

HEADQUARTERS
46TH MEDICAL BATTALION ARMORED
A.P.O. 254, U.S. Army

4 January 1945.

BATTALION HISTORY PERIOD 1 December - 31 December 1944:

During the first week of December all organizations of the Battalion moved forward, to keep pace with the general advance of the Division. Company A moved to Drulengin, thence to Weyer, to Burbach and finally to Lorentzen. Company B moved to Wolfskirchen, and then to Sarrewerden. Hq & Hq Co and the Reserve Medical Company, Company C, remained in the vicinity of Dieuze, France.

At 0700 on 7 December the Division was relieved in its sector by the 12th Armored Division. All elements of the Division moved back to previously selected sites, for rehabilitation of personnel, re-equipment, training of replacements and performance of motor maintenance.

Company A moved back to Bisping, France. Company B moved to Lostroff, France. Hq & Hq Co plus Company C remained in Dieuze. Radio nets closed on 10 December and a training program was instituted. Motor maintenance and radio maintenance was engaged in under the supervision of the Battalion Motor Officer and Battalion Communications Officer. Also on 10 December, three systems of pass and leave privileges became effective. Passes to Nancy, (5% of the Command), Passes to Nancy Rest Center and Passes to Paris. Laundry and bath facilities were arranged for, for use of all units by schedule. A system of daily change of dry clean socks for dirty, wet ones was put in vogue to cut down the incidence of trench and frozen feet. Passes to Nancy were issued daily and in accordance with the allotment turned over to the Battalion, 9 men were sent to Paris for 48 hours.

On 18 December 1944, the Division was put on a one hour alert occasioned by the new German offensive. Both forward companies moved out on the 19th. Hq & Hq Co and Company C moved out on the 20th and closed in bivouac at Rehon. The new sector on the France-Belgium-Luxembourg frontiers was reached in good time with no personnel or vehicular losses. Facilities at Rehon being limited as to space, Hq & Hq Co moved to Cutry. Casualties were handled effectively throughout this latter period of December through use of an ambulance relay point at Messancy and later established at Stockhem and thence to Arlon.

Companies A & B, moved, keeping pace with their respective Combat Commands, A & B and toward the close of the month were established, Company A in Martelange and Company B in Fauvillers.

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DOD Dir. 5200.9, Sept. 27, 1958

NWD by 72 date 5 June 61

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Authority NND 760123

Company C was ordered to send 5 Army Ambulances and 5 organic Ambulances to support the Reserve Command. Upon Division orders, Hq & Hq Co and Co C moved closer to the forward elements closing in bivouac in Hachy, Belgium.

Supply and administration were normal during this phase. Casualties passing through the unit were as follows: Battle Casualties, 4th Armd Div, 979 - Non-Battle Casualties, 4th Armd Div, 1,105 - United States Battle Casualties, 460 - Non-Battle Casualties, 186 - Prisoners of War, Battle Casualties, 141 - Civilian Battle Casualties, 14 - French Allies, Battle Casualties, 2.

Loss of Capt Smith, Commanding Officer of Company C and Capt Moskovitz, Clearing Platoon Leader, Company C, through illness occurred this month. Capt Hindson succeeded Capt Smith and Capt Perrault assumed the duties formerly held by Capt Moskovitz. Company A reported the loss of three men killed in action.

For the Battalion Commander:

Raymond E. Hamlin
RAYMOND E. HAMLIN
1st Lieut, MAC
Adjutant.