

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Auth: CG 35th Inf Div

HEADQUARTERS 161ST FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 35 US ARMY

Initials *plc*

Date *8/1/44*
1 August 1944

*EPD
ETO
1*

Unit: Jockey
Period from 0001, 5 July 44
to 2359, 31 July 44

SUBJECT: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Thru Channels)

1. In accordance with ltr Hq 1st US Army 13 July 1944 File 319.1/401 (C) above subject. The following report is submitted.

As of 0001 on 5 July 1944 this organization was in its concentration area at Perranporth, England. It was ordered to move by motor a distance of 141 miles to the Marshalling Area, control post "D", to arrive there at 1720. The march was uneventful.

The organization was broken up into three groups and the groups were billeted in three different camps in the Marshalling Area, as follows: Hq and Hq Btry in Area D-12, Btry A, and the Medical Detachment in Area D-9, B,C, and Sv Btrys were in Area D-5.

During the period from 0200 and 1000, 6th July 1944 the various segments of the organization were alerted in the Marshalling Area Camps and were embarked on the following vessels: Hq and Hq Btry on LST #357, Sv, B and C on LST #535, Sv on LCT #585, and A on LST #359.

The embarkation took place in the port of Weymouth, England. The voyage from point of embarkation to the point of debarkation, Omaha Beach, near Colleville-S-Mr on the coast of Normandy was without notable events.

The battalion completed debarkation from crafts and ships at 1925 and closed to the transit area #4 at 2000. Dewaterproofing was completed at that time.

The battalion moved from transit area to 072300 July 1944 and closed into rendezvous area at 080500 July 1944, approximately 14 miles traveled in bivouac area 2 miles northwest of Bricqueville.

At 091200 July 1944, the battalion was ordered to move by marching to positions in vicinity of Moon-Sur-Elle, approximately one mile southwest therefrom. Positions were completely occupied and the battalion was ready to fire at 1430. Mission of the battalion while in this position was to reinforce the fires of the 216th Field Artillery Battalion in supporting the attack by the 320th Infantry. Liaison was maintained with the CP of the 216th Field Artillery Battalion and forward observers were maintained with the front line companies of the 320th Infantry. The battalion remained

S E C R E T

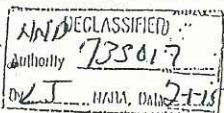
16 SEP 1944

6141 master

Ind #14

335-14(161)-03

July 44



-2-

S E C R E T

in this position with the same mission until 14th of July 1944. 9951 rounds of high explosive were fired while in this position in support of the 320th Infantry. Btry B, AAA Bn atchd for AA (Capt LaMosuriei).

At 132300 July the commanding officer received orders to reconnoiter for new positions in the area of Villiers-Fossard, with the mission of supporting an attack to be made by the 134th Infantry which was being committed on the left of the 320th Infantry. Positions were picked and the battalion displaced by battery closing into the new positions at 141550 July. Position area approximately 2 miles north of Villiers-Fossard.

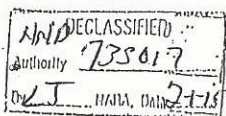
At 150515 July the 134th Infantry attacked with two battalions abreast, 1st on the right and 2nd on the left, third in reserve. This battalion, with the 127th Field Artillery Battalion (Capt Fulmer), and the 963rd Field Artillery Battalion (both 155 How) reinforcing along with the cannon company (Capt Asher), 134th Infantry, attacked Company B, 654th Tank Destroyer Battalion (two platoons only), (Capt Stevens) and the 92nd Chemical Battalion (4.2 Mortars (Lt Col Martin), supported the attack with priority of fires to the 1st battalion of the 134th Infantry. The 161st, 127th, 963rd, and the 92nd laid down a rolling barrage in front of the 1st battalion and lifted it on call from the liaison officer with that battalion. The cannon company was used for call fires from the 2nd battalion and the TD platoons were used to interdict the important road junctions just north of St Lo.

4345 rounds was expended by this battalion to support the attack on the 15th. The attack was continued on the 16th and the 17th and was supported by the same units except that two companies of the mortar battalion were detached as of 171300 July. Three 105 MM howitzers mounted on tank (M-4) were attached as of 17th and fired on call missions with our battalion and in support of the attack.

At 170415 the 134th launched a new attack with three battalions abreast, the 3rd on the right, 1st in the center and the 2nd on the left. The attack was planned to be launched in the darkness and without an artillery preparation. The weather was foggy that morning and visibility was poor until around 0930. Since our liaison planes were unable to get observation the enemy artillery caused some confusion in our attack by their fires. After the weather cleared up the enemy artillery subsided and our attack progressed as planned.

At 201430 July the battalion displaced by battery to new positions approximately a half mile south of Villiers-Fossard to support the defensive positions of the 134th Infantry. (The 127th 963rd, and the remaining company of the 92nd mortars was detached from us on 18th July) Positions were dug in on the 19th and were occupied on the 20th. During the period 201430 to 232359 July 1944 the battalion has been engaged in firing a few harrassing and interdicting missions but the principal fires have been defen-

S E C R E T



-3-

S E C R E T

sive fires in front of the 134th Infantry.

At 271100 Company B 654th Tank Destroyers Battalion (Capt Stevens) (Two platoons only) were into positions to perform their second army mission.

At 271500 the 134th Infantry launched a new attack with three battalions abreast, 2nd on the right, 3rd in the center, and the 1st on the left. The objective high ground Cord. (51.900-58.200). The following Artillery Battalions supported the fires of this battalion, 127th, 216th, 219th, 111th, 227th, 172 rounds was expended by this battalion to support the attack.

Between 280130 and 280220 gun positions of this battalion were bombed by enemy planes, estimated 1000 lb bomb. (Bomb crater 20' deep 50' across). No personnel were injured, small damage to equipment.

280700 the 134th Infantry launched another attack with three battalions abreast supported by the 1st battalion of the 137th Infantry. Objective high ground, Cord. (49.8-60.00) (51.9-61.5). 280845 Battalion Company and Battery Commanders went forward to reconnoiter for new positions in the area SW of St Lo.

Major Richard H. Cahoon SHEAF Hq and photographer arrived at CP, took pictures of bomb crater.

281420 the battalion displaced by battery to new position at 1700.

291000 3rd Battalion 134th Infantry reported patrols on the final objective. 186th Field Artillery attacked for fire support (Capt Smith).

291420 S-2 and Battery Commanders went forward to reconnoiter for new positions. Battalion displaced by battery to new positions 3/4 mile NE of La Mancelliere Sur Vire.

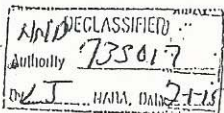
292130 gun positions bombed by enemy planes, no damage to personnel or equipment.

300520 anti-personnel bombs were dropped by enemy planes in A and B Battery gun positions. Personnel injured, 1 enlisted man KIA, 2 enlisted men LWA. 300700 Battalion Commander and Battery Commanders left to reconnoiter for new positions.

301300 General Helmick (Corp Artillery Officer) arrived at Battalion CP.

302100 two casualties reported by forward observer, 1 enlisted man KIA, 1 enlisted man LWA.

S E C R E T



-4-

S E C R E T

311715 battalion displaced by battery to new positions 1 1/2 miles NW of Torigni Sur Vire.

310600 British Armored reported in the vicinity of Foret L'Eveque.

312315 enemy planes over area, no bombs dropped in battalion area.

From the period of 132300 to 312359 this battalion has been in direct support of the 134th Infantry (CT).

The morale of our troops is excellent and the fighting efficiency is improving with combat experience.

The battalion suffered the following casualties during this operation: 1 (Captain) KIA, 2 (enlisted) men KIA, AND 7 (enlisted men) IWA.

There will be approximately a dozen decorations for bravery and valliant service during the month.

There were no decisive exploits nor were any prisoners taken.

Douglas G. Dwyre

DOUGLAS G DWYRE
Lieutenant Colonel, FA
Commanding

Incl-
Amm Report

319.1 (1 Aug 44)
HQ 35TH INF DIV, APO 35, U S Army, 14 Aug 44

1st Ind

RGC/mla

TO: Commanding General, XIX Corps, APO 270, U S Army

Forwarded in compliance with provisions of paragraph 1, letter Headquarters FUSA, 13 July 1944, 319.1/401 (C), subject: "Action Against Enemy, Reports After/ After Action Reports.

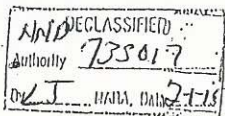
For the Commanding General:

Richard G. Chadwick

RICHARD G. CHADWICK
Lt Col, A. G. D.
Adjutant General

1 Incl
n/c

S E C R E T



DAILY AMMUNITION REPORT

Unit: Jockey
From: 0600 10 Jul 44
To : 0600 1 Aug 44

<u>TIME & DATE</u>	<u>BALANCE LAST REPORT</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>	<u>BALANCE ON HAND</u>
100600 110600	2855	2098	638	4315
110600 120600	4315	2200	1942	4573
120600 130600	4573	2046	2266	4353
130600 140600	4353	4896	3849	5400
140600 150600	5400	0	1617	3783
150600 160600	3783	6200 Sh	87	5551
		Exp	4345	
160600 170600	5551	0	758	4793
170600 180600	4793	0 Sh	300	3761
		Exp	732	
180600 190600	3761	0	186	3575
190600 200600	3575	0 T.I.	327	3197
		Exp	51	
200600 210600	3197	0	166	3031
210600 220600	3031	0	217	2814
220600 230600	2814	485	300	2999
230600 240600	2999	0	110	2889
240600 250600	2889	600	300	3189
250600 260600	3189	0	250	2939
260600 270600	2939	350	284	3005
270600 280600	3005	0	252	2753
280600 290600	2753	0	118	2635
290600 300600	2635	438	39	3034
300600 310600	3034	0	467	2567
310600 010600	2567	510	422	2655

Abbreviations

Sh - Shipped
Exp- Expended
TI - Turned In

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
Date 2-1-15

SECRET

RGC/mla

2

note

319.1

(31 Aug 44)

HQ 35TH INF DIV, APO 35, U S Army, 20 Sep 44

TO: Commanding General, XII Corps, APO 312, U S Army

Forwarded in compliance with paragraph 2, Memo 2, Headquarters XII Corps, 2 August 1944.

For the Commanding General:

Aug

Richard G. Chadwick
RICHARD G. CHADWICK
Lt. Col., A. G. D.
Adjutant General

4 Incls
n/c

335-FH(161)-0.3

335-41.8

SECRET

NOV 3 1944

6141 master

4