

Authority 87354
By CP NARA Date 12/17/08

Incl #3, Unit Journal, S-3 SECTION, 540th Engr Regt

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 Authority 87354
 By CD NARA Date 12/17/06

HEADQUARTERS
 540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT (G)
 A.P.O. #758 U.S.ARMY

15 January 1945.

SUBJECT: S-3 Monthly Activity Journal for December 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 540th Engineer Regiment (G), APO #758, U.S.Army.

1 - 6 December 1944 - GERSEVILLER, France. Experiments with the anti-mine barrier on the MOSELLE River were completed. A German bridge dump in LUNEVILLE and a German engineer dump in STRASBOURG were guarded. Seventh Army Headquarters in SARREBOURG and an artillery demonstration area near SARREBOURG were checked for mines and booby-traps. A taxi-way, refueling strip, and a road net were constructed for the SARREBOURG airport and an area in GIREY was cleared for the 3408th Ordnance. Motor-powered assault boat training was resumed and a check for mines along power lines in the BAGGARAT area was started. Road, bridge, and installation maintenance continued in assigned areas.

7 December 1944 - PHALSBOURG, France. Advance Regimental Headquarters, including the S-3 Section, moved from GERSEVILLER to PHALSBOURG. Motor-powered assault boat training continued, as did the check for mines along BAGGARAT power-lines. Started construction of MARNE-AU-RHIN Canal Bridge near BUHL.

8 - 14 December 1944 - LUTZELBOURG, France. Advance Regimental Headquarters, including the S-3 Section, moved from PHALSBOURG to LUTZELBOURG on 8 December 1944 and was joined by the remainder of Regimental Headquarters on 9 December 1944. A two-way Class 40 fixed bridge was constructed over the MARNE-AU-RHIN Canal at BUHL. Carpentry work for APU #556 in LUNEVILLE and APO #434 in SARREBOURG was completed and windows were repaired for the 9th Evacuation Hospital in SARREBOURG. Training in the operation of motor-powered assault boats was completed. Army Group Headquarters in PHALSBOURG, 58th Medical Battalion in SAVERNE, and T.O.P. near SARREBOURG were checked for mines and time charges. Mine check of powerlines in vicinity of BAGGARAT was discontinued on 14 December 1944 with the project approximately 50% completed. Construction work for 2nd Convalescent Hospital in SARREBOURG was started and marking of minefields in rear areas continued.

15 - 18 December 1944 - LUTZELBOURG, France. Removed German grenades and munitions from Army Group Headquarters in PHALSBOURG. Work for 2nd Convalescent Hospital and the 1st Medical Laboratory in SARREBOURG was discontinued. Minefields in rear areas was completed and construction was started on 2 fixed bridges, two-way Class 40, at HIRSCHLAND and BERTHELMING.

19 - 21 December 1944 - LUTZELBOURG, France. Regiment attached to VI Corps as of 190001A December 1944. Construction of HIRSCHLAND Bridge completed on 20 December 1944. Advance section of Regimental Headquarters moved from LUTZELBOURG to NIEDERBRONN on 20 December 1944.

22 - 24 December 1944 - WOERTH, France. Regimental Headquarters moved from NIEDERBRONN to WOERTH on 22 December 1944. Construction of BERTHELMING Bridge was completed. Assumed control of treadway and Bailey bridge trains and organized crews to build this type of bridge. Maintained roads and bridges; swept roads for mines in allocated areas.

REF ID: A62811
 Authority 87354
 By CP NARA Date 12/10/08

S-3 Monthly Activity Journal for December 1944 (Continued)

25 - 31 December 1944 - NORDTH, France. Constructed one-way Class 40 bridges at BANNENTHAL, MOUTTERWE, ZIMMELLE, MATTENALL, and ZEDELSBURG. Constructed 1½-way Class 40 bridges at BANNSTEIN and SCHMIDENHAL; built a two-way Class 40 culvert at BANNENTHAL. Removed abatis, roadblocks, and cleared Topf mines from roads in sector. Operated foundry at REICHSHOFFEN, producing pickets, drift-pins, and tarpplate. Made a comprehensive survey of existing fortifications, including the MAGINOT LINE and French Field Army Fortifications in assigned sector. Constructed a secondary MLR extending from vicinity of LIGENG (Q-740446) to DRACHENBRUNN (R-097432).

Main Duties of The S-3 Section During The Period 1 - 31 December 1944

1 - Preparation of Daily Report - Army Engineer Unit and Daily Construction Report (1 - 20 December 1944) for Seventh Army Engineer.

2 - Preparation of Engineer Situation Report (20 - 31 December 1944) for VI Corps Engineer.

3 - Assignment and supervision of all jobs assigned to this headquarters.

4 - Preparation and reproduction of bridge designs and bills of materials.

5 - Preparation and reproduction of Defensive Works Overlays.

6 - Dispatch of engineer equipment and allotment of trucks for operational purposes within the regiment.

7 - Request and assignment of engineer equipment borrowed from Regt light equipment company.

8 - Liaison with Seventh Army Engineer Section (1 - 20 December 1944) and with VI Corps Engineer Section (20 - 31 December 1944).

9 - Issuual "Operations Memorandum" on Standard Mine Forms and Minefield Recording Procedure (Friendly).

10 - Preparation of: Report On Floating Mine-Barrier; Report On Existing Fortifications In Sector.

11 - Installation and maintenance of electrical system for Regimental Headquarters.

12 - Operation of Regimental Sign Shop.

CARL A. LOONEY
 Major, C.E.
 S-3

Authority 87354
By CD NATA Date 12/10/08

Incl #4 - Unit Journal, S-4 Section, 540th Engr Regt.

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

11 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Journal for Month Of December

TO : G.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, T6E1
5,200	ea	Mines, AT, M1A1
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
20	ea	Charge, cratering, 40-lb
18	ea	Torpedoes, Bangalore
3,365	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 96 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
8,000	rds	Cartridge, ball, Cal..45
10,245	rds	Cartridge, AP and Tracer, Cal..50, MG
100	ea	Grenade, hand, smoke
400	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 Pan) 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 I, 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

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 Authority 87354
 By *CD* NARA Date 12/17/06

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	Timbals, 3/4"
64	ea	Treadway, plywood
51	ea	Stiffeners, treadway
10	ea	Trolleys
20	ea	Cables, trolley
1	ea	Wire, 0 gauge (roll)
281	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, 2½-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
 Captain, C.E.
 Supply Officer.