

**DOWNGRADED TO:
RESTRICTED**
BY AUTHORITY OF TAG *KEM*

HEADQUARTERS
737th Tank Battalion
APO 436

Auth: CG 20th Inf Div

Initials.....

Date.....

3 August 1944

20 July 44
Date

KEM
Initials

RESTRICTED

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

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

1. The 737th Tank Battalion, attached to the 35th Infantry Division, was in action against the enemy during July, 1944 as follows.

2. a. Period of 14 July to 17 July inclusive. The 737th Tank Battalion supported the advance of the 35th Infantry Division zone extended from La Vire River right boundary to the Moon Sur Elle - St. Lo Highway, left boundary. On 14 July, the first day on which this unit was committed, the 35th Infantry Division forward line extended along the road from Meauffe to Les Mieux in the St. Lo sector. The enemy occupied the high ground North West of St. Lo. During this period, the 35th Infantry Division, using the 737th Tank Battalion to support the attack, pushed the enemy back and advanced to positions South of St. Lo.

During this operation Medium Tank Companies A, B, C, and Light Tank Company D were used to support the Infantry.

The six Assault Guns were made into one battery and attached to the 161st Field Artillery Battalion to fire reenforcing missions.

The enemy resistance was heavy and effective use of tanks was made difficult due to the hedgerow country in which operations took place.

Casualties:

Enlisted Men	8	KIA	--	32	WIA
Officers	1	KIA	--	4	WIA

Tank losses:

Mediums	--	4
Lights	--	2

b. Period 28 July to 31 July inclusive. 35th Infantry Division Zone during this period bounded as follows: Right - La Vire River. Left - St. Lo - Torigni Highway. Division attacking South and West toward La Vire River. During this period Medium Tank Companies A, B, C, and Light Tank Company D supported the advance of the Infantry.

The Assault Guns of the Battalion were attached to 161st Field Artillery Battalion to reinforce fire of that Organization.

At the close of this period the 35th Infantry Division had advanced to a line Domjean - Gulberville.

Casualties:

Enlisted Men	2	--	WIA
Officers	2	--	WIA

Tank losses:

Serial # 6.

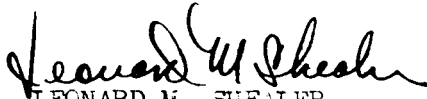
RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

3. Unless otherwise directed by Division Headquarters, the 737th Tank Battalion is broken down to Infantry Regiments as follows:

- a. Medium Tank Company A, First Platoon Light Tank Company D, Detachment of Service Company, Detachment of Medics, and Detachment of Reconnaissance to 134th Infantry Regiment.
- b. Medium Tank Company B, 2nd Platoon Light Tank Company D, Detachment of Service Company, Detachment of Medics, and Detachment of Reconnaissance to 137th Infantry Regiment.
- c. Medium Tank Company C, 3rd Platoon Light Tank Company D, Detachment of Service Company, Detachment of Medics, and Detachment of Reconnaissance to 320th Infantry Regiment.
- d. The remainder of the Battalion operates on Division level.

For the Commanding Officer:


LEONARD M. SHEALER
1st Lt., Inf.
Adjutant

1 Incl:

1 - Copy of Unit Journal

319.1

1st Ind

RGC/mla

(3 Aug 44)

HQ 35TH INF DIV, APO 35, U S Army, 14 Aug 44

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:

1 Incl
n/c

RESTRICTED

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

RESTRICTED

14 July 44

Assault Gun Platoon moved at 0815 to an intermediate position in the rear of the 137th Inf Regt. Moved from the intermediate position in the rear of the 137th Inf Regt to an intermediate position in the rear of the 134th Inf Regt. Tank losses - 11 Med Tanks.

Casualties:

	Slightly Wounded	Seriously Wounded	Killed
"B" Company	4	1	2
"C" Company	5	0	1

15 July 44

"D" Co and the Mortar Plt of this Bn moved at 0715 to an intermediate position to join the Med Tank Companies "A" & "B" plus Hq tanks, who are supporting 134th Inf Regt on the left flank of the Division Sector. Objective - River north of St. Lo (Vinc)

The Assault Gun Plt also moved to the same intermediate position. Tank losses - 1, 105mm Med Tank, 12 Med Tanks - total loss of non 23 Med tanks out of action.

Casualties:

	Slightly Wounded	Seriously Wounded	Killed
"A" Company	5	0	0
"D" Company	2	0	1

16 July 44

At 0800 tank companies, mortar and assault gun plt were recalled to original bivouac position at Moon to reorganize and repair vehicles. An attempt is being made to recover tanks. At 2110 the tank companies moved out to join the Inf Bn they were supporting on the 15th of July. "A" Co joined the 2nd Bn of the 134th Inf Regt; "B" Co joined the 1st Bn of the 134th Inf Regt and "C" & "D" Companies joined the 3d Bn of the 134th Inf Regt on the left flank of the Div Sector.

Number of tanks recovered - 11 Med tanks still out of action - 12 Lt tanks lost - 1 Casualties - None

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

18th July 44 contd.

Assault Gun platoon remained attached to the 161st FA Bn. Recon platoon made reconnaissance to position South of St. Lo. Bn. Lt Col. D'Almeida remained in division reserve. Bn. subjected to enemy air attack at 2000. No damage or casualties.

20 July 1944

Bn moved to present position at 1300 and closed into camp at 1430. (518-603). "A" Co plus 1st platoon of "D" Company remained attached to the 134th Inf Regt and were committed at 1300, returned to Bn reserve at 2200. Capt Devlin injured at 1600, Lt Giacomoni at 1300. "C" Co remained attached to the 320th Inf Regt and were committed at 1715. Assault Gun platoon remained attached to the 161st FA Bn. 3 medium tanks and 2 light tanks were disabled during the day, but all can be recovered and ready for action within 24 hours.

31 July 44 (528-603)

"C" Co of this battalion remained attached to the 320th Inf Regt and were committed at 1915 and reassembled at 1430 (551-572). Bn less "C" Company plus one platoon of "D" Company remained attached to Task Force 5. "B" Company plus one platoon of "D" Company of Task Force committed at 1100. "B" Company reassembled at (524-572) at 2000. One platoon of "B" Company committed at 2130 with orders to continue attack until 2230.

Tanks now equipped with "Rino Attachment" are as follows: Medium Tanks - 10, Light Tanks - 11.

RESTRICTED