

HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
Office of the Battalion Commander
APO #80, Fort Dix, New Jersey

UNIT HISTORY

15 July 1942: At 1201, on 15 July 1942, pursuant to authority contained in General Order Number 1, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 15 July 1942, the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was activated at Camp Forrest, Tennessee. In General Order Number 1, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 15 July 1942, Major R. B. Hubbard assumed command of the Battalion and appointed his staff consisting of the following named Officers:

Executive Officer - Major Maurice Fass
Adjutant (S-1) - 1st Lt Charles C. Miller, Jr.
Intelligence Officer (S-2) - 2nd Lt Clayton Nordan
Plans & Training Officer (S-3) - Capt John M. Allen
Supply Officer (S-4) - 1st Lt Edward H. Kyle

In addition the following Officers were designated as Battery Commanders:

Headquarters Battery - Capt Edward A. Chateauneuf
Battery "A" - Capt William M. Gosman
Battery "B" - Capt Tremaine K. Field
Battery "C" - 1st Lt George H. Peyton
Service Battery - 1st Lt Edward H. Kyle

The personnel of the Battalion on this date consisted of 27 Officers and 85 enlisted men.

The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was originally organized as the 305th Ammunition Train, organized at Camp Lee, Virginia, in September, 1917, as a unit of the 80th Division of World War 1. The Train served overseas and participated in battle. It returned to the United States and was demobilized at Camp Dix, New Jersey, 9 June, 1919. In order to perpetuate the history and traditions of the 305th Ammunition Train which served as a unit of the American Expeditionary Forces in World War 1, it was, on 28 October, 1936, reconstituted and consolidated with the 305th Ammunition Train, which was constituted as a unit of the Organized Reserves, 24 June, 1921. The 305th Ammunition Train was redesignated the 905th Field Artillery Battalion, pursuant to letter from the War Department, AG 320.2 OB(1-22-42), dated 30 January, 1942, and ordered to be made active at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, effective 15 July, 1942, as a component of the 80th Division. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion is entitled to a streamer in the colors of the Victory Ribbon, inscribed:

World War:
Meuse Argonne.

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Authority NND 735017

By ED NARA Date 9-23-60

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AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
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The scarlet is the color of the Field Artillery; the suggested design is based primarily upon the past history of the battalion, the service in France in World War 1 is indicated by the Fleur-de-lis. The martial aspect of the organization is symbolized by the diagonal division of the shield, representing the heraldic bend, which anciently denoted the scarf of a military commander. The motto is appropriate to the expectation of a continuance of the past record

From this date until about August 15, the Battalion received filler replacements to bring it up to T/O strength.

31 July 1942: Strength of Battalion this date:
 Totals of 15 July 42 27 Officers and 85 Enlisted Men
 Totals of 31 July 42 28 Officers and 358 Enlisted Men
 Gain 1 Officer 273 Enlisted Men

On or about 10 August 1942, the Battalion entered into its thirteen (13) week basic training period.

21 August 1942: Medical Detachment of 1 Officer and 14 enlisted men Attached.

31 August 1942: Strength of Battalion this date:
 Totals of 31 July 42 28 Officers and 358 Enlisted Men
 Totals of 31 Aug 42 32 Officers and 531 Enlisted Men
 Gain 4 Officers and 173 Enlisted Men

18 September 1942:

Captain Tremaine K. Field designated as Executive and S-1 and Captain Bailey G. Carnahan assigned as Battery Commander, Battery "B" per Special Order Number 22, dated 18 September 1942.

30 September 1942:

Strength of Battalion this date:
 Totals of 31 August 42 32 Officers and 531 Enlisted Men
 Totals of 30 September 42 31 Officers and 526 Enlisted Men
 Loss 1 Officer and 5 Enlisted Men

25 October 1942:

On this day the Battalion made its first long road march with vehicles, leaving Camp Forrest at 0700, for Spencer Range, where it spent a week of firing, returning to Camp Forrest on November 1st.

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31 October 1942:

Strength of Battalion this date:

Totals of 30 Sep 42	31 Officers and 526 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Oct 42	34 Officers and 543 Enlisted Men
Gain	3 Officers and 17 Enlisted Men

2 November 1942:

Lt Col Wilbur S. Nye assumed command of the Battalion per paragraph 1, Special Order Number 90, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division.

11 November 1942:

Battery "B" participated in a parade at Jackson, Tennessee, at 1030 this date with Company "I", 319th Infantry, the American Legion, the Tennessee State Guard, 319th Infantry Colors and the 80th Infantry Division Artillery Band.

15 November 1942:

Battalion marched to Spencer Range, a total of seventy-one (71) miles, for a five (5) day period for firing, returning on 20 November 1942.

30 November 1942:

Major Russell A. Mann designated as Executive and S-1 per Special Order Number 48, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 30 November 1942.

30 November 1942:

Strength of Battalion this date:

Totals of 31 Oct 42	34 Officers and 543 Enlisted Men
Totals of 30 Nov 42	37 Officers and 585 Enlisted Men
Gain	3 Officers and 42 Enlisted Men

13 December 1942:

Private Richard O. Carlson, 39452976, Battery "C", 905th Field Artillery Battalion, died in barracks during the night of this date.

18 December 1942:

Following named Officers assumed command of Batteries:

Headquarters Battery	- 1st Lt Herbert J. Potts
Battery "A"	- 1st Lt Manson B. Hatch
Battery "B"	- 1st Lt Thomas C. Mason
Battery "C"	- 1st Lt Dewey E. Garner
Service Battery	- 1st Lt Frank H. Rich

Unit History Cont'd

20 December 1942: Captain William M. Gosman designated Executive and S-1, per Special Orders Number 57, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 18 December 1942.

21 December 1942: Major John W. Browning assumed command per paragraph 1, Special Orders Number 35, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division Artillery, dated 18 December 1942.

27 December 1942: On this date the Battalion marched by motor to Spencer Range for a five (5) day period of service practice returning on 1 January 1943.

Five (5) Officers namely: Capt Chateauf, Lt Kane, Lt McMorrow, Lt Peyton and Capt Kyle, were designated as Cadre Officers for 106th Division, to be activated at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and left the Battalion for a refresher course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma before reporting to Fort Jackson.

31 December 1942: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 30 Nov 42 37 Officers and 585 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Dec 42 36 Officers and 627 Enlisted Men
Gain and Loss 1 Officer and 42 Enlisted Men

13 January 1943: 1st Lt McBroom assigned to command Headquarters Battery, per Special Orders Number 6, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 13 January 1943.

31 January 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Dec 42 36 Officers and 627 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Jan 43 35 Officers and 605 Enlisted Men
Loss 1 Officer and 22 Enlisted Men

6 February 1943: Seventy-five (75) Enlisted Men of the Battalion assigned as Enlisted Cadre for 106th Infantry Division, left to report to Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

12 February 1943: Captain Charles C. Miller, Jr., assigned to command Battery "C", per Special Orders Number 19, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 12 February 1943.

25 February 1943: Major William M. Gosman assumed command of the Battalion during the temporary absence of Major Browning.

28 February 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Jan 43 35 Officers and 605 Enlisted Men
Totals of 28 Feb 43 37 Officers and 544 Enlisted Men
Gain and Loss 2 Officers and 61 Enlisted Men

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9 March 1943: The Battalion left Park this date for a week of maneuvers in the vicinity of Lynchburg, Tennessee, returning on the 15th to Camp Forrest.

18 March 1943: Captain Charles C. Miller, Jr., assigned to command Headquarters Battery and 1st Lt Joel B. Stephens assigned to command Battery "C".

The Battalion left this date for three (3) days of maneuvers in the vicinity of Shelbyville, Tennessee, returning to Camp Forrest on the 21st.

30 March 1943: The Battalion left this date for Spencer Range to take III Corps Firing Tests, returning on the 2nd of April.

31 March 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 28 Feb 43 37 Officers and 544 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Mar 43 36 Officers and 521 Enlisted Men
Loss 1 Officer and 23 Enlisted Men

4 April 1943: Private Caywood L. Bounsall, 35358846, Headquarters Battery, died this date at Lawson General Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia.

The Battalion left this date for four (4) days of Maneuvers, at Lynchburg, Tennessee, returning on 9 April 1943.

17 April 1943: Battalion participated in Division review and Inspection by President Roosevelt.

18 April 1943: The Battalion left this date to participate in three (3) weeks of maneuvers in the vicinity of Lynchburg, returning to Camp Forrest on 6 May 1943.

30 April 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Mar 43 36 Officers and 521 Enlisted Men
Totals of 30 Apr 43 36 Officers and 499 Enlisted Men
Loss 22 Enlisted Men

8 May 1943: 1st Lt Lester H. Salter assigned to command Service Battery per Special Orders Number 42, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 8 May 1943.

25 May 1943: Award of the Good Conduct Medal to deserving Enlisted Men per Special Orders Number 48, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 25 May 1943.

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Unit History Cont'd

31 May 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 30 Apr 43 36 Officers and 499 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 May 43 31 Officers and 488 Enlisted Men
Loss 5 Officers and 11 Enlisted Men

8 June 1943: Battalion left Camp Forrest for three (3) day maneuver vicinity of Shelbyville, returning on 11th of June.

15 June 1943: The Battalion left barracks at Camp Forrest for field bivouac prior to moving to Murfreesboro for Tennessee Maneuvers.

22 June 1943: Battalion left for Tennessee Maneuvers vicinity of Murfreesboro. These Maneuvers lasted until 25 August at which time the Battalion moved to bivouac area at Gallatin, Tennessee.

30 June 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 May 43 31 Officers and 488 Enlisted Men
Totals of 30 Jun 43 33 Officers and 481 Enlisted Men
Gain and Loss 2 Officers and 7 Enlisted Men

During the entire month of July, the Battalion was engaged in Maneuvers in Tennessee.

1st Lt Arthur W. Jarr assigned to command Battery "B".

31 July 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 30 Jun 43 33 Officers and 481 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Jul 43 37 Officers and 514 Enlisted Men
Gain 4 Officers and 33 Enlisted Men

9 August 1943: 1st Lt Charles W. Harrison assigned to command Headquarters Battery, per Special Orders Number 66, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 9 August 1943.

During this month the Battalion was still on Maneuvers in Tennessee ending the final phase on 25 August at which time it moved to a bivouac area near Gallatin, Tennessee.

31 August 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Jul 43 37 Officers and 514 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Aug 43 37 Officers and 518 Enlisted Men
Gain 4 Enlisted Men

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4 September 1943: The Battalion less men and Officers on leave and furlough, entrained at Gallatin, Tennessee, 1415 hours for new permanent station, Camp Phillips, Kansas. Major John M. Allen was Train Commander.

6 September 1943: The Battalion detrained at Camp Phillips, Kansas at 1330 hours.

22 September 1943: Captain Charles L. Kimzey assigned to command Battery "B", per Special Orders Number 81, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 21 September 1943.

30 September 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Aug 43 37 Officers and 518 Enlisted Men
Totals of 30 Sep 43 45 Officers and 519 Enlisted Men
Gain 8 Officers and 1 Enlisted Men

14 October 1943: Awarding of Carbine marksmanship medal to deserving men per Special Orders Number 88, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 14 October 1943.

31 October 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 30 Sep 43 45 Officers and 519 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Oct 43 44 Officers and 510 Enlisted Men
Loss 1 Officer and 9 Enlisted Men

1 November 1943: Awarding of Good Conduct Medals to deserving Enlisted Men per Special Orders Number 92, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 1 November 1943.

20 November 1943: The advance party of the Battalion departed from Camp Phillips for Laguna, Arizona.

30 November 1943: Battalion under Command of Captain Donald K. Hughes, entrained at Camp Phillips, Kansas for Yuma, Arizona per paragraph 12, Special Orders Number 269, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 24 November 1943.

Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Oct 43 44 Officers and 510 Enlisted Men
Totals of 30 Nov 43 41 Officers and 511 Enlisted Men
Loss and Gain 3 Officers and 1 Enlisted Man

3 December 1943: Battalion detrained at Yuma, Arizona at 1400 hours and moved by truck to Camp Laguna.

31 December 1943: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 30 Nov 43 41 Officers and 511 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Dec 43 45 Officers and 512 Enlisted Men
Gain 4 Officers and 1 Enlisted Man

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Unit History Cont'd

3 January 1944: Captain Charles C. Miller, Jr., assigned to command Battery "B", per Special Orders Number 1, Headquarters 905th Field Artillery Battalion, dated 3 January 1944.

24 January 1944: Battalion left Laguna for five (5) day combat team maneuver with 319th Infantry in the vicinity of Castle Dome.

31 January 1944: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Dec 43 45 Officers and 512 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Jan 44 47 Officers and 501 Enlisted Men
Gain and Loss 2 Officers and 11 Enlisted Men

5 February 1944: Battalion left Laguna for five (5) day combat team exercise vicinity of Castle Dome.

12 February 1944: Left Laguna for Corps Maneuvers, vicinity of Palen Pass. These were of three (3) weeks duration.

28 February 1944: Captain Charles L. Kimzey assigned to command Battery "A", per VOCO, 26 February 1944.

29 February 1944: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Jan 44 47 Officers and 501 Enlisted Men
Totals of 29 Feb 44 47 Officers and 499 Enlisted Men
Loss 2 Enlisted Men

4 March 1944: Battalion left Palen Pass Maneuver Area and marched to Iron Mountain Camp to take Artillery tests given by X Corps. These tests took place on March 20th through the 25th. As a result of these tests the Battalion as part of Division Artillery received a commendation from General McNair for having received the highest grades since inauguration of the new tests last November. A copy of the letter is attached in the appendix.

23 March 1944: Private first class Edward Burke, 32408961, Headquarters Battery, died in Yuma Air Base Hospital from injuries received in an accident enroute to Laguna.

28 March 1944: Left Iron Mountain, California for base camp at Laguna, arriving same day at 1600 hours.

31 March 1944: Left Camp at Laguna for bivouac at Yuma railhead. Several days spent loading trains with equipment.

Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 29 Feb 44 47 Officers and 499 Enlisted Men
Totals of 31 Mar 44 48 Officers and 496 Enlisted Men
Gain and Loss 1 Officer and 3 Enlisted Men

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Unit History Cont'd

3 April 1944: The Battalion under command of Major William M. Gosman entrained for Fort Dix, New Jersey, its new station, arriving on 8 April and moved into barracks. ✓

Terminal-leaves and furloughs commence.

15 April 1944: Very rainy - Battalion participated in artillery demonstration and parade for Under Secretary of War Patterson.

28 April 1944: Battalion repeated artillery Demonstration for Mr. Walter Lippman.

30 April 1944: Strength of Battalion this date:
Totals of 31 Mar 44 48 Officers and 496 Enlisted Men
Totals of 30 Apr 44 43 Officers and 503 Enlisted Men
Loss and Gain 5 Officers and 7 Enlisted Men

20 May 1944: Battalion participated in Division Review on the occasion of the awarding of Legion of Merit to Major General Horace L. McBride, Division Commander

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