

Authority 8/35
By CD NARA Date 12/10/08

Incl #7 - Unit Journal, 2nd Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BATTALION
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
A.P.O. #758, U. S. ARMY

SAK, Jr/jf
7 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Daily Journal Report for the month of December 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 540th Engineer Regiment, APO 758, U. S. Army.

1. Daily Journal report for the month of December 1944.

1 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Cleaned mud off road, digging drainage ditches, opened bleeders along road between Dompail and Menil-Flin, and along road 10 2215 between Gerbeviller and La Mur de Brique, WP #33. Servicing and repairing platoon pioneer and carpenter tools. COMPANY "E", BLAINVILLE, FRANCE: Clearance of mined area and buildings of Sarrebourg. Continued clearing shoulders, bleeders and ditches on Route #414. Collected and turned into Ordnance used trackage found in the vicinity of St. Pierrement. COMPANY "F", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Continued constructing revetments on both sides of road, starting at St. Pierrement and working towards Baccarat. Hauled 22 loads of rock and spread same in constructing 550 yards of revetments. Cleaned ditches along road. Guarding Battalion River Crossing equipment in Forêt De Mondon near Luneville, France.

2 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Care and cleaning of equipment. Cleaned mud off roads, dug drainage ditches and opened bleeders along roads between Dompail and Menil-Flin - Gerbeviller and La Mur de Brique (10 2215), between Moyen and Cheneviers called for in WP #33. COMPANY "E", BLAINVILLE, FRANCE: Raised all motor boxes and boats from ground with dunnage. Continued clearing shoulders, bleeders and ditches on Route 414 between Luneville and Rambervillers. Collected and turned into Ordnance used trackage found in vicinity of St. Pierrement. COMPANY "F", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Continued constructing revetments on shoulder of road starting at St. Pierrement and working towards Baccarat. Hauled 26 loads of rock and spread same in constructing 788 yards of revetments. Cleaned ditches along road. Guarding Battalion River Crossing equipment in Forêt De Mondon, near Luneville, France.

3 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: One platoon left for Sarrebourg to work on airport, WP #GM-9. Worked on by-pass on road between Gerbeviller and La Mur de Brique, WP #33. COMPANY "E", BLAINVILLE, FRANCE: Continued clearing bleeders, shoulders and ditches on Route #414 between Luneville and Rambervillers. Continued collecting used trackage in the vicinity of Roville. Repaired guard rail on bridge at 073990 on Route #414. COMPANY "F", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Continued construction of revetments on shoulder of road starting at St. Pierrement and working towards Baccarat. Hauled 32 loads of rock and spread same in constructing 650 yards of revetments. Cleaned ditches along road.

4 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Building taxiway and doing road construction at Sarrebourg airport, WP #GM-9. COMPANY "E", BLAINVILLE, FRANCE: Continued clearing bleeders, shoulders and ditches on Route #414

REF ID: A11242
 Authority 87354
 By *QV* NARA Date 12/10/06

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr. Regt.

between Luneville and Rambervillers. Continued collecting used trackage and salvage material between Gerbeviller and Ramberviller, WP #33. Transported dozer to Q-480130 and started clearing and grading for tank truck turn around, WP #GE-11, 25% complete. Detail of mobile mine clearance reported to Lt. Glen at Sarrebourg for duty. Cleared and graded shop area at V-415990. COMPANY "Y", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Care and cleaning of equipment. Continued construction of revetments on shoulder of road starting at St. Pierremont and working toward Baccarat. Hauled 18 loads of gravel and spread same in constructing 300 yards (on both sides of road) of revetments. Cleaned ditches along road, WP #33. Guarding bridge equipment at Luneville, France, WP #GE-4. Hauled River Crossing equipment from 85th Engineers area to Company Motor Pool.

5 December 1944: COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Building taxiway and road construction at Sarrebourg, France, WP #GE-9. Moved from Luneville to new bivouac area, Berthelming, France. Distance traveled approx. 39 miles. COMPANY "E", BLAINVILLE, FRANCE: Continued cutting of leaders on Highway #414 from Luneville to Rambervillers. Continued hauling of sand and gravel for Engineer stock piles on Highway #414. Policed one (1) load of tank tracks on Highway #414 and hauled to 7th Army Engineer Dump at Charmes, WP #33. Graded and leveled tank truck entrance turn-around for 696 P.D.C., one (1) mile south of Umling, WP #GE-11. Checked buildings and installation in Saverne for 1st Signal, 7th Army CP and billet area for Lieutenant General PATCH. No mines, booby traps or time charges were found, WP #GE-14. One (1) platoon reported to Col. Polich and Col. Spivy at Sarrebourg. Area for 105 How. Btry. was marked and taped. Mine Detector crews checked area once. Area for 155 position, visitors OP and impact areas were selected. COMPANY "Y", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Learning nomenclature of 22½ h.p. motors and assault boats. Operating boats in crossing and beaching at river site, WP #GE-12. Guarding bridge equipment in dump at Luneville. Continued construction of revetments on shoulder of road starting at St. Pierremont and working towards Baccarat. Hauled 19 loads of gravel in constructing one (1) mile of revetments and hauled 15 loads in construction of 400 yards of revetments, WP #33.

6 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Preparing new company bivouac area. Making reconnaissance for Engineer material. COMPANY "E", BLAINVILLE, FRANCE: Continued cutting of leaders on Highway #414 from Luneville to Rambervillers. Continued hauling of sand and gravel for Engineer stock piles on Highway #414. Cleared and marked areas for 155 Howitzer position and 105 Howitzer position, OP, and impact areas, no mines or booby traps were found, 100% complete. COMPANY "Y", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Continued teaching men stream crossing and beaching of assault boats, WP #GE-12. Guarding bridge equipment in dump at Luneville, WP #GE-4. Continued construction of revetments on shoulder of road starting at St. Pierremont and working towards Baccarat. Hauled 19 loads of gravel in construction of 400 yards of revetments. Ditched 450 yards of same road, WP #33. Sgt. Joseph P. Bourgeois, Jr., Company "E", awarded posthumously Oak Leaf Cluster.

7 December 1944. BATTALION HEADQUARTERS and MEDICAL DETACHMENT moved from Gerbeviller, and Blainville, respectively, to new bivouac area VILSEBERG, FRANCE.

DECLASSIFIED
LNU 87354
Authority CW
By CW NARA Date 12/20/08

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Working on main highway between Sarrebourg and Saverne digging drainage ditches, opening bleeders and cleaning mud off road, WP #33. Hauling steel from Gerbeviller to Sarrebourg, WP #155. Loading lumber at Gerbeviller for bridge at Sarrebourg, WP #155. Constructing two-way fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 531134, WP #155. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Company moved from Blainville, France, to new bivouac area, Vicinity of Vilsberg, France. COMPANY "F", LUNEVILLE, FRANCE: Preparing for company movement. Guarding bridge equipment in dump at Luneville, France, WP #CL-4.

8 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Operating d-7 dozer for 606th Engineer Pipe Line Company. Servicing platoon pioneer and carpenter tools. Constructing two-fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 531134, WP #155. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Moving Battalion bridge material from Gerbeviller to company area. Setting up new bivouac area. COMPANY "F", PHALSBOURG, FRANCE: Company moved from Luneville, France, to new bivouac area, Phalsbourg, France. Guarding bridge equipment at Luneville, France.

9 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Constructing two-way fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 531134, WP #155. Servicing platoon pioneer and carpenter tools. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Started clearing shoulders, leaders and ditches on Route #4 between Sarrebourg and Saverne. Patched chuck holes in vicinity of Phalsbourg. Removed timber, rubble, and widened road and ditches at anti-obstacles site, WP #33. Started reconnaissance of Route #4 between Sarrebourg and Saverne, WP #CL-19, 50% complete. Checked and cleared 50 sq. yds. for 31st S.I.A.M. Company in Saverne, no mines were found, 100% complete. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Company moved from Phalsbourg, to new bivouac area, Troisfontaine. Guarding of bridge equipment at dump in Luneville. Guarding of 540th Engineer Regiment Rest Center Building and surrounding area at Luneville, France.

10 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Servicing platoon pioneer and carpenter tools. Constructing two-way fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 531134, WP #155. Working on main road between Reding and Phalsbourg; digging drainage ditches, opening bleeders and cleaning mud off road, WP #33. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Road and bridge reconnaissance for Route #4 (Phalsbourg to Saverne Hill) Phalsbourg to Lutzelbourg, and Lutzelbourg east to Saverne (IC 132). Completed inspection of first six (6) priority headquarters buildings for 6th Army Group at palace in Phalsbourg. Completed inspection of NE quadrant of buildings in town plan of Phalsbourg, no mines, booby traps, or time charges were found, WP #LU-1, 50% complete. Continued clearing shoulders, leads and ditches on Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Lutzelbourg), (Phalsbourg-Saverne Hill), Lutzelbourg-Saverne, IC-132. Hauled rock and gravel for repairs of Phalsbourg by-pass and anti-tank ditches. Continued working on drainage of anti-tank ditches at 540190 and 700170. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Guarding bridge equipment in Luneville, France. Guarding 540th Engineer Regiment Rest Center in Luneville, France. Checked area for 58th Medical Battalion in Saverne, no mines were found, WP #LU-4. Continued setting up company bivouac area. Maintenance of roads: Starting at Lutzelbourg and Esse and working towards each other. Hauled six (6) loads of gravel for filling of craters in

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

road. Removed timber road blocks from one side of road. Cleared and cut 250 yards of drainage ditches. Hauled two (2) loads of gravel for fill of craters, cleared sides of road and cut bleeders for 5/8 mile of road starting at Hesse and working to Lutzelbourg.

11 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Servicing platoon pioneer and carpenter tools. Working on main road between Phalsbourg and Burlingen, Route #61: Digging drainage ditches and opening bleeders and removing timber and enemy vehicles along side of road, WP #33. Constructing two-way fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 581134, WP #158. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Using 378th Engineer road grader to clear and widen shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass, Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne Hill). Route #4: Hauled rock and gravel for extension of shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued clearing bleeders and ditches on Phalsbourg by-pass, Route #4, Phalsbourg-Lutzelbourg, Phalsbourg-Saverne (10-132). Continued working on drainage of anti-tank ditches at 640190 and 700170. Completed checking buildings in Phalsbourg necessary for bivouac and operation of 6th Army Group Headquarters, no mines, booby traps, or time charges were found. Much of area is littered with German grenades, ammo and explosives, WP #L.U.1, 100% complete. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Guarding bridge equipment in Luneville, France, WP #GK-4. Guarding 540th Engineer Regiment Rest Center in Luneville, France. Starting at Lutzelbourg and working towards Renthal on Highway GG-114. Cut hole in canal (2' x 4' x 15'), diverted stream into canal to drain flooded area near Lutzelbourg, scraped mud and erected drainage ditches, 2 3/4 mile of road, starting at Lutzelbourg. Hauled two (2) loads of rock and nine (9) loads of gravel for fill in road at railroad bridge on outskirts of Lutzelbourg. Starting at Hesse and working towards Renthal on Highway GG-116. Prepared and cleaned culvert at Q 499128. Prepared 25' of road for fill. Cleaned and ditched 35' of road. Hauled and spread gravel in maintaining roads. Maintained 40' of road. Starting at Sarrebourg and working towards Widerviller on Highway GG-114. Scrapped mud, cleaned and cut drainage ditches on 2.5 miles of road.

12 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BERTHELMING, FRANCE: Constructing two-way fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 581134, WP #158. Working on main road between Sarrebourg and Phalsbourg, Highway 4 and between Phalsbourg N60: digging drainage ditches, opening bleeders and removing mud from road, WP #33. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Using 378th Engineers road grader to clear and widen shoulders between Phalsbourg and Lutzelbourg, and Lutzelbourg and Saverne, for four (4) hours. Hauled rock, gravel, slabs and posts for cribbing and extending shoulders of Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued working on drainage of anti-tank ditches at 640190. Filled chuck holes on Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne Hill) and Phalsbourg by-pass. Started construction of cribbing for shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued improving drainage on Phalsbourg by-pass. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Guarding bridge equipment in Luneville. Guarding 540th Engineer Regiment Rest Camp in Luneville. Started at Lutzelbourg and working towards Renthal on Highway GG-114 & 36. Removed loose masonry from bridge, secured materials for cribbing and bracing, started cribbing walls of bridge (Q 620130), removed mud and made drainage ditches on two (2) miles of road, dug soft shoulder of bridge and filled same

DE LASC
LNU 87354
Authority CW
By CW NARA Date 12/10/06

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hq 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

with three (3) loads of gravel. Continued diverting flooded area into canal near Q 620130. Started at Hesse and working towards Rehthal on Highway 60-116. Cribbed 200 yards of road and filled same with rock. Prepared 100 yds. of road for fill, erected culvert at Q 499128. Used six (6) loads of gravel and seven (7) loads of rock on job. Started at Sarrebourg and working towards Niderviller on Highway 60-114: Obtained 21' of 20" sewer pipe and used same in repairing and filling in tank trap across road. Cribbed and graveled shoulders of road from Niderviller to Latheal. Hauled four (4) loads of rock and three (3) loads of gravel for fill.

13 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BUST, FRANCE: Cleaned mud off road, opened bleeders and dug drainage ditches along road between Phalsbourg and Drulingen Highway N61, WP #33. Cleaned mud off road, opened bleeders and dug drainage ditches along Highway #4, between Phalsbourg and Reding, WP #33. Construction of two-way fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 581134, WP #158. Moved from Berthelming to new bivouac area, Bust, France. Travelled approx. 20 miles. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSENRG, FRANCE: Used 375th Engineers road grader to clear and widen shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass and on Route #4 out of Phalsbourg toward Saverne, for three (3) hours. Hauled rock, gravel and posts for cribbing and extending shoulders of Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued filling chuck holes and opening bleeders on Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne Hill). Continued filling chuck holes and improving drainage on IC-132 (Lutzelbourg-Saverne). Continued construction of cribbing and improvement of drainage on Phalsbourg by-pass. Removed 2½ ton of assorted munitions from buildings to be used by 6th Army Group Headquarters in Phalsbourg. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Guarding 540th Engineer Regiment Rest Camp in Luneville. Guarding bridge equipment in Luneville. Completed wall of bridge and braced bridge at Q 620130. Scraped mud from road and filled pot holes on Route 60-36 for two (2) miles. Removed mud and made drainage ditches along 1½ mile of road on 60-114. Cribbed shoulders of same road. Removed timber road block on side of road on 60-114. Working on Highway 60-116: Cribbed 200' of road at Q 499-128. Maintained road from 499128 to 511101. Hauled rock and filled pot holes. Ditched 400 yards of same road. Cleared ditches and bleeders from Rehthal to Hammarting on Highway 60-112. Scraped mud from road. Repaired fallen shoulders.

14 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BUST, FRANCE: Construction of two-way fixed bridge over Marne Au Rhin Canal at Q 581134, WP #158, 100% complete. Cleaned mud off road, opened bleeders and dug drainage ditches along Highway #4 between Reding and Phalsbourg, WP #33. Cleaned mud off road, opened bleeders and dug drainage ditches along Highway N 61 between Phalsbourg and Drulingen, WP #33. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSENRG, FRANCE: Using 375th Engineers road grader to clear and widen shoulders on D 36 between Phalsbourg and Lutzelbourg on IC-132 between Lutzelbourg for seven (7) hours. Hauled rock, gravel and posts for cribbing by-pass. Continued filling chuck holes and opening bleeders and ditches on Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne). Removed wreckage and debris from ditch line of Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne). Continued ditching and improving of drainage on Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued filling chuck holes on IC 132 (Lutzelbourg-Saverne). Continued construction of cribbing and improvement of shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass. Removed six (6) tons of assorted munitions

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

from buildings to be used by 6th Army Group Headquarters in Phalsbourg, WP #LU-1. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Guarding 540th Engineer Regiment Rest Camp in Lunéville. Guarding bridge equipment in Lunéville. Ten (10) EM reported to 7th Army Engineer Section in Saverne; removed concertina wire, cement poles and concrete pipes in preparation of site for unloading "I" beams. Cribbed 175 yards of shoulder and filled with nine (9) loads of rock and five (5) loads of gravel. Cleaned mud from road and cut drainage ditches from Q 615120 to Q 620129. Hauled two (2) loads of large rock and placed same for bracing on wall of bridge at Q 620130. Filled 200 yards of shoulder on road starting at Q 499128 with seven (7) loads of rock. Filled 200 yards of shoulder on road starting at Q 511101 with seven (7) loads of rock. Cleaned mud from road, cleared ditches and cribbed one (1) mile of road from Q 499125 on Highway GC 116. Used road grader for four (4) miles on Highway GC 116. Removed one (1) German 20mm mount from ditch. Repaired fallen shoulders on Highway GC 114 from Niderviller to Rehthel. Cleaned mud from road, dug drainage ditches and cleared bleachers from Q 556258 to Q 560169 on Highway GC 112.

15 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BUST, FRANCE: Working on Highway 36 between Mittelbronn and Lixheim; digging drainage ditches, opening bleachers, filling pot holes and cleaning mud off road, WP #33. Digging drainage ditches, opening bleachers, cleaning mud off road, and filling pot holes along Highway 4 between Phalsbourg and Reding, WP #33. Digging drainage ditches, opening bleachers, cleaning mud off road, and filling in pot holes along Highway 61 between Phalsbourg and Brülingen. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSEBERG, FRANCE: Moved seven (7) tons of German munitions from buildings to be used by 6th Army Group Headquarters in Phalsbourg, WP #LU-1, 50% complete. Road and bridge reconnaissance of assigned road net, WP #OE-19. Used 378th Engineer road grader to clear and widen shoulders on Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne Hill). Hauled rock, gravel, and posts for cribbing Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued filling chuck holes and opening bleachers and ditches on Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne), Route B-36 (Phalsbourg-Lutzelbourg) and IC-132 (Lutzelbourg-Saverne). Continued ditching and improvement of drainage on Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued construction of cribbing and improvements of shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Road maintenance on Highway GC-114: Graded and scraped ten (10) miles of road. Ditched 200 yards of road. Cribbed and filled shoulders of road for 300 yards with gravel and rock. Hauled 20 poles for cribbing of roads. Redrained approx. two (2) miles of road. Removed timbers in side of road from previous road block. Constructed drainage ditches and filled pot holes. Road maintenance on Highway GC-116: Decked 22' x 5' of bridge at Hesse. Hauled and spread gravel on 200 yards of road for ditching and filling pot holes. Cribbed roads. Road maintenance on Highway GC-114: Repaired shoulders of road for 300 yards. Scrapped mud and filled pot holes. Erected guide posts on road. Cleaned drainage ditches and bleachers. Erected signs on Highway's GC-114 and GC-112.

16 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BUST, FRANCE: Digging drainage ditches, opening bleachers, cleaning mud off road and filling pot holes along Highway #61

D/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

between Phalsbourg and Drulingen, WP #33. Cleaned mud off roads, digging drainage ditches, opened bleeders, and filled pot holes along Highway 4 between Phalsbourg and Sarrebourg and along Route 36 between Lixheim and Mittelbronn, WP #33. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSEBERG, FRANCE: Removed two (2) tons of German munitions from buildings to be used by 6th Army Group Headquarters in Phalsbourg, WP #LU-1, 55% complete. Hauled gravel for cribbing Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued filling chuck holes and opening bleeders on Route #4 (Phalsbourg-Saverne Hill), Route B-36 (Phalsbourg-Lutzelbourg), 10-132 (Lutzelbourg-Saverne). Ripped slabbing for cribbing Phalsbourg by-pass. Improved drainage at railroad overpass on Route 10-132. Removed debris and wreckage from ditches on Route B-36 (Phalsbourg-Lutzelbourg). Continued ditching, construction and improvement of shoulders of Phalsbourg by-pass, WP #33. COMPANY "P", TROISPORTAINE, FRANCE: Cribbed and filled shoulders of road for 20 yards at Regimental Headquarters, Lutzelbourg. Removed mud from shoulders of road road on GC-114. Cribbed and filled 225 yards of shoulder using nine (9) loads of rock and ten (10) loads of gravel. Filled pot holes on Highway GC 36, using fine gravel for two (2) miles. Road Maintenance on Highway GC-116: Black topped bridge at Hesse. Spread rock on 400 yards of shoulder. Stock piled sand on side of road on GC-112. Working on Highway GC-114: Repaired shoulders on Highway GC-114. Erected guide posts on road. Repaired broken culvert. Graded and scraped roads starting at Sarrebourg to Rehthal and on GC-112 from Rehthal to Hammarting. Cribbed and filled fallen shoulders on road GC-112. Cleared and removed stoppage in sewer at Arsuiller.

17 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BUST, FRANCE: Operating showers and water point. Cleaned out bleeders and cleaned mud off road between Veschin and Drulingen. Hauled 26 loads of gravel from pit to Highway N61. Removed ammunition, hand grenades, bazookas, mines, mortar shells, machine guns and German rifles and BAR's from building in Mittelbronn. Graded roads from Drulingen to Asswiller to Ottwiller road and back to Highway N61. Cleared drainage ditches along secondary road between Drulingen and Asswiller. Cleared drainage ditches from Phalsbourg to Vescheim. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSEBERG, FRANCE: Continued ripping slabs for cribbing the Phalsbourg by-pass. Hauled 20 loads of primary rock from 7th Army quarry Marmonier, to Phalsbourg by-pass. Repaired culvert on Phalsbourg by-pass. Continued ditching and construction and improvement of shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass. COMPANY "P", TROISPORTAINE, FRANCE: Clearing mines at Phalsbourg. Clearing assigned area of ammunition, mines, booby traps, and explosives. Hauled three (3) truck loads of ammunition to dump. Clearing 20 mm ammunition dump (German).

18 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BUST, FRANCE: Furnished detail to unload "I" beams at Engineer Dump 207 in Saverne, WP #LU-9. Built approach to retaining wall, using one (1) load of large rock and three (3) loads of small rock. Built retaining wall 15" high, 30' long, with hand rail same length at Netting. Finished approach of dirt road intersects highway. Used two (2) loads of rock finishing approach of dirt road at Netting. Hauled eight (8) loads of gravel to be used as stockpiles along road from Phalsbourg and

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs. 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

Brulingen. Cleaned out bleeders and mud off road between Phalsbourg and Drulingen. Repairing Route 10-107: Hauled three (3) loads of rock from quarry in Loire to road that runs between Loire and Route N61. Used for filling holes in road. Worked on shoulder and ditches of same road. Digging bleeders into ditches running parallel to road and cleaned and drained water out of ditches running parallel to road. Opened bleeders and repaired shoulder of road leading from N61 to Ottwiller, WP #33. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Continued ripping slabs for cribbing Phalsbourg by-pass. Hauled 24 loads of primary rock from 7th Army quarry in Marmontier to Phalsbourg by-pass. Constructed two (2) culverts and continued ditching and construction and improvement of shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass, WP #33. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Cleared assigned area of ammunition, mines, booby traps, and explosives. Cleaned, loaded and hauled two (2) truck loads of ammunition to assigned dump, WP #LU-1, 100% complete.

19 December 1944. COMPANY "D", BUST, FRANCE: Policing up around tar machine and brought two (2) drums of tar to Battalion Dump at Vilsberg. One squad of each platoon worked on road 10-13 A. Hand loaded and hauled 12 truck loads of rock from quarry along roadway to Highway 10-13 A. Unloaded and crushed rock to fill ruts in shoulder making road wider. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF VILSBERG, FRANCE: Continued ripping slabs and hauling posts for cribbing Phalsbourg by-pass. Hauled crushed rock for extending shoulders on by-pass. Repaired three (3) man-holes and continued ditching, construction and improvement of shoulders on Phalsbourg by-pass. Placed appropriate traffic control signs along by-pass. COMPANY "F", TROISFONTAINE, FRANCE: Detail reported to Col. Andrews at 6th Army Group Headquarters at Phalsbourg for clearing designated villas of mines and booby traps. No officer was available for supervising detail of clearing villas. Job discontinued by Regimental S-3.

20 December 1944. BATTALION HEADQUARTERS and MEDICAL DETACHMENT moved from Vilsberg, France, to new bivouac area, Niederbrenn, France. Travelled approx. 35 miles. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Company moved from Bust, France, to new bivouac area, Lembach, France. Travelled approx. 44 miles. Observation of treadway bridge. COMPANY "E", NIEDERBRENN, FRANCE: Company moved from vicinity of Vilsberg, France, to new bivouac area, Niederbrenn, France. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRENN, FRANCE: Company moved from Troisfontaine, France, to new bivouac area, Niederbrenn, France.

21 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Guard of company area. Operation of water point. Practicing building Treadway bridge. Men on Treadway bridge alert. COMPANY "E", NIEDERBRENN, FRANCE: Guard of company area. Taking over Bailey and Treadway Bridge train. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRENN, FRANCE: Guard of company area. Road maintenance on Highway 10-6 B and 10-50 from Niederbrenn to Woerth, from Woerth to Bruckmuhl. On Highway 10-50 from Griesbach to Bruckmuhl and on Highway 10-6B, from Zinswaller to Niederbrenn, France.

22 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Worked road from Lembach

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

and Wingen: Opened bleeders, constructed cribbing at necessary places to build up shoulders, filled pot holes, and rebuilt culvert. COMPANY "E", VICINITY OF LEMBACH, FRANCE: Company moved from Niederbronn, France, to new bivouac area, vicinity of Lembach, France. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Road maintenance on Highway 1C-50 from Woerth to Bruckmuhl, and from Gumbrechtshoffen to Zinswiller. On Highway 1C-145 and 1C-72 from Pfaffenoffen to Laubach. Highway 1C-8 B, from Niederbronn to Ingwiller.

23 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Working road from Woerth: Built cribbing. Built up shoulders where needed. Put in 130' of curbing. Filled road along curbing with crushed rock. Filled holes in road. Put gravel in small holes and crushed rock in large holes. Removed trees and limbs from side of road. COMPANY "E", LIEBFRAUNTHAL, FRANCE: Company moved from vicinity of Lembach, to new bivouac area, Liebfraenthal. Removed Treadway bridge at Reichshoffen. Swept road and shoulders for mines, no mines were found. Road to be used for dispersal area for bridge train. Training on Bailey bridge. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Road maintenance: Highway 1C-50 from Woerth to Bruckmuhl and from Gumbrechtshoffen to Zinswiller. Highway 1C-145 from Mertzwiller to Mersbronn. Highway 1C-8 B, from Niederbronn to Ingwiller. Assisted Company "E" in erecting 36', Class 40, Treadway bridge at Reichshoffen.

24 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Road maintenance: From Lembach to Wingen; opened bleeders, filled pot holes with gravel or crushed rock, constructed cribbing at necessary places to hold up shoulders and to prevent road from giving away. Put in 30' of culvert. COMPANY "E", LIEBFRAUNTHAL, FRANCE: Construction of 24', Class 40, Timber bridge at Hirschthal, 50% complete. Removed 36', Class 40, Treadway bridge at Hirschthal, 100% complete. Training on Treadway bridge construction. Treadway bridge alert. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Road Maintenance: On Highway 1C 8 B from Gumbrechtshoffen to Reichshoffen. On Highway 1C 8 B from Reichshoffen to Froeschwiller. On Highway 1C 50 from Griesback to Ninterfeld. On Highway 1C 145 from Laubach to Mersbronn. On Highway 1C 8 B from Niederbronn to Ingwiller. Made reconnaissance for construction of Secondary Line of Defense. Hauling diesel generator from Soultz to Reichshoffen, for manufacturing pickets.

25 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Road maintenance: On road from Woerth to Lembach; opened bleeders, and digging drainage ditches. Filled pot holes. Cleared logs out of drainage ditches. Road between Rothweiler and Wingen; put three (3) loads of gravel in pot holes. Road between Lembach and Wingen; put two (2) loads of gravel in pot holes. Loaded three (3) loads of fine gravel and spread on shoulders of road covering rocked surface. Digging drainage ditches and cleaned out drainage ditch running under road. Drained water off opposite side of road. COMPANY "E", LIEBFRAUNTHAL, FRANCE: Completed construction of 24', Class 40, Timber bridge at Rebenteilerbruck. Construction of 29', Class 40, Timber bridge at Mattstall. Treadway bridge alert. Treadway bridge training. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Road

Authority 87354
 By CW NARA Date 12/20/06

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

maintenance: Highway 1G 6 B from Gumbrechtshoffen to Reichshoffen. Highway 1G 8 B from Reichshoffen to Froeschwiller. Highway 1G 50 from Griesbach to Winterfeld. Highway 1G 145 from Laubach to Morsbronn. Highway 1G 5 B from Niederbronn to Ingwiller. Continued reconnaissance for construction of Secondary Line of Defense. Converting pull type snow plows to push type. Detail to Strasbourg and acquired 1,182' of angle iron for production of angle iron barbed wire pickets, WP #NI-5.

26 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Road maintenance on road between Lembach and Wingen; opened bleachers. Cleaned ice from hill north of Wissemburg and opened culverts and ditches on hill. Road between Wingen and Northwiller; put in 220' of cribbing 14" high, 160' of curb, hauled three (3) loads of poles 6" to 10" in diameter and four (4) loads of gravel for fill. At Weiler dug a ditch 30' long, 1' wide and 1 1/2' deep across highway. Layed 30' of 12" pipe in ditch for drainage from spring. Took ice off highway and drained excess water. Loaded and spread one (1) load of fine gravel on ice section. COMPANY "E", LIEBENTHAL, FRANCE: Construction of Steel Stringer bridge, (29', Class 40) at Mattstall, 100% complete. Treadway bridge and Mine training. Bailey bridge and Mine training. Continued Engineer Reconnaissance for second MLR. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Road maintenance: On Highway 1G 8 B from Oberbronn to Zinswiller. On Highway 1G 145 from Lembach to Morsbronn. Continued reconnaissance for construction of Secondary Line of Defense. Converting pull type snow plows to push type. Detail to Strasbourg for ten (10) loads of angle iron for production of angle iron barbed wire pickets, NI-5. Mounted generator, connected fuel and cooling system and cleaned shop area, WP #NI-5.

27 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Road maintenance at Weiler; digging drainage ditch 100' long by 12" wide and 12" deep. Cribbed road side of ditch with 2" x 12" plank the length of the ditch. Built guard rail above entrance to seven (7) drainage pipes. Used one (1) load of rock for low sections of road and loaded two (2) loads of fine gravel and spread over rocks for smooth surface. At Wissemburg; removing ice off highway and digging drainage ditch. Cleared the following roads for mines: From 043447 to 073456, from 043447 to 051436, from 066437 to 052430, from 075438 to 066423. Cleaned ice from road and cleared ditches north of Wissemburg and cleared ditch on side of road south of Lembach. Made reconnaissance of Maginot Line fortifications, WP #NI-10; reconnaissance made of passageways, condition of pill boxes, types of gun emplacements. Four (4) EM attended Mine School. Four (4) EM attended Anti-Sabotage Lecture. COMPANY "E", LIEBENTHAL, FRANCE: Maintenance of approaches of Steel Stringer bridge at Mattstall. Continued Engineer Reconnaissance on second MLR 048450 thru 010460. Started survey of fields of fire and fire power available in the Maginot installations 048450 thru 025430. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Road maintenance: On Highway 1G 5 B from Ingwiller to Woerth. On Highway 1G 145 from Laubach to Morsbronn. On Highway 1G 50 from Griesbach to Forstheim. Continued reconnaissance for construction of Secondary Line of Defense. Converting pull type snow plows to push type. Hauled ten (10) truck loads of angle iron for production of barbed wire pickets. Started production of barbed wire pickets. Constructed VI Corps dry garbage and rubbish

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Bqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

pit at Q 954383, WO #1. Cleared seven (7) Topf mines at Q 948415 to Q - 049414, Map Ref: 1:50,000, (Haguenau), Sheet #38-14.

28 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Swept roads for mines; 052430 to 045420, 062442 to 052433, and 045435 to 039434, no mines were found. Construction of roadblock at 088453: Cut logs for log wall road block. Cleaned out 28 man holes to be used to place rail road rails in for a road obstacle. Dug 75 holes 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' deep and cut 75 poles. Strung one (1) roll of barbed wire. Started putting in concertina. COMPANY "E", LIEBENTHAL, FRANCE: Repaired defensive wire in vicinity of 028441 and 029442. Started construction of position for M-10 and 57mm gun at 038437. Started construction of abatis vicinity of 997446. Continued Engineer reconnaissance for second MLR 047443 thru 970442. Continued survey of fields of fire and fire power available in the Maginot installation 047443 thru 970442. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Maintained day and night road patrol of assigned areas, WP #NI-1. Continued reconnaissance for construction of Secondary Line of Defense. Opened and cleared seven (7) pill boxes: Q 949-435, Q 952434, Q 953434, Q 945437, Q 940438, Q 936440, and Q 931444. Converting pull type snow plows to push type. Operating VI Corps dry garbage and rubbish dump, WO-1. Produced 975 barbed wire pickets, 1500 drift pins and 1000 wooden drift pickets, WP #NI-8.

29 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Completed road block at 088453. Open for one-way traffic. Layed 1,000 yards of triple concertina from 067449 north to southeast along forest toward fort. Started to lay mine field. Front coordinates: 05844-059453. Layed 200 mines, 300 yards of triple concertina and 200 yards of two-strand barbed wire. Mine field started at 087453 running northwest. Layed 1500 feet of two-strand barbed wire and 100 mines. COMPANY "E", LIEBENTHAL, FRANCE: Continued repairing and laying defensive wire in vicinity of 036438 and 032442. Completed construction of position for M-10 and 57mm gun at 037437. Constructed machine gun platforms in pill-boxes at 036437, 037437, and 038438. Continued survey and recording of fields of fire and fire power in Maginot installations. Started laying mine fields across dray at 033442. Swept Infantry supply road of mines at 029435 thru 027440. Swept Infantry road of mines from 062453 thru 055444. Constructed abatis at 984444, 989444, 027445, 018445, 015451, and 015448. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Continued reconnaissance for construction of Secondary Line of Defense, digging two-man fox holes, barbed wire entanglements, and cleared pill-boxes. Completed reconnaissance on status of Maginot and other permanent defensive works in sector, WP NI-10. Operating VI Corps dry garbage and rubbish dump, WP WO-1. Produced 995 steel barbed wire pickets, 730 drift pins, 307 sheets of turn plate and 950 wooden pickets. Hauled one (1) trailer load of angle iron, WP NI-8.

30 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Swept the following roads for mines: From 069423 to 045421, from 063423 to 066425, no mines were found. Dug 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' holes, placed and secured ten (10) railroad rails five feet above ground and two feet in ground as tank obstacle at 087454. 066444-067445, 150 yards of triple concertina. 075445-076446, 150 yards of triple concertina.

B/L - Daily Journal Report for December 1944, Hqs 2d Bn, 540th Engr Regt.

Felled 100 trees to be used as abatis in wooded area, 058454. Layed 1750 yards of single concertina starting at 093447 and running southeast toward fort. Layed 421 mines between 058444 and 059453. Layed 188 mines at 087453 running northwest. COMPANY "E", LIEBENTHAL, FRANCE: Continued laying defensive wire in vicinity of 036439. Continued laying anti-tank mine field in vicinity of 034442. Laid defensive wire in vicinity of 015448, 959443, and 992443. Constructed abatis at 983447, 984447, 019448, 021448, 022447, 023447 and 024449. Completed survey of Maginot installations, WP #1-10. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Maintained day and night patrol of assigned areas, WP #1-1. Continued work on Secondary Line of Defense, digging two-man fox holes, erected barbed wire entanglements and cleared pill boxes. Operating VI Corps dry garbage and rubbish dump, WO-1. Produced 500 steel pickets, 700 drift pins and 700 sheets of (12" x 24") turn plate, WP #1-5.

31 December 1944. COMPANY "D", LEMBACH, FRANCE: Put in 900 yards of single concertina from 045443 to 046442 (runs southeast), 3600 yards of single strand barbed wire in same location. 100 yards of single concertina put in from 059447 to 060449. Put in 200 yards of minefield from 058447 to 059446. All mines in field are complete. Abatis on trail at 059458. Extended abatis at 458456 running east. Put in 500 yards of triple concertina from 094447 to 095445, 60% complete. Dug 30 holes for railroad rail road block at 085447. Dug in three (3) self-propelled gun positions; sizes of holes: 4' x 11' x 25'. Positions at 089446 and 090446. COMPANY "E", LIEBENTHAL, FRANCE: Laid defensive wire in vicinity of 036438, 040440, and 043442. Continued laying anti-tank mine field in vicinity of 036442. Laid defensive wire in vicinity of 978440, 982442, 989443, and 992442. Laid defensive wire from 998442 to 017448. COMPANY "F", NIEDERBRONN, FRANCE: Maintained day and night road patrol of assigned areas, WP #1-1. Continued work on Second Line of Defense; dug two-man fox holes, erected barbed wire entanglements, and cleared pill boxes. Operating VI Corps dry garbage and rubbish dump, WO-1. Issued pickets, drift pins and turn plate, WP #1-5. Capt. Thomas G. Hudson and Tec 5 Charles J. Bay, of Company "H", killed by American P-47 planes carrying a cross painted over the star, by strafing at 1:45 hours, 31 December 1944 at 992442, Map of France, Lembach, Sheet XXXVIII-13, 5 & 6, 1:25,000. 1st Lt. R. N. Thompson of Co. "B", assigned and assumed command of Company "E", this date.

Battalion Strength as of 1 December 1944. Casualties Encountered by Bn.

Officers	18 (Incl. Med. Det.)	KIA	1 Officer
Enlisted Men	603 (Incl. Med. Det.)	KIA	1 Enlisted Man.

Battalion Strength as of 31 December 1944.

Officers	18 (Incl. Med. Det.)
Enlisted Men	597 (Incl. Med. Det.)

S. A. KNAFF, JR.
Lt. Col., C.E.,
Commanding.