

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 80TH RECONNAISSANCE TROOP
APO #80, U.S. ARMY

31 December 1944

Subject: Organization History.

To : Commanding General, 80th Infantry Division, APO 80, U.S. Army.

1. Original unit.
 - a. 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop (Mechanized).
 - b. 15 July 1942.
 - c. Camp Forrest, Tennessee.
 - d. General Order, 80th Infantry Division.
 - e. Cadre for Troop was obtained from 8th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop with the remainder of the men being furnished by Selective Service.

2. On 6 October 1942 the 80th Reconnaissance Troop was enlarged to form the 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Provisional). The change never became permanent and on 7 November 1942 the Provisional Squadron was disbanded and the organization became a Troop again.

Table of Organization 2-27, dated 15 July 1943, under which the Troop is now operating, with Change 1, dated 15 September 1943, reduced the Troop to its present size.

3. Strength, commissioned and enlisted:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>EM</u>
a. At beginning of period	6	146
b. Net increase during period	0	3
c. Net decrease during period	0	5
d. At end of period	6	144
4. Stations:
 - 1 December 1944 - LACHAMBRE, Lorraine (528254)
- MARIENTHAL, Lorraine (301557)
- 2 miles SW MARIENTHAL, Lorraine (276540)
Map: Eastern France 1:50,000 St Avold Sheet
XXXV-13
 - 6 December 1944 - FARBERSVILLER, Lorraine (365557)
Map: Eastern France 1:50,000 Sarreguemines Sheet
XXXVI-13
 - 7 December 1944 - MERLEBACH, Lorraine (320610)
Map: Eastern France 1:50,000 Boulay Sheet
XXXV-12
 - 17 December 1944 - GUISING, France (656528)
Map: Eastern France 1:50,000 Bitché Sheet
XXXVII-13

- 1 -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- 19 December 1944 - ETTING, France (593482)
Map: Eastern France 1:50,000 Sarreguemines
Sheet XXXVI-13
- 20 December 1944 - LUXEMBOURG, Luxembourg (840140)
Map: France and Belgium 1:50,000 Luxembourg
Sheet 152.
- 21 December 1944 - HUNSDORF, Luxembourg (844232)
Map: France and Belgium 1:50,000 Wiltz Sheet
137.
- 23 December 1944 - BISSEN, Luxembourg (797335)
Map: France and Belgium 1:50,000 Wiltz Sheet
137,
- 28 December 1944 - SCHIEREN, Luxembourg (822384)
Map: France and Belgium 1:50,000 Wiltz Sheet
137.
- 31 December 1944 - BISSEN, Luxembourg (797335)
Map: France and Belgium 1:50,000 Wiltz Sheet
137.

5. Marches:

Departed LACHAMBRE, Lorraine, (last reported location on November 1944 report) at 0800A 1 December 1944. Arrived MARIENTHAL, Lorraine, 1200A 1 December 1944. Distance travelled six miles.

Departed MARIENTHAL, Lorraine, 1600A 1 December 1944. Arrived 2 miles SW MARIENTHAL, Lorraine, 1700A 1 December 1944. Distance travelled two (2) miles.

Departed two miles SW MARIENTHAL, Lorraine, 0900A 6 December 1944. Arrived FARBERSVILLER, Lorraine, 1200A 6 December 1944. Distance travelled seven (7) miles.

Departed FARBERSVILLER, Lorraine, 0900A 7 December 1944. Arrived MERLEBACH, Lorraine, 1230A 7 December 1944. Distance travelled seven (7) miles.

Departed MERLEBACH, Lorraine, 0925A 17 December 1944. Arrived GUIRING, France, 1500A 17 December 1944. Distance travelled sixty (60) miles. Route followed: ST AVOLD-BARST MARIENTHAL-PUTTELANGE-SARRALBE-SARRE UNION-ROHRBACH.

Departed GUIRING, France 0800A 19 December 1944. Arrived ETTING, France, 1030A 19 December 1944. Distance travelled eight (8) miles.

S E C R E T

Departed ETTING, France, 0530A 19 December 1944. Arrived LUXEMBOURG, Luxembourg, 0700A 20 December 1944. Distance travelled 120 miles. Route followed: ROHRBACH-SARRE UNION-SARRALBE-PUTTELANGE-ST AVOLD FULIGNY-METZ-UCKANGE-FONTOY-RUMILANGE-ESCH SUR ALSETTE-BASCHARAGE-LUXEMBOURG. (Greater part of the trip was made with vehicles using headlights, thereby attaining necessary speed of the movement).

Departed LUXEMBOURG, Luxembourg, 1600A 21 December 1944. Arrived HUNSDORF, Luxembourg, 1800A 21 December 1944. Distance travelled eleven (11) miles.

Departed HUNSDORF, Luxembourg, 1100A 23 December 1944. Arrived BISSEN, Luxembourg, 1300A 23 December 1944. Distance travelled eleven (11) miles.

Departed BISSEN, Luxembourg, 1600A 28 December 1944. Arrived SCHIEREN, Luxembourg, 1730A 28 December 1944. Distance travelled five (5) miles.

Departed SCHIEREN, Luxembourg, 1030A 31 December 1944. Arrived BISSEN, Luxembourg, 1200A 31 December 1944. Distance travelled five (5) miles.

Condition of roads:

Roads travelled on the above marches were excellent since greater majority of them were paved. No trouble was encountered in marches (all made by motor vehicle) except for ordinary cases of flat tires.

Weather:

Rain during the first part of the period hampered operations somewhat especially in cross-country movement by vehicles which was practically impossible at times. During the latter part of the period weather conditions were fair with a slight drop in temperature.

6. Campaigns:

- a. Name - Battle of Germany.
- b. Duration - 15 September 1944 to - (date unknown)
- c. Purpose - To conquer Germany.
- d. Authority ordering - Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force.

7. Battles:

(See attached Narrative Account of Action)

8. Commanding Officers in important engagements:

- a. Battle of Germany.
- b. Commanding Officer 80th Reconnaissance Troop - 1st Lt. PAUL L. SMITH, O-1030419.

S E C R E T

Executive Officer - 1st Lt. MAX E. MOE, O-399172 (also handles S-1, S-2, S-3, S-4 functions)

1st Platoon Leader - 1st Lt. PHILIP H. WAGNER, O-1032403.

2nd Platoon Leader - 1st Lt. GEORGE P. RORK, O-528682

3rd Platoon Leader - 1st Lt. MERRILL J. CAMP, O-1030131

Liaison Officer - 2nd Lt. EUGENE P. RAMSEY, O-1032732

9. Losses in Action, Officers and EM:

a. Engagement: Battle of Germany.

b. Names:

Pfc Chalmer L. Reed, 35435706

Pvt Freddie E. Forren, 35653674

Sgt Robert L. Brisker, 35434970

Pvt James E. Droppleman, 35386590

Pvt Edward C. Bolm, 37605557

Pfc Joseph W. Larkins, 35483566

Pvt Laurence B. Johnson, 32203223

c. Killed in action:

None

d. Wounded in Action, Injured in Action, Sick:

Pfc Chalmer L. Reed, 1 December 1944, Henriville, Lorraine.

Pvt Freddie E. Forren, 1 December 1944, Henriville, Lorraine.

Sgt Robert L. Brisker, 7 December 1944, Kerbach, Lorraine.

1ST LT., GEORGE P. RORK, 7 December 1944, Kerbach, Lorraine.

Pvt James E. Droppleman, 7 December 1944, Kerbach, Lorraine.

Pvt Edward C. Bolm, 16 December 1944, Merlebach, Lorraine (sick).

e. Missing in Action:

Pfc Joseph W. Larkins, 31 December 1944, near Ettlebruck, Luxembourg.

Pvt Laurence B. Johnson, 31 December 1944, near Ettlebruck, Luxembourg.

f. Taken prisoner: None.

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

a. Engagement - Battle of Germany.

b. Names:

1ST LT. PHILIP H. WAGNER, O-1032403. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement in France during the period 15-18 September 1944.

Tec 5 Robert L. Walker, 33410929. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for heroic service in France during 31 August 1944.

S/Sgt Paul T. Schoerly, 33185260. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 15 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Tec 5 Leo K. Alexander, 35504769. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

S E C R E T

Tec 5 Silas O. Cosby, 35358857. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Tec 5 Charles L. Hess, 35331089. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Tec 5 Olin MMI Hill, 35386840. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Pvt Robert R.J. Koch, 19132949. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Cpl Stanford B. Lambert, 33127336. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Pvt Ralph M. Orolin, 35916908. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Pvt Joe S. Perez, 39704087. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Tec 5 Wilbur G. Short, 39528100. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

1st Sgt Floyd F. Small, 35484973. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in France during the period 6 October 1944 to 12 November 1944.

S/Sgt James H. Maneilly, 35388223. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for heroic service in France on 23 November 1944.

Pfc Chester E. Amos, 35618554. Awarded Bronze Star Medal for heroic service in France on 15 September 1944.

Pvt James E. Droppleman, 33386590. Awarded Purple Heart for wounds received as a result of enemy action in France on 7 December 1944.

Pvt Paul E. Haney, 34464038. Awarded Purple Heart for wounds received as a result of enemy action in France on 12 November 1944.

1ST LT. GEORGE P. RORR, Awarded Purple Heart for wounds received as a result of enemy action in France on 7 December 1944.

11. Photographs of Personnel, important scenes or events: None.



PAUL L. SMITH
1st Lt., Cavalry,
Commanding.