HEADQUARTERS 1340TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
Office of the Battalion Commander

BAR/wcp
APO 230, U.S. Army,
2 December 1944.

SUBJECT: After Action Report.
THRU : Channels.
TO : The Adjutant General,
Washington, D.C.

In compliance with paragraph 10 (C3), AR 345-105, and letter, Headquarters First United States Army, dated 13 July 1944, subject: "Action Against Enemy, Report After/After Action Reports," file 319.1/401 (C), the After Action Report of the 1340th Engineer Combat Battalion for the month of November 1944 is submitted.

For the Commanding Officer:

Olive I. Tuthill, Jr.
1st Lt., C.B.,
Adjutant.

1 Incl:
After Action Report

SECRET

RECEIVED
C4 DEC 1944
HQ 1171st
Eng. (C) Group

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JAN 20 1945
4430

JAN 29 1947

Jul 18
HEADQUARTERS 1340TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
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SUBJECT: Reports After/After Action Reports.

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MAP REFERENCES
GSGS 4416, 1:100,000 - Sheets S-1 and T-1

1. OPERATIONS (1 - 30 NOVEMBER):

The following is a synopsis of the missions of the 1340th
Engineer Combat Battalion during the month of November:

(1) At the beginning of the month the battalion continued
its close support of the 110th Infantry Regiment by
opening and maintaining routes of communication and
supply as the 28th Division opened its attack on the
VOSSENACK-SCHMIDT area.

(2) On 6 November the battalion was committed as infantry
in the vicinity of VOSSENACK. The previous night the
enemy had counter-attacked in this sector and had
forced the withdrawal of infantry and engineers from
the village of VOSSENACK and along the road between
VOSSENACK and KOMMERSCHEIDT.

(3) At the same time the mission of retaking VOSSENACK
was given the 146th Engineer Combat Battalion. This
battalion, along with elements of the 20th Engineer
Combat Battalion, was assigned the mission of defending
and holding open to traffic the bridge southeast
of VOSSENACK (F-043513). The accomplishment of this
mission on 6 November and the action which developed
during the following three days is best depicted in
statements made by officers of the battalion at the
conclusion of this assignment. These statements are
consolidated in enclosure number 3.

(4) On 11 November the battalion returned to the task of
maintaining the division supply routes. Continuous
heavy traffic over earth and gravel roads, which re-
mained wet from rain and snow, caused the maintenance
problem to be a basic one of drainage. The daily pick and shovel work of opening bleeder drains, building up shoulders, opening culverts and the hauling of rock for these repairs constituted the bulk of the work during the period.

(5) During the latter part of the month the 28th Division was replaced in the VOSSENAEK sector by the 8th Infantry Division. On 21 November the battalion was put in direct support of the 12th Engineer Combat Battalion by the Group Engineer Plan, which said, in substance:

"The 8th Division, in conjunction with CCR, 5th Armored Division, attacks north and east and secures HURTGEN and approaches to it. This group supports the attack by taking over engineer work from the 12th Engineer Combat Battalion.

"The 1340th Engineer Combat Battalion will:

1. Maintain liaison with the 12th Engineer Combat Battalion.

2. Initial forward boundary RJ 013335 - GERMATER Road.

3. Initially, maintain road from RJ 991316 to RJ 003312 to RJ 013335.

4. Assume engineer work forward of present boundary upon request of Division Engineer, notifying Group Headquarters of action taken.

5. Render assistance as requested by Division Engineer to move 121st Infantry forward from present bivouac on morning 21 November.

6. Install telephone line from RJ 013335 to RJ 014348 for use in controlling traffic. (Line to be operated only on division order.)

7. Make available to Division Engineer, upon request, additional mine detector teams.

8. Push reconnaissance to forward limit of Division Engineer operations.

9. Establish forward radio station in Group Net in general vicinity high ground west of RJ 013335.

10. Give Group Headquarters prompt warning when it will be necessary to move battalion rear boundary forward and prompt warning as soon as all mine detector teams are committed."

b. Other events.

(1) Church services, to include Protestant, Catholic and Jewish, were held several times during the month. Chaplain Winn and Chaplain Carpenter visited the battalion each time from the 1171st Engineer Combat Group Headquarters. The Jewish services were held at V Corps.
SECRET

(2) Movies were held frequently in the battalion area.

(3) On Thanksgiving Day the battalion enjoyed a dinner of turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, celery, pudding, coffee and candy.

(4) Showers were operated throughout the month by the battalion water supply, affording the men of the battalion two or three enjoyable showers during the period.

2. LOCATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date Of Arrival</th>
<th>Date Of Departure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Vossenack (988314)</td>
<td>31 Oct 1944</td>
<td>17 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Rotgen (985319)</td>
<td>17 November</td>
<td>21 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Vossenack (985315)</td>
<td>21 November</td>
<td>( )</td>
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</table>

3. HEADQUARTERS TO WHICH UNIT WAS ASSIGNED:

During the month the battalion remained assigned to the First United States Army and attached to the 117th Engineer Combat Group, which remained attached to the V Corps in support of the 28th and 8th Infantry Divisions, respectively.

4. COMMANDING OFFICERS:

a. Battalion.

Lieutenant Colonel Truman H. Setliffe, 024350.

b. Companies.

(1) Medical Detachment

Captain Joseph B. Traywick, 01693094
(Killed in action 8 November 1944)

Captain Michael J. LeHood, 0414931
(Attached 9 - 18 November 1944)

Captain Thomas I. Casioppi, 01690391
(Assigned 15 - 22 November 1944)

Captain Thomas E. Timney, 0512912
(Attached 22 November 1944)

(2) Headquarters and Service Company

Captain Guy A. Trifone, 01100804.

(3) "A" Company

Captain Frank P. Bane, 0447056.

(4) "N" Company

Captain Thomas F. Creegan, 0450687
(Injured in action 9 November 1944)

First Lieutenant Carl B. Setterberg, 0466415
(Assumed command 9 November 1944)
(5) 

SECRET

Captain Ralph E. Lind, Jr., 0406160
(Injured in action 10 November 1944)

First Lieutenant Lumir T. Makousky, 01100212
(Assumed command 10 November 1944)

5. BATTALION STRENGTH:

a. Beginning of period ...... 29 0 530
b. Net increase .............. 1 0 59

c. Net decrease .............. 5 0 97

d. End of period ............ 25 3 582

6. LOSSES IN ACTION:

a. The following named men were killed in action against the enemy during the month of November:

- Davis, Jessie W.
- Sammons, Frank
- Grigaitis, Edward G.
- Smith, Hilrie
- Rivard, Wilton A.
- Novelli, Louis F.
- Gaspard, Max J.
- Birkenheier, John
- Dempsey, James M.
- Cook, Raymond
- Hamilton, William C.
- Jansen, Frederick G.
- Sick, Edmund
- Leahy, Edward J.
- Traywick, Joseph B.

- T/5 34016331
- Sgt 34011335
- Pvt 12056609
- Pvt 1349419
- Pvt 36856597
- Cpl 32175997
- Pvt 7006576
- Sgt 36138294
- T/5 32274903
- Pvt 134011271
- Pvt 13485903
- Pvt 32479701
- Pvt 36894019
- Pvt 32042944
- Capt 138939594

b. The following named men were wounded in action against the enemy during the month of November:

- Neighly, Robert N.
- Fassonek, Edward
- Lewis, Eugene T.
- DeCarlo, John E.
- Honsaker, James A.
- Crasey, Bruce E.
- Sharp, James R.
- Clark, Lawrence A.
- Reynolds, Kelly M.
- Boniko, Charles P.
- Boone, Arby E.
- Mralka, Albert J.
- Martz, Earnest P.
- Karo, Martin
- Willoughby, Solomon J.
- Gimmetteo, Michael
- Boudreau, Leon L.
- Caughey, Louis M.
- Miesko, Leon T.
- Vashaw, Robert J.
- Bradford, Leo F.
- Hill, John M.
- Belmont, Michael
- Waddell, Herbert C.

- Pvt lcl 35230219
- Pvt lcl 36531409
- Pvt lcl 32161795
- Pvt 33725000
- Pvt 3358916
- Pvt lcl 13055597
- S/Sgt 34015984
- Cpl 31126150
- Pvt 34934228
- Pvt 32955299
- S/Sgt 34015804
- 1st Lt 01325145
- Cpl 35214012
- Pvt 32956175
- Pvt 69755285
- Pvt lcl 33399395
- Pvt 31583556
- Sgt 32141721
- Cpl 33245841
- Pvt lcl 1605013
- Pvt 36404575
- Pvt 7087114
- Sgt 33118979
- Cpl 14045411
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<td>Stewart, Woodrow W.</td>
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<td>Zadorozny, Joseph</td>
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<td>Haberberger, Bernard R.</td>
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<td>Drouant, John J.</td>
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Goddard, Frederick E.  Pvt  34736684
Kallas, John J.  Pvt  36754236
Newman, Paul E.  Pvt  32140771
James, Jack  Pvt 1c  37357006

c. The following named men have been listed as missing in action against the enemy during the month of November:

Reid, Harris P.  S/Sgt  34074576
Wechtler, John P.  Cpl  36172780
Gigandet, Forest H.  Pvt 1c  35486661
Cotten, Irvin L.  Pvt  35892004
Drevisky, Stephen W.  Pvt 1c  35064530
Elks, Joseph B.  Cpl  33014143
Griffin, John B.  Pvt  34803837
Henry, William V.  Pvt  7085495
Koontz, Adven G.  T/4  34016046
Kraske, Stanley J.  Sgt  36331435
Mezzorana, Albert J.  T/5  36332859
Rufty, Thomas R.  Pvt  34016099
Sutton, Ray D.  T/5  13041752
Szvetitz, Joseph J.  Sgt  3315590
Wanan, Emil J.  Cpl  36332166
Charnock, Charles H.  Captured

7. COMMANING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS:
None.

8. MEMBERS DISTINGUISHING THEMSELVES IN ACTION:
None.

For the Commanding Officer:

OLIVER I. TUTHILL
1st Lt., C.E., Adjutant.

Incls:
Incl #1 - S-3 Journal
Incl #2 - Journal File
Incl #3 - Engineer Operations Reports
Incl #4 - Miscellaneous Material Supplementary to work of the Battalion
  a. Action in VOSSNACK area
     (1) Sketches of area (2 sketches)
     (2) Aerial Photographs (2)
     (3) Statements by officers of the battalion (4)
  b. Letters of Commendation
  c. Suggested office truck
  d. Dark room trailer
  e. T/C & E Recommendations
  f. Battalion news sheet
Incl #5 - Photographs
PHOTOGRAPHS

Inclosure No. 5
to
AFTER ACTION REPORT
November, 1944
FIRST SNOW OF WINTER '44 NEAR ROTGEN, GERMANY

FORWARD C.P. NEAR VOSSENACK - 1 to 16 NOVEMBER
HOME IN THE HURTGEN FOREST

HURTGEN FOREST - HEAVILY MINED WITH A.P.'S

Sheet 4 of 4 sheets
Inclosure No. 5
to
AFTER ACTION REPORT
November 1944