

MOSELLE CROSSING:610 TD Bn. (Towed)

Tactical employment:Co A attached to 318th CT,Co C 317th CT. After crossing on the afternoon of the 12th the TDs were positioned so as to counter any armored thrust from the North,Northeast,East, and Southeast. 1st Pln of Co C was placed SE of LOISY (804309) covering the area between ST GENEVIEVE and LOISY.⁷⁹⁸⁻³⁰⁹ 2nd Pln,Co B, occupied FALAISE HILL,S of VIL AU VAL covering the valley approach from the East.The 3rd Pln was positioned on GENEVIEVE HILL one section covering a possible push from ST GENEVIEVE,⁸¹⁵⁻³¹⁴ the other covering in the direction of LANDREMONT.⁸²⁹⁻²⁹¹ 1st Pln,Co A, was directed to set up a roadblock N of LOISY,⁷⁹⁸⁻³⁰⁹ the 2nd Pln proceeded halfway to AUTREVILLE to cover any en thrust from the South or Southeast.⁸¹¹⁻²⁶⁰ The 3rd Pln remained near the bridge in a position of readiness.

On the morning of the 13th the en counterattacked utilizing the thick morning mists which rise from the river. Making good use of pyrotechnics, the en, attacking in small groups of a company of infantry with a platoon of tanks would shoot flares blinding in effect, following the flares with sprayed machine gun fire against our positions. The apparent intent of the enemy seemed to be for their infantry to take out our TDs, while their tanks take care of our infantry. Their infantry would move forward. Flares would light up the way. As soon as an AT installation was sighted, the en would move around it under cover of darkness. After neutralizing each AT position, the attack would go on another hundred yards. Communication between tank and foot elements was maintained by an infantryman mounted on the tank relaying messages back and forth. The roadblock at LOISY was overrun. The guns were recovered later in the day.

At 1300 on the 15th, 1st Pln, Co C, sighted 15 en tanks just South of the FORET DE FACQ headed toward GENEVIEVE HILL where the Platoon of TDs was positioned. Location en tankss: ⁸¹⁵⁻²⁰³ 815-821. The TDs put out 11 en tanks before the en could get back to the FORET DE FACQ. Range: 3000 yards. Later in the afternoon together with a section of 3rd Pln, Co C, the 1st Pln, worked on an unknown number of en vehicles at approximately the same location.

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En tanks:M IV chassis with 75 MM assault gun,muzzlebreak off.Best results to aim at line where turret meets hull.The steel tracking is strong.The motor is silent permitting the tank to sneak up and surprise.

(Summary based on interviews with Capt Donald Stewart,S-3;Capt Stitt,CO Co A;Lt Atkinson,Pln Leader,Co C;Lt Hearn,Platoon Leader,Co C; Lt Staib,Pln Ldr Co A;St/Sgt Moter,Pln Sgt,Co A;Lt Enich,Pln Ldr ,Co A;St/Sgt Judnich,Pln Sgt Co C; Conducted by T/Sgt C.J.Angulo)