

Authority 7 35017
By CO NARA Date 6-14-84

HEADQUARTERS 313TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. #80 U. S. Army

1 September 19

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 6 August 1944 to 31 August 1944 inclusive. (Section I - Summary of daily operations and action).

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

1. NARRATIVE:

- a. Arrived France, UTAH BEACH, 0100, 6 Aug 1944 and proceeded to CT Bivouac Area, vicinity ST. JORES. Time spent in general shakedown, cleaning and adjusting materiel and equipment and improvement of Bivouac Area.
- b. 0745, 8 Aug 1944 proceeded by motor to Assembly Area in vicinity of LE MESNIL BOBUEFS, no artillery action.
- c. 2045, 9 Aug 1944 proceeded by motor to positions, vicinity of LA CHAPELLE DE RAISON, no artillery action.
- d. 10 Aug 1944, reconnaissance for and occupation of firing positions, vicinity of EVRON, no artillery action. Proceeded by motor to position, vicinity of CONLIE, CT formation, no artillery action.
- e. 11 Aug 1944, advanced by CT formation for capture of SILLE LE GUILLAUME, no artillery action. Moved by motor, CT formation to Assembly Area at EVRON, in preparation for march to North.
- f. 12 Aug 1944, moved by motor CT formation to vicinity of VILLAINES LA JUHEL, no artillery action, reconnaissance extended to PRE-EN-PAIL.
- g. 13 Aug 1944, moved by motor, CT formation to vicinity of ST. QUEN DES VALLENS, no artillery action.
- h. 17 Aug 1944, moved by motor, CT formation to Assembly Area, vicinity of ALENCON, thence to Assembly Area, vicinity of MORTREE, no artillery action.
- i. 0115, 18 Aug 1944, occupied firing positions vicinity of ST. LOYER DES CHAMPS. Mission reinforcing fires of 314th FA Bn, who was in direct support of 318th Infantry. 15 Missions fired in support of effort of 318th Inf., fired: 1 Registration, 2 Check Points, 4 Tanks, 1 Vehicle, 1 Ammo Dump, 6 Preparations.
- j. 19 Aug 1944, mission changed to direct support of 317th Inf, moved to firing positions, vicinity of LE PORTD'AUNEU to support attack of CT 317th Inf. 22 Missions fired in support of effort of CT 317th Inf, missions as follows: 2 Registrations, 2-OP, 4 Tanks, 1 Artillery, 6 Infantry, 2 Interdiction, 5 Machine Guns. Displaced to positions north of ARGENTAN in support of the attack of CT 317th Inf.

Missions Fired: 1 Registration
Prisoners Captured: 7

- k. Moved to CT 317th Assembly Area near AUNEU LE FAUCON, 2145, 22 Aug 1944. Time spent in cleaning and repair of materiel and equipment. No artillery action.

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Authority 7 35017
By CO NARA Date 6-14-04

(After Action Report, continued)

1. Moved by motor 0715, 26 Aug 1944, to vicinity of BENS no artillery action. Supported 317th Inf in advance across MARNE RIVER to CHALONS. "C" Btry. fired five missions on Infantry in support of 3rd Bn., 317th Inf. at CHALONS. Bn in position at that location, otherwise no artillery action.
- m. Moved to positions to support 317th Inf in defensive positions North and East of CHALONS, 29 Aug 1944, no artillery action.
- n. 1000, 31 Aug 1944, moved by motor, CT formation, to vicinity of LAHEYCOURT, no artillery action.
- o. Total expenditure of ammunition during month of August 1944: 2351 Rounds.

2. Summary of Missions fired:

Registration BP and CP	6
Tanks	8
Vehicles	1
Ammo Dp	1
Preparation	6
OP	2
Arty	1
Infantry	11
Interdiction	2
MG	5

John W. Bowden
JOHN W. BOWDEN,
Major, FA,
S-3

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HEADQUARTERS 313TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. #80 U. S. Army

Authority 735017
By CO SARA Dne 6.14.44

1 September 1944

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 6 August 1944 to 31 August 1944 inclusive. (Section II - Intelligence Operations).

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

1. The first phase of the operations of this Battalion in action was a series of fast moves across France and in very few instances did the situation stabilize to the extent that proper use could be made of organized OP's. During this phase the information gained came mostly from forward observers with the infantry units. This information came either as an intelligence report direct to the S-2 or in the nature of a fire mission to the S-3. In the latter case the missions were given to the S-2 for intelligence information. Another source of information during this period was reports of French Civilians, which proved very reliable.

2. The S-3 and S-2 section of this Battalion are separated but close liaison does exist between them. Copies of all fire missions are sent to the S-2 section and S-2 reports are sent to S-3. In this manner the same results are obtained without interfering with the primary mission of a FDC.

3. The Codes in use are all established by higher headquarters and are constant throughout the Division or Division Artillery. This Battalion has had very little success with the Slidex code, while it is a simple code, it changes too often.

John W. Bussey
JOHN W. BUSSEY,
Captain, FA,
S-2

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Authority 7 35017
 By CO NARA Date 6-14-04

HEADQUARTERS 313TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
 A.F.O. #80 U. S. Army

1 September 1944

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 6 August 1944 to 31 August 1944 inclusive. (Section III - Logistics, supply procedure, problems).

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

1. Class I: a. From 1 August 1944 to 31 August 1944 "C", "K" and 10-in-1 were available.
 b. Issues were timely, no difficulties encountered.
2. Class II: Very few needs were noted during this period. Original issues were still combat serviceable.
3. Class III: Sufficient gas and oil available. Each vehicle carried surplus cans; ten per $2\frac{1}{2}$ Ton vehicle, four to six per $3/4$ Ton and two per $\frac{1}{4}$ Ton.
4. Class IV: No difficulties.
5. Class V: Some difficulties encountered at Argentan in allocations, availability and lot numbers.
6. Position of Service Battery: Approximately six to ten miles to rear of the organization on entry into action. Marched as a march unit with organization.
7. Vehicles: a. No major difficulties encountered in spite of 60% to 100% overload.
 b. Route marking by military police of all echelons inadequate. No march units were lost but extra time was consumed to clarify situation at various points enroute.

A. L. Servilio
 A. L. SERVILIO,
 Captain, FA,
 S-4

Incl # 3

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Authority 7 35017
By CO NARA Dne 6.14.04

HEADQUARTERS 313TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. #80 U. S. Army

1 September 1944

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 6 August 1944 to 31 August 1944 inclusive. (Section IV - Personnel and Allied Administration).

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

1. Strength: The Battalion entered the period with an actual strength of thirty (30) officers, two (2) warrant officers and four hundred and seventy-two (472) enlisted men. On 14 August 1944 four (4) officer replacements were received. Eleven (11) enlisted replacements were received during the month.

2. Location: The Battalion Personnel Section was located with the Division Rear Echelon (Administrative Center). This echelon was usually from five to twenty-five miles back of the forward elements but telephone communication and daily messenger service were maintained. The rear echelon changed location seven times during this period due to the rapid advance of our forces.

3. Security: Blackout and security discipline is maintained at all times. A security guard composed of rear echelon personnel is maintained. The rear echelon has not been strafed or shelled by the enemy. However, German patrols totalling approximately twenty men were observed on two different nights. Of these, seven were captured, one killed and one known wounded by the security guard.

4. Equipment: The T/E makes no provisions for tentage for the Personnel Section which, to say the least, is an oversight since we have been compelled to operate out of doors. A tent was procured.

5. Operation: The preparation of Morning Reports was transferred from the batteries to the personnel section, the official M/R being prepared from summary reports submitted by the batteries. This is a practicable solution in the handling of these reports since it insured their prompt submission to higher headquarters. Strength figures are readily accessible and replacements are requisitioned accordingly.

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Authority 7 35017
By CO NARA Date 6-14-04

(After Action Report, Administration, continued)

6. Casualties for the period:

	<u>Enlisted Men</u>	<u>Officers</u>
Killed in action	1	
Died of wounds		1 (Bn S-2)
Wounded in action		1
Disease or injury (non-battle)	<u>3</u>	<u> </u>
Totals	4	2
Replacements received:	11	4

M. R. Callaway
M. R. CALLAWAY,
WOJG, USA,
Personnel Officer.

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Authority 7 35017
By CO NARA Date 6-14-04

HEADQUARTERS 313TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
A.P.O. #80 U. S. Army

3 November 1944

SUBJECT: After Action Report, 6 August 1944 to 31 August 1944.

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

1. Concurrence in attached sections as prepared by Staff Officers is made.
2. More detailed comments and recommendations are deferred until further study under combat conditions.
3. The overall picture to date has been one of aggressive action, long moves, a few minor mopping up actions with artillery in action of normal attack role at Argentan.
4. All procedure and actions were orthodox and nothing was discarded or added.
5. The first shock-of-combat was not disrupting and all personnel conducted themselves in a business-like fashion.

F. W. Ellery
F. W. ELLERY,
Lt. Col., FA,
Commanding.

5 Incls:

- Incl 1 - After Action Report (Section I)
- Incl 2 - After Action Report (Section II)
- Incl 3 - After Action Report (Section III)
- Incl 4 - After Action Report (Section IV)
- Incl 5 - Unit Journal.

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E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By Et, NARS Date 2-28-73

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