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

BATTALION HISTORY 1 JULY - 31 JULY 1944.

The 46th Medical Battalion was alerted for movement and the first few days were used in preparation for the move from the United Kingdom to the Continent.

Company "A", under the command of CAPTAIN BROOKS H. BISHOP, left the Base Camp for movement to the marshalling area at 0830, 7 July 1944. They were to accompany CC "B" on the move.

On 10 July at 0630 Hq & Hq Co, B Company and C Company left for the marshalling area arriving there at approximately 1130, 10 July. Hq & Hq Co, and Co C were in one Camp at the marshalling area and B Co in another.

On 13 July the unit left the marshalling area for ship loading. The ships arrived at Utah beach in the afternoon of 14 July and debarkation began at 2330 that night. After a blackout drive the Battalion minus A Company arrived in the assembly area near St. Germain at 0530. At 1200 the same day the Battalion left the assembly area moved west to an area approximately .8 miles southwest of Pierville where it moved into a bivouac area with Company A.

The Fourth Armored Division was ordered into action at 1100 17 July. Combat Command B moved to a position in the vicinity of Raffoville (333794) to replace the Fourth Infantry Division. Company B of this unit, with CAPTAIN JOSEPH C. MAUCERI commanding were in support of Combat Command B. The Clearing Station was set up Southwest of Meautis (344815) to handle casualties brought back by the Collecting platoon which was set up with an advanced Collecting Point at 325793.

At 0945, 18 July Hq & Hq Company, "A" Company and "C" Company moved out of the assembly area with Division Trains and moved East to a new bivouac area .5 miles East of Cantepie. Company "C" set up a Division Rest Area in conjunction with MAJOR EARL MERICLE, Division Psychiatrist.

The front line of the Division remained static until 28 July. During this 10 day period the Battalion handled approximately 450 patients. Some of these were exhaustion cases and many were returned to duty after a few days rest in the "C" Company area.

On the 28th of July the Division moved South to attack the enemy. At this time Company A replaced Company B in support of CC "B" and Company "B" was placed in support of CC "A". Company "C" was held in reserve in the Division Trains area with Hq & Hq Co.

Company "A" followed CC "B" closely and handled all of the casualties which were transferred to Evacuation and Field Hospitals by First Army Ambulances. Some of the minor wounded and the exhaustion cases were transferred to Company "C"

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who treated them until they were able to return to duty or required further evacuation. "A" Company first set up North of Periers. "B" Company moved out later and had no opportunity to establish a Clearing Station due to the Rapidity of the advance however they did handle the casualties en route. The advance continued and "A" Company set up just North of Coutances on the 29th of July. The same day they moved to a new location South of Coutances.

At 1330 30 July Hq & Hq Co and "C" Company left the bivouac area near Cantepie and moved South in Division Trains to an area South of Coutance (259473) arriving there at 1130 31 July. During this time Company "B" continued moving South.

During the actions the Medical Companies rendered medical support to the Division handling more than 450 casualties. Since the start of the concerted drive South launched 28 July an undetermined number of allied, civilians and enemy casualties were handled.

The morale of the Battalion is very high with the successes of the Division.

For the Battalion Commander:

*Francis G. Hodge*  
FRANCIS G. HODGE  
1st Lieut, MAC  
Adjutant.

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