will remain in our present area and reinforce the fires of the 131st Field Artillery Battalion, who had moved to this vicinity on the 21st. However at 1115 Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery directed by telephone that the battalion will move this afternoon after the 131st Field Artillery Battalion had displaced, to the vicinity of WINDEN. Battery Commanders were notified to be ready for reconnaissance at 1215. At the meeting prior to going on reconnaissance the Battalion Commander directed the Battery Commanders be prepared to move their batteries to vicinity of WINDEN after the 131st Field Artillery Battalion had displaced. The Battalion Commander then left for 36th Division Artillery Command Post with instructions for the Battery Commanders to meet him in the vicinity of WINDEN and then return to meet their batteries, which would be marched by the Battalion Executive at about 1400.

At 1355 the 131st Field Artillery Battalion cleared the crossroad in WISSEMBOURG and the Battalion Executive marched the battalion in the order of Headquarters Battery, "C", "A", and "B". At 1405 the first vehicle of the march column crossed over the German border. The column marched slowly out of WISSEMBOURG due to the heavy road traffic and at 1500 the Battalion Executive left the halted column under supervision of the Battalion S-3, went forward to BERGZABERN where he met the Battalion Commander. Our march schedule had been changed after the battalion was on the road and we were to follow the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion rather than the 131st Field Artillery Battalion. It was therefore necessary to place the battalion in a rendezvous on the outskirts of BERGZABERN and wait until the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion passed us. (See Map of France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXIV-13 WISSEMBOURG).

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F.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, *NNO 735017*

By *RB/VSM*

NARA, Date *8-8-92*

The Battalion Commander went on a personal reconnaissance for positions at 1710 and sent a radio message back at 1800 hours for battery commanders to meet him in the vicinity of INGENHEIM. At 1900 hours guides began to return for their respective batteries and by 2000 hours the last battery had cleared the rendezvous area - and by 2030 had closed on the new position area in the vicinity of INGENHEIM. (For route and disposition see Map France 1/50,000 Sheet XXXIX-13 WISSEMBOURG). The Battalion Commander directed that batteries be layed for emergency firing only and that preparation should be made for early displacement the following morning to the vicinity of RULZHEIM, to reinforce the fires of the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion (the 143rd Regimental Combat Team had pushed on the Rhine, the 142nd towards RHEINZABERN). Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH had been dispatched to the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion and was to let us know when they were moving. Battery "B" brought in four prisoners captured in their battery area. These were sent to the Prisoner of War cage in BERGZABERN.

Summary of firing: 68 rounds of HE fired on 4 missions.

24 MARCH 1945: At 0300 hours Captain WILLIAM L. BUSH came into the Command Post from the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion to advise the Battalion Commander we could not move in the morning to vicinity of RULZHEIM as the 142nd Regimental Combat Team is still fighting there. 132nd Field Artillery Battalion will move to RHEINZABERN and then to RULZHEIM when cleared. The Battalion Commander therefore went on a reconnaissance to the RULZHEIM area at 0400. He returned at 0630 and directed the battalion march at 0700 to vicinity of HERXHEIM rather than to RULZHEIM as previously instructed. Warrant Officer CARLO H. SCHAEFER of New Braunfels, Texas, arrived at the Command Post and advised that 1st Lieutenant JACK R. STEWART had been mortally wounded by sniper bullets at 2030 hours last night on the outskirts of BERGZABERN near NIEDER-MORBACH. Party was on a reconnaissance for new position for Service Battery and while passing a sign which resembled the battalion sign, Lieutenant Stewart dismounted and walked towards the sign when the sniper opened fire. Lieutenant STEWART had faithfully performed his duties as Ammunition Officer for a number of months in both Italy and France. Lieutenant STEWART comes from San Antonio, Texas. Service Battery and Battalion Motor Shop were to be brought to the HERXHEIM position by direction of the Battalion Commander. The Battalion marched under the supervision of the Battalion Executive at 0700 and closed on the HERXHEIM position by 0800 (For route and disposition see Maps GERMAN Y 1/25,000 Sheets 6814-LANLUA and 6815-HERXHEIM). The Battalion registered but did not fire from this position. A total of 60 prisoners were rounded up by the batteries and turned over to the PW cage in BERGZABERN. Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery visited the Command Post at 1015 and directed the battalion prepare to move to the vicinity of RULZHEIM today with the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion. The

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Battalion Commander left on a reconnaissance of this area at 1130, with the Battery Commanders, and ordered that the battalion march by batteries when ready. The last battery cleared the HERXHEIM area at 1300 and it was necessary to take the firing batteries over the third of three reconnoitered roads because muddy roads of the first two would not take the heavy traffic. By 1500 the batteries closed on the RUTZHEIM area (For route and disposition see Map GERMANY 1/25,000 Sheet 6815-HANNOVER). Our mission here - was general support of the 36th Infantry Division.

Summary of firing: 151 rounds of HE and 27 rounds of Smoke were fired on 10 missions.

25 MARCH 1945: This morning we received information on division sector from Major GILES, 36th Division Artillery S-3, that the division sector had been enlarged to include part of the sector of the 71st Infantry Division. We are to continue in general support of the division with priority to the 143rd Infantry sector. Lieutenant GUILLOT advised this morning that the SP E-12 155mm gun would be detached from the battalion today. A total of 10 prisoners were brought in by Headquarters Battery and Battery "A", which were sent to the PW cage.

Summary of firing: 254 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke were fired on 12 missions.

26-28 MARCH 45: No important incidents these dates.

On March 28th - 1st Lieutenant STEPHANIE, from 36th Division Artillery, telephoned that the Commanding General directed we send quartering party to their headquarters at 1600. The town of MORZHEIM has been allotted to this battalion for assembly area. 1st Lieutenant ROBERT E. REYNOLDS, Battalion S-2 from Philadelphia, Pa., was detailed by the Battalion Commander to take the survey section on this detail. Battery Commanders were notified we would probably move tomorrow.

Summary of firing:

- 26 March - 223 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of Smoke fired on 8 missions.
- 27 March - 67 rounds of HE and 5 rounds of Smoke fired on 5 missions.
- 28 March - No firing this date.

29 MARCH 1945: Captain WALTON M. VINES, Battalion S-4, visited the Command Post and arranged with the Battalion Commander to meet him for reconnaissance in the MORZHEIM area. At 0640 Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery directed that the battalion clear the IP in MORZHEIM at 1300 (after the 736 Reconnaissance) and move via HERXHEIM, D-SHEIN, IMPLINGEN to MORZHEIM. The Battalion Commander and Battery

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Commanders went on reconnaissance at 0900 and returned to march with the battalion at 1215. This march time was later changed by 36th Division Artillery, 36th Infantry General to 1200 - to occur at IP at 1215. The battalion marched as column. Battery joined the march column in BERGHEIM. By 1500 the Battalion closed on the new area (See Maps Germany, 1/25,000 Sheets 6815-HAIDEN and 6814-LAIDAU). This is an assembly area.

No firing this date.

30 MARCH 1945: Local security was established within the Battalion by the Battalion Commander. Meeting was held with the Staff and Battery Commanders to discuss local security, civilians and arrangements for training program. Major J. W. M. of J. G. visited the Battalion to check on security and Captain MCADAM (ALG 36th Infantry Division) made investigations within the battalion and set up rules and regulations for civilians.

No firing this date.

31 MARCH 1945: While at a meeting at 36th Infantry Division Artillery the Battalion Commander called the Battalion Executive at 0900 directing that Battery Commanders meet him at the Battalion Command Post at 1130 for a reconnaissance which would take most of the day. This will not be a tactical area reconnaissance and there will be no move by the battalion today. A half of an hour later 36th Infantry Division Operation Instructions dated 302300 March was received: 36th Infantry Division moves on Army order from present positions to vicinity of KAISERLAUTERN, prepare to garrison, police and support military government in areas west of the Rhine and prepare to assume control of responsibility for additional territory in area. Prepare to move on 24 hour notice to an area outside the Seventh Army sector. 36th Infantry Division to move on Division order from present position to vicinity of HOMBOURG over designated route.

The Battalion Commander called again at 0940 and directed the reconnaissance parties be ready to go out at 1030. Upon his return to the Battalion Command Post at 1000, he met with the Battery Commanders and gave them orders issued on Operational Instructions from 36th Infantry Division.

Battalion will have several towns in vicinity of HOMBOURG. Reconnaissance today will be for battery commanders to select areas. Will meet 36th Division Artillery Executive at HOMBOURG at 1300 and coordinate with him. Move will be made by the Battalion at 1510 on D-Day (to be announced by 36th Infantry Division later).

Upon the Battalion Commanders return from reconnaissance at 1800, corrected March Table was received from 36th Infantry Division. 155th Field Artillery Battalion, less Battalion Personnel Section now at BERGZABERN, to cross IP at 2002 at 1220 on 1 April, route to be as designated on overlay (IP - ANWEILER, MUNCHWEILER, BURGATERN, LAHSTUHL and HOMBOURG).

Today marked the end of the SECOND YEAR, minus a few hours, for this battalion overseas duty.

S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

"AWARDS"
"SILVER STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED
DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN."

C-1044

1. Name
Tec 5 R. B. Bryant, 20 816 424, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery
Battalion, Fort Worth, Texas.

Origin of Award
Section I, General Orders No. 65, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 6 March 1945.

Date of Deed
16 December 1944.

2. Name
Tec 4 Willie C. Watson, 33 025 535, Battery "B", 155th Field
Artillery Battalion, Bertram, Texas.

Origin of Award
Section III, General Orders No. 63, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 5 March 1945.

Date of Deed
16 December 1944.

3. Name
Pvt 1st Raymond M. Maurigal, 39 562 553, Battery "C", 155th Field
Artillery Battalion, Wilmington, California.

Origin of Award
General Orders No. 63, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated
3 March 1945.

Date of Deed
2 January 1945.

"BRONZE STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED
DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name
Tec 5 L. Ward Cable, 20 816 745, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery
Battalion, Fort Worth, Texas.

Origin of Award
Section I, General Orders No. 101, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 27 March 1945.

Date of Deed
3 January 1945.

S E C R E T

12.

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2. Name
Pvt 1st C. D. Charlton, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Worth, Texas.

Origin of Award
General Orders No. 83, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 14 March 1945.

Date of Deed
16 December 1944.

3. Name
Cpl. Robert H. Stahr, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Detroit, Michigan.

Origin of Award
Section II, General Orders No. 77, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 9 March 1945.

Date of Deed
15 October 1944 and 14 December 1944.

"AIR MEDAL AWARDS RECEIVED
DURING THIS PERIOD"

1. Name
1st Lieutenant Phillip A. Crockley, OI 177 325, Battery "C", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Shelbyville, Tennessee.

Origin of Award
Section II, General Orders No. 90, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 17 March 1945.

Date of Deed
4 October 1944 to 16 February 1945.

2. Name
Captain Clarence C. Newson, OI 167 141, Battery "B", 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Coffee Springs, Alabama.

Origin of Award
Section I, General Orders No. 72, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 7 March 1945.

Date of Deed
30 November 1944 to 16 January 1945.

SECRET

13.

S E C R E T

**"FIFTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER IN LIEU OF
SIXTH AIR MEDAL RECEIVED
DURING THIS PERIOD"**

1. Name
1st Lieutenant Raymond E. Smith, OI 170 092, Headquarters, 155th
Field Artillery Battalion, Shelbyville, Tennessee.

Origin of Award
Section III, General Orders No. 90, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 17 March 1945.

Date of Deed
1 December 1944 to 8 February 1945.

**"FIFTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER IN LIEU OF
SIXTH AIR MEDAL RECEIVED
DURING THIS PERIOD"**

1. Name
2nd Lieutenant Jack Martin, OI 691 871, Headquarters, 155th Field
Artillery Battalion, Memphis, Tenn.

Origin of Award
Section III, General Orders No. 72, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 7 March 1945.

Date of Deed
3 September to 12 October 1944.

**"SIXTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER IN LIEU OF
SEVENTH AIR MEDAL RECEIVED
DURING THIS PERIOD"**

1. Name
2nd Lieutenant Jack Martin, OI 691 871, Headquarters, 155th Field
Artillery Battalion, Memphis, Tenn.

Origin of Award
Section IV, General Orders No. 72, Headquarters, 36th Infantry
Division, dated 7 March 1945.

Date of Deed
14 October to 10 December 1944.

S E C R E T

14.

S E C R E T

2. Name

1st Lieutenant Artie F. Svoboda, OI 180 360, Headquarters, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Ellsworth, Kansas.

Origin of Award

Section IV, General Orders No. 72, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 7 March 1945.

Date of Deed

21 October to 17 December 1944.

"SEVEN OAK LEAF CLUSTER IN
LIEU OF EIGHT AIR MEDAL
RECEIVED DURING THIS PERIOD"

1. Name

1st Lieutenant Artie F. Svoboda, OI 180 360, Headquarters, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, Ellsworth, Kansas.

Origin of Award

Section V, General Orders No. 90, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 17 March 1945.

Date of Deed

18 December 1944 to 9 February 1945.

S E C R E T

15.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 735017

By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 5-8-92

S E C R E T

31 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Assignments, Losses, and Changes of Duty of Battalion Officers for the month of March 1945.

1. Captain LEROY L. BELL, O-418651, transferred to the Detachment of Patients, Seventh Army on 12 March 1945.

2. Staff Sergeant STEWART T. STAMMELL received Battle Field Promotion to 2nd Lieutenant on 17 March 1945. Assigned duty as Motor Officer Battery "C" this battalion.

The following type of casualties occurred during this period:

<u>TYPE OF CASUALTY</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED MEN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
KIA	1	0	1
DCW	0	1	1
LIA	0	0	0
SIA	0	0	0
DIA	0	0	0
LWA	0	0	0
SWA	0	0	0
MIA	0	0	0
POW	0	0	0
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>TYPE CAS.</u>	<u>ORGAN</u>	<u>DATE CAS OCCURRED</u>	<u>HOME ADDRESS</u>
STEWART, JACK R.	1st Lt.	O-403496	KIA	Serv Btry	23 Mar 45	1701 Dallas Ave, Brownwood, Texas
SCHLENNEL, GEORGE W.	Cpl.	13081172	DOW	Btry "C"	21 Mar 45	822 Locust Avenue, Phila, Pa.

S E C R E T

16.

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155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN GERMANY FOR APRIL 1945

Having been assembled in MORZHEIM (See Map Germany, 1/50,000 Sheet 135 LANDAU (R)), the battalion was alerted 01 April for displacement to the vicinity of HOMBURG on a non-tactical mission: policing and assisting AMG and controlling civilian population. The move was completed prior to 1300 on 1 April (for disposition of units see Map Central Europe, 1/100,000 Sheet U2, KAISERLAUTERN (K)).

Until 1300 hours 9 April the battalion functioned exclusively as an AMG agent and Captain Moser acted in the capacity of Provost Marshal with offices at 36th Infantry Division Artillery. During this period the following important incidents occurred:

3 - 5 APRIL 1945: Relieved French unit of guard on the Displaced Persons' camp until relieved by the 133rd Field Artillery Battalion (Battery A).

6 APRIL 1945: Screened the town of SANDDORF.

8 APRIL 1945: Aided 36th Infantry Division Artillery in the screening of HOMBURG.

Throughout the period many civilians, and soldiers of various nationalities were brought up for investigation; those not released were turned over to the AMG.

Local security was maintained by each battery, plus a roving patrol for the highways and adjoining areas.

9 APRIL 1945: This battalion was relieved of the mission at HOMBURG by elements of the 143rd Infantry and the battalion displaced to the vicinity of NEUSTADT, closing in this new area at 1600. Our mission in this area was the policing of the city, plus local security and manning of outposts. (For disposition of units see Map Germany 1/50,000 Sheet 134, NEUSTADT (R)). The 65th Infantry was relieved of guard in the vicinity of RR yards and at bridges and tunnels along the NEIDERTHAL-NEUSTADT RR line. (See attached copy of location of guard posts).

During the period this battalion was in NEUSTADT, these foremost incidents occurred:

10 APRIL 1945: Discovered one store of concealed weapons and uniforms.

11 APRIL 1945: Discovery made of concealed weapons and explosives.

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12 APRIL 1945: Quelled threatened disturbance at Displaced Persons Camp No. 1. Large fire in unoccupied house in the vicinity of Battalion Motor Pool discovered at 0100 and brought under control by daylight.

14 APRIL 1945: Battery "C" relieved of guard at Displaced Persons Camp No. 1, one food warehouse and two RR towers by Battery "D", 443 FA (AA). Battery "C" begins one weeks training and becomes mobile reserve.

15 APRIL 1945: Detection of children's depredation of food and PA rations. Offenders rounded up disclosing possible organized "gang". Investigated by AMG.

19 APRIL 1945: Raiding party sent to PSALZ-GRATINSTRASSE #13, the home of a reported Nazi official, HANS DELTRICK. Home searched and some documents found. Official not at home during the raid.

20 APRIL 1945: Forest fire quelled at coords. R206890.

21 APRIL 1945: Battery "C" relieves Battery "B" of guard details and Battery "B" begins one week's training and becomes mobile reserve.

22 APRIL 1945: In addition to guard detail, batteries began preparation for Division Field Inspection on the 26th and Division Artillery Inspection on the 24th.

On this date we were alerted for relief of present mission by the 38th Infantry Division, relief to begin the following day at 0800 24 April. The Battalion Commander directed Captain Bush (Ass't S-3) lead a recon party comprised of members of each battery to the newly designated position in the vicinity of JUNGHOLHAUSEN. 36th Infantry Division Operation Instructions directed we will prepare for immediate offensive operations. One platoon of Battery "B", 443 AA was attached to the battalion.

The Battalion Commander ordered that the battalion displace on the 24th in the order, Headquarters, "A", "B", "C" and Service. Track vehicles would follow the column. It is noteworthy that this procedure aided considerably in keeping the march column moving continuously and rapidly.

24 APRIL 1945: At 0900 the Battalion Commander and Major Gilmer (S-3) departed for General Court duties at 36th Infantry Division. The battery commanders went forward of their batteries and the column marched at 1215.. and closed in the new area

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less track vehicles, at 2200. Trach vehicles were brought in by Lieutenant Burpo, of Battery "B" shortly after midnight. (For disposition of batteries see Map Germany, 1/100,000 Sheet V-4 ELLWANGEN (S). Fifteen of the battalion's trucks were alerted to move at dawn to haul infantry of the division.

25 APRIL 1945: The Battalion Commander and S-3 returned from court duties at Division Headquarters. Battalion began limited training program. Two PSs captured in the vicinity of MEZSTACH at 1930 hours. Two PWs attempted escape in the vicinity of BRAUNSBACH; one was killed and the other wounded.

26 APRIL 1945: Captain Skinner of 36th Division Artillery alerted the battalion for a possible displacement tomorrow. The Battalion Commander left shortly afterwards for Division Artillery and road reconnaissance. In his absence the Battalion S-4 advised that with the fifteen trucks absent on the Division haul and ten more scheduled to go out on the 27th - the battalion would be immobile. At 1630 the Battalion Commander returned with the information that the battalion's move was temporarily postponed.

27 APRIL 1945: The battalion Commander and S-3 left for Division Artillery CP at 0830 and an hour afterwards the S-3 returned with orders from the Battalion Commander for B'C's to prepare for road reconnaissance at 1030..battalion tentatively scheduled to move on the 28th. Reconnaissance was completed during the late morning and early afternoon. At 2000 hours the Battalion Commander met with the Staff and B.C's and directed that the battalion displace tomorrow morning to the vicinity of GUNSBURG-SCHWABMUNCHEN with available transportation. Surplus property will be left with Service Battery and brought forward to the new area by Lieutenant Judson... when trucks return from haul.

28 APRIL 1945: Battalion Commander departed at 0830 to new battalion area and the battalion marched in the order, Headquarters, "B", "C", "A", Service and then track vehicles. The column was headed by Major Gilmer, acting Battalion Executive in Major Clarke's absence in England. From 1445 until 1830 the column rendezvoused in the vicinity of BUNGAU 9See Map BAVARIA, 1/50,000 Sheet 68W "X". The Battalion Commander continued forward on a reconnaissance in the SCHWABMUNCHEN area and the column closed in this vicinity at 2230 hours, after travelling about 120 miles during the day. For disposition of batteries see Map GERMANY, 1/100,000 Sheet X-5 WILHELM. Our mission was to reinforce the fires of the 131 Field Artillery Battalion, who were in direct support of the 141 Infantry. This battalion was to relieve the 712 FA Battalion of the 63rd Division.

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29 APRIL 1945: Lieutenant Kent was dispatched on liaison to the 131 Field Artillery Battalion and Lieutenant Reynolds maintained liaison with 36th Infantry Division Artillery and the 36 Field Artillery Group to keep this battalion advised of any contemplated changes. Our further displacement was being held up pending the completion of a bridge over the Lech River. At 0935 the Battalion Commander advised that we would move about noon when the bridge would be completed. Our move would follow the order of: 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry, 131 Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Battalion, 141 Infantry. During the march this battalion was to be prepared to drop trail or continue march, as the situation warranted. The displacement was postponed because of slow movement of vehicles over the narrow bridge and it was not until 0245 the following morning that the battalion left the assembly area. During the hours 1800 to 0100 the Battalion Commander and S-2 made several road reconnaissances.

In this area the personnel of the batteries were given an opportunity to witness the remains of one of the well known enemy concentration camps.

30 APRIL 1945: Having departed from the former area shortly before 0300 rest and breakfast was given to the column in the vicinity of BEUREIL. Twelve prisoners were captured during this respite. The Battalion Commander went forward to contact the 1st Battalion, 141 Infantry and returned to meet the marching column on the outskirts of SEESHAUPT on the WURL SEE. Battery "A" was directed to leave the column and prepare for firing on a road block protected by enemy artillery on the other side of the WURL SEE. Other batteries were directed to remain in readiness in the vicinity of SEESHAUPT (See Map BAVARIA 1/100,000 Sheet X-5 WEINHEIM). There was no firing on this obstacle by Battery "A", but the battalion was ordered to remain in this area overnight, prepared to displace early on the morning of 1 May and to march behind the 131 Field Artillery Battalion and continue to reinforce the fires of this unit.

In this area notice was received of the combat appointment of Sergeant Griffin of Battery "B" to 2nd Lieutenant.

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5.

HEADQUARTERS 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. No. 36, U. S. Army

30 April 1945

OFFICER'S ROSTER

BATTALION STAFF

SNOW, CLIFFORD M.	Lt. Col.	0 333 741	Bn Comdr.
CLARKE, JAMES T.	Major	0 199 453	Bn Exec Off.
GILMER, LAWRENCE D.	Major	0 255 409	Bn S - 3.
MOSER, AUGUST C. JR.	Captain	0 295 013	Ass't S - 3.
BUSH, WILLIAM L.	Captain	0 407 530	Bn Ln Off & F. O.
HAWK, RICHARD B.	Captain	0 415 562	Bn Ln Off & F. O.
GARFUNKEL, SYLVAN A.	Captain	01 166 993	Unasgd.
REYNOLDS, ROBERT E.	1st Lt.	01 167 174	Bn S - 2.
KENT, RAYMOND F.	1st Lt.	01 176 092	Ass't S - 2.
CHRISTOPH, CHARLES J.	1st Lt.	01 175 075	Unasgd.
JUDSON, PAUL F.	1st Lt.	01 181 319	Aerial Obs Non-Pilot.
DOLLINGER, JOSEPH	Captain	01 689 338	Bn Med Off.
HUTH, STANLEY W.	WOJG	W2 108 253	Bn Pers Off.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

WILLIAMSON, MARTIN W.	Captain	01 166 867	Btry Comdr & Commo Off.
NELSON, WALTER M.	1st Lt.	01 170 886	Ass't Commo Off.
SVOBODA, ARTIE F.	1st Lt.	01 180 360	Aerial Obs Pilot.
MARTIN, JACK	1st Lt.	01 691 871	Aerial Obs Pilot.

BATTERY "A"

EVANS, GERALD W.	Captain	01 165 012	Btry Comdr.
BENT, CHARLES A.	1st Lt.	01 175 945	Btry Exec Off.
SAN, BEAMAN W.	1st Lt.	01 172 638	Btry Recon Off.
MARTIN, KARL F., JR.	1st Lt.	01 180 599	Btry Mtr Off.

BATTERY "B"

NEWSOM, CLARENCE C.	Captain	01 167 141	Btry Comdr.
BURPO, FRANK W.	1st Lt.	01 703 017	Btry Exec Off.
HOLLUB, JULIUS E.	2nd Lt.	02 055 216	Btry Recon Off.
FORD, FLOYD C.	2nd Lt.	01 692 580	Btry Mtr Off.

BATTERY "C"

FRANTZ, HARRY P., JR.	Captain	0 404 452	Btry Comdr.
CHOCKLEY, PHILLIP A.	1st Lt.	01 177 328	Btry Exec Off.
MOORE, MERLE G.	1st Lt.	01 177 102	Btry Recon Off.
STANUELL, STEWART T.	2nd Lt.	02 011 659	Btry Mtr Off.

SERVICE BATTERY

VINES, WALTON M.	Captain	01 167 257	Btry Comdr & S - 4.
BAILEY, HAROLD W.	1st Lt.	01 168 543	Bn Mtr Off.
SHAW, HUGH W.	1st Lt.	01 179 705	Btry Mtr Off.
SCHAEFER, CARLO H.	WOJG	W2 130 731	Ass't S - 4.

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There were no casualties occurred during this period.

"AWARDS"
"BRONZE STAR MEDAL CITATIONS RECEIVED
DURING PERIOD COVERED HEREIN"

1. Name
 S/Sgt Eugene R. Damron, 38 060 464, Battery "B", 155th Field
 Artillery Battalion, Paducah, Texas.
Origin of Award
 General Orders No. 136, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division,
 dated 26 April 1945.
Date of Deed
 16 December 1944.
2. Name
 Captain William J. Jessup, O 415 050, Headquarters, 155th Field
 Artillery Battalion, Houston, Texas.
Origin of Award
 General Orders No. 114, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division,
 dated 2 April 1945.
Date of Deed
 19 October 1944.
3. Name
 Private First Class Raymond M. Madrigal, Battery "C", 155th Field
 Artillery Battalion, Wilmington, California.
Origin of Award
 General Orders No. 114, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division,
 dated 2 April 1945.
Date of Deed
 From 15 August to 20 October 1944.

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7.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 735017

By RB/VSV

NARA, Date 5-6-82

155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA FROM 1 MAY TO 10 MAY 1945

1 MAY 1945: During the afternoon of 30 April, Battery "A" went into firing position at coords. Y653-218, and Batteries "B" and "C" into "positions of readiness", all in the vicinity of Seeshaupt on the Wurmsee; (See Map Bavaria, 1/50,000 Sheet Wilhelm). An artillery covered road block had confronted the 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry whom we were following. During the night this road block was cleared by other elements and Battery "A" fired one round (preparation) in the vicinity Bad Heilbrunn (coords Y84-13). The battalions mission was reinforcing the fires of the 131st Field Artillery Battalion, who were in direct support of 141st Infantry.

Early in the morning of 1 May the Battalion Commander visited the 131st Field Artillery Battalion and 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry CP's and at 0845 directed by telephone for batteries to close station and prepare to displace. Upon his return to the CP he met with the Battery Commanders and advised we would displace to the vicinity of Penzburg; and 1 battery to go into firing position and the other two into positions of readiness as the infantry we were supporting was meeting some resistance.

The battalion displaced shortly before noon and closed in Heinz at 1240, for route and disposition see Map Bavaria, 1/50,000 Sheet 91N Tolz). No rounds were fired from these positions and following the progress of the infantry the battalion was again on the road at 1545; the Battalion Commander and B/C's had gone forward to reconnoiter positions in the vicinity of Bad Heilbrunn. The battalion Executive led the column to this new area and closed in at 1630 (For route and disposition see Map Bavaria 1/50,000 Sheet 91N Tolz).

Summary of firing - 10 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of smoke fired on 2 missions.

2 - 3 May 1945: Nine prisoners were brought in by Battery "A" during the morning of 2 May, and late in the afternoon radio broadcasts announced the surrender of German troops in Italy and Western Austria.

Lieutenant Kent was dispatched on liaison to the 131st Field Artillery Battalion. In the morning of 3 May he advised us that the 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry was moving south through the 1st and battalions and it was possible we might move today with the 131st Field

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Artillery Battalion. The Battalion Commander returned at 1400 from the 131st Field Artillery CP. At a meeting with the B.C.'s he advised that the 141st Infantry was moving two batteries eastward; as soon as 2nd Battalion clears we would move and remain in "positions of readiness" until 131st Field Artillery Battalion passes us; then we would continue move eastward.

The battalion prepared to displace at 1530 but a message from the Battalion Commander, who had gone forward, changed the original plans. We would go into position at Badtolz and cover the 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry working to the south.

At 1545 the battalion closed on Badtolz and the three firing batteries immediately went into position (For disposition see Map Bavaria 1/50,000 Sheet 91W Tolz).

Summary of firing: May 2 - 162 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of smoke were fired on 3 missions.

May 3 - 45 rounds of HE and 15 rounds of smoke were fired on 6 missions.

4 MAY 1945: Lt. Colonel McGrath, Executive, 141st Infantry, advised us that the unit we are supporting has been directed to proceed south. We will be relieved by the 937th Field Artillery Battalion in our support mission.

At 0830 the Battalion Commander visited Division Artillery CP and directed upon his return at 0845 for Battery "B" to close station and prepare to go eastward with the 131st Field Artillery Battalion on moments notice. Also Battery "C" was directed to move south. Headquarters and Battery "A" would move eastward, after "A" ceased firing, to the new vicinity of Battery "B". Battery "C" would remain in new position until relieved by elements of 937th Field Artillery Battalion.

By 0945 Batteries "B" and "C" had displaced - but Battery "C" did not close on new position as the 937th was already on the road - moving towards the area in which they were to relieve Battery "C". Therefore Battery "C" was put in rendezvous and at 1145 was directed by the Battalion Commander to displace to coords. Y015-095 (vicinity Tergeusee) and there to wait for Headquarters Battery. Battery "A" would remain in present position, covering 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry until 937 Field Artillery is ready to fire.

At 1300 Headquarters Battery displaced to the vicinity Tergeusee and by 1700 Batteries "A" and "C" were in this area (For disposition see Map Germany, 1/100,00 Schliersee Y-6)

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The Battalion Commander visited Division Artillery CP during the evening and upon his return at 2300 called the battery commanders to be ready to displace at 0800 tomorrow morning. We will move towards Kufstein and pick up some infantry personnel (1st Bn 141) in the vicinity Neuhaus.

Summary of firing - 48 rounds of HE and 1 round of smoke fired on 4 missions.

5 MAY 1945: The Battalion Commander went forward at 0700 to the 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry in Neuhaus and at 0800 the Battalion Executive led the battalion. Enroute a message was received from Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery to the Battalion Commander to report to Division Artillery CP before marching the battalion. This message was relayed to the Battalion Commander and the Battalion Executive, after putting Captain Bush in charge of the marching column, stopped at the Division Artillery Headquarters CP. From there he went with the Commanding General to 36th Infantry Division CP and was ordered to bring one battery back into position near Tegernsee to support "C" Company, 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry. The Battalion Executive then followed the column to Neuhaus where the batteries were assembled and delivered the message to the Battalion Commander, who directed "C" Battery to return to their former position until 141st was relieved by 143 Infantry or other elements.

At 1430, Headquarters Battery and Batteries "A" and "B" began march into Austria and closed on Sparchen at 1530. (See Map Germany 1/100,000 Schliersee for disposition of batteries). Battery "C" in direct support of Company "C", 1st Battalion 141st Infantry was in the vicinity of Hagrain, Germany.

At 1900 the Battalion Commander brought a message from Commanding General, 36th Division Artillery relating the surrender of Germany Army Group "G" effective at 1200 B 06 May. "All units halt in place. Do not fire unless fired upon. Forward units of 7th Army are directed to remain in place and cease all combat at once". (All instructions from S.I.A.M.) Later we learned that Battery "C" had fired 7 rounds into a Gestapo Headquarters causing large fire when the above was announced over the radio.

Service Battery moved to Sparchen later in the evening but Battery "C" remained in the Tegernsee area until 09 May.

Period 6 - 10 May 1945: Our mission was supporting the enforcements of terms of surrender. 06 May - Major Gilmer was placed on SD at 36th Division Artillery and Captain Moser became Acting Executive. Major Clarke still was absent on England pass.

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7 May - Battalion Commander returns from Division Artillery Cp at 1820 and brings message that all land, sea and air forces in European Theater will cease hostilities at 0900 09 May. The battalion reverts to Division Artillery control.

The Battalion Personnel Section moved to Kufstein with 36th Division Rear today.

9 MAY 1945: Lieutenant Blair reports to the battalion for duty and is assigned to Battery "C". Lieutenant Stanuell is transferred to 131st Field Artillery Battalion.

Our mission was changed this date to responsibility of guard circulation control in the vicinity of Kufstein including guard of Displaced Persons Camp, PW Camp, outposts and roving patrol.

We were to release elements of 141st RCT of this mission. By morning of May 10, all batteries had moved to the vicinity of Kufstein and the battalion had assumed the responsibility assigned.

There were no casualties during the period covered herein.

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EXHIBITS:

- A - Officers Roster.
- B - Officers Duty Changes.
- C - S - 3 Reports (Attached to Original).
- D - Laps (Attached Original).
- E - Daily Reports of Airign (Attached to Original).

Stanley W. Huth
STANLEY W. HUTH
MCJG, U.S.A.
Unit Historian

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS, 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.F.C. No. 36, U.S. Army

10 May 1945

COMPANIES ROSTER

BATTALION STAFF

SNOW, CLIFFORD M.	Lt. Col.	0 333 741	Bn Comdr.
CLARKE, JAMES T.	Major	0 199 453	Bn Exec Off.
GILMER, LAWRENCE D.	Major	0 255 409	Bn S - 3.
MOSEY, AUGUST C. JR.	Captain	0 295 013	Ass't S - 3.
BUSH, WILLIAM L.	Captain	0 407 530	Bn Ln Off & F.O.
GARTUNKEL, SYLVAN A.	Captain	01 166 993	Bn Ln Off & F.O.
HARK, RICHARD B.	Captain	0 415 562	Unasgd.
EVALS, GERALD W.	Captain	01 165 012	Bn I & E Officer
REYNOLDS, ROBERT E.	1st Lt.	01 167 174	Bn S - 2.
KENT, RAYMOND F.	1st Lt.	01 176 092	Ass't S - 2.
MARTIN, EARL F. JR.	1st Lt.	01 180 599	Bn Special S. Off.
DOLLINGER, JOSEPH	Captain	01 689 338	Bn Med. Off.
HUTH, STANLEY W.	MSG	W2 108 253	Bn Pers. Off.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

WILLIAMSON, MARTIN W.	Captain	01 166 867	Btry Comdr & Commo Off.
NELSON, WALTER M.	1st Lt.	01 170 886	Ass't Commo Off.
SVOBODA, ARTIE F.	1st Lt.	01 180 360	Aerial Obs Pilot.
MARTIN, JACK	1st Lt.	01 691 871	Aerial Obs Pilot.

BATTERY "A"

BENT, CHARLES A.	1st Lt.	01 175 945	Btry Comdr.
SAN, BEALAN W.	1st Lt.	01 172 638	Btry Exec Off.
CHRISTOPH, CHARLES J.	1st Lt.	01 175 075	Btry R. O.
GRIFFIN, LORAYNE L.	2nd Lt.	02 014 920	Btry Mtr Off.

BATTERY "B"

NEWSON, CLARENCE C.	Captain	01 167 141	Btry Comdr.
BURPO, FRANK W.	1st Lt.	01 703 017	Btry Exec Off.
HOLLUB, JULIUS E.	2nd Lt.	02 055 216	Btry R. O.
FORD, FLOYD C.	2nd Lt.	01 692 580	Btry Mtr Off.

BATTERY "C"

FRANKE, HARVEY P. JR.	Captain	0 404 452	Btry Comdr.
CHOCKLEY, PHILLIP A.	1st Lt.	01 177 328	Btry Exec Off.
MOORE, MERLE G.	1st Lt.	01 177 102	Btry R. O.
BLAIR, BOB E.	2nd Lt.	02 011 659	Btry Mtr Off.

SERVICE BATTERY

VERES, WALTON L.	Captain	01 167 257	Btry Comdr & S - 4
BATLEY, HAROLD W.	1st Lt.	01 168 543	En Mtr Off.
JUDSON, PAUL F.	1st Lt.	01 181 319	Ammo Train Comdr.
SHAW, HUGH W.	1st Lt.	01 179 705	Btry Mtr Off.
SCHAEFER, CARLO H.	MSG	W2 130 731	Ass't S O 4.

HEADQUARTERS, 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.F.C. No. 36, U. S. Army

10 May 1945

SUBJECT: The following are the list of Assignments and Re-Assignments made in this battalion during the period covered herein:

1. Having been transferred to this battalion per Par 3, Special Orders No. 95, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 7 May 1945, 2nd Lt. BOB E. BLAIR, O2 011 746, is hereby assigned to Battery "C" this battalion as Motor Officer, vice 2nd Lt. STEWART T. STANUELL, O2 011 659, transferred.
2. Captain RICHARD E. HAWK, O 415 562, is relieved of duties as Battalion Liaison Officer and Forward Observer and is re-assigned no duties assigned.
3. Captain SYLVAN A. GARDINER, O1 166 993, Battalion Staff Unassigned, is reassigned as Battalion Liaison Officer and Forward Observer, vice Captain RICHARD E. HAWK, reassigned.
4. Captain GERALD W. EVANS, O1 165 012, is relieved of duties as Battery Commander, Battery "A", and is reassigned as Battalion I & E Officer.
5. 1st Lt. CHARLES A. BENT, O1 175 945, is relieved of duties as Executive Officer, Battery "A", and is reassigned as Battery Commander, Battery "A", vice Captain GERALD W. EVANS, reassigned.
6. 1st Lt. BEAMAN W. SAM, O1 172 638, is relieved of duties as Reconnaissance Officer, Battery "A", and is reassigned as Executive Officer, Battery "A", vice 1st Lt. CHARLES A. BENT, reassigned.
7. 1st Lt. CHARLES J. CHRISTOPH, O1 175 075, Battalion Staff Unassigned, is reassigned to Battery "A", as Reconnaissance Officer, vice 1st Lt. BEAMAN W. SAM, reassigned.
8. 1st Lt. KARL F. MARTIN, JR., O1 180 599, is relieved of duties as Motor Officer, Battery "A", and is reassigned as Battalion Special Service Officer.
9. 2nd Lt. LORRAINE M. GRIFFIN, O2 014 920, Battalion Staff Unassigned, is reassigned to Battery "A" as Motor Officer, vice 1st Lt. KARL F. MARTIN, JR., reassigned.
10. 1st Lt. PAUL F. JUSON, O1 181 319, is relieved of duties as Aerial Observer, Non-pilot Status and assigned to Service Battery as Battalion Ammunition Officer.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NNO 735017

By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 5-6-92

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155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

HISTORY FROM 10 May to 31 May 45

From 5 May to 10 May the Battalion was in the vicinity of SPARCHEN, Austria, located about one mile outside of KUFSTEIN, Austria. On 10 May the batteries were moved to the immediate vicinity of KUFSTEIN and organized guard and security details in support of the Military Government. These details included guard of one displaced persons camp, a prisoner of war inclosure, used car lot (captured enemy vehicles), and two roving patrols. The Battalion's Personnel Section was with the 36th Infantry Division Rear Echelon in the city of KUFSTEIN. (See map Austria, 1/50,000, Sheet Y-6/4 KUFSTEIN). For off duty hours recreational facilities were made available at a nearby lake on the outskirts of the town.

The battalion was alerted on 11 May for displacement to an area near SCHNABMUECHEN, move to be made on 14 May. This however was changed the following day and reconnaissance was directed by the Battalion Commander to be made by 1st Lieutenant Raymond F. Kent, Lawrence, Mass., Battalion Assistant S-2, to the vicinity of KELLINGEN, BAVARIA; displacement of the battalion would not take place until 15 May; the battalion was requested by 36th Infantry Division Artillery to furnish 23 trucks to haul personnel of the 141st Infantry Regiment.

On 13 May the Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Clifford M. Snow, of Amarillo, Texas and Captain August C. Moser Jr., the battalion S-3, of Dallas, Texas and eighteen enlisted men of the battalion left for the United States. This was the first quota of World War II Veterans of this battalion to return to the United States. In the absence of the Battalion Executive, on leave in the United Kingdom, and Major Lawrence D. Gilmer having been transferred a few days earlier to the 36th Infantry Division Artillery, the departing Battalion Commander directed that Captain William L. Bush, of Kane Hill, Arkansas, Assistant Battalion S-3, assume command of the Battalion pending the return of Major James A. Clarke, of San Antonio, Texas, from England. The same day Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division Artillery orally directed Major Gilmer to rejoin the battalion until the Battalion Executive returned to the unit.

On 15 May the battalion, headed by Captain Sylvan A. Garfunkel of Savannah, Georgia, marched the battalion to the new area in the vicinity of KELLINGEN via KUFSTEIN, DEGENSDORF, LIESBACH, BAD TOLZ, PENZBERG, SCHONGAU, KAUFBEUTEN, BUCHLOE, and MINDELHEIM and closed in at 2230 hours. (See Map BAVARIA 1/50,000 Sheet 80 KELLINGEN).

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The following day, 16 May, by VCCG, 36th Infantry Division Artillery, Major Lawrence D. Gilmer, Houston, Texas was placed on Special Duty with the battalion as Battalion Commander and Major Burl G. Lassetter, Abilene, Texas was assigned to this battalion, but placed on Special Duty with 36th Infantry Division Artillery. The battalion's mission in this area was guard and policing in the sectors formerly occupied by the 698th Field Artillery Battalion and 451st AAA Battalion, who were relieved by this unit. Guard posts included a displaced persons camp, one monastery, one prisoner of war camp, one red cross supply warehouse, one used car lot and roving patrols, plus local security - all in the vicinity of WEMLINGEN. The Battalion Command Post, Headquarters Battery and Battery "A" were actually located in a suburb of WEMLINGEN (WEMLINGENBERG). The other batteries were in the city of WEMLINGEN.

On 17 May the Battalion Personnel Section moved with the 36th Infantry Division Rear to KAUFBEUREN, and the next day Major James T. Clarke returned to the battalion and assumed command, with Major Gilmer as Acting Executive in the absence of Major Lassetter. Battery "C" and Service Battery were moved to the area near headquarters Battery and a barracks arrangement for all personnel was set up in the group of houses formerly occupied by families of German Air Forces.

Within a day or two, baseball diamonds were made in some of the batteries; these, with boating and swimming at a nearby lake, provided recreational facilities for personnel in off duty hours. Baseball and soft ball games were scheduled and played within the battalion and with other units of Division Artillery.

On 31 May Battery "A" was relieved of guard duties and began a week of training in accordance with training schedule set up by the Battalion S-3. Battery "B" was moved to the far outskirts of WEMLINGEN in order to be near the displaced persons camp which they were to guard.

Eighteen more enlisted men departed on 22 May for the United States, and Major Lawrence D. Gilmer was transferred back to the battalion from 36th Division Artillery. With Major Gilmer as Executive Officer, the Battalion Commander directed that Captain Walton M. Vines, Pinson, Alabama, Commander of Service Battery and Battalion S-4, be brought to the Battalion Staff and take over the duties of Adjutant, thereby centralizing all administrative matters. This change took place on 27 May. Captain Richard D. Hawk, of Dallas, Texas, returned to the battalion from Temporary Duty in the United States on the 28th and was placed in Service Battery as Commander and S-4. This same day Headquarters and Service Battery relieved of guard duties and began a week's training. Battery "A" returned to guard duties the night before.

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At the end of each week's training the respective batteries were inspected by the Battalion Commander and Staff. Inspection was made of quarters, motors, material, and kitchens.

Passes for personnel to Paris and furloughs to England were issued through higher echelons, but these were on a smaller scale than when the unit was in combat.

At the end of the month the Battalion was manning a total of 15 guard posts and security details, which included two displaced persons camps, one prisoner of war stockade, a captured enemy vehicle lot, 5 banks in the city of LEMMIGHEM, AMG Headquarters, security check point (coorus X785-248), a shoe warehouse, water works and three roving patrols - plus local security within the various organizations. Court duties necessitated the release of Captain Garfunkel from the Provost Marshal assignment, which was taken over by 1st Lieutenant Raymond F. Kent, Battalion Assistant S-2.

EXHIBITS:

- A - Officers Roster.
- B - Officer Duty Changes.
- C - Unit Journal.
- D - Missions Flown by Air Section.
- E - S - 3 Reports.
- F - Maps.

Stanley W. Huth
STANLEY W. HUTH
WOJG, U.S.A.
Unit Historian

~~SECRET~~

4.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 735017

By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 8-6-82

"AWARD OF MILITARY SERVICE UNIT PLATE"

1. Name
Service battery, 155th Field Artillery battalion.

Origin of Award

Section I, General Orders No. 187, 36th Infantry Division,
dated 21 May 1945.

Date of Deed

1 November 1944 to 31 January 1945.

"AIR MEDALS CITATIONS RECEIVED
DURING THIS PERIOD"

1. Name
Griffin, Lorayne M. 2nd Lt. O-2014920 (then S/Sgt, Btry "B",) 155th
Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Worth, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section III, General Orders No. 178, 36th Infantry Division,
dated 16 May 1945.

Date of Deed

2 March to 24 March 1945.

2. Name
Blair, Bob E. 2nd Lt. O-2011746, Headquarters Battery, 155th Field
Artillery Battalion (then a member of 131st Field Artillery Battalion),
Plainview, Texas.

Origin of Award

Section III, General Orders No. 178, 36th Infantry Division,
dated 16 May 1945.

Date of Deed

10 March to 25 March 1945.

S E C R E T

31 May 1945.

SUBJECT: Assignments, Losses, and Changes of Duty of Battalion Officers for the period from 10 May to 31 May 1945.

1. 1st Lieutenant WILLIAM P. MITT, OI 176 092, in addition to his other duties is designated as Provost Marshal, vice Captain SILVIA A. GARFUNKEL, relieved.
2. 1st Lieutenant CHARLES J. CHRISTOPHER, OI 175 075, in addition to his other duties, is designated as Assistant Provost Marshal.
3. Captain HENRY M. VANCE, O-1167257, in addition to his other duties is designated as Battalion Adjutant and Battalion Real Estate Officer.
4. Having been transferred to this Battalion per Par. 4. Special Orders No. 105, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, dated 20 May 1945, Major EUGENE G. LASSETER, O-291598, is assigned to Headquarters, 155th Field Artillery Battalion. No duty assigned.

S E C R E T

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RESTRICTED

100TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN GERMANY FROM 1 JUNE TO 30 JUNE 45

1 JUNE 1945: From 1 June to 14 June, the Battalion was in the vicinity of Leimingen, continuing its mission in support of the Military Government, and guarding two Displaced Persons' Camps, one Prisoner of War Camp, one Captured Vehicle lot, five Banks, Military Government Headquarters, one shoe warehouse, and a waterworks, in addition to maintaining a security check point at coordinates (X765-246). (See Map Ravensberg X-4 1/100,000). During this two weeks, guard was handled by rotation among the batteries, keeping one battery free at all times for one week training periods. The time was also marked by continuous calls upon the battalion for large trucking details to haul displaced persons, prisoners of war and troops. On 3 June ten men with over 101 points departed from the battalion enroute to the United States.

On 8 June began a period of continuous reconnaissance for suitable billets in a new area, to which the Battalion was alerted to move on or about 14 June. The general area of the new location was designated as "vicinity Laupheim," in relief of certain elements of the 100th Infantry Division. On 9 June, a copy of the overlay showing the new Division Artillery area was received, and on 10 June, Operations Instructions No. 24, 36th Infantry Division indicated that this division was to be relieved in sector by XX Corps Artillery and 80th Infantry Division.

On 10 June, orders were received transferring 1st Lt Raymond F. Kent to Hq 36th Infantry Division Artillery, and transferring Major Lassiter to the 132nd Field Artillery Battalion. Lt Kent's orders were revoked on 12 June.

The move to the new area was begun on 13 June when Able Battery, led by Captain Robert E. Reynolds, moved to Untersulmeitingen, near Laupheim to relieve 1st Battalion 397th Infantry in that area of five guard posts and a check point on the French area boundary. The remainder of the battalion moved the following day, 14 June, occupying billets discovered only after the most prolonged and persistent reconnaissance in the following towns: Headquarters Battery, Orsenhausen (CP vicinity Rot); Baker Battery, Buhl; Charlie Battery, Rot; and Service Battery in Laupheim. (See map Germany 1/100,000 Sheet X-4 Ravensberg).

Shortly after arrival in the new area, orders were received to form an Alert Battery, complete with one howitzer and 20 rounds of ammunition, ready to move on 30 minutes notice to suppress riots and disturbances within Division Sector. Baker Battery was designated as the first Battery for this duty.

As usual upon arrival in a new area, work was immediately begun on athletic and recreation fields, and the batteries were soon competing in a comprehensive program of athletics. Guard duties being less onerous than in the last position, more men were free to take part in this activities, and considerable spirit was built into the program.

The month was marked by sporadic and increasing departures of

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men and officers with high point totals, and by the end of the period, such a complete turn-over of personnel had been effected as to reduce actual efficiency of the battalion below minimum operational requirements. This was partially due to understrength of the battalion, and partially the inevitable result of throwing together new personnel and officers into the mould of a unit which operated with an entirely different pulsebeat than that from which they came. From a loosely knit organization which functioned smoothly and with a minimum of supervision - the natural result of long continued operations in close cooperation - the unit degenerated into one where it was not enough to depend upon the action patterns of habit, and where orientation and acquaintance of personnel had to be accomplished before the unit spirit and operational efficiency could be regained. On 3 June ten men, as noted above, departed for the US. On 8 June, four more men with scores of over 100 points were alerted for departure. On 25 June all men with 80 or more points were alerted for departure the next day. At the same time, Major James T. Clarke, Battalion Commander, Major Lawrence D. Gilmer, Battalion Executive, Captain Clarence C. Newsome, Captain Harry C. Frantz, 1st Lt. Floyd C. Ford, 1st Lt. Charles A. Dent, 1st Lt. Philip A. Chockley and 1st Lt. Beaman W. Sams were alerted to leave. Captain Newsome, Captain Frantz and Lieutenant Dent were granted 36 hour delay to turn over property to their relieving Battery Commanders. On 29 June the 80 men alerted the day before went to the 63rd Division and 44 more enlisted men and 6 officers were alerted to depart on 30 June.

In contrast, reinforcements were received from various units, largely the 63rd Infantry Division, the 100th Infantry Division and the 12th Armored Division - in the following groups: twelve enlisted men on 21 June; fourteen enlisted men on 23 June; eight enlisted men on 24 June; twenty-eight enlisted men and one officer on 25th June; ten enlisted men on 27 June; twenty enlisted men on 28 June; thirty-four enlisted men on 29 June; Lt Col. Donald C. Beere, the new battalion commander and three other officers on 29 June; ten enlisted men and four officers of 30 June. The totals reflect the condition of the battalion at the end of the month; 18 officers and 214 enlisted men lost - 3 officers and 140 enlisted men received.

Easily the most important happenings of the month involved the departure from the unit of these two-hundred and thirty-two veterans of fighting in four countries, and the attendant emotional upheavals, in which it is feared, not too much attention was paid to the prosaic every-day military matters of occupation and operations. The receipt of new personnel and the inevitable sizing-up of group with group, and the subsequent efforts of new men and officers and old men and officers to salvage some military cohesion took precedence. The fact that such cohesion was salvaged and the unit continued to perform its mission, in spite of the upheaval, is a tribute to both the old and the new.

Otherwise, the month was marked by few unusual occurrences; news was received on 20 June of the promotion of 1st Lt. Harold W. Bailey to the grade of Captain; on 22 June Private Everett Harrison of Charlie Battery was accidentally killed in a motor accident; the special court for trial of an enlisted man of the battalion was dissolved when the defendant became absent without leave; the usual quotas of trucks were sent off on hauling details

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ranging from one to seven days; a Division Artillery parade was scheduled for 25 June and subsequently cancelled indefinitely; on 25 June Baker Battery was relieved on alert status and replaced by Charlie Battery; Captain Robert E. Reynolds departed for hospitalization on 16 June and returned on 26 June; passes to Paris, Nancy and the United Kingdom, although nearly at the vanishing point, continued; and increasingly unfavorable comment on the unworkable non-fraternization policy went on and on.

During this month, the policy of a centralized Division Artillery Post Exchange was continued, and although considerable improvement was shown over the first distribution, it still left much to be desired. The addition of another line for the men to "sweat", coupled with an apparent reduction in PX rations could not but have a deleterious effect on morale. One very bad example of distribution was evident when beer was available for purchase by only part of the personnel of the Division Artillery.

At the end of the month, the battalion was manning the usual total of guard posts and security details.

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HEADQUARTERS, 155TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.C. No. 36, U. S. Army

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30 June 1945

OFFICER'S ROSTER

BATTALION STAFF

BEERE, D. C.	Lt. Col.	021893	Bn Comdr.
CLARKE, JAMES T.	Major	0199453	No Duty Asgd.
GILLER, LAWRENCE D.	Major	0255409	No Duty Asgd.
BUSH, WILLIAM L.	Captain	0407530	No Duty Asgd.
EVANS, GERALD W.	Captain	01165012	Bn Asst S-3
GATFUMER, SYLVAN A.	Captain	01166993	No Duty Asgd.
LEET, GERALD D.	Captain	0413860	Bn S-3.
REYNOLDS, ROBERT E.	Captain	01167174	Bn S-2
VINES, WALTON L.	Captain	01167257	Bn Executive
KENT, RAYMOND F.	1st Lt.	01176092	Bn Asst S-2
MARTIN, KARL F. JR.	1st Lt.	01180599	Aerial Obs Non-Pilot
HUTH, STANLEY W.	WOJG	W2108253	Asst Adjutant

L-1080

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

WILLIAMSON, MARTIN W.	Captain	01166867	Btry Comdr & Commo O.
NELSON, WALTER M.	1st Lt.	01170886	Asst Commo O.
SVOBODA, ARTHUR F.	1st Lt.	01180360	Aerial Obs Pilot
BLAIR, BOB E.	2nd Lt.	02011746	Btry Motor O.

BATTERY "A"

HEAT, CHARLES A.	1st Lt.	01175945	Btry Comdr
CHRISTOPH, CHARLES J.	1st Lt.	01175075	Btry Rcn O.
SAL, BEAMAN W.	1st Lt.	01172638	Btry Exec O.
GRIFFIN, LORAYNE L.	2nd Lt.	02014920	Btry Motor O.

BATTERY "B"

NEWSOM, CLARENCE C.	Captain	01167141	Btry Comdr
BURFO, FRANK W.	1st Lt.	01703017	Btry Exec O.
FORD, FLOYD C.	1st Lt.	01692580	Btry Motor O.
MOLLUB, JULIUS E.	1st Lt.	02055216	Btry Rcn O.

BATTERY "C"

FRANTZ, HARRY P. JR.	Captain	0404452	Btry Comdr
CHICKLEY, PHILLIP A.	1st Lt.	01177328	Btry Exec O.
MOORE, LERIE G.	1st Lt.	01177102	Btry Rcn O.
SCHAEFER, GILBERT P.	2nd Lt.	02055088	No Duty Asgd.

SERVICE BATTERY

BAILEY, HAROLD W.	Captain	01168543	Bn Motor O.
HANK, RICHARD B.	Captain	0415562	Btry Comdr & Bn S-4
JULSON, PAUL F.	1st Lt.	01181319	Train Comdr
SCHAEFER, CARLO H.	WOJG	W2130731	Asst S-4

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

DALLINGER, JOSEPH	Captain	01689338	Medical O.
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HEADQUARTERS, 155th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.F.C. No. 30, U. S. Army

SUBJECT: The following are the list of assignments and re-assignments made in this Battalion during June 1945:

1. 1st Lt. RAYMOND F. LEET, 01176092, in addition to his other duties is designated as Provost Marshal, vice Capt. SYLVAN A. GATFUNKEL, 01166998, relieved.
2. 1st Lt. CHARLES J. CHRISTOPHER, 01175075, in addition to his other duties is designated as Assistant Provost Marshal.
3. Captain RICHARD B. HANK, 0415562, Battalion Staff Unassigned, is reassigned as Battery Commander and S-4 Service Battery, vice Captain WALTER M. VINES, relieved.
4. Captain WALTER M. VINES, 01167257, is relieved of duties as Battery Commander and S-4, Service Battery, and is reassigned to Battalion Staff, no duty assigned.
5. 2nd Lt. BOB E. BLAIR, 02011746, is relieved of duties as Motor Officer, Battery C, and is reassigned as Motor Officer, Hq Btry.
6. Captain SYLVAN A. GATFUNKEL, 01166993, is relieved of duties as Battalion Liaison Officer and Forward Observer, no duty asgd.
7. Captain WALTER M. VINES, 01167257, Battalion Staff Unassigned, is reassigned as Battalion Liaison Officer and Forward Observer, vice Captain SYLVAN A. GATFUNKEL, reassigned.
8. 1st Lt. EARL A. MARTE JR., 01180599, Battalion Staff Unassigned, is reassigned as Battalion Forward Observer.
9. Having been assigned to this battalion per par 5 SC 139 Hq 36th Infantry Division, 30 June 1945, Captain GERALD D. LEET, 0418860, is asgd to Headquarters and assigned duty as Battalion S-3.
10. Having been assigned to this battalion per WOCG 36th Inf Div, 30 June 1945, Lt Col DONALD C. BEERE, 021893, assumed command of 155th Field Artillery Battalion.

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MISSIONS FLOWN BY AIR SECTION
155TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
JUNE 1945

<u>NO. OF MISSIONS</u>	<u>TIME DURATION</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>NATURE OF MISSIONS</u>
7	12 hrs 30 Mins	Lt. Svoboda	Administrative

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DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 735017

By RB/VSW NARA, Date 8-8-82

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155TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

OPERATIONS IN GERMANY FROM 1 JULY TO 31 JULY 45

The first of July found the battalion still in a state of suspended animation, -breath, although discernible, was faint, and pulse was feeble and erratic. The usual guard duties were carried on, although, it is felt that they were done with something less than the customary elan. A move projected for the end of the first week of the month served further to augment the general tone of flatulence and indifference of the entire situation. During that week, nine new officers were received into the battalion and six old ones left.

The move, effected in order to permit realignment of various national occupational boundaries, was preceded by a reconnaissance under Captain Gerald D. Leet, S-3, whose familiarity with the area made him the most suitable officer for the job. The area in the vicinity of Lorch, nine kilometres west of Schwabische Gmund, contained some forty hamlets, only three of which were deemed suitable for occupation by a victorious and dignified army. Locations were accordingly selected in Plüderhausen, (36.3 - 23.6), for Headquarters and Able Batteries; in Alfdorf, (45.5 - 29.1), for Baker and Charlie Batteries; and in Lorch, (44.4 - 24.0) for Service Battery. The billets were, in general, above average, those of four batteries lending themselves quite satisfactorily to a barracks-like arrangement, in conformity with current directives. At 1500 hours on the 7th of the month, the 68 mile march began, and the battalion closed in its new area at 2030 hours. Since the new officers of the battalion were not familiar with certain unwritten SOP of the Division, an unfortunate contretemps arose when Division Artillery was not informed of the time of clearing old area and closing in new area. A satisfactory solution was achieved without bloodshed.

Immediately began the job of accomplishing the battalion mission - security and control of sector. Five normal targets and a roving checkpoint comprised the battalion's responsibilities for guard.

Although the move occasioned the usual amount of confusion in an outfit, which, albeit, designed for mobility, can quickly become accustomed to the comfort of a settled life in desirable billets, it was a most fortunate circumstance for the discipline of the entire battalion in that it gave the Battalion Commander an opportunity to begin, as it were, anew in a new area with a new battalion. All that went before was allowed to become part of a not greatly regretted past. Rather than continue in a location filled with old associations, where new control must inevitably be faced with latent, perhaps unconscious hostility, he was afforded the opportunity of severing the past from

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the future and making a complete new start. An immediate improvement was noticeable, both in discipline and in operation. The unreconstructed minority of old-timers, while not relinquishing one iota of their accumulated superiority, graciously fit themselves into the new picture. This is not to say that all the difficulties bound to face an understrength battalion were immediately sliced away in one full stroke, for, indeed, they are still being rooted out. But the groundwork was laid for the building of a new unit spirit.

During the second week of the month, considerable shifting of officer strength continued. The Battalion Commander called a meeting of Battery Commanders on 9 July, and oriented them in his policy concerning uniforms, discipline, care of equipment, drill schedules and operations; on the following day he addressed the entire battalion at a formation in the Service Battery Area in Lorch. This was Lt. Col. Beere's first opportunity to meet all the men of his battalion, and he took advantage of it to welcome newcomers, and to reassure old-timers. On the 10th of the month, Major Ross Ayers was assigned to the battalion, and assumed duties as Executive Officer. On the 13th Major Ayers was transferred from the battalion to the 1st Armored Division.

On Friday the 13th of July at 1300 hours, the two liaison pilots 1st Lt. George L. Hall and 1st Lt. Harry G. Green crashed to their death in a Fiesler trainer aircraft, whose model number 256 has the digital total of 13, while the parachute Lt. Hall was wearing bore the number 13. The crash followed the disintegration of the left wing of the plane just after the latter completed a snap roll and as it began what apparently was to have been an inside loop. Upon receipt of the news at the Battalion Command Post, 1st Lt. Clyde W. Clark was assigned Investigating Officer to determine the cause of death of the two officers. The Battalion Commander visited the scene of the crash and later visited the Graves Registration Office to identify the bodies. The funeral took place on 17 July, and the Battalion Commander attended with members of the unit, paying their last respects.

Beginning 21 July 1945, the battalion participated in the Operation Tallyho, in which a projected check of each individual and building in the entire zone was carried out. The operation began at 0500 hours with the posting of road guards at strategic points throughout the area. These guards were furnished by other units occupying billets in the battalion area. The personnel and building check was accomplished by a group of eight teams, each under officer supervision. According to instructions, the Burgomeisters of the various towns were alerted about thirty minutes before their towns were to be checked, and instructed to have all inhabitants remain inside their homes until the inspection was completed. Teams worked simultaneously in various parts of the towns, first checking each individual for identification papers, and then

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thoroughly checking the building for contraband and evidence of Black Market operations. By means of a carefully devised schedule, every hamlet in the entire area was checked in a relatively thorough manner, and the operation was completed 48 hours later with a check of all military personnel. The results indicated the value of the entire project, in that a large number of individuals were detected travelling without permits, a few Schutz Staffel members were uncovered, and the inhabitants of the entire area were snapped back to a realization that military control was present, alert and effective. No large amounts of contraband were found, nor were any definite indications of subversive activities.

The faults of the operation were largely inherent in the plan employed. First, it was too ambitious and comprehensive to be accomplished by the personnel available in the time permitted. A thoroughly satisfactory check of even one of the three larger towns contained in the area, properly executed, would require the entire strength of the battalion and all the 48 hours allowed. This overextension may have partially derived from the apparently widespread misapprehension that a Division Artillery is equal in strength to an Infantry Regiment, and that an Artillery Battalion is equal in strength to an Infantry Battalion. Second, to achieve complete surprise and consequently complete effectiveness, all towns - if possible, all homes - in the entire area must be hit simultaneously, without warning. By spreading the operation over 48 hours, all towns not reached in the first day had ample opportunity to conceal or disassemble any form of contraband, subversion or other illegality. To check completely any community, its utter isolation from the rest of the world must be assured. This cannot be done by three guard posts placed on roads. If hot characters are present in a town thus guarded, there is little likelihood of catching them, particularly in heavily wooded country such as this. It is suggested that with the strength allowed for these operations, a series of irregularly scheduled spot-checks, in which a community is properly isolated and the various sections of it inspected simultaneously by a large number of teams would both accomplish the desired objective of keeping the populace on the alert, and would be proof against the loopholes present in the more ambitious operation as it was undertaken.

The remainder of the month was spent in normal operations. Guard was continued. A system of inspections was initiated by the Battalion Commander as a part of his program of revitalizing the unit. Strict observance of uniform regulations was enforced. A program of repair and intensified maintenance of the battalion's equipment was vigorously prosecuted. An increased interest in athletics was manifested in the formation of an Officers' team which got off to an auspicious start by briskly shellacking a team of Officers from the 131st FA Bn. Quotas of passes increased infinitesimally. Morale inched upwards.

At the conclusion of the month, the battalion was not an effective

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Field Artillery Battalion. It is still grievously understrength. But the improvements noted in all aspects of its maneuver are so great as to inspire only confidence in its future.

The battalion is guarding five targets plus a post house in Schwabische Gmund; is operating a moving check point, and performing the usual interior guard duties.

EXHIBITS:

- A- Officers Roster
- B- Officers Duty Changes
- C- Missions Flown By Air Section
- D- Map (Attached Original)

Gerald W. Evans
GERALD W. EVANS
Captain, FA
Unit Historian

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DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, *NNQ 735017*

By *RB/VSW*

NARA, Date *5-8-92*

HEADQUARTERS, 180TH FIELD ARTILLERY PATBALION
A.F.O. No. 33, U. S. Army

31 July 1945

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ROSTER OF OFFICERS

PATBALION STAFF

BEERE, D. O.	Lt. Col.	021893	Bn Comdr.
ELLEGOOD, RICHARD L.	Major	0305716	Bn Exec.
LEET, GERALD D.	Captain	0418860	Bn S-3
EVANS, GERALD W.	Captain	01165012	Bn S-2
SPEIR, ROBERT W.	Captain	0339154	Liaison O.
LUMPHIN, WILLIAM C.	1st Lt.	0394145	Asst S-3
FINDLAY, MARION B.	1st Lt.	01182570	Forward Obs.
KEEFE, JOHN E., Jr	WOJG	72134529	Asst Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

THEE, MELVIN E.	Captain	01177210	Comm. O.
ARMITAGE, SAMUEL P.	1st Lt.	01173924	Asst Comm. O.
BLAIR, BOB E.	2d Lt.	02011746	Motor O.

BATTERY "A"

CULVER, EDWARD E.	Captain	0455830	Btry Comdr.
REIDT, WALLACE A.	1st Lt.	01180307	Exec. O.
COLLIER, J. B.	1st Lt.	01173193	Rcn O.

BATTERY "B"

TRAUT, FRED G.	1st Lt.	01170227	Btry Comdr.
MAC IVOR, JAMES R.	1st Lt.	01176713	Exec. O.
GRESSER, KEITH W.	1st Lt.	01825613	Motor O.

BATTERY "C"

RIEL, DAVID H.	1st Lt.	0304451	Btry Comdr.
MC CORD, ELDON R.	1st Lt.	01179145	Exec. O.
BURNS, CHARLES J.	2d Lt.	02011517	Motor O.

SERVICE BATTERY

ALLEN, ROBERT C.	Captain	01167299	S-4
BAILEY, HAROLD W.	Captain	01168543	TDY Seventh A.
CLARK, CLYDE W.	1st Lt.	01167361	Bn Motor O.
DOUGHERTY, RICHARD E.	2d Lt.	01165383	Btry Motor O.
PARKS, DAVID L.	WOJG	72135570	Asst S-4

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

BLANCHARD, NEAL D.	Captain	0446205	Medical O.
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HEADQUARTERS, 155th FIELD ARTILLERY
A.P.O. 36, U. S. Army

~~RESTRICTED~~

31 July 1945

SUBJECT: The following are the lists of assignments and re-assignments made in this battalion during July 1945.

1. Capt GEORGE J. DEJURE, 0453390, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 145, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Asst S-3, Staff, vice Capt GERALD W. EVANS, 01165012, relieved.
2. Capt GERALD W. EVANS, 01165012, relieved of duties of Asst S-3 effective 1 Jul 45 and assigned the duty of S-2, Staff, vice Capt ROBERT E. REYNOLDS, 01167174, transferred.
3. Capt MELVIN E. THEE, 01177210, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 145, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Communications Officer, Hq Btry, vice Capt MARTIN W. WILLIAMSON, 01166867, transferred.
4. Capt FULLER A. HUGHES, 0412802, assigned to this battalion, 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 145, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Bn S-4, Sv Btry, vice Capt RICHARD E. HAWK, 0415562, transferred.
5. 1st Lt WALLACE A. REIDT, 01172638, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 145, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Executive Officer, Btry "A", vice 1st Lt BEAMAN W. SAM, 0172638, transferred.
6. 1st Lt EIDON R. MCCORD, 01179145, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 145, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Executive Officer, Btry "B", vice 1st Lt PHILLIP A. CROCKLEY, 01177328, transferred.
7. 1st Lt FRED G. TRAUT, 01170227, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 145, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Battery Commander, Btry "B", vice Capt CLARENCE C. NEWSOM, 01167141, transferred.
8. WOJG WILBER J. STREHLE, W2121381, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 145, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Assistant Adjutant, Staff, vice WOJG STANLEY W. HUTH, W2108253, transferred.
9. 1st Lt DAVID H. RIEL, 0304451, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 148, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Battery Commander, Btry "C", vice Capt HARRY F. FRANTZ, 0404562, transferred.

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By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 8-8-82

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10. Capt EDWARD H. CULVER, 0455330, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 151, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Battery Commander, Btry "A", vice 1st Lt CHARLES A. BENT, 01175945, transferred.
11. Capt ROBERT E. SPEIR, 0388154, assigned to this battalion 1 Jul 45 by Special Order 151, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Battalion Adjutant, Staff.
12. Capt NEAL D. BLANCHARD, 0446205, assigned to this battalion 3 Jul 45 by Special Order 151, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Medical Officer, Med Det., vice Capt JOSEPH DOLLINGER, 01689338, transferred.
13. Maj ROSS AYERS, 0378526, assigned to this battalion 5 Jul 45 by Special Order 148, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Battalion Executive, vice Capt WALTON M. VINES, 01167257, transferred.
14. Capt ROBERT C. ALLEN, 01167299, assigned to this battalion 5 Jul 45 by Special Order 148, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Battalion S-4, Sv Btry, vice Capt FULLER A. HUGHES, 0412802, transferred.
15. 1st Lt FRANK E. MASLAND, III, 0528811, assigned to this battalion 5 Jul 45 by Special Order 151, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Asst S-2, Staff and Bn. Special Service Officer, vice 1st Lt RAYMOND F. KENT, 01176092, transferred.
16. 1st Lt KEITH W. GRESSER, 01825613, assigned to this battalion 5 Jul 45 by Special Order 151, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Motor Officer, Btry "B", vice 1st Lt FLOYD C. FORD, 01692580, transferred.
17. WOJG DAVID L. PARKS, W2135370, assigned to this battalion 5 Jul 45 by Special Order 151, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Asst S-4, Sv Btry, vice WOJG CARLO H. SCHAEFER, W2130731, transferred.
18. Capt ROBERT E. SPEIR, 0388154, is assigned the duty of Battalion Executive, Staff, vice Maj ROSS AYERS, 0378526, transferred.
19. 1st Lt MARION B. FINDLAY, 01182570, assigned to this battalion 12 Jul 45 by Special Order 155, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Forward Observer, Staff and Bn Provost Marshall.

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20. 1st Lt CLYDE W. CLARK, 01167361, assigned to this battalion by Special Order 155, Hq 36th Inf. Div., 12 Jul 45, and assigned the duty of Bn Motor Officer, Sv Btry, vice Capt HAROLD W. BAILEY, relieved and placed on Temporary Duty with Seventh Army.
21. 2d Lt CHARLES J BURNS, 02011517, assigned to this battalion 12 Jul 45 by Special Order 155, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Motor Officer, Btry "C", vice 2d Lt. GILBERT P. SCHAFER, 02055088, transferred.
22. 1st Lt JAMES R. MAC IVOR, 01176713, assigned to this battalion 12 Jul 45 by Special Order 155, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Executive Officer, Btry "B", vice 1st Lt FRANK W. BURPO, 011703017, transferred.
23. 1st Lt SAMUEL P. ARMITAGE, 01175924, assigned to this battalion 12 Jul 45 by Special Order 155, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Asst Communications Officer, Hq Btry, vice 1st Lt WALTER H. NELSON, 01170886, transferred.
24. WOJG JOHN E. KEEFE, JR., W2134529, assigned to this battalion 15 Jul 45 by Special Order 160, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Asst Adjutant, Staff, vice WOJG WILBER J. STREHLE, W2121381, transferred.
25. 1st Lt WILLIAM C. LUMPKIN, JR., 0394145, assigned to this battalion by Special Order 161, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Asst S-3, Staff, vice Capt GEORGE J. DEJURE, 0453390, effective 17 Jul 45.
26. Maj RICHARD L. ELIEGOOD, 0306716, assigned to this battalion 26 Jul 45 by Special Order 171, Hq 36th Inf. Div., and assigned the duty of Battalion Executive, Staff, vice Capt ROBERT E. SPEIR, 0388154, relieved.
27. Capt ROBERT E. SPEIR, 0388154, assigned the duty of Liaison Officer, Staff, effective 26 Jul 45, and appointed Battalion Summary Court Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS 155TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 36 U S ARMY

~~RESTRICTED~~

3 November 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History for the Month of October, 1945.

TO : Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division
(THRU CHANNELS)

1. During the month of October, this Battalion performed garrison duty and maintained two security patrols.
2. Each battery within the unit has been seriously handicapped in training by the rapid turnover of enlisted men and officers, who are being transferred on the basis of their point scores.
3. During the week 7-15 of October, this Battalion maintained an Alert Battery, whose principal duty was the quelling of any large disorder or breach of military security. During the period no such incidents occurred.
4. Two security patrols were maintained throughout the month for the purpose of visiting the outlying villages of our area each day. No disorders of any kind have been encountered by this patrol.
5. In cooperation with VI Corps and Division directives, this Battalion has conducted a drive against speeding and reckless driving. All men have constantly had their attention brought to the number of soldiers killed and injured through automobile accidents. One motor patrol has been maintained on Highway 29, the principal road through our area, to curb all infractions of traffic regulations.
6. Morale is Excellent.

PERSONNEL

- 1 Oct 45 - The strength of the battalion as of 2400, 30 Sep 45, was 21 officers (1 Lt Col, 8 Capt, 9 1st Lt, 2 2nd Lt and 1 WO) and 137 enlisted men.
- 2 Oct 45 - 3 1st Lt and 1 2nd Lt trfd fr the Bn.
- 4 Oct 45 - 19 EM trfd fr the Bn.
- 5 Oct 45 - 1 Lt Col and 2 EM trfd fr the Bn; 1 WO asgd.
- 6 Oct 45 - 2 1st Lt trfd; 136 EM asgd.
- 7 Oct 45 - 1 Capt, 1 1st Lt and 2 EM trfd; 196 EM asgd.
- 8 Oct 45 - 1 Capt and 13 EM trfd; 1 EM asgd.
- 9 Oct 45 - 4 EM trfd.

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10 Oct 45 - 2 EM trfd; 76 EM asgd.
 11 Oct 45 - 11 EM trfd; 2 Maj, 6 Capt, 2 1st Lt and 7 EM asgd.
 12 Oct 45 - 2 EM trfd; 1 WO and 75 EM asgd.
 15 Oct 45 - 1 1st Lt, 1 WO and 5 EM asgd.
 16 Oct 45 - 1 Capt trfd; 1 1st Lt asgd.
 18 Oct 45 - 2 EM trfd; 1 Lt Col, 2 Maj, 2 Capt, 4 1st Lt, 1 WO and 1 EM asgd.
 19 Oct 45 - 1 EM trfd; 1 EM asgd.
 22 Oct 45 - 1 2nd Lt and 1 EM trfd; 1 1st Lt and 2 EM asgd.
 28 Oct 45 - 1 EM trfd.
 29 Oct 45 - 2 EM trfd.
 30 Oct 45 - 17 EM trfd.
 31 Oct 45 - 61 EM trfd. The strength of the battalion as of 2400, 31 Oct was 35 officers (1 Lt Col, 4 Maj, 13 Capt, 12 1st Lt and 5 WO) and 196 EM.

GENERAL:- During the first part of October officers with points below the critical score were transferred out of the battalion and officers above the critical score were transferred into the battalion. Enlisted men with scores below sixty and under thirty-five years of age were transferred from the battalion, and personnel with scores of sixty and above were assigned to the battalion. On October 30th enlisted men having scores of eighty and above not desiring to remain with the battalion were transferred to the 572nd AAA Bn. On October 31st enlisted men having scores between sixty and sixty-four and less than thirty-five years of age were transferred to the 375th FA Bn.

Lt Col DONALD C. HERRER was transferred to the 7th Army Artillery 5 October 1945 and Lt Col JOHN A. MC EWAN was assigned from the 630th FA Bn the same day, and assumed command of the 155th Field Artillery Bn.

John A. McEwan
 JOHN A. MC EWAN,
 Lt Col, 155th FA Bn,
 Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS 155TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 36 U.S. ARMY

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS REPORT - OCTOBER 1945

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Service Battery, 155 FA Bn, presented Meritorious Service Unit Plaque 26 October 1945 (Authority: General Order 187, Hq 36th Inf Div, dtd 21 May 1945.)

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By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 8-8-82

HEADQUARTERS 155TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 36 U.S. ARMY~~RESTRICTED~~

31 Oct 45.

ROSTER OF OFFICERSBATTALION STAFF

McEWAN, JOHN A.	Lt. Col.	0280352	Bn Comdr
ADAMS, CLAUDE M.	Major	0342708	Exec
NIEHAUS, JOHN C.	Major	0333318	S-3
SAMPLER, JOHN W.	Major	0250045	S-2
POKIGO, BOLESIAW H.	Major	0365481	Asst S-3
LEET, GERIAD D.	Captain	0418860	Asst S-3
BENDER, ROBERT M.	1st Lt.	01169861	Asst S-2
BARNWELL, WILLIAM H.	Captain	0436746	Ln Officer
SCHMIDT, WILLIAM F.	Captain	01001046	Adj.
PATTON, HALFORD E.	Captain	0497092	Med Officer
CARY, HOWARD V.	WOJG	W2119880	Pers O
KALLMAN, IRVING E.	WOJG	W2130915	" "

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

GAINES, STANLEY H.	Captain	01165117	Btry Comdr
CROOK, GEORGE M.	1st Lt.	01175499	Asst Btry C.
NIX, WILLIAM H.	1st Lt.	01823757	Motor O
ANDERSON, CHARLES A.	1st Lt.	02168140	Asst Mtr O

BATTERY "A"

CULVER, EDWARD H.	Captain	0455330	Btry Comdr
BECKER, JOHN W.	1st Lt	01178070	Exec.
HARRISON, HENRY A.	1st Lt.	01185224	R. O.
GARDNER, CLINTON C.	1st Lt.	01048369	Mtr O

BATTERY "B"

CRAIG, JAMES R.	Captain	01172820	Btry Comdr
WATKINS, ROBERT R.	Captain	01180759	Exec
RHYS, LLOYD D.	Captain	01173398	R. O.
VOGEL, GEORGE A.	1st Lt.	01823757	Mtr O

BATTERY "C"

RIEL, DAVID H.	Captain	0304451	Btry Comdr
CANNON, JAY L.	Captain	0329671	Exec
McGREGOR, JAMES R.	1st Lt.	01170082	R.O.
PAISTAD, ERLING L.	1st Lt.	01174217	Mtr O
WOLF, HERMAN J.	1st Lt.	01167287	Asst Mtr O

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By RB/VSV

NARA, Date 8-8-92

HEADQUARTERS 155TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 36 U.S. ARMY

SERVICE BATTERY

ALIEN, ROBERT C.
FAILEY, HAROLD W.
THIMES, HENRY A.
PARKS, DAVID L.
EDWARDS, ELMER O.
MITCHELL, THOMAS J.

Captain
Captain
1st Lt.
WOJG
WOJG
CWO

01167299
01168543
01080156
W2135370
W2102874
W2109864

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Btry Comdr S-4
Bn Motor Officer
Munitions O
Asst S-4
" "
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By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 5-8-92

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APO 36 U.S. Army

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MISSIONS FLOWN BY AIR SECTION - OCTOBER 1945

Negative Report.

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By RB/VSW

NARA, Date 8-6-82

