

87354
Authority By *GD* NARA Date 12/17/08

Incl #1 - Unit Journal, PERSONNEL SECTION, 540th Engr Regt.

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
A.P.O. #758, % POSTMASTER, N.Y., N.Y.

13 January 1945

SUBJECT: Journal for month of December 1944

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, 540th Engineer Regiment, APO #758, U.S.ARMY

Furnished necessary enlisted men personnel for the operation of the following Regimental Staff Sections, S-1, S-2, S-3, S-4, Personnel and Regimental Motor Pool. Operated showers for Officers and enlisted men as well as troops in surrounding area. Operating Regimental gas dump, which supplies an average of 4000 gallons of gas and oil daily to regiment. Operating three water points at the following places, Gerbeviller, Lutzelbourg, and Woerth, France, which supplies an average of 50,000 gallons of water per day. All trucks and air compressors dispatched throughout the month to battalions for road, bridge and construction work on all highways, as well as hauling material for fixed front line sites. Operating switchboard and maintaining telephone and signal communication for regiment. Operating Officers Rest Camp and mess at Mirecourt, France. Furnished daily guard for Regimental Headquarters and Company, as well as furnishing daily guard for Water Point. Moved from Gerbeviller, France to Lutzelbourg, France on 9 December 1944, in advance to set up site for Regimental Headquarters and our Company. Moved from Lutzelbourg, France to Woerth, France on 21st December 1944 in advance to set up site for Regimental Headquarters and our Company. Normal Regimental Headquarters and Service Company functions.

*Frederick J. Finnegan*FREDERICK J. FINNEGAN
Captain, C.E.
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
Office of the Supply Officer
APO #758

11 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Journal for Month Of December

TO : C.O. 540th Engr. Regt., APO #758

During the month the S-4 Section requisitioned and issued to the Companies, all necessary rations, gas, oil, lubricants and anti-freeze. Tents and shoes in need of repair were taken into the Quartermaster Salvage Repair Company and repaired or exchanged and returned to the Companies.

The following items were procured and issued to the units within the regiment for the construction of Road Blocks and a main line of Defense:

3,845	rolls	Wire, Concertina
150	"	Wire, Barbed, 100-lb spools
2,500	lbs	Wire, Annealed #16
550	lbs	Wire, Annealed #10
5,000	ea	Mines, AT, T6EL
5,200	ea	Mines, AT, M1AL
50	ea	Mines, Anti personnel M2
48	ea	Mines, Anti personnel M3
100	lbs	Staples, wire
860	lbs	Explosive, composition C
1,300	lbs	Explosive, Rectangular $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb blocks
22	ea	Charge, beehive
75	ea	Charge, shafed M2
60	ea	Charge, chain, tetril pack
30	ea	Charge, cratering, 40-lb
18	ea	Torpedoes, Bangalore
3,385	ea	Pickets, straight, long (6-ft)
610	ea	Pickets, straight Short (2'6")
250	ea	Pickets, wood
17	mile	Wire, telephone, W110

All classes of property in need of salvage was taken in and about 98 percent replaced and returned to Companies. 360 Combat Trousers, 940 Trousers, Cotton Field, 812, Caps, Field and 1387 Hoods, Jacket Field M-43, 27 Tent Stoves, 21 Oil Burners and 8 Immersion type water heaters were requisitioned and distributed to the respective companies.

A Material in Hands of Troops was called for by S-4 in order that all existing shortages within the Regiment might be accurately ascertained. From the reports, requisitions were compiled and submitted to Army Depots and the following equipment was received:

3	ea	Mounts, tripod, MG, Cal..30, M2
27	ea	Mounts, tripod, MG, Cal..50, M3
6	ea	Carbines, Cal..30 M1

39	ea	Launcher, Grenade, M1
14	ea	Launcher, Rocket, AT, M1A1
1	ea	Truck, 2½ ton 6x6 Dump
1	ea	Trailer, 1 ton Cargo
3	ea	Gun, Machine, Cal..30, M1919A4
121	ea	Cans, water, 5-gal
9,000	ea	Bags, sand, burlap
13	ea	Nets, camouflage 22 x 22
9	ea	Kits, First Aid, 12-Unit, motor vehicle
8,000	rds	Cartridge, ball, Cal..30 Carbine
4,800	rds	Cartridge, ball, Cal..30 5/clip Bandoleers
127,200	rds	Cartridge, ball, Cal..30 8/clip Bandoleers
26,250	rds	Cartridge, ball, and Tracer, Cal..30 MG
9,000	rds	Cartridge, ball, Cal..45
10,245	rds	Cartridge, AP and Tracer, Cal..50, MG
100	ea	Grenade, hand, smoke
490	ea	Grenade, rifle
120	ea	Rocket, AT
4,175	ea	Mines, AT M1A1
1,314	ea	Shells, 57mm, AP and Tracer

Three (3) water points were operated, one (1) in Gerberviller, one (1) in Lutzelbourg and one (1) in Woerth. A total of 106,150 gallons of water was dispensed to Army and Corps Units.

The following listed items of Special Stream Crossing Equipment was taken in from the companies, inventoried, stored and shipped to the 85th Engineer Battalion (Hv Pon) and upon completion a report was submitted to the Army Engineer with a copy of the Shipping Ticket:

6	ea	Bags, carrying, paddle
30	ea	Bags, sand
192	ea	Boats, assault
96	ea	Boats, storm
3	ea	Cable, 1/2" x 100' coil
2	ea	Cable, 1/2" x 150' coil
7	ea	Cable, 3/4" x 25' coil
17	ea	Cable, 3/4" x 200' coil
14	ea	Cable, 3/4" x 1500' coil
871	ea	Can, 5-gal, w/oil and gas mixed
10	ea	Chain Hoist
110	ea	Clamps, side rail, 18-inch
89	ea	Clips, cable, 3/4"
40	ea	Deadman, w/anchor cable & 8 cable clips
28	ea	Frames X, w/bridle & guy ropes
10	ea	Lashings, 1/2" x 50'
85	ea	Motors, outboard, 22 hp
96	ea	Motors, outboard, 50 hp
10	ea	Nets, camouflage
1,069	ea	Paddles, wood
182	ea	Paddles, steel
6	ea	Pickets, steel
43	ea	Pins, assault boat
52	ea	Pins, treadway
16	ea	Range Poles
2	ea	Racks, telephone

14	ea	Reels, cable, special
51	ea	Rails, side
135	ea	Stakes, holdfast, steel
1	ea	Stake, telephone
1	ea	Stand, telephone wire
10	ea	Timbles, 3/4"
64	ea	Treadway, plywood
51	ea	Stiffeners, treadway
10	ea	Trolleys
20	ea	Cables, trolley
1	ea	Wire, 9 guage (roll)
381	ea	Belts, life
568	ea	Cartridge, life belt
147	ea	Tubes, flexible nozzle, for refillable gasoline drums.
252	ea	Markers, luminous, Radio active
81	ea	Cans, round, gas, with spout
4	ea	Boats, utility
4	ea	Trailers, 2-wheel, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton, Utility Type I

The following reports were submitted by this Section:

Weekly G-4 Report to G-4 Army, submitted each Sunday
Monthly Material in Hands of Troops Report submitted
to the Commanding General, 7th Army on the 17th
December 1944.

Decater Brown
DECATER BROWN
Captain, C.E.
Supply Officer.

HEADQUARTERS
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
OFFICE OF THE PERSONNEL OFFICER
A.P.O. # 758

ACTIVITY JOURNALDECEMBER 1944

Dec. 1 - 5, 1944 GERBEVILLER, FRANCE. Usual Regimental Personnel Section duties, personnel correspondence, and processing daily morning reports, G-1 reports and daily ration strength. Special Inventory of Medical Department personnel submitted to Hqs 4th MRU, in compliance with Letter 7th Army, dated 30 November 1944, Subj: Special Inventory of Medical Department Personnel. S/Rs and allied papers of 8 EM missing during training operations sent to AG 7th Army, Casualty Section. Prepared S/Rs and allied papers of 6 EM returning to States on TD. Requisition submitted to Hqs 7th Army for unfilled rotation vacancies.

Dec. 6 - 11, 1944 GERBEVILLER, FRANCE. Usual Regimental Personnel Section duties, personnel correspondence and processing daily morning reports, G-1 reports and daily ration strength. Processed PTAs. Submitted roster to S-1 on Officers transferred out of Regiment since its activation. Personnel Section moved to LUTZELBOURG, FRANCE. Tec 4 Ernest H. Luehring awarded Bronze Star per G.O. 117, Hqs 7th Army, dated 30 November 1944.

Dec. 12 - 18, 1944 LUTZELBOURG, FRANCE. Usual Regimental Personnel Section duties, personnel correspondence, and processing daily morning reports, G-1 reports and daily ration strength. Submitted Personnel requisition to Hqs 7th Army to effect return of Hospitalized personnel who have been dropped from rolls. Prepared Officers pay vouchers, and Enlisted Mens payroll for month of December, signatures obtained and submitted to Finance Office. Letter "Report of Death" submitted to Casualty Section, 7th Army on Pvt Paul C. Arnold a non battle casualty. All Deductions and Allotments discontinued and DD payroll prepared and submitted to Finance Office on Pvt Alphonse Piro of Co. "A", per General Court Martial # 614, Hqs P.B.S. dated 30 November 1944.

Dec. 19 - 23, 1944 LUTZELBOURG, FRANCE. Usual Regimental Personnel Section duties, personnel section correspondence, processing daily morning reports and G-1 reports, and daily ration strength. Captain A.D.Gavura placed on TD in Paris, France to attend Army Information - Education Staff School per Ltr Orders Hqs 7th Army, 14 December 1944. Captain T. F. Clifford appointed Class "A" Agent of Major O.C.Culbreth FD, 26th Finance Disbursing Section. Final Statement on Pvt Paul C. Arnold Co "B", deceased, submitted to finance. Major Albert B. Smith returned to regiment after having completed his TD in the states. Major Smith returned to this regiment per SO 157, Hqs 7th Army dtd 29 August 1944. Personnel section left Lutzelbourg on the 21st and after some confusion as to where Headquarters should be, the town hall in the town of Woerth, France was finally picked for Regimental Headquarters and by evening of the 23rd the Personnel Section was set up and operating.

Dec. 24 - 31, 1944 WOERTH, FRANCE. Usual Regimental Personnel Section duties, personnel correspondence, and processing daily morning reports, G-1 reports, and daily ration strength. Received replacements for 11 rotation vacancies. Captain Andrew D. Gavura returned to regiment from TD in Paris. Picked up 5 EM at replacement depot returning from hospital. Captain Thomas G. Hudson and Tec 5 Charles J. Bay killed in action by enemy planes. Captain Donald E. Casey designated assistant S-3 of regiment, vice Captain Edward L. Fizdale transferred to 1175 Engr (C) Gp per Subject: Orders, Hqs 7th Army dtd 2 January 1945. Captain Frederick C. Woods designated Executive Officer of 1st Bn, vice Captain Donald E. Casey relieved. 1st Lt Guy F. Coons designated Commanding Officer, Co "C", vice Captain Frederick C. Woods relieved. Enlisted men's payroll and Officer vouchers for month of December paid. Lt Roy N. Thompson designated Commanding Officer of Co "E", vice Captain Thomas G. Hudson deceased.

T F Clifford

T. F. CLIFFORD

Captain, C. E.,

Ass't Adj (Pers)

2 Incls

Annex # 1. Assigned Present and Absent Strength
and changes during month of December 1944.

Annex # 2. Casualty Statement.

CHANGES DURING MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944

HQ'S	(OFF) (WO)	(EM)	ASSIGNED PRESENT & ABSENT STRENGTH 30 NOVEMBER 1944				ASSIGNED PRESENT & ABSENT STRENGTH 31 DECEMBER 1944 (OFF) (WO) (EM)			
			TRANSFERS & MIA ABS DRPD FR ROLLS	KIA etc	REASGD FR DRPD FR ROLLS	OTHER REPL ETC	TRANSFERS WITHIN REGT	TRANSFERS WITHIN REGT		
Reg't'l Hqs		13	0	0	1 Off		✓ 1 Off	13	0	
Med Detachment	5	0	41						0 0 41	
Hqs 1st Bn	3	1	167	1 EM		1 EM	✓ 1 EM	2	3 1 167	
Company "A"	5	0	196		2 EM	2 EM			5 0 200	
Company "B"	5	0	196	3 EM	1 EM	3 EM	✓ 2 EM		5 0 195	
Company "C"	5	0	198	2 EM		1 EM	- 1 EM		4 0 196	
Hqs 2nd Bn	2	0	8					2	0 0 8	
Company "D"	5	0	190	4 EM	1 Off	3 EM	✓ 1 EM		5 0 190	
Company "E"	5	0	196	4 EM	1 EM	3 EM	✓ 1 EM		4 0 196	
Company "F"	5	0	199	7 EM		3 EM	- 2 EM		5 0 193	
TOTALS	55	1	1398	21 EM 1 Off	2 EM 1 Off	6 EM 13 EM	- - -	53	1 1394	

HEADQUARTERS
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
OFFICE OF THE PERSONNEL OFFICER

ANNEX NO. 2

CASUALTY REPORT MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944

Grade	Name	ASN	Co.	Date of Casualty
KILLED IN ACTION (KIA)				
1. Captain	HUDSON, Thomas G.	0-1101503	Co. "E"	31 December 1944
2. Tec 5	BAY, Charles J.	31097472	Co. "E"	31 December 1944
DIED OF ILLNESS (Non Battle)				
1. Pvt	ARNOLD, Paul C.	35385303	Co. "B"	9 December 1944