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HEADQUARTERS
737th Tank Battalion
APO 436

20 Feb 46 MSD
Date Initials

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1 September 1944

SUBJECT: Action Against Enemy Report, 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 August 1944 as follows:

a. Period of 1 August to 4 August, incl: This Bn. supported the advance of the 35th Inf Div drom a line Brectouville (545525) to Choisel (605350) to a position N. of Vire (632317), Division boundaries shown on overlay, Annex 1. Bn Attached as follows:

Med Tank Co "C" plus 3rd Plt Light Tank Co "D" to C.T. 320.
Bn (-) attached to Task Force "S".

The tanks supported the advance of the Infantry against heavy enemy resistance through close country which made tank employment very difficult.

Tank Losses - 6 Med Tanks

Personnel Losses	KIA	MIA	WIA
Officers			1
EM	5	10	8

b. Period of 7 August to 12 August, incl: This Bn supported the advance of the 35th Inf Div in an attack from St. Hilaire (470033) to Mortain (585105). During period 7 - 9 August incl, attachment was as follows:

"A" Co to C.T. 134
"B" Co to C.T. 137
"C" Co to C.T. 320

On 10 August this Bn was attached to 1st Bn, 320th Inf Regt for an attack from R.J. 584060, North to Mortain. This action lasted two days. Overlay, Annex 2.

Tank Losses - 16 Med Tanks, 1 Light Tank

Personnel Losses	MIA	WIA
Officers	1	1
EM	20	14

c. Period of 14 August to 19 August, incl: During this period Co "B" was attached to C.C.B. of the 4th Armored Division in support of C.T. 137. Advanced from Le Mans to Orleans.

No tanks or personnel losses.

d. Period of 21 August to 24 August incl: "A" Co attached to C.T. 134 and supported advance from Chatillon to Pithiviers. "B" Co was attached to C.T. 320 but was not committed. Bn (-) supported the advance of the 3rd Bn, 134th Inf to occupy Bellegarde.

e. Period of 28 August to 31 August, incl: Bn Attached to Task Force "S" under command of Brigadier General SEBREE. Mission: to occupy and defend Troyes. Bn supported advance of Task Force "S" into Troyes and then from Troyes to Joinville Le Chateau.

[redacted]

SEP 2
6144

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For the Commanding Officer:

Ernest C. Lumley Jr.

ERNEST C. LUMLEY, JR.
Captain, Cavalry
S-3

SEP 16 1944
Received

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2 Incls

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ANNEX 2

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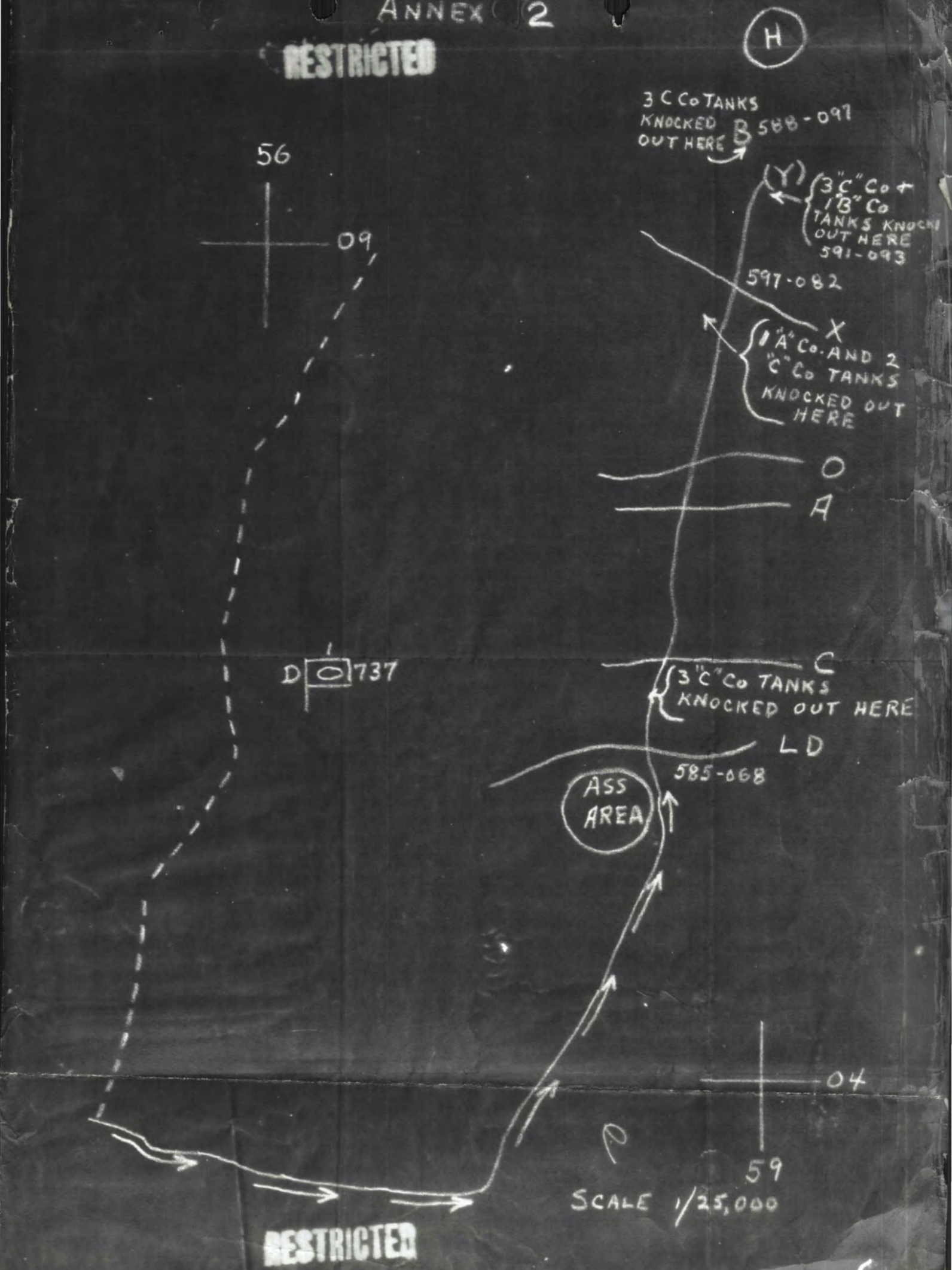

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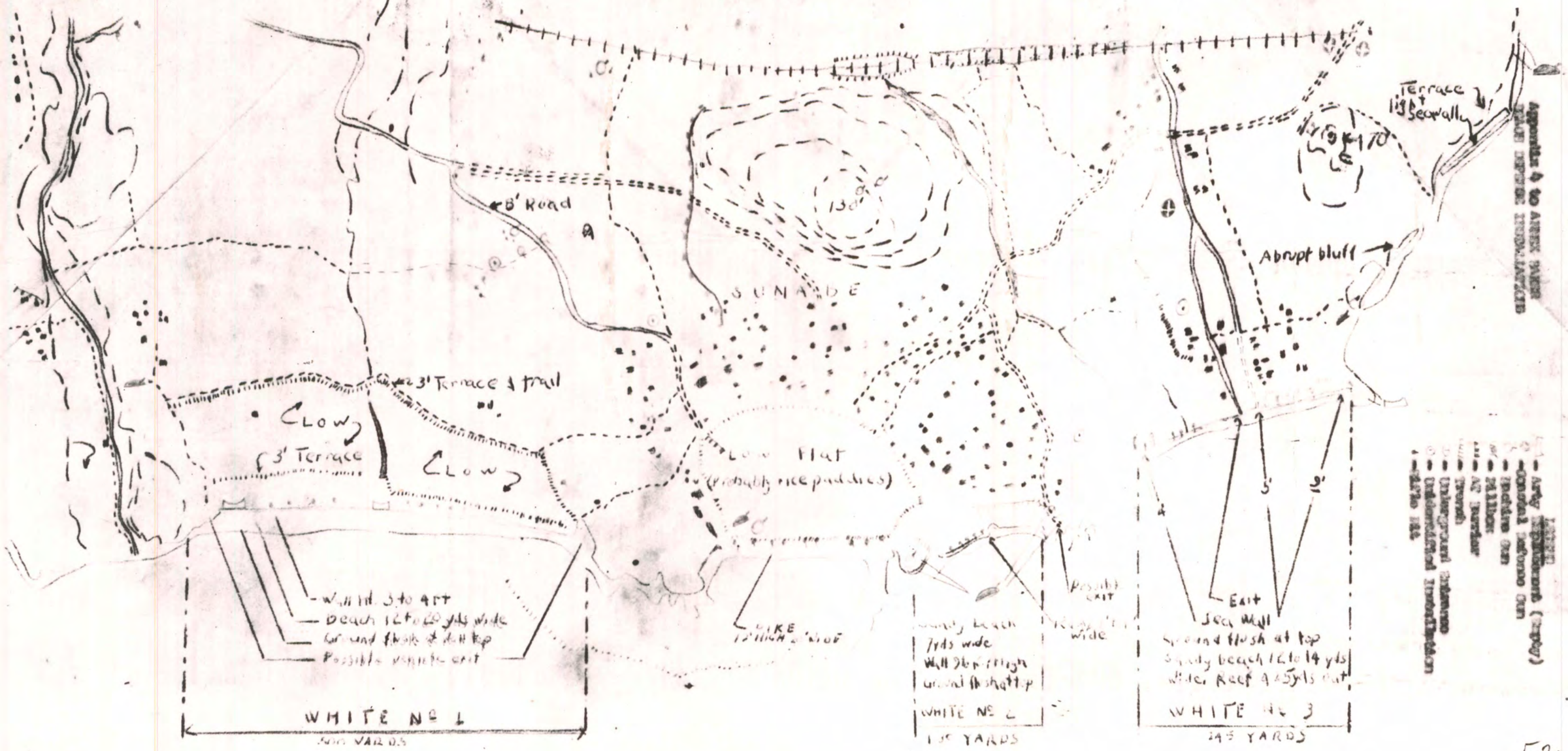

Appendix 4 to ANNEX BAKER
TRACE DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS

Legend
- Arty Emplacement (Empty)
- Coastal Defense Gun
- Pillbox
- AT Barrier
- Trench
- Underground Entrance
- Unidentified Installation
- Life Hit

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2nd Aug 44

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
0715	H-3	H-6	Our operations negative.
1005	H-3	H-6	Our operations negative. Doughs moving forward slowly.
1500	H-3	H-C	Waiting to move up to another area. Exact location not known yet. Things going o.k. Need K and C rations.
1555	H-3	H-A	Hermit Able has moved to 558-508. Intend to move again shortly. 1st Bn moving forward.
1655	H-5	H-B	Status report. Medium Tanks 10/0/7. Light Tanks 5/0/0. T2 1/0/0.
1916	H-5	H-6	Do you have any specific instructions for Hermit 3. Hermit now in bivouac awaiting instructions.
1935	H-3	H-H	Hermit 5 at new location - will arrange to secure general location of new Bn. Area. Will give this location to you about 2030.
1940	H-6	MC/O 35 Div	Div old CP closes 1754B opens at same time at 545-487.
2200	H-H	H-5	Rcn proposed bivouac area location 539-477. Request IP at 0830. Get o.k. tonight if possible.
2230	H-3	H-C	No vehicle casualties and no personnel casualties.
1855	H-3	H-C	New assembly position at 584-480. Nothing new.

Remarks

Battalion moved from position (528-603) to new position (540-546) left old area at 1000 and closed into new position at 1115. One Assault Gun broke down on the move but can be repaired in 24 hours.

3rd Aug 44

0830	H-3	35 Div	G-3 Report. Positions (137 Inf Reg 542-456, 134 Inf Reg 564-458, 320 Inf Reg 591-460. 35th Div. 544-488. 737-538-549).
0815	H-3	H-C	Correction on coordinates given you yesterday 590-473.
0830	H-3	H-Y	Our operations negative. Baker moving to vicinity 520-470. Doughs progressing to Grid Line 41.
1435	H-3	H-Y	Doughs abreast Grid Line 38.
1430	H-6	H-H	Bridge and Ford at 546-435 and 581-425.
1700	H-3	H-Y	CO Task Force at 552-422.
1700	H-3	H-C	Moving across river in the morning. (Vire).
1800	H-3	H-D	Status report Light Tanks 18/0/0.
1835	H-5	H-Y	Task Force Commander advises no move tonight.
1845	H-A H-B H-C	H-3	There will be no move tonight.
1940	H-3	H-Y	Bn will not cross river tonight. By telephoned order Task Force Commander thru CO 137 Inf Rept. H-Y prepairs to cross tomorrow morning.

Remarks

Battalion moved from old position (540-546) to new position (539-480). Left old position at 0830 and closed into new area at 1000. Bn proposes to move in the morning to a new position south of the (Vire) river. Lt. Hartigan made reconnaissance to find river crossing, route thereto and bivouac position.

4 Aug 44

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TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
0655	H-3	H-C	Our Unit Location by Coordinates 585-419 (Correction on this message)(Sent by H-C)
0715	H-H	H-3	Is location given in last message for entire unit. (Does not apply).
0817	H-6	H-Y	We have arrived at Jury.
0910	H-3	H-5	1 Assault Gun Hq. Co should be ready tonight. 1 Tank "C" Co. will be left in this area to be repaired. Will be ready tonight if they get parts.
1055	H-3	H-C	Have moved to new location (597-390).
1154	H-5	H-3	Propose to move at once. Hermit Dog on way to meet column. Send Hartigan to Jury with quartering details.
1209	H-5	H-6	Do not move anything. Disregard last message from TXO-O at 1050.
1220	H-6	H-H	No elements of Bn attached to Task Force "S" until ordered by CG.
1515	H-6	H-H	Charlie Company committed in final push with Blue Bn. One vehicle hit mine, track thrown, being repaired.
1545	H-6	H-H	Task Force dissolved as of 1515. Bn., minus C Company reverts to division reserve, present position.
1636	H-3	H-C	Coordinates of present location are (597-390).
1806	S-3	H-C	Report on action. Two men LWA. One man SWA, one man KIA. 13 vehicles for duty.
1655	H-6	H-H	The Bn is to move across the river today. What are the coordinates you desire to go into. Let me know as soon as possible. - - (Do not move until further orders). (Separate message).
2020	S-3	H-C	Committed at 1230.today. Personnel casualties: two men killed, one slightly wounded. Two vehicles out of action.
2240	H-6	3rd Armd Gp	Our Ex O is at your Hq. Have him bring back maps issued you a couple days ago. Also bring back report on Battle Experiences with Div. This report was called for by our CO.
2240	CO 3rd AG	H-3	Officer to whom last message refers has left this area

Remarks

At 1130 CO of Task Force "S" issued orders for this Bn to move to position in vicinity (552-402). This order was revoked orally by Gen. Seabree at 1205. Bn. remained in alerted status during nights of 3 & 4 Aug. awaiting order for river crossing (Vire River) to a position in vicinity of "S" Task Force Hq. Oral instruction from C. G. Task Force "S" was to remain in present position and not make river crossing night 3 Aug. Reported to CG Task Force "S" vicinity (552-402) 0930 4 Aug and was advised by CG to remain at that Hq for further instructions. Instructions were as formerly mentioned. "C" Co. committed at 1230, one tank hit mine, blew track, one tank hit by anti-tank rocket.

5 Aug 44

0845	S-3	H-H	I will comply. (Message sent him regarding going to "B" Co.)
0920	H-6	3rd Armd Gp	Will time be available for limited Catholic Services today. If so w at time will be most convenient.
0923	H-6	3rd Armd Gp	Can send camouflage team for your vehicles today if you use them. Advise promptly if one or more companies available.

5 Aug 44

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
0930	Co 3rd Armd Gp	H-3	Most convenient time for catholic services 1500. Camouflage team not needed today.
1000	H-6	H-H	Nothing new. All units to remain in present positions until further orders. Now leaving for Baker Co. Will be at Bn. when finished at Baker Co.
1215	H-3	3rd Armd Gp	Please send maps you don't need to us by the Chaplain. Also Col. MacLaughlin wants notes on Inf-Tank cooperation or non-cooperation. Says he talked to you and Kroschel about this. Please send same by Chaplain.
1300	XO 3rd Armd Gp	H-6	Maps given Chaplain as requested. Report requested by Col. MacLaughlin not in complete form due to combat comoanies being separated from Bn. Report will be completed as soon as unification can be made with persons on the ground during action.
1426	H-6	H-H	Call in Charlie Co. immediately. Be prepaired to move after 1600. Moving complete in direction indicated in conversation this morning. Do not think we will move until late tonight or early morning. Suggest Able and Baker Companies remain in present position prepaired to move. Will be at Bn as soon as I have complete information.
1440	H-6	H-H	Move of Div by motor starts at 1800. Div now assembling Time of movements of individual units later.
1540	H-C	H-3	Rcn O on way to your position now. Be prepaired to move as soon as he arrives.
1555	H-6	H-H	Capt. Stahnke has name of town from which we IP. No present indication of destination or time of departure. Opinion that it will not be sooner than midnight.
1555	H-6	H-H	Send Advance party of one officer in ¼ ton to be at 532-432 at 1600. There is a town at the South side of that bridge.
1600	H-3	H-C	Reconnaissance officer is not here. Waiting for instructions of location to where to move.
1815	All CO's	H-3	Meeting of all Co. Commanders at CP at once.
1830	CO 3rd Armd Gp	H-3	Moving to new location tonight. Have one damaged tank at 597-390. Can you have Ordnance evacuate this vehicle.
1830	H-6	H-H	Bn to IP at N. end of Pontferay bridge at -330. Permission granted by G3 to move to IP prior to 0330 and move off road to await IP time. Send Liaison Officer to Major Gillis at Div. Bn. to be given 2 hrs notice prior to IP time. Rate of march 12½ m.p.h. Distance between vehicles 30 yards. Destination - Velledun-Las-Poeles.
1900	COs	H-3	Movement order given to all Company Commanders. Lt. McDermott and Capt. Wickens sent as Liaison O's to Div. Lt. Yontz with radio equipped ¼ ton sent with advance party of Div.
2015	S-3	H-Y	Our new area is to be vicinity 414-275.
2040	H-6	McDermott	Our position Justice FWD. We will probably not move before daylight. Am standing by-will contact hourly.
2359	H-3	McDermott	Information received here at 2300 from Victor is that no Justice vehicles pass IP after 2345. Justice advises Hermit remain in present area until further notice. Estimated delay 13 hours.
2310	H-3	McDermott	Plans have been upset. Anticipate 2 hours delay at IP. Will notify you when I get instructions.

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TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
0754	H-3	McDermott	Situation at 0700 still same as of 2300 last night. Present indications keeps you in present location until about 1300. Will advise as soon as more information is available.
1047	H-3	McDermott	Definate information on situation on the way to you by Dog Co. CO. Time of move not before 1800 this date.
1030	H-6	H-H	New area bounded as follows: 459-010 to 468-003 then north along road to R22 467-025, then southwest along road to starting point.
1100	All COs	H-3	Movement delayed until 2030. Stand by for orders. Will keep you informed as fast as possible.
1200	H-6	H-H	Am out of contact with Yontz. Would like to meet him and guide from Bn at RJ 438-137 to make Recon of new area. Have guide bring map if possible.
1319	H-3	McDermott	G-3 advises one additional hour delay to present schedule.
1615	H-3	H-H	Our new location is coordinates I gave you this morning. Yontz and quartering party will you at RJ, the coordinates of which I gave you before . I am leaving him here with 506 at starting point so you can keep in contact with him.
1655	H-3	McDermott	G-3 advises new plan. Hermit IP at H plus 5 hours 40 minutes. H hour will not be before 1700 this date. Will advise when H hour is determined.
1900	H-3	McDermott	H hour is 1800 this date. Am standing by for further developments.
1900	All COs	S-3	Meeting of all company commanders at CP at 2000.
2000			Movement order and overlay of route to new location issued to all company commanders - IP time - 2340.
2110	Rcn O	H-3	Column will leave this area 2200 to cross IP 2340. Confirm this tiem.
2115	H-3	Rcn O	Delay starting time 50 minutes. IP time now H plus 6 hours 30 minutes. Please hold up column until this time.
2120	All Co's	H-3	Delay starting time 50 minutes.

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0155			Head of column crossed IP at Pontafroy.
0730			Column closed at new position S. of St. Hilaire Du Harcout.
0800	G-3	H-3	Hermit column passed IP at 0155 Pd Closed new location 0730 PD Six vehicles still out.
1200	H-3	H-C	Have you sent Rcn after rest of Charlie Co?
1215	H-C	H-3	Wilco (Rcn sent to pick up Charlie vehicles).
1330	H-6	J-6	Meeting at Justice CP 1330.
1323	H-6	J-3	Enemy reported 4-7 miles E & NE of St. Hilaire. 134th Inf. to assemble in area S.E. St Hilaire - 137th Inf. to assemble S. of 134th Area and generally E. of Louvignes - Tk Bn attached to Div Arty (Gen Rose later asked for Assault Guns only to work with 161st F.A. Bn. to make Rcn. N. to River La Selune and E & SE to make contact with friendly troops. Make contact with 134th Inf.
1545	All Cos	H-3	Meeting of Company Commanders at 1800 at Hermit CP.
1600	H-D	H-3	Pick good defensive area N. of Hermit CP and move "D" Company into it.
1645	VanLoon	H-3	A. G's attached to Jockey (161 F. A.) Go to Jockey and Check with C. O. for orders.

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8 Aug 44

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
1900	H-3 H-6	G3	Medium Tk Cos attached to C. T8s. Attachment normal Bn (-) in Div. reserve. CT 134 and 137 to attack2Ø3Ø CT 320 in reserve-L. D. Grid line 50-zones, phase lines etc--see overlay--A and B Co's joinedCT8S at 21ØØ.
213Ø	G3	H3	Reported to Col Renfroe that Aand B Cos had joined their Regts. and that C Co had been ordered to remain in present location.
23ØØ	H3	HH	None of our units committed
			8 Aug 44
Ø715	H3	HB	Jury moving, will follow to find new location and then will move vehicles up. I will report location as soon as known.
Ø815	HB	HB	Jury moving to vicinity (643013), I am moving balance of Co to 505973.
Ø85Ø Ø855	H3	HH	No units Hermit committed G-2 Report: Rcn troop at phase lineB, meeting only scattered resistance. Little contact with enemy. Enemy reserves reported (2nd SS, 17th SS, 708 & 130th Pz Lehr) Enemy operations-small groups attempted to delay advance. Enemy aircraft over area 2230-2400 Some casualties. One tank reported vicinity 5605 Password Worm-Stingy
0930	H-3	L.Off 134	Elements of 134th Inf reported on phase line C. Assault Guns to move to new position. This word brought by Lt. Gee, 161st F. A. Later word received by telephone not to move these guns.
1100	H-3	H-A	All of "A" Co is committed, one platoon to each Bn. Enemy armore reported in vicinity. I haven't latest template references. We are forward 6½ miles of Bn. position. Regt. Coordinate 556-034.
1120	H-3	Maint. Off	Rhinos - A, B & D complete. "C" 2 installed - 4 left to install - Ord. at Vittro - Tk Status A-16/1/0, B-14/0/3 C-15/1/1, D-18/0/0.
1230	H-6	H-H	137 on objective - Rt Bn 134 on objective - Left Bn 134 encountered resistance, took out road block. Think tanks committed in this action.
1620	H-3	H-B	Reported one casualty, minor injuries - Still under operation (This casualty resulted from mortar fire while in a rear area).
1930			Enemy tanks reported in vicinity Notre Dame de Touche by CO Able. He has two platoons supporting two Inf. Bns. in that area - One platoon had lost two tanks when report was made. Hermit 3 advised Able CO to reassemble his platoons for this enemy counter-attack and to contact Regt. C.P. for help.
2015	G-3	H-3	Advised G3 of situation. He said that they had known of situation for two hours. H-3 requested T-D help in that area and G3 said that he would contact Regt. CO Hermit 3 met 134th Inf Regt S-2 on raod at Lapenty at 1945 and advised him of position of these enemy tanks.
2027	H03	H-B	Situation unchanged. Still at present location. Am going to Jury. Will report afterward.

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TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
2030	H-B	H-3	Enemy armore met by Able Vicinity (570-034. Be alert for this and keep A. T. protection with you.
2040	H-3	H-A	Enemy made a counter-attack. We have sent in bazooka crews and AT Guns to meet them. One platoon (Tare) is on its way back to this area to refuel.
2056	H-3	H-A	Tare's 4 vehicles returned to area. One fell out with motor trouble. It is being repaired. No help other than A.T. guns and bazooka crews has gone forward to help the other two platoons.
2140	H-3	H-H	Enemy tanks moving south on road from Mortain to Hillaire accompanied by 2 companies infantry. T. D's are to hold them up. Tks not used.
2200	H-3	1st Sgt	Advised by Capt from 35th Div to take wheels out of this area. Request permission to do so--(Permission to do so granted by H-3) Six tanks remaining in that area told to remain there.
2210	HH	H-3	Request permission to move six tanks of Able to rear area--Tks out of contact with Her it Able C. O.
2220	H-D	H-5	Dog C. O. advised of situation and made responsible for defense of Bn area toward St. Hillaire. All Company Commanders advised of situation and told to double the guard.
2330-2400			Bn Area bombed-anti-personnel bombs used.
12[illegible]	H-3	H-A	Situation not as serious as first thought-6 Tks in Biv 5 forward with lead Bn--Other 3 thought to be safe.
2450	G-2 DIV	H-2	Stop all civilians who pass through area. They should have proper papers. Hold any civilians who do not have papers or who are not from this area and have no appointed business here.

9 Aug 44

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
0330			F. O. 14 Received this F. O. 03[illegible]0 Bn (-) now on 30 min alert.
0730	All CO's (-A,B,C)	H-3	Bn. now on 30 minute alert to move.
0830	H-3	H-B	TD Unit with us put on different mission. Not with us now.
0858	H-3	H-B	I am moving further east. Location I am moving to will be out of radio range. Regimental C-P coordinates (632-946). Will send back Rcn man to you.
0859	H-3	H-B	Am comin in to your C-P will report on our situation then.
1020	H-3	H-H	Be prepared for a move about 1400.
1030	Hq D SER MED	H-3	Be prepared to move at 1400.
1105	H-3	H-H	Move to vicinity (Villechien) 549002 at 1400. Rt. of march. Road from St. Hillaire to Lapenty. Div. moving to Notre Dame at 1300.
1115	H-3	H-A	Co C. P. moving to 625048-C. O. with 2nd Plat at this position--No contact with 1st Plat-3rd Plat is with 3rd Bn.
1120	RCN C & H HQ	H-3	Make rcn of route and select new biv area.
1140	All CO's	H-3	Meeting of CO's at S-3 at 1230 Bn moves at 1400.
1230			Movement order issued to all company commanders involved.
1307	H-6	M/C 35th Div	Old division C. P. forward closes at 1305 and opehs some time at 569-023.
1500	G-3	H-3	Hermit closed new location (548-019) at 1500.
1530	H-3	H-B	Situation unchanged. Will move to prepared position in case of counter-attack. Have phone contact with Jury. Situation remains same as last night. Part of our forces still seperated from us and we are unable to contact them. Task force reported they are progressing very slowly.
1900	H-ABC	H-3	Bring your organizations to new Hermit bivouac area.

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TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
2030			Able closed biv area with 2nd and 3rd platoons--1st platoon still not contacted-Pvt. Lewis of this platoon reported in to 143 that two of our tanks from his platoon were hit and burned yesterday 8 Aug.
2035			C company closed into battalion area at 2035.
0015			Lt. Maslikosa & Sgt. Cottriel of 2nd Plat; "A" Co, missing for last 24 hrs. reported in with 17 men of 1st Plat. Reported all tanks of this platoon destroyed.
0100	H-6	G-3	Am attaching one Med Tk Co of Powerhouse to your unit. You will probably be used at about noon today.
0630			Lt. Hyman reported that attack would be made on Mortain Forest--No definite plans yet for use of tanks
1000	H-6	H-H	Beat meeting at Div 1100. Order received from C. G. 35th Inf. Div. Bn becomes part of task force composed of 320th Inf and Bn. Tk Bn & 1st Bn. 320th (Maj. Gillis) to cross LD (RJ 584060) at 1500. Moves North along road to break thru to RJ at Mortain, 588097 then to hill 317. Infantry will ride tanks except first five--Order of March: C, A, B & attached Co from 3rd Armd "D" Co & Assault Guns to move up left flank. Tanks to cross L D at 1500, in column and travel down road at 15 miles per hour. Tank objective, Point "B" (see overlay) Tanks to stay on the road and occupy objective until additional infantry of 1st Bn are brought up to assist those riding on tanks.
1300			Order issued to all officers this Bn & Co "B", 3rd Armd which is attached for this mission.

REPORT OF ACTION AGAINST THE ENEMY. UNIT: 737TH TK BN
Map References: France 1:25000, Mortain and Barenton stheets. See Overlay.

On 10 August 1944, the C. O. and S-3 of 737th Tk Bn were called to the C. P. of the 35th Inf. Division at 1100 the following order was issued orally by the C. G. and Chief of Staff:

"The 1st Bn, 320th Inf. Regt; supported by the 737th Tk Bn will attack from RJ 584060 north along road toward Mortain. Objective-relief of 30th Div troops who are cut off on hill 317. Method of attack--All medium tanks of the Bn will be used. They will cross L. D. R. J. 584060 at 1500. All tanks will carry 5 infantry men, each except the first five. Tanks will travel north on road in column. They will not leave the road. If a tank is knocked out, the following tanks will by-pass it and continue on mission. Remainder of infantry from 1st Bn will follow on foot and re-enforce those who arrive on tanks." Tank objective was to be crossroads shown on overlay as points B and Infantry objective -Hill 317.

RESULT OF OPERATION: Bn moved out at 1430 and crossed L. D. in following order: "C" Co-16 Tks, "A" Co-11Tks, "B" Co 11 Tks-"D" Co of 3rd Armd Div 15 Tks. Total 53 Med Tks. These tanks carried infantry men as planned-Crossed L. D. at 1500. Tanks moved north on road as planned, and lead tanks reached point -1 at 1540-They came under heavy M. G., Morter, Artillery and A. T. fire at phase line C, at which time the infantry jumped off the tanks and dug in. The tanks continued on mission in spite of heavy fire, even though ten tanks were knocked out before objective was reached. Overlay shows A. T. positions and areas in which tanks were lost. After arriving on objective, tanks held, waiting for infantry aid at 2100 none had arrived and tanks were ordered to take up position in adjacent fields and set up all around defense. At 0300, 11 Aug 44, one Bn of Infantry arrived at phase line C to aid tanks One company of 1st Bn. had by-passed tanks and started north toward hill 317. Shortly after dawn, the Bn, which had arrived at 0300 moved forward. The tanks could move no further due to unfavorable terrain and enemy counter-attacks. At 1430 "A" Co of 1st Bn moved toward check point 1 supported by one platoon of tanks under

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command of Lt. Hexbert. At point -1 the tanks came under heavy A. T. fire and one tankwas destroyed. At 1700 Co's A & C were moved back to Tank Service Park. One one tank of "C" Co was destroyed by A. T. fire as it left for rear area. "B" Co (737) and "D" co of 3rd Armd Div stayed in position all nightand were drawn back to Service area the next morning, 12 Aug 44.
During the entire period that these tanks were in action they were under heavy enemy fire from Artillery, A. T. guns, mortars, bazookas, rifle grenades and small arms. They had no infantry protection.

Tank losses--11 medium tanks destroyed--2 medium tanks disabled but reported salvagable.

Personnel		
	K. I. A.	
	W. I. A.	14 E. M. 1 Officer
	M. I. A.	20 E. M. 1 Officer

During this action "D" Co supported by 6 assault guns advanced north on road along left flank of medium company advance. This company made contact with 2nd and 3rd Bns. of 320th Inf Reg and supported advance of those units. One light tank lost thru A. T. fire covering road. No casualities.

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13 Aug 44

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
0905	H-3	H-H	No definite information on time of departure from this area but expect it will be two or three days.
0915	All CO's H-3		Continue maint today; no change in sight.
0945			"D" Co, Assault Guns and Medics closed Bn Area 0330. One Lt tank lost in last operation. No casualities.
1420	H-3	Div	Billeting party to be at Division CP at 1500.
1530	H-6	H-H	Be ready to move at 1200, 14 Aug 1944. Move will be to location E. of Laval. No other details available.
1600	H-H	H-3	Bn will need five trucks to move. Broken down "A" Co-1; "B" Co-1; "C" Co-3.
1700	H-3	H-H	Request submitted for trucks; we should get them. Bn will be the last to move. Will call when I want relief.
1944	All CO H-3 H		Bn moves 0630 14 Aug. Further details when available.
2300	H-3	H-H	Anticipate 3 hr delay—I. P. at 0930 tomorrow.
2315	All CO's H-3		I. P. time changed to 0930.

14 Aug 44

0730	H-3	H-Y	Bn will I P at 1000.
0930			Bn moved out of assembly area and crossed I P at St. Hillaire at 1000. Moved to new location S. of La Mans. Bn, less Service, & "D" Co closed at 2400.

15 Aug 44

0730			Service And "D" Co closed new location.
0800	H-6	G-3	Have one Med. Tk Co ready to leave at 1000.
1100			Co B & Med Det & Recn & trains moved out with CT 137. Mission to secure and hold Orleans.
2200			On oral orders from G of S, 35Th Division, Bn (-"B" Co) released from Division to join 185th Ord. Bn near ST. Calais for maint and drawing of new tanks—14 Tks & 1-105 mm needed, "B" Co to continue on mission until released by Task Force S (137th & attachments). Time for maint was granted after Col. Sears of 17th Armored Group had contacted XII Corps. Orders for relief came from G of S, 35th Inf. Division.

Tank Status: 22/17/15 Med
17/0/1 Lights
5/1/0 A. C.
4/1/0 T2

16 Aug 44

0900			Recn and quartering party sent to contact 185th Ord Bn and to pick location for new Bn bivouac area near Boulier. Capt. Lumley contacted G-4 of XII Corps and received permission to move Bn to new location. Bn started move at 1300, closed new location (653556) at 1730. Eight "A" Co tanks & one T2 sent to Ord for service.
1400			Message received by Recn runner from C. O. Baker Co "Situation-Am at Coolmeirs with our unit. 3rd platoon moved out from here with Jury White toward Orleans. No contact for gas or oil yet We will go until we are out of fuel. Lost one vehicle on march, motor burned out. Two men on road with it. Jury is to go until out of fuel to Orleans and on past as far as possible. At least that is all that I have been able to find out. Signed—Hermit Baker Time (1225)

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15 Aug 44 (cont'd)

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
2230			Capt. Wickens reported that he had been warned by a French youth that there were two German snipers in an adjacent area. A patrol failed to find anyone in the area. He plans to send a patrol out in the morning. Following message sent to all companies by Hermit 3. "Be on the alert for snipers—Be especially cautious about showing lights and cigarettes" Capt. Busch reports that he contacted the 185th Ord. Bn at 2200 and that theyare making every effort to secure tank parts and expedite the repair of our vehicles. Lt. Hyman reports that they are now in Orleans—They have received two truck loads of fuel. He also reported locating the 35th Inf. Div CP the XII Corps CP and the 17th Arm GroupCP.

17 Aug 44

0800			185th Ord unable to secure tank parts and replacements. Capt. Busch sent to contact 17th Group
0900			Following message sent to all companies. "Have all small arms ready for inspection and repair by Ord this morning".
1100			Small arms section of 185th Ord arrived in area to start work on all small arms. Status report from A, C And D "A"—Tanks 5/8/4 Pers-14 E. M. and 2 O. Short "C"—Tanks 4/2/11 Pers-36 E. M. and 1 O. Short "D"—Tanks 17/0/1 "B" —[illegible] With C. T. 137 Last report showed—Tanks 10 Tks fit to fight.
1300			Lt. Hyman and Major Kroschel sent to contact "B" Co. Ord. Co working on small arms pulled out and moved forward—No work done on our small arms
1645			Major Roach, S-4 of 17th Armd Group reported that 360th Ord. Bn has 15 Med Tanks and 1 Light Tank ready for release to this Bn. Capt. Stahnke left with Major Roach for Hq of 360th Ord Bn.
1800			Supply Officer, 185th Ord Bn. received message from C. O. that Organization—"Pick up 15 medium and one light tank drivers from 737th Tk Bn and go to 26th Bn to pick up these tanks for delivery to 737. These tanks are not combat loaded. This loading will be accomplished by the 737th Tk Bn as soon as possible.
2100			Major Kroschel reported that "B" Co had been attached to CCA, 4th Armored Division as of 1600 V. O. C. C. 35th Div. "C" Co alerted to pick up 15 Med tanks from 26th Ord Bn at 0800, 18 Aug.

18 Aug 44

0800			S-4 and Motor Officer left to pick up 17 Med and 1 Light Tks. These 17 are M4A'3s and go to "C" Co. Present "C" Co tanks will be transferred to "A" & "B" Cos.
0900			Mr. Sharp will report at 1200 on exact status of vehicles being repaired. Ord. is going ahead with work as fast as parts are available.
1100			A—8 Ord (7Eng-1 Track & Traverse) 1 Bn Maint—Engine 5 Fit for duty T2 Ord-Engine

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18 Aug 44 (cont'd)

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
			B—1 Ord-Artillery 3 Bn 1 Tracks-1 Engine-1 O. K. C—3 Ord-Artillery 4 Fit for Duty Hq—1-105 in Ord-Prop shaft 1-105 Bn Maint-Final Drive
			19 Aug 44
0800			Lt. Col. Hamilton taken to 103rd Evac. Hosp by Bn. Surgeon. Tank status sent to Div. A 19/35/0, C 5/1/0, D 16/2/0, H 4/1/0
0900			Ord. & Bn Maint. still waiting for tank parts - should be in today.
1300			Col. Sears, 17th Armd. Group visited Bn. C.P. - Was given Tank & Personnel Status Report. Discussed past methods of tank-infantry tactics and received recommendations for future use.
1400			Bn. Surgeon reported that Lt. Col. Hamilton had been held for observation at 103rd Evac. Hospital. Major Kroschel, Executive Officer, assumed command during absence of C. O. This condition reported to Col. Sears.
1700			Orders from C of S, 35th Div. sent by Lt. Hyman to move C & B Companies to new Div. location near Artunay tomorrow, 20 Aug 44. Recn. and Quartering party sent out to do reconnaissance of route and pick out area. Major Kroschel & Capt. Richter went forward to inform CG of 35th Div. of Lt. Col. Hamilton's absence.
1930			Report from Lt. Vaughn, Co. "B" that "B" Co. had been relieved from CC "A", 4th Armored Division and reverted to Bn. control at 1700. "B" Co. to remain in present position until Bn. moves to new Division Assembly area.
			20 Aug 44
0830			Meeting of all Company Commanders, less "B" Co., Staff and Special Staff present. Orders issued that no personnel of this Bn. will be allowed outside of Bn. Area except on duty. "D" & "C" Cos. issued orders to move to new location north of Artenay. Position-Coordinates 635655. "D" Co. to IP at 1000. "C" Co. to IP at 1100. "B" Company to move during afternoon to same location. Bn - B, C & D to remain in present location and complete maintenance. S-1 left for XII Corps to pick up replacement personnel. Crews from "A" Co. left for 26th Ord. Bn. to pick up 9 M4A1 tanks. No new engines available for tanks now in Ordnance, so many tanks have been issued to replace those unfit for duty. Route of march to new area; present position to Coulmiers via LeMans-Orleans Hwy., north to Patay, East to Artenay, North to Bn. Area.
1015			"D" Co. crossed IP.
1100			"C" Co. & 4 Tanks "B" Co. crossed IP.
1415			From Bn. C., 17th Armored Group - "Engr. Officer will contact you re estimate camouflage requirements for your tanks" "Is sufficient personnel to move all tanks available? If not what?"
1430			To Bn. C, 17th Armd. Gp. - "Have enough personnel to move tanks Pd. B, C & D Cos. moved today to Div. assembly area Pd. Bn. will remain move tomorrow Pd. Replacement personnel not

not received yet but expected in 48 hours" - Hermit 3.

1540 From CO, 17th Armd Gp. - "Division alerted for movement 210700 - Prepare to rejoin on order".

1900 Recn. Officer reports that Cos. closed new location as follows: D-1555; C-1630; B-1745.

21 Aug 44

0900 Bn. moved from Bouliore to Chatillon. Closed at 2130.

2200 "A" Co. attached to C.T. 134.
"B" Co. attached to C.T. 320.
Bn. (less) in support of 3rd Bn, 134th Inf., Division Reserve with mission of guarding right flank of Division.

22 Aug 44

0700 "A" Co. moved out to join C. T. 134.
"B" Co. Commander joined CO of C.T. 320 - Co. remained on alert present position.

1230 Bn (-) moved to Assembly Area near Chilleurs to prepare for support of 3rd Bn., 134th Inf. in occupation of Bellgarde. Moved out 1445 - with "C" & "D" Cos. in lead, I Company riding on tanks - Moved thru city at 1600, removed mined road block at S of City and went into assembly area at 1630, two kilometers S. of Bellgarde. (046450).

23 Aug 44

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
0800			Contacted 3rd Bn., 134th Inf. Orders to remain in present position awaiting orders, received from C.O. that organization.
1100			"A" Co. moving 2nd Platoon forward with 2nd Bn., 134 in effort to take Montarges.
1200			"B" Co. - No change.
1445			All CO's. - Hq - C - D - Serv. - Expect movement to begin after 1600 Pd. Destination - Thimory 198249. Signed S-3.
1500			Rcn. Officer sent out with Infantry Rcn. squad to check routes and bridges to new location
1730	H-3	CO 3rd Bn 134	Move to area NE of Thimory - IP at 1830.
1830			Bn. less A & B Cos. began move to new location - Order of march: "C" - "D" - Hq - Service.
2130			Bn. closed new location 213259. Liaison Officer and radio sent to Joplin Blue Hq.

24 Aug 44

0830			S-3 contacted CO Joplin Blue - No orders from that Hq. Word from Joplin 5 that CO "A" Co could not be contacted for information concerning supply of "A" Co.
0945	H-3	H-H	"CO "A" Company contacted Joplin 5". Lt. Hyman on way to Bn. Hq.
1300			Contacted Joplin Blue - Lt. Col. Butler of 137 Inf. will bring a Bn to this area to assume command of Div. Reserve - Will close at 1730.
1500			CO & S-3 contacted Joplin CP and made arrangements to establish closer communication between that Hq. and Tk. Co. attached.
1630			Capt. McIntyre, Comm. O. sent to Joplin to set up communication. S-2 reports from 17th Armd Gp. on two plans for movement of Corps XII - Assembly Area for 35th Div. - Montarges - Courtenay.
1700	CO "A"	S-3	Message from Joplin says that your organization will not move today.
1945	H-3	G-3	Bn. less "A" & "B" Cos. released from attachment to 3rd Bn. Joplin.
2020	H-3	CO "A" Co	"A" Co. relieved from Joplin, and were told by this (Bn) Hq. to remain in present location. Report all vehicles in area and ready to roll. Report one (1) casualty.
2115	H-3	H-H	Hq will move to area South of Chanticoq. Route of march and time of departure to be announced later. "B" Company relieved from attachment to 320 C.T.

25 Aug 44

0930			Bn. moved from bivouac area to IP at bridge in Montarges.
1030			Lead vehicle crossed IP.
1220			Bn. closed present area 439496. This is 35th Div. Assembly area. Two platoons of "D" Co. sent to investigate report that 100 Germans are in woods S. of this position. Report came from Free French troops, who went with tanks of "D" Co.

25 Aug 44 (contd).

TIME	TO	FROM	MESSAGE
1330	H-3	H-H	Lt. Hyman reported from Div. Hq. that new Division objective would probably be east to St. Florentin.
1815	H-3	H-H	Bn placed in Reserve. 1 Bn 134 at St. Florentine 134 (-) at Joigny 1st Bn. 137 at Sens 137 (-) protects S. flank of Div. 3rd Bn 137 - N. of St. Germain (3840) 137 (-) in Div. Assembly Area 320 - Assembled in Div. Area - 1 Bn. ready to move to guard N. flank

26 Aug 44

Time	To	From	Message
1015	H-3	HH	Everything quiet at Div. Nothing to report. Will come to Bn. Area later this morning.
1800			No prospect of any move within next 24 hours.

27 Aug 44

0830	H03	HH	35th Div, in Corps Reserve - mission to protect S. Flank of Corps from Orleans to Troyes. Corps objective Chalon Sur Marne.
1000			All COs advised by S-3 situation and told to continue maintenance in preparation for next operation. S-4 advises that new tracks needed are on requisition and will arrived28 Aug.

28 Aug 44

0930	H-3	G3	Bn. detached from 35th Div. and attached temporarily to XII Corps. CO & L. Officer report at once to Corps CP.
1045			CO & S-3 reported to XII Corps CP with Lt. Yonts and C&R Car with 506 radio. Bn. ordered to assemble in woods NE of Vorie (330905) to be committed with 80th Inf. Div. on Corps order.
1200			Column crossed IP at present bivouac area.
1430			Column halted E. of Sens by CO. Orders changed, due to enemy threat S. of Troyes. Bn. reverted to 35th Div. and assembled at (815595).
1730			CO & S-3 reported to C of S, 35th Div. Bn. attached to Task Force "S". Ordered by Gen. Seebre to assemble at (237727) and await further orders in the morning.
2000			Column crossed IP at assembly area (815595).
2330			Bn. closed assembly area (237727). Lt. Yonts and C&R car sent to 320th Regt CP as Liaison to Task Force "S".

29 Aug 44

Bn remains attached to Task Force "S".

0940	H-3	H-Y	Our operations negative.
1130	H-6	Gen. Sebree	Move Bn. thru Troyes and assemble in area at (333725).
1630			Bn. closed new assembly position.
2200			CO and Bn S3 attended meeting in Troyes. Following orders received from Gen. Sebree - "XII Corps attacks before 0900 objective, Road from Bar Sur Seine to Brienne Le Chateaux. 320 CT attacks at 0800 - 1st Bn on Rt - 3rd Bn on left 2nd Bn & Tk Bn plusl Co TD in reserve.

30 Aug 44

0700		S-3 contacted CO 320 CT and CO 2nd Bn (320). Bn commanded by Lt. Col. Hannan. Lt. Hymm sent to Regt. Hq. as Liaison officer.
0800		Attack moved out. 2nd Bn moved to Dundee, still in reserve, Tank Bn. remains in reserve.
0900		Co "A", 654 TD Bn contacted. Plans made for one platoon of TD's to go into attack in support of each Med. Tk Co.

30 Aug 44 (Cont'd)

Time	To	From	Message
1030	H06	HH	All Co's have gone. We have moved forward. Will sit tight until further orders.
1105	H-6	HH	Condition at 1100 Pd. Phase line Able Pd. Red & Blue moving forward, reaching no resistance Pd Almost at Phase Line Able Pd CCB (4 Armd) has met light resistance.
1130	H-6	HH	Situation at 1130 - White is moving thru here now - It is reported that there has been a general withdrawal.
1200	H-6	HH	Situation unchanged.
1325	H-6	HH	Situation as of now follows: Blue three miles from objective. Red behind Blue in advance. They are discussing moving us forward. They are awaiting the order of the TF CO.
1325	H-6	HH	Regimental CO has gone on a trip and we will be here for awhile.
1400			S-3 & Recn Officer visited fwd elements, replaced Lt. Hyman with Lt. Yontz as Liaison.
1600	H-6	Gen.Sebree	Task Force "S" on objective. Tanks to remain in present position, await orders from Gen. S.
1800			S-3 & Recn. O ontacted fwd elements and returned with Liaison Officer after conducting Recn of area for tank routes and assembly areas
2000			S-3 reported to TF "S" Hq in Troyes and left Lt. Yontz as Liaison O. C of S, Gen. Sebree, present at that time. Do not anticipate moving this Bn. tonight.
2200	H-3	HY	Our operations negative.,

31 Aug 44

1700	H-6		Bn alerted for movement. 1st Company (D) crossed IP at 1830, companies followed in order A, B, C. Hq & Hq - See attached order.
2130			Bn. closed assembly area at 582852.
2200			CO & S-3 reported to CG Task Force "S" at Brienne-Le-Chateau established liaison and told to return to unit.

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AG 314.1 (1 Oct 44) 1st Ind MJC/mla

HQ 28TH INF DIV, APO 28, U S Army, 12 Oct 44

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

Forwarded in compliance with paragraph 2, letter Headquarters Third U. S. Army, AG 314.7 (SECOF), subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After, dated 24 September 1944.

For the Commanding General:

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

Incls
n/c

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Gnd. #10