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**HEADQUARTERS
737th Tank Battalion
APO 436**

Auth: CG 35th Inf Div

Initials: *[Signature]*

Date: *13 Oct 44*
1 October 1944

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

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through: Commanding General, 35th Infantry Division, APO 35, U. S. Army).

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

a. Period 1 September to 9 September, incl: This Battalion was attached to Task Force "B", commanded by Brigadier General SIBBE. Battalion supported advance to vicinity Joinville Le Chateau. During this period the only tactical missions assigned were as follows:

- (1) Two platoons light tanks, Company "D", mission: to fire into west of woods at 035875 and to remain in position to cut off escape of enemy. Platoons circled the woods but no enemy contacted.**
- (2) Reconnaissance Platoon reinforced by Mortar Platoon and one platoon light tanks, Co. "D", established road blocks and patrols on highway from North of Joinville Le Chateau to Rashecourt Sur Marne. (See overlay, Exhibit "A"). No tank or personnel losses.**

b. Period 10 September to 11 September, incl: This Battalion remained in Division Reserve and supported the advance from Assembly Area S. of Toul (653023) to area W. of Moselle River, S. of Nancy (750965). No tank or personnel losses.

c. Period 12 September to 16 September incl: This Battalion supported the advance of the 35th Infantry Division across the Moselle and Muerthe Rivers.

- (1) Battalion attached as follows:
Med. Tank Co. "C" - OT 320**
- (2) The tanks supported the advance of the infantry against heavy enemy resistance through rolling country which made tank employment particularly feasible. Substantial advances with minimum losses were made with infantry riding the rear deck of the tanks. The tanks and assault guns supported the infantry on the river crossings by firing direct fire missions, neutralizing enemy artillery and machine gun positions.**
- (3) Tank Losses: - 1 Medium Tank, 2 Light Tanks.**

<u>Personnel Losses:</u>	<u>KYA</u>	<u>WYA</u>	<u>MIA</u>
Officers	0	0	0
EM	0	2	0

d. Period 17 September to 24 September, incl: This Battalion supported the 35th Infantry Division in securing and exploiting the bridgeheads across the Moselle and Muerthe Rivers.

- (1) Battalion attached as follows:
Medium Tank Co. "A" attached OT 137, relieved 18 Sept.
One platoon attached Task Force Schree, 19 Sept. Relieved 21 Sept. Attached OT 137 22 Sept.**

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d. (cont'd)

- (1) Medium Tank Co. "B" attached Task Force Sebree 18 Sept., relieved 21 Sept.
Med. Tank Co. "C" attached CT 137.
Light Tank Co. "D" attached CT 137.
Assault Gun Platoon (reinforced) attached CT 137, relieved 19 Sept. and attached Task Force Sebree, relieved 20 Sept. and placed in support CT 137.
- (2) The tanks supported the advance of the infantry over favorable terrain. Direct contact between tanks and artillery liaison planes proved practical in directing fire. Light tanks and Assault guns successfully acted as flank protection for medium tanks. Tanks aided in and did repulse several enemy counter-attacks of infantry supported by armor.
- (3) Tank Losses:

Medium Tanks - 5
Light Tanks - 0

Personnel Losses:

	<u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>
Officers	1	2	0
EM	3	7	0

e. Period 25 September to 30 September, incl: This Battalion supported the 35th Infantry Division in maintaining and defending a passive defense line generally NE from Leyr (920235) to Bedy Rappout (935256) then East along north edge of Forêt de Grenecey (056265) and then south to Chambrey (065217).

- (1) Battalion attached as follows:
Bn. in support of CT 320 in Division Reserve. Med. Tank Co. "C" attached CT 137, 27 Sept.
Med. Tank Co. "A", plus 1 platoon light Tank Co. "D", attached CT 137, 27 Sept.
- (2) The tanks successfully supported the infantry in maintaining a defense line and in repulsing enemy armor-infantry attacks and counter-attacks. The tanks fired direct fire missions along the edge of forests engaging enemy infantry and armor. Medium tanks fired HE and APC ammunition. Light tanks fired concenter HE and APC ammunition. The fire was lifted as infantry entered woods. Assault Guns reinforced protected flanks.

Tank Losses - None

Personnel Losses:

	<u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>
Officers	0	0	0
EM	0	2	0

For the Commanding Officer:

James I. Wickens
JAMES I. WICKENS
 Captain, Cavalry
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Journal with supporting papers

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